

## Press Release

# Nord Stream 2 to Take Part in the Espoo Public Hearing in Kingisepp, Russia

- > The public hearing will address potential transboundary environmental impacts of the planned pipeline through the Baltic Sea
- > The Russian Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment will participate in the hearing as part of the ongoing international Espoo consultation
- > Nord Stream 2 is engaging in an active dialogue with the public around the Baltic Sea to ensure that the project is sustainable

**[Zug, Switzerland – 6-Jun-17]** On 30 June 2017 Nord Stream 2 AG, the developer of a new natural gas pipeline through the Baltic Sea, will join the public hearing in Kingisepp, Russia to present potential transboundary environmental impacts of the infrastructure project. The hearings are organised as part of the international Espoo consultation process in the framework of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (the Espoo Convention), as advised on the website of the Russian Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. Although the Russian Federation has not ratified the Espoo Convention, for the Nord Stream 2 project it has made a voluntary commitment to act as a party of origin as far as national legislation allows.

The event follows a series of public meetings that have already been held in Finland, Sweden, Estonia and Latvia as part of the international Espoo consultation process. Further hearings and information meetings are planned in Lithuania and Poland. Nord Stream 2 engages in a broad dialogue around the Baltic Sea to ensure that the project will be implemented in a sound and sustainable way.

The public hearing in Kingisepp will be held on 30 June at 10:00 in the conference hall of the Kingisepp House of Culture and Leisure (40 Karl Marx Prospekt, Kingisepp, 188480, Leningrad Region).

It will address potential transboundary environmental impacts of the pipeline construction and operation that may affect Russia. The basis of the discussion is the Espoo report submitted by Nord Stream 2 on 6 April 2017 to relevant national authorities of Russia, Finland, Sweden, Denmark and Germany to enable the countries to start consultations on potential transboundary impacts of the pipeline project.

The Espoo consultations in Russia run in addition to the national EIA procedure which is governed by the Russian legislation.



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Nord Stream 2 began the national EIA process in Russia in April 2017 by disclosing a comprehensive information package about the project plans, as well as reports on a comparative environmental assessment of the route options for the Russian section of the pipeline.

The next stage of the national EIA procedure in Russia will be the submission of a comprehensive draft EIA report for public review in summer 2017, followed by public hearings on the potential environmental impacts in Russia in accordance with Russian legislation.

### **About Nord Stream 2**

Nord Stream 2 is a planned pipeline through the Baltic Sea, which will transport natural gas over 1,200 km from the world's largest gas reserves in Russia via the most efficient route to consumers in Europe. Nord Stream 2 will largely follow the route and design of the successful Nord Stream pipeline. With Europe's domestic gas production projected to halve in the next 20 years, Nord Stream 2's twin pipeline system will help Europe to meet its future gas import needs. It has the capacity to transport 55 billion cubic metres of gas per year, enough to supply 26 million European households. This secure supply of natural gas, with its low CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, will also contribute to Europe's objective to have a more climate-friendly energy mix with gas substituting for coal in power generation and providing back-up for intermittent renewable sources of energy such as wind and solar power.

Nord Stream 2 will pass through the exclusive economic zones and/or territorial waters of five countries (Russia, Finland, Sweden, Denmark and Germany) and is subject to the Espoo Convention. Nord Stream 2 is undergoing a comprehensive permitting and consultation process to obtain the necessary permits from the countries involved.

The Espoo report, detailed map atlas and Non-Technical summary have been published in 9 languages of the Baltic countries and in English. They are available on the company's website.  
**[www.nord-stream2.com](http://www.nord-stream2.com)**

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