

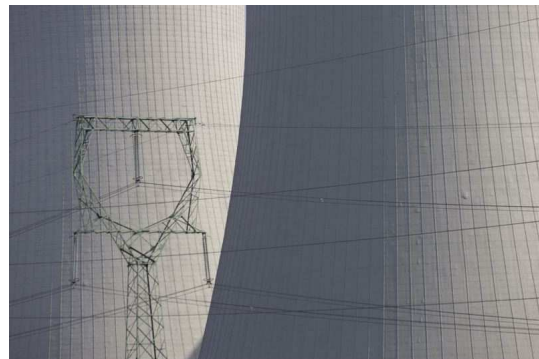


## PCI News October 2015

Dear Colleagues,

J&E is working on the designation of priority energy infrastructure projects („PCI“) on EU level, with the aim that the *process is transparent, that NGOs can really participate and that bad energy projects can be really challenged off the list.*

In order to achieve these goals



- J&E participates in the PCI designation process with a Test Case - namely the Extension of Hydro-pump storage Kaunertal in the Austrian Ötztal Alps
- J&E shows deficiencies analysing national legislation and practice

### NEWS on TEST CASE

In June we (J&E and WWF Austria) have been invited by the European Commission to defend our arguments against the Kaunertal project in a personal meeting with the project promoter, Austrian Government Representatives, European Commission Representatives. J&E involvement in this case lead to a postponement of the Regional Groups decision regarding the Kaunertal Project.

In September we submitted additional arguments against the PCI status of Kaunertal project to the European Commission and we are planning to approach the European Commission with our concerns on design and rationale of the PCI designation process in the months to come.

## NEWS on NATIONAL LEGISLATION and PRACTICE

J&E collected information on national implementation of the Regulation designing the whole PCI designation and permitting process - the TEN-E Regulation.

- We have found that the EU member states monitored do not carry out needs assessments and prioritization of planned energy infrastructures on national level
- We have found that the EU member states monitored do not foster transparent and participative debates on PCIs - neither on strategic nor on permitting level



The lack of strategic decision making and stakeholder involvement is to be seen even more critical when we look at specific disputed PCI candidate projects:

- The [AGRI Project](#) aimed to support the transportation of gas from the Caspian gas fields.
- [LitPol Link Stage 2](#) (Lithuanian-Polish Power Line) with the aim extending the functioning of “old blocks” of coal fired power plant “Kozienice”.
- [The Trans-Anatolian gas pipeline](#) (TANAP) in Turkey.

J&E has analysed some controversial cases in order to support our claim for more strategic, inclusive planning and permitting procedures taking environmental concerns adequately into account via Recommendations towards the EU level and national decision makers.

[READ MORE](#)

We are interested in controversial PCIs that you are monitoring! We might even approach European Commission with a joint claim for changes of the PCI Designation Process, which will be backed up by a rich case-evidence.

All the best,

Birgit

J&E PCI Team Leader

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