



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

REGIONAL POLICY

Interventions in Bulgaria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, and IPA/ISPA

The Director

Brussels,

30.10.2006 \* 10:45  
DG REGIO.HI PB/as D (2006) 81066

Subject: SEA and Operational Programmes

Ref.: Your letter DPI-I-1933-116-JKp/06 of 12 October 2006

Dear Mr. Kwieciński,

With reference to your above-mentioned letter, I would like to inform you that for Operational Programmes which meet the conditions set in Art. 2 and 3 of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive (Directive 2001/42/EC), an SEA will have to be carried out in order to assess the effects of Operational Programmes on the environment.

As was discussed during our meeting on 18 October, the possible inclusion of a list of indicative projects in the Operational Programmes would be regarded by the Commission as examples of the programme priorities and a reflection of the nature of the areas of intervention. This implies that these projects would not be approved with the approval of the Operational Programme, but still would have to undergo all implementation arrangements defined for a programme and/or specific priority just like any other project under the same programme and/or priority. This would include also, where relevant, the application of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for projects.

From this point of view I share your opinion that these indicative projects should not be subject of the SEA as such, but will have to undergo an EIA (where applicable) to assess their impact on the environment at the moment they are selected for approval according to the standard implementation arrangements set for a programme and/or priority.

  
Lluís Riera

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