

Dr Alistair Clark Managing Director

## European Bank

for Reconstruction and Development

**Environment and Sustainability Department** 

Ms Iryna Holovko National Campaigner for Ukraine CEE Bankwatch Network Na Rozcesti 1434/6 190 00 Praha - Liben Czech Republic

(ref: 120116 CEE Bankwatch)

16 January 2012

Dear Ms Holovko,

Thank you for your letter of 20 December in relation to the Nuclear Power Plant Safety Upgrade programme. We note your comments and questions on the Strategic Environmental Assessment. We apologise for the delay in responding, but key staff from the Bank had been on leave associated with the Christmas and New Year period.

As you know, the EBRD financing for any project is always contingent upon satisfactory financial, legal, technical, environmental, social and integrity due diligence, satisfactory documentation as well as the final approval of the Project by the EBRD Board of Directors. In this particular case, the EBRD is currently in the due diligence phase of the project and the Bank is continuing its environmental and social appraisal to measure the project against the EBRD Environmental and Social Policy requirements.

While not part of our requirements, we have provided Technical Co-operation (TC) funds to Energoatom for an Ecological Assessment in order to enhance the degree and extent of infrastructure disclosure on the proposed project. The study is being conducted by an independent consultant who is contracted by Energoatom and we would encourage you to continue your dialogue with them.

A final decision with regard to the EBRD's participation in the project will only be made once we are satisfied that the client has adequately addressed all the issues identified by the EBRD during due diligence, including those brought to our attention by stakeholders. Please note that it is not the EBRD's practice to respond to individual letters at this stage. All comments and opinions about the potential impact of the project expressed by the interested stakeholders, including civil society organisations, will be summarised and presented to the EBRD Board of Directors alongside the results of due diligence.

Yours sincerely,

cc:

Riccardo Puliti Vince Novak