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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

Standing Committee

40th meeting
Strasbourg, 1-4 December 2020

**Follow-up of Recommendation No. 175 (2015) on the
monitoring of the agreement concluded in the frame
of Complaint No 2013-5 (Lithuania)**

- REPORT BY THE GOVERNMENT -

*Document prepared by
the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania*

LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS APLINKOS MINISTERIJA
THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

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PROGRESS REPORT

CLOSED FILE 2013/5: PRESUMED IMPACT OF A CONSTRUCTION OF OVERHEAD POWER LINE (OHL) IN AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREA IN THE LITHUANIAN – POLISH BORDERLAND

Taking into account Recommendation No. 175(2015) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 4 December 2015, on the monitoring of agreement concluded in the frame of complaint No 2013/5 (Lithuania), the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania provides the following information on the progress made to implement this recommendation.

1. Implementation of Monitoring Programme of OHL

General information

The Monitoring Programme was approved by the Environmental Protection Agency on 11 May 2016. The Monitoring programme was implemented and completed in the period from 2016 to 2019.

The detailed information on monitoring locations, methodologies and assessment criteria is provided in the Monitoring programme which was submitted to the Secretariat as the attachment to the letter of the Ministry of Environment of 9 August 2016.

General information on the Monitoring Programme was provided in the Progress reports sent by the Ministry of Environment to the Secretariat on 19 September 2017 and on 18 November 2018.

In this progress report we provide the results and summary of the completed monitoring during the period from 2016 to 2019.

The monitoring was conducted by non-governmental organizations – bird monitoring by the Lithuanian Ornithological Society, other parts of monitoring – by the Lithuanian Fund for Nature.

Birds monitoring

The birds monitoring started in autumn of 2016 and was continued in 2017, 2018 and completed in spring of 2019.

Counting results of migrating geese aggregations (2016-2019)

Starting from 2016 autumn until 2019 spring seasonal aggregations of migrating geese were counted in the locations indicated in the Monitoring Programme. Counting was done in 2 locations near Angininkai and Žuvintas lakes. Countings were done in spring season (March and April) and in autumn season (August-October). All geese species leaving overnight locations were counted.

In the spring seasons migrating geese flocks were formed of different species – during the first countings most of the flocks were formed of Bean geese (*Anser fabalis*), later more Greater white-fronted geese (*Anser albifrons*) and Barnacle geese (*Branta leucopsis*) were observed. In the latest countings (in spring seasons) number of geese was decreased as most of the birds moved to the North or North-East.

Countings of migrating geese in autumn seasons were done in the beginning and second part of August, in the beginning of September and on the first, second and third decades of October. Geese of all species leaving overnight locations were counted. Flocks of geese were increasing with every counting – most numerous flocks were observed during the latest countings.

It was observed that the number of Greylag geese (*Anser anser*) was increasing every year of the monitoring.

During the monitoring feeding areas around the Angininkai and Žuvintas lakes were searched. It was observed that feeding areas were not stable – they were dependant on several factors – when and where the land was cultivated, where there were any shoots in the fields or stubble left.

Counting results of migrating water birds (2016-2019)

Monitoring locations were selected in OHL safety zone and in the adjacent areas (1-2 km from OHL safety zone). Countings were carried out in spring and autumn seasons. Waterbirds were counted in four lakes: Žuvintas, Angininkai, Rimietis and Galadusis. Birds in all lakes were counted from selected observation points which allowed to overview lakes and properly count the birds. Depending on the size of lake there were selected from 2 to 5 observation points. The biggest aggregations of waterbirds were observed in shallow Žuvintas lake – up to 1000 individuals were counted there. Much less birds were counted in other three lakes – in Rimietis up to 150 individuals, in Galadusis and Angininkai lakes – up to 100 individuals. Depending on the season the composition of counted species was also different. Most of the aggregations of migrating waterbirds were composed of Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), however, in Žuvintas lake big part of aggregations in some countings was formed of Wigeons (*Anas penelope*), Common Teals (*Anas crecca*), Great White Egrets (*Egretta alba*), Grey Herons (*Ardea cinerea*) and Eurasian coots (*Fulica atra*).

Counting results of migrating cranes (Grus grus) (2016-2018)

The first countings of cranes in 2016-2018 were carried out in the first and second decades of August and later repeated twice in September and the latest countings were carried out in the beginning October. Birds were counted in the morning and in the evening waiting the cranes leaving from and returning to overnight sites. Two observation points with good overview of the site were selected for counting.

Quite sizeable flocks of cranes in fields were observed already in August, in September these flocks increased and reached the maximum number of the number of cranes may reach up to 2000 individuals in the surrounding areas. The biggest number of cranes – 1150 were counted on 10 September 2018. The first flocks of cranes are most likely the local population, and later ones are those which are migrating from north. In the evenings cranes were also moving from one field to another until they finally left to overnight sites in raised bog. The biggest part of counted cranes was observed in Zailiai counting point, but it is natural as this point is the most closest point to Žuvintas marshes. Part of birds landed into overnight sites in complete darkness. In the beginning of October very few numbers of cranes were observed – they left country in the last days of September or in the first days of the October.

As the dead cranes were not found under the Overhead Power Line (OHL), so we can make a conclusion that OHL does not have a negative impact on migrating cranes.

Monitoring of OHL-related bird deaths

Recording of bird deaths was carried out in the territories (within the OHL route safety zone) where the most intensive flows of migrating birds are anticipated. Monitoring was conducted by the route method. 5 routes were selected. 16 dead birds or their remainings were found during the period from 2016 to 2019.

Recording of dead birds was carried out each time at the time of visiting the area. The number of found dead birds was not high (See the table below). According to composition of found dead species it could be concluded that OHL could have a potential negative impact on passerines and Charadriiformes (especially on night migrating species), but very few numbers of found dead birds show that threat is not high.

| Year | 2016 (only Autumn) | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 (only spring) |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Number of dead birds | 3 | 4 | 7 | 2 |
| Bird species | Black-headed Gull (<i>Larus ridibundus</i>), Song Thrush (<i>Turdus philomelos</i>) Common goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>) | Gulls (<i>Larus</i> sp.) 2, Song Thrush (<i>Turdus philomelos</i>), Blackbird (<i>Turdus merula</i>) | Gulls (<i>Larus</i> sp.) 2, Skylark (<i>Alauda arvensis</i>), Northern Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) European Robin (<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>), Common wood pigeon (<i>Columba palumbus</i>) Blackbird (<i>Turdus merula</i>) | Common wood pigeon (<i>Columba palumbus</i>) Gulls (<i>Larus</i> sp.) |

2016-2019 Results of birds monitoring

2016

| Birds observed | Location of observation | Autumn observations of aggregations (3 countings) | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------|-------|------------|---|---|
| | | Aggregations | | | Dead birds | | |
| | Date | 07.10 | 19.10 | 30.10 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Geese | Angininkai | 612 | 940 | 720 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| | Žuvintas | 784 | 1817 | 2800 | | | |
| | Date | 16.09 | 19-20.09 | 10.11 | | | |
| Waterbirds | Angininkai | 165 | 78 | 16 | | | |
| | Žuvintas | 841 | 463 | 1329 | | | |
| | Rimietis | 142 | 52 | 51 | | | |
| | Galadusis | 24 | 109 | 94 | | | |
| | Date | | | | | | |
| Cranes | Angininkai | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| | Žuvintas | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | |

2017

| Birds observed | Location of observation | Spring observations | | | | | Autumn observations of aggregations (5 countings) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------|-------|------------|---|---------------------------------------------------|---|---|-------|-------|------------|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Aggregations | | | Dead birds | | Aggregations | | | | | Dead birds | | | | | | | |
| | | Date | 09.03 | 31.03 | 16.04 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 23.08 | 02.09 | 01.10 | 23.10 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Geese | Angininkai | 520 | 1700 | 1110 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 78 | 570 | 220 | 620 | | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| | Žuvintas | 1100 | 2000 | 410 | | | | | | 220 | 672 | 1160 | 1740 | | | | | | |
| | Date | 13.04 | 26.04 | | | | | | | 23.08 | 02.09 | 22.10 | 12.11 | | | | | | |
| Waterbirds | Angininkai | 93 | 43 | | | | | | | 103 | 168 | 121 | 21 | | | | | | |
| | Žuvintas | 74 | 140 | | | | | | | 1140 | 879 | 482 | 56 | | | | | | |
| | Rimietis | 84 | 52 | | | | | | | 79 | 76 | 39 | 29 | | | | | | |
| | Galadusis | 98 | 54 | | | | | | | 16 | 31 | 52 | 19 | | | | | | |
| Cranes | Angininkai | | | | | | | | | | 120 | 176 | 0 | | | | | | |
| | Žuvintas | | | | | | | | | | 320 | 532 | 0 | | | | | | |

2018

| Birds observed | Location of observation | Spring observations | | | | | Autumn observations of aggregations (5 countings) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------|-------|------------|---|---------------------------------------------------|---|---|-------|-------|------------|-------|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|
| | | Aggregations | | | Dead birds | | Aggregations | | | | | Dead birds | | | | | | | |
| | | Date | 25.03 | 10.04 | 20.04 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 07.08 | 17.08 | 02.10 | 16.10 | 30.10 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Geese | Angininkai | 80 | 700 | 410 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 236 | 500 | 159 | 440 | 1200 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | Žuvintas | 45 | 2010 | 560 | | | | | | 1600 | 1070 | 1470 | 2100 | 2400 | | | | | |
| | Date | 04.04 | 13.04 | | | | | | | 13.08 | 14.09 | 19.10 | 03.11 | | | | | | |
| Waterbirds | Angininkai | 68 | 91 | | | | | | | 122 | 203 | 106 | 84 | | | | | | |
| | Žuvintas | 264 | 556 | | | | | | | 343 | 1426 | 740 | 147 | | | | | | |
| | Rimietis | 31 | 127 | | | | | | | 160 | 180 | 33 | 33 | | | | | | |
| | Galadusis | 81 | 183 | | | | | | | 106 | 57 | 71 | 51 | | | | | | |
| | Date | | | | | | | | | 07.08 | 17.08 | 10.09 | 17.09 | 02.10 | | | | | |
| Cranes | Angininkai | | | | | | | | | 32 | 72 | 330 | 120 | 0 | | | | | |
| | Žuvintas | | | | | | | | | 37 | 124 | 820 | 240 | 0 | | | | | |

2019

| Birds observed | Location of observation | Spring observations | | | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------|------------|----------|---|---|---|---|
| | | Aggregations | | Dead birds | | | | | |
| | | Date | 25.03 | 06.04 | 16,17.04 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Geese | Angininkai | 500 | 650 | 600 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Žuvintas | 350 | 430 | 350 | | | | | |
| | Date | 23.03 | 16.04 | | | | | | |
| Waterbirds | Angininkai | 72 | 126 | | | | | | |
| | Žuvintas | 191 | 515 | | | | | | |
| | Rimietis | 40 | 52 | | | | | | |
| | Galadusis | 84 | 93 | | | | | | |
| Cranes | Angininkai | 0 | 0 | | | | | | |
| | Žuvintas | 0 | 0 | | | | | | |

Monitoring of Amphibians and Reptiles

Monitoring of amphibians and reptiles was carried out in the period from 2017 to 2019. Countings were done in May and June. The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA Report) states that 11 species of amphibians and 6 species of reptiles live in the OHL safety zone. The following protected amphibian species have been found here: Northern crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*), European fire-bellied toad (*Bombina orientalis*), European green toad (*Bufo viridis*), Natterjack toad (*Bufo calamita*). It was presumed that European tree frog (*Hyla arborea*) also may be found in the monitored area.

Monitoring results of European fire-bellied toad (*Bombina orientalis*)

| Monitored territories | Males (male voices) (individuals) | | | Juveniles | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------|------|-----------|------|------|
| | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
| 1. Ponds and muddy shores of lakes between 4-13 pylons | 5 | 4 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2. Ponds and bigger ponds between 141-145 pylons | 7 | 5 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 3. Ponds between 132-133 pylons | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

While conducting the monitoring the species was found in all observed territories, the biggest number of males was registered between 141-145 pylons, the maximum number (10) was registered in 2019. In other territory between 4-13 pylons the observed number of males was almost stable – 5 individuals in 2017 and 2019, 4 individuals in 2018. Between 132-133 pylons only in 2019 3 males were registered.

Factor having negative impact on the population between 4-13 pylons was detected – the presence of fish in water bodies. Every year Crucian carp (*Carassius auratus*) which catches the juveniles was caught there.

In 2017 and 2018 the area between 141-145 pylons was successful for species breeding as water bodies did not dry up. In 2019 water bodies dried up earlier and juveniles died.

Factors having negative impact on species population in observed areas were detected – the presence of fish, early drying out water bodies, fragmentation of habitats.

Monitoring results of Northern Crested Newt (*Triturus cristatus*)

| Monitored territories | Juveniles | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|------|------|
| | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
| Ponds between 7-8 pylons | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ponds and bigger ponds between 141-145 pylons | 3 | 2 | 0 |

In the monitoring period only in one site the species (juveniles) was found. The biggest number of juveniles was registered in the area between 141-145 pylons. It could be stated that number of species was stable. In 2019 water bodies dried up earlier and juveniles died out.

Factors having negative impact on species population in the area between 7-8 pylons were detected – the presence of fish.

Degradation of habitats (overgrowing of them) was observed in most of the habitats of the Northern Crested Newt.

Monitoring results of European green toad (*Bufo viridis*)

| Monitored territories | Males (male voices) (individuals) | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------|------|
| | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
| Ponds and muddy shores of lakes between 4-13 pylons | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Ponds between 132-133 pylons | 0 | 0 | 3 |

Observations of the species were carried out in April and May. Number of observed individuals was almost stable.

Degradation of species habitats (overgrowing of the them) especially between 132-133 pylons was observed.

Monitoring results of Natterjack toad (*Bufo calamita*)

There were no special (concrete) locations set for monitoring of the species. The species was searched in the same period as it was foreseen in the Monitoring Programme for monitoring of other species of reptiles and amphibians. The species was not found in the observed area in the period from 2017 to 2019.

Monitoring results of European tree frog (*Hyla arborea*)

As there are no exact data of species presence in the monitored area, there were no special (concrete) locations for monitoring of species set in the Monitoring Programme. The species was searched in the same period as it was foreseen in the Monitoring Programme for monitoring of other species of reptiles and amphibians. The species was not found in the observed area in the period from 2017 to 2019 .

Monitoring results of the European pond turtle (*Emys orbicularis*)

The species was not found in selected monitoring locations within OHL safety zone in the period from 2017 to 2019.

Monitoring of habitats

In 2017-2019 in 6 monitoring points (locations), where the OHL route crosses habitats of Community interest (6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands (steppe), 6450 Northern boreal alluvial meadows, 6510 Lowland hay meadows), 60 permanent plots each of 4 m2 were arranged, observed and monitored in the period of 2017-2019.

1st transecta between pylons 45-47

6450 Northern boreal alluvial meadows

Significant changes in grass height projection coverage were not observed during the monitoring period. In the observation period the meadow was mowed only in recent years.

In 2017 – 27 plantspecies, in 2018 – 28 plant species, in 2019 – 33 plant species in total in plots of transecta were recorded.

In 2017-2019 changes in species composition in the observed comparative (natural) plots were not detected. The plots were dominated by the *Phalaris arundinacea*, *Calystegia sepium*, *Lythrum salicaria*, *Phragmites australis*, *Solanum dulcamara*, *Cirsium rivulare*.

During the observation period significant changes in plant species composition were not recorded in the self-repairing habitats which were damaged in the OHL construction period. Meadow

is dominated by the species of abandoned and barren land – *Artemisia vulgaris*, *Arctium lappa*), *Cirsium arvense*, *Anthriscus sylvestris*, *Urtica dioica*.

One of the factors of this change – the meadow is not used. For that reason the damaged meadow is dominated by the nitrophilic species.

2nd transecta between pylons 64-65

6450 Northern boreal alluvial meadows

The use of meadow: during the observation period meadow was regularly mowed and grazed by cattle.

Damage to the grass coverage: trampling

Changes in species composition:

As in 2017 the meadow was newly sowed, the structure is changed and is characteristic to cultivated meadow.

Changes in the species composition: 33 species were registered in 2017, in 2018 and 2019 six more species – 39. In general, during the observation period all monitored plots were dominated by *Dactylis glomerata*, *Festuca rubra*, *Phleum pratense*, *Trifolium repens*, *Taraxacum officinale*, but other grass species were characteristic to mesophytic meadows. It shows that part of damaged coverage of the habitat is recovering and naturalisation process has started.

3rd transecta between pylons 92-93

6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands (steppe)

The use of meadow: during the observation period meadow was regularly mowed and intensively grazed by cattle.

Damage to the grass coverage: trampling

Changes in the species composition of the habitats in the transecta: there were no significant changes in vertical flora structure of habitat. In the recent observation years shrubs started to grow in natural part of habitat. Woody vegetation is regularly grazed by cattle.

Changes in species composition:

Changes in the species composition: In 2017 – 47 species, in 2018 – 47, in 2019 – 44 species in total in plots of transecta were registered. During the monitoring period the number of species was almost stable.

In 2017-2019 changes in species composition in the observed comparative (natural) plots were not detected. The plots were dominated by the *Dactylis glomerata*, *Festuca ovina*, *Festuca pratensis*, *Fragaria vesca*, *Achillea millefolium*, *Agrimonia eupatoria*, *Centaurea scabiosa*, *Centaurea rhenana*, *Galium album*, *Phleum pratense*, *Phleum phleoides*, *Pimpinella saxifraga*, *Thymus serpyllum*.

No significant changes in the composition of plant species were identified in the recovering plots of the habitats (which were damaged in construction period of the OHL). Recovering species composition similar to natural plots dominated there: *Dactylis glomerata*, *Festuca ovina*, *Festuca pratensis*, *Fragaria vesca*, *Achillea millefolium*, *Agrimonia eupatoria*, *Centaurea scabiosa*, *Galium album*, *Phleum pratense*, *Phleum phleoides*. Other grass species were typical to natural mesophytic meadows. This shows that damaged part of meadow habitat is recovering and naturalisation process has started.

4th transecta – pylon 117

6450 Northern boreal alluvial meadows, 6510 Lowland hay meadows, protected species *Dactylorhiza incarnata*,

The use of meadow: during the observation period meadow was not used for agricultural purposes.

No damage to the grass coverage.

Changes in the structure of the habitats in the transecta:

During the monitoring period in vertical flora structure significant changes (well formed higher structure of shrubs) were recorded. Density of grass cover decreased, few dominant species formed abundant populations and took root in the meadow.

Changes in the plant community species composition:

In 2017 24 plant species, in 2018 – 27 plant species, in 2019 - 25 plant species were registered in total in the plots of transecta.

In the monitoring period number of species was almost stable, but in vertical flora structure significant changes (well formed higher structure of shrubs) were recorded, new grass plant species were registered appearance of which was determined by very dry summer which was very unfavourable for vegetation of moisture-loving plants.) Grass cover was dominated by *Epilobium hirsutum*, *Cirsium arvense*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, which form abundant dominating populations. The habitat was penetrated by invasive species *Solidago canadensis*, which may irreversibly change the habitat in the future. These significant changes in qualitative and quantitative species composition may be related to changes of economic activity.

There is increasing threat to habitat of *Dactylorhiza incarnate*. Mowing of this habitat in next 2-3 years could conserve it.

**5th transecta between pylons 130-131
6450 Northern boreal alluvial meadows**

The use of meadow: during the observation period in 2017 and 2018 meadow was grazed by cattle, in 2019 the meadow was abandoned and not used for agricultural purposes.

No damage to the grass coverage.

During the monitoring period in all vertical flora structures significant changes were recorded although density of grass cover remained similar but well formed higher structure of shrubs was observed. Few dominant species formed abundant populations and took root in the meadow.

Changes in the plant community species composition:

In 2017 31 plant species, in 2018 – 31 plant species, in 2019 - 32 plant species were registered in total in the plots of transecta.

During the observation period the number of species remained almost unchanged, but significant qualitative changes took place. Well formed structure of shrubs emerged, the base of which consists of *Salix cinerea*, new grass species appeared, the meadow colonization by these plants was caused by a very dry and unfavorable summer for the vegetation of moisture-loving plants. The meadow is dominated by *Epilobium hirsutum*, *Cirsium arvense*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, *Lythrum salicaria*, *Galeopsis tetrahitia*, *Galeopsis tetrahit*, *Urtica dioica* which form abundant and dominating populations.

The invasive plant species *Solidago canadensis* is also invading this habitat, which may irreversibly alter the habitat in the future.

Thus, these significant qualitative and quantitative changes in species composition are related to changes of economic activity.

**6th transecta between pylons 145-146
6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands (steppe)**

The use of meadow: during the observation period the meadow was not used for agricultural purposes.

1 plot was plowed.

Changes in the plant community species structure:

During the observation period no significant changes were observed in vertical flora structures. Well formed higher structure of shrubs emerged in natural part of habitat. The woody vegetation is constantly grazed by wild animals.

Changes in the plant community species composition:

In 2017 61 plant species, in 2018 – 60 plant species, in 2019 - 57 plant species were registered in the plots of transecta. In observation period the number of plant species remained almost unchanged.

There were no significant changes in comparative (natural habitat) plots. They were dominated by the *Briza media*, *Daucus carota*, *Dactylis glomerata*, *Festuca rubra*, *Festuca pratensis*, *Fragaria vesca*, *Achillea millefolium*, *Agrimonia eupatoria*, *Centaurea scabiosa*, *Centaurea rhenana*, *Galium vertum*, *Galium album*, *Medicago falcata*, *Pimpinella saxifraga*, *Solidago virgaurea*.

No significant changes in plant species composition in self-repairing habitat plots (which were damaged during the OHL construction) were not observed. Species of abandoned land dominated there. The area due to its species composition (*Agrimonia eupatoria*, *Dactylis glomerata*, *Chaerophyllum aromaticum*, *Taraxacum officinale*, *Phleum pratense*, *Anthriscus sylvestris*) will not

soon transform into semi-natural meadows. The former damaged part of the meadow habitat is not restoring and the naturalization process has not yet started there.

In order to accelerate the recovery of this habitat, it is necessary to mow it every year and remove the biomass from the meadow.

2. Gas Interconnection Poland-Lithuanian pipeline (GIPL). Progress report.

At the end of 2019 (23rd December of 2019) AB Amber Grid (the operator of Lithuania's natural gas transmission system) signed the contract on construction of GIPL. The contract on acquisition of steel pipes was signed 24 July, 2019. Since the beginning of construction works (from January 2020) 30 % of works are already completed. Currently GIPL construction is ongoing in districts which area are not covered by the complaint No 2013/5 (Presumed impact of a construction of overhead power line (OHL) in a environmentally sensitive area in the Lithuanian-Polish borderland) – in Širvintos, Vilnius, Elektrėnai, Kaišiadorys, Prienai, Birštonas districts. Construction works in Alytus district just started, however, construction works in Lazdijai district which borders with Poland did not started yet (forseen in 2021). It is planned that construction works in the area covered by the original complaint form and subsequent updates (comprising areas from Žuvintas Biosphere Reserve in the north to the Lithuanian border with Poland in the south-west which might be impacted by the OHL) will be completed until 30th September 2021. The main works done: the private land owners, local people and farmers, representatives of municipalities and elderships were informed about the starting date of construction works, the meetings with local communities are organized regularly, work project solutions are prepared, archaeological research is carried out, various construction works are carried out.

It is important to mention that Environmental management and monitoring plans for construction and post-construction period of GIPL were prepared and approved by the Environmental Protection Agency in 2016. The control of compliance of the requirements of Environmental monitoring programme during the whole GIPL construction period is implemented (carried out) by the Lithuanian Fund for Nature (NGO) which was contracted April 15, 2019 to implement monitoring programme during the construction period.

The construction works are planned and implemented according to the requirements of Environmental management plan (in regard to the protection of biodiversity) – in periods when the construction activities are allowed and taking into account terms of restrictions of construction activities. While implementing construction works other requirements of the Environmental management and monitoring plans are taken into account. The terms of the restrictions of the construction activities in the Environmental management plan are set taking into account the breeding and nesting seasons of birds, protection of fish and protection of meadow and forest habitats of Community importance. The construction works are implemented in terms set in Environmental management plan. According to the requirement of „3 years of rest period” since the end (2015) of the construction of OHL (in the area covered by the complaint No 2013/5) described in the report of the GIPL Environmental Impact Assessment (in the section on cumulative effects as a preventive measure) the construction works of GIPL in Alytus and Lazdijai districts may be started and carried out in 2020 and 2021 without time restrictions as regards the start (beginning) of construction works.

As the GIPL construction is implemented in 4 stages (total length of GIPL is 165 km) and the end of the 1st stage is planned in 30th September of 2020, currently public procurement documents are prepared for GIPL post-construction monitoring. The planned duration of postmonitoring is 4 years after completion of each construction stage.

Vice minister

Marius Narmontas

| DETALŪS METADUOMENYS | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dokumento sudarytojas (-ai) | Lietuvos Respublikos aplinkos ministerija, A. Jakšto g. 4, 01105 Vilnius |
| Dokumento pavadinimas (antraštė) | CLOSED FILE 2013/5: PRESUMED IMPACT OF A CONSTRUCTION OF OVERHEAD POWER LINE (OHL) IN AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREA IN THE LITHUANIAN – POLISH BORDERLAND |
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| Dokumento specifikacijos identifikavimo žymuo | ADOC-V1.0, GEDOC |
| Parašo paskirtis | Pasirašymas |
| Parašą sukūrusio asmens vardas, pavardė ir pareigos | MARIUS NARMONTAS, Viceministras |
| Parašo sukūrimo data ir laikas | 2020-07-22 15:03:42 |
| Parašo formatas | Trumpalaikis skaitmeninis parašas, kuriame taip pat saugoma sertifikato informacija |
| Laiko žymoje nurodytas laikas | |
| Informacija apie sertifikavimo paslaugų teikėją | ADIC CA-A |
| Sertifikato galiojimo laikas | 2019-09-05 - 2022-09-04 |
| Parašo paskirtis | Registravimas |
| Parašą sukūrusio asmens vardas, pavardė ir pareigos | Raštinė |
| Parašo sukūrimo data ir laikas | 2020-07-22 15:37:59 |
| Parašo formatas | Trumpalaikis skaitmeninis parašas, kuriame taip pat saugoma sertifikato informacija |
| Laiko žymoje nurodytas laikas | |
| Informacija apie sertifikavimo paslaugų teikėją | RCSC IssuingCA |
| Sertifikato galiojimo laikas | 2020-01-09 - 2021-01-08 |
| Pagrindinio dokumento priedų skaičius | 0 |
| Pagrindinio dokumento pridedamų dokumentų skaičius | 0 |
| Programinės įrangos, kuria naudojantis sudarytas elektroninis dokumentas, pavadinimas | Elektroninė dokumentų valdymo sistema VDVIS, versija v. 3.04.02 |
| El. dokumento įvykius aprašantys metaduomenys | |
| Informacija apie elektroninio dokumento ir elektroninio (-ių) parašo (-ų) tikrinimą (tikrinimo data) | El. dokumentas atitinka specifikacijos keliamus reikalavimus. Visi dokumente esantys elektroniniai parašai galioja. Tikrinimo data: 2020-07-23 06:34:27 |
| Elektroninio dokumento nuorašo atspausdinimo data ir ją atspausdinęs darbuotojas | 2020-07-23 atspausdino Raštinė |
| Paieškos nuoroda | |