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State Environmental Service of the Republic of Latvia

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Rīgā

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No. SYKE/2026/605

Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE)

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Regarding the environmental impact assessment of the planned small modular reactor plant in Kuopio, North Savo region, Finland.

The State Environmental Service of the Republic of Latvia (hereinafter – the Service), acting as a Point of Contact regarding Notification in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (hereinafter – the Espoo Convention) of Latvia and the competent authority on the environmental impact assessment (hereinafter – the EIA) in Latvia, would like to thank the Finnish authorities for the notification regarding the planned small modular reactor (SMR) plant project in Kuopio, Finland (hereinafter – the Project).

Latvia reaffirms its commitment to the Espoo Convention and to the principle of information exchange between Parties concerning activities that may potentially cause significant adverse transboundary environmental impact.

The Service hereby acknowledges the receipt of the notification and the prepared documentation¹. Please be informed that the Service published received information regarding the Project on the Service webpage² on 15 April 2026 and sent information directly to the involved authorities.

The Service has reviewed the information provided regarding the Project. According to the notification, the Project foresees the construction of an SMR plant intended for district heat production for the City of Kuopio, consisting of up to four reactor units with a combined thermal output of approximately 150 MWth. The environmental impact assessment procedure is currently in its initial stage and includes the assessment of alternative locations and technical solutions.

The Service received opinions regarding the Project and its potential transboundary impacts within the scope of competence from the Ministry of Smart Administration and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Climate and Energy of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Economics of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Health

¹ Received on 13 April 2026, registration No. 4061/AP/2026.

² <https://www.eva.gov.lv/lv/parrobezu-ietekmes-uz-vidi-novertejumu-projekti/mazas-jaudas-modulara-kodolreaktora-stacijas-buvnieciba-kuopio-pilsetas-tuvuma-ziemelsavo-regiona-somija>

of the Republic of Latvia, The Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Latvia, Nature Conservation Agency and the State Centre for Defense Military Sites and Procurement.

Based on the geographical location of the planned reactors and the characteristics of the Project, the competent Latvian authorities, including the Radiation Safety Centre of the Service, have concluded that Latvia is not likely to be affected to such an extent that would require participation in the EIA of the Project as an affected country under the Espoo Convention (no significant adverse transboundary impacts on Latvia, including no radiological risks, are expected).

Therefore, Latvia considers that it is not likely to be an affected Party within the meaning of Article 3 of the Espoo Convention and does not foresee participation in the transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure for the planned SMR plant project in Kuopio, Finland.

Nevertheless, in the spirit of openness and continued cooperation under the Espoo Convention, the Service kindly requests to be kept informed about the findings of transboundary impact, including any potential findings relevant to nuclear or radiological safety or any other potential impacts of relevance to Latvia, should new information emerge.

The Service remains available for further information exchange and cooperation with the Finnish authorities regarding the Project.

Enclosed documents: 8 files (*Ministry of Health_Kuopio SMR.pdf*, *Ministry of Climate and Energy_Kuopio SMR.pdf*, *Ministry of Foreign Affairs_Kuopio SMR.pdf*, *Nature Conservation Agency_Kuopio SMR.pdf*, *VAMOIC_Kuopio SMR.pdf*, *VARAM_Kuopio SMR.pdf*, *Ministry of Economics_Kuopio SMR.pdf*, *Ministry of Agriculture_Kuopio SMR.pdf*).

Sincerely yours,
Director of Permitting Board

D. Kaleja

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