



THE MINISTER

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Dear Hendrick Kerlen,

Thank you for your letters of 7 and 20 August 2013 concerning the consultation in accordance with article 4 and 5 of the Espoo Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and the EU directive 85/337/EEC for the Fehmarnbelt Fixed Link.

To facilitate the Danish authorities' consultation of possibly affected third parties, a report containing the description of the Fehmarnbelt Fixed Link Project and the assessment of the potential transboundary environmental impacts has been prepared in English. In addition, a non-technical summary of the report is translated into German, Polish, Finnish and Swedish.

All the background reports used for the Danish EIA documentation can be found on Femern A/S' homepage, primarily in English.

The current consultation is in full compliance with the Espoo Convention and EU requirements. According to the competent Danish authority, the Danish Nature Agency, there are no formal requirements that documents used in the Espoo consultation process should be translated into national languages.

The Fehmarnbelt Fixed Link Project must be approved in both Denmark and Germany. Because of the legislative and administrative differences in the requirements for the EIA documentation in Denmark and Germany, it has been decided to prepare two individual sets of EIA documentation, one for the Danish EIA procedure and one for the German EIA procedure. The Danish and the German EIA documentation are based on the same technical project description and the same background material.

The current consultation is the Danish consultation of the countries around the Baltic Sea and Norway with focus on the potential transboundary impacts of the project. This consultation procedure runs in parallel to the national Danish hearing of the public and affected parties in accordance with Danish procedures.

The full and detailed environmental impact assessment of the project will be covered in the application documents that LBV-Lübeck and Femern A/S are presently preparing for the German plan approval process (Planfeststellungsverfahren). All documents will, as required according to German law, be in German language.



German authorities are expected to conduct the consultation of the countries around the Baltic Sea and Norway on the basis of the German EIA-documentation.

Side 2/2

On the basis of this, I do not find any grounds for a suspension of the current transboundary consultation of the Fehmarnbelt Fixed Link Project.

Best regards,

Pia Olsen Dyhr