



MINISTERUL MEDIULUI,
APELOR ȘI PĂDURILOR

MINISTER'S CABINET

No. DGEICPSC/126370//5.01.2025

To: FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR CLIMATE ACTION, ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY, MOBILITY,
INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY OF AUSTRIA

In att: Ms. Leonore Gewessler, Minister

Dear Minister Gewessler,

Following our correspondence related to environmental impact assessment in transboundary context for the proposed project *"Refurbishment of Cernavodă NPP Unit 1 and extension of intermediate dry spent fuel storage with MACSTOR - 400 modules"*, located on Cernavodă NPP site, 2nd Medgidiei Street, Cernavodă Town, Constanța County, Romania, please find attached:

- the answers prepared by the developer of the project to the comments and observations submitted by the Austrian party with letter no. 2024-0.908.731 dated 12.12.2024, in English.

The document containing the answers will be sent electronically to the Focal Point of the Republic of Austria for the Espoo Convention, and carbon copied to all recipients of the correspondence regarding the proposed project.

We appreciate Austria's interest in the transboundary environmental impact assessment of the proposed project and its scrutiny of the EIA report necessary for issuing the final decision. At the same time, we would like to stress that according to the Romanian experts certain aspects inquired about and the level of detail requested by the Austrian party go well beyond the scope of the environmental impact assessment procedure. For reasons of transparency of the procedure, we have requested, within the limits set by applicable legislation and security of the nuclear power plant, the developer of the proposed project to formulate the answers as detailed as possible.

In our view, the answers provided reasonably justify the conclusion that a significant impact of the proposed project on the territory of Austria is unlikely and can be thus reasonably excluded.

Therefore, taking into account all answers provided as well as the fact that Austria has declared itself an interested party in the transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure please agree that the consultations under the Convention on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context (the Espoo Convention) are closed. Please also note that Bulgaria, Hungary, and Ukraine agreed in November last year to close this stage of the procedure in respect of the Romanian proposed project and that no major issues have been raised by the parties before issuing their final decision.

As a subsequent procedural step, the Romanian party is going to provide to the potentially affected and interested parties, the information regarding the access of the public, including NGOs, to administrative and judicial review in Romania, alongside the final decision and the reasons and considerations on which it was based.

Please accept, Madam Minister, the expression of my high consideration and esteem.

Mircea FECHET
Minister of environment, waters and forests

