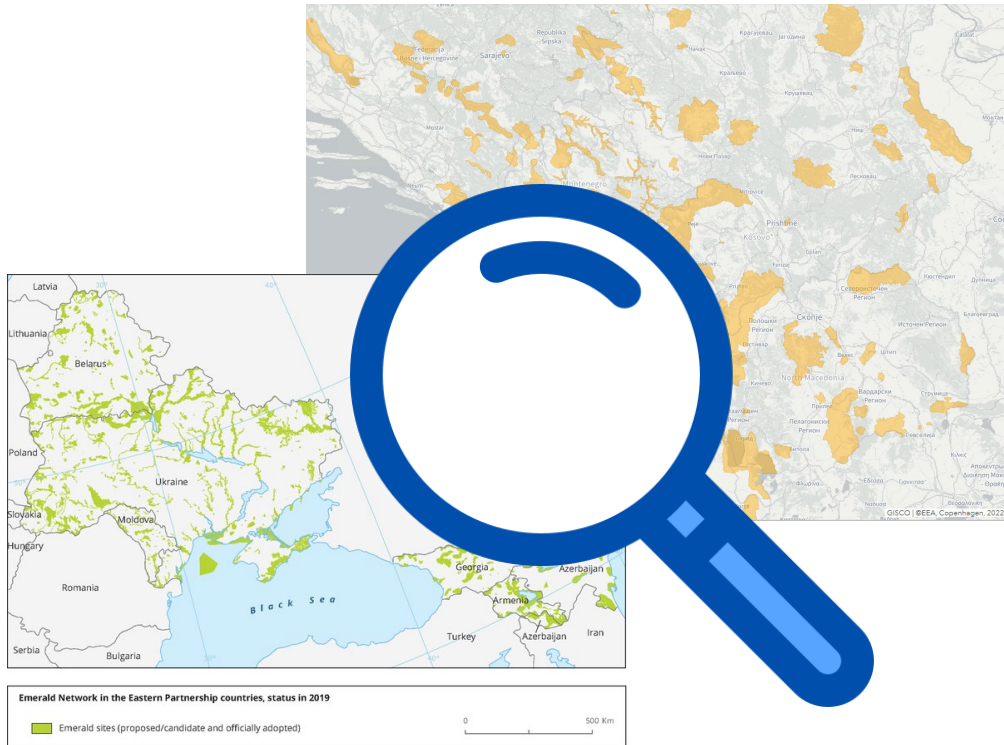


# **ASSESSMENT OF THE PLANNING AND PERMIT-GRANTING PROCEDURES FOR ENERGY PROJECTS – UPDATE**

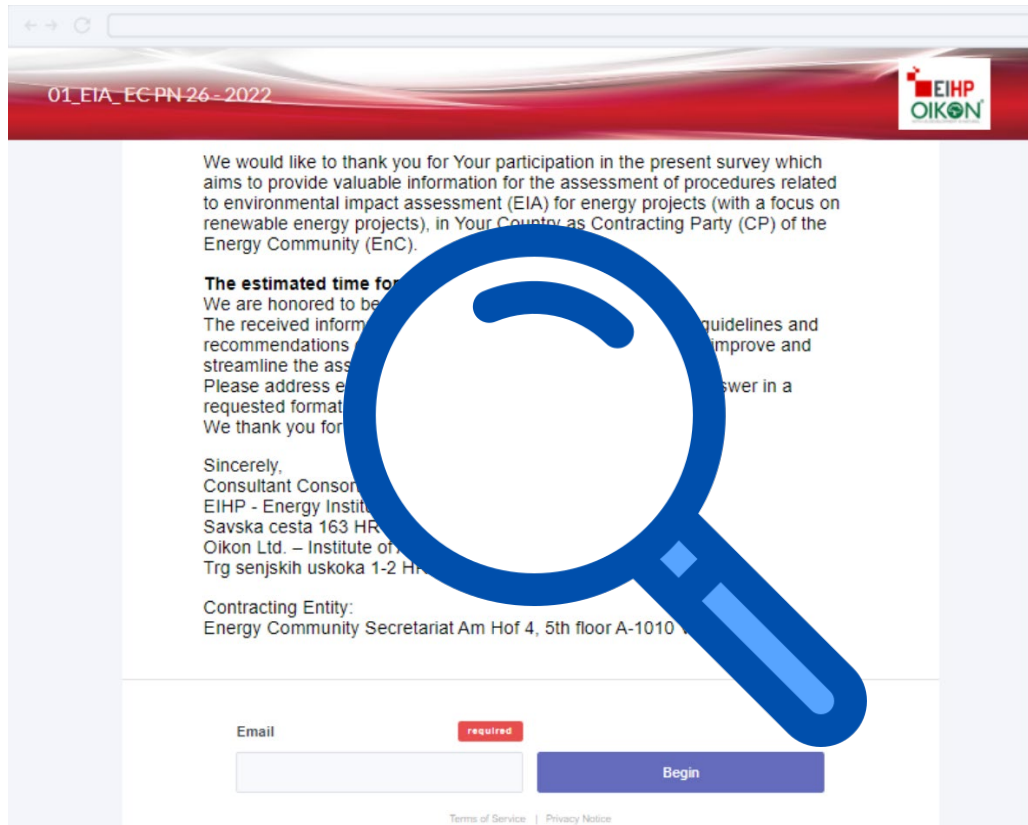
**Environmental Task Force  
26<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
6 December 2023**

**Aleksandra Bujaroska – Energy Community Secretariat**



- Policy guidelines on planning and permit-granting procedures for energy projects in the Contracting Parties – *in preparation*.

<https://srvy.onl/eia>



01\_EIA\_EC-PN-26-2022

EIHP  
OIKON

We would like to thank you for Your participation in the present survey which aims to provide valuable information for the assessment of procedures related to environmental impact assessment (EIA) for energy projects (with a focus on renewable energy projects), in Your Country as Contracting Party (CP) of the Energy Community (EnC).

**The estimated time for**

We are honored to be... guidelines and  
The received inform... improve and  
recommendations... streamline the ass  
Please address e... answer in a  
requested format...  
We thank you for

Sincerely,  
Consultant Consor  
EIHP - Energy Instit  
Savska cesta 163 HR  
Oikon Ltd. - Institute of  
Trg senjskih uskoka 1-2 HR

Contracting Entity:  
Energy Community Secretariat Am Hof 4, 5th floor A-1010

Email required

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- Online questionnaires
- Desk top analysis
- Meeting with CSOs

Permit granting procedures



Spatial planning



Grid connections



## Environmental impact assessment (EIA) procedures

Information on all requirements and procedural steps, including appeal procedures

Electronic communication in the EIA procedure is not sufficiently used.

Several authorities and public bodies involved in the EIA procedure. It is not always clear whether the participation of certain authorities is mandatory and whether their opinion is binding.

“Administrative silence” is usually not applied. The response of the other authorities or public bodies is awaited regardless of the prescribed time.

Preparation of the EIA report (collecting data and carrying out the assessment)

Evaluation of the EIA report

Review of the application

Additional information on the basis of the additional requests

Public consultation and participation - compiling, reviewing and responding to public comments received

Delays of up to 3 months are common. The average time taken to compile all the required documentation is 4-6 months. An average EIA review process lasts 4-6 months.

**Main factors  
leading to delays in  
obtaining an EIA-  
related decision**

Lack of available and up-to-date  
baseline environmental data

Quality of the environmental  
impact assessment report

Lack of human resources in the  
competent authorities

One-stop-shop  
streamline of  
assessments

Resources for  
staff training and  
education

Increase use of  
electronic  
submission and  
processing

Early and effective  
participation of  
the public  
concerned

Data exchange  
between  
authorities and  
public bodies

Establishment of a  
central, independent  
information platform  
on regulations,  
environmental data,  
procedures,  
guidelines,  
participation



## Permit - granting processes for renewable energy projects



Depending on the power level of the energy project the permit is granted at national or local level



For energy projects listed in Annex I or II EIA Directive the environmental approval necessary to obtain construction permit granting



Permitting and licensing typically involve several procedures across multiple institutions and tend to be complex and time-consuming



Electronic communication not sufficiently used. The mandatory documentation requested in printed form



Information on procedures is not always easily available



Time consuming procedures



Lack of administrative personnel particularly at local level



Public not involved in construction permit granting process



## Spatial planning and SEA - focus on renewable energy projects



Lack of preparation of spatial planning studies for the purpose of zoning renewable energy projects



Legislative obstacles



Adoption of National spatial plan not completed



Electronic communication not sufficiently used.



Certification of experts/companies for spatial plans and SEA report drafting is not obligatory



Extension of legal deadlines due to the low quality of the draft plans and negative public opinion



Negative public opinion and authorities don't have experience with SEA for spatial planning documents



Most CP countries have designated an authority to provide guidance to the parties involved in the SEA procedure



## Grid connection – focus on renewable energy projects



Legislative obstacles



Most of the connection studies are developed by TSOs and DSOs



Connection request denials mostly correlated to technical limitations in the grid



Relatively long period from application to operation, ranging from 360 days up to 3 years for TSO and 180-365 days for DSO



No public consultation

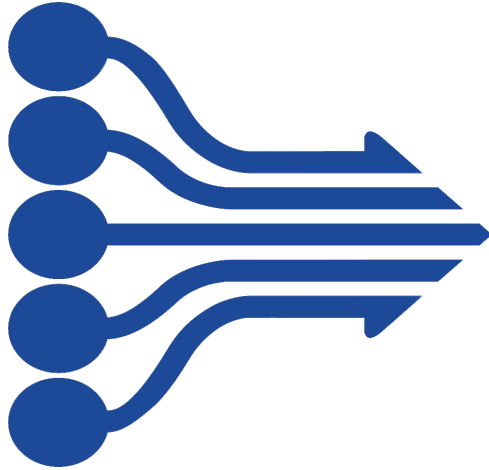


TSO connection study development takes from 90 days up to 180 days. Longer timespan directly correlated to lack of staff at TSOs

DSO connection study development takes around 30 days



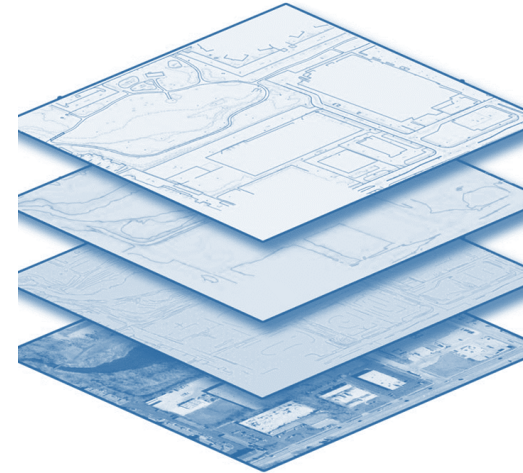
# Next...



**Streamline  
procedures**



**One stop-shop  
set up**



**Acceleration  
areas**





**THANK YOU**  
**FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

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