

Central and Eastern Europe NGO Network for Monitoring Activities of International Financial Institutions

Bulgaria:

For the Earth CEIE

**Czech Republic:** 

Hnuti Duha

Centrum pro dopravu a energetiku

Estonia:

Estonian Green Movement - FoE

Georgia

Green Alternative

**Hungary:** 

ETK

National society of Conservationists

Lithuania:

Atgaja

Macedonia

Eco-sens

Poland:

Polish Green Network Institute for Environmental Economics

Romania:

TERRA Mileniul III

Russia:

Sakhalin Environmental Watch

Slovakia:

Center for Environmental Public Advocacy - FoE

Ukraine:

National Ecological Centre of Ukraine

## NATIONAL ECOLOGICAL CENTRE OF UKRAINE

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Date: Kiev, March 29, 2007

The World Bank mission for Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova, Country Director Paul Bermingham

1, Dniprovskiy spusk, Kyiv,01010, Ukraine

Dear Mr. Bermingham,

National Environmental Centre Ukraine, a member group of CEE Bankwatch Network, together with Center for Civil Society Problems Studies, and Eco-Club "Kray" has undertaken a fact finding mission to the region where the Dniester PSP site is located. I would like to inform you of our findings.

During the mission we had meetings with local communities to discuss their concerns connected to the Dniester PSP project. We were asked by representatives of the local communities of the villages of Lypchany, Mogyliv-Podolskiy Rayon, Vinnica oblast that neighbour the Dniester PSP to pass their concerns to the World Bank. Please find their letter attached.

The letter describes local concerns about the harm that has already resulted from the process of the Dniester PSP construction and about the future impacts of the project.

The most harmful impacts that these people are already experiencing are:

- drinking water has disappeared from their water wells,
- habitations and farm buildings have been destroyed because of blasting operations;
- roads have been destroyed by the construction transportations.

The affected people have thus far not succeeded to receive compensation for these impacts in spite of numerous appeals they claim they made to different officials including the president of Ukraine.

Another significant concern that they have is that they were not provided with basic information about the project and its impacts and their opinions were not taken into account during public hearings which they were not informed about.

This violates article 34 of the Ukrainian Constitution, article 9, 32, 47 of the Ukrainian law on information, the Aarhus Convention and the Ukrainian state Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) procedures, because the EIA was approved without the required public participation.

The local community of the village of Lypchany calls on the World Bank to stop its financial consideration of the project until:

• the project client compensates for all the harm done to the local population

- the project client conducts proper public hearings in line with the appropriate Ukrainian legislation and takes into account their concerns about the present and future impacts of the project;
- the project client conducts a comprehensive assessment of the social, environmental and economical impacts of the project on their village.

We would appreciate your thorough consideration of the concerns expressed in this and the attached letter. Given the circumstances, a response from you on how these issues will be addressed by the World Bank would be greatly appreciated to the address of the village community representative (see below). Please also send us a copy of any response.

The address of the village community representative in English and Ukrainian:

Ms.Natalia Sadovska, s.Lypchany, Mogyliv-Podolskiy Rayon, Vinnica oblast, Ukraine

с.Липчани, Могилів-Подільського р-ну, Вінницької обл. Садовська Н.І.

Yours sincerely,

CEE Bankwatch co-ordinator for Ukraine Nadia Shevchenko