Espoo points of contact in Denmark

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CC: Espoo points of contact as per enclosed list

POSITION OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT FOR THE NORD STREAM 2 GAS PIPELINE PROJECT – SOUTH-EASTERN ROUTE IN DENMARK

We would like to thank Denmark for submission of documents, related to Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context for the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline project – South-Eastern route in Denmark – a Non-Technical Summary, a Construction Permit Application Summary and a draft permit. Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania, as an authority coordinating the transboundary EIA process in accordance with the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a transboundary Context (hereinafter – Espoo Convention), published the received documentation on its website and distributed it to relevant national authorities, providing an opportunity to submit their comments and proposals.

Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania did not receive any comments from the public, however there were some issues raised by relevant national authorities. Taking into account these issues, hereby we present our position on the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline project.

Lithuania maintains its consistent position that Nord Stream 2 project goes against the aims of European Union (hereinafter – EU) policy on climate change mitigation, energy security and gas supply diversification, while all energy infrastructure projects with European relevance should be compatible with EU law (incl. EU Third Energy Package) and EU energy policy objectives. Lithuania supports European Commission’s view that Nord Stream 2 could facilitate expansion of Gazprom’s position on EU’s main gas markets, hampering the process of creating an open gas market with competitive prices and diversified supplies in the EU. Lithuania also supports European Commission’s position that Nord Stream 2 project contradicts EU’s core energy policy objectives – energy security and diversification of routes and of sources – and that there is no need in the EU for such additional infrastructure. Implementation of Nord Stream 2 project would allow the single supplier (Russian Federation) to dominate the European gas market, undermining regional energy security. It will merely add one more route from the same supplier and will increase already large EU dependence on this supplier.

Yours sincerely,

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