

**REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**

**MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

NATURE PROTECTION DIRECTORATE

CLASS: 612-07/09-01/634

REG. NO.: 532-08-02/1-09-4

Zagreb, 29 September 2009

 Pursuant to Article 37.a, paragraph 3 of the Nature Protection Act (Official Gazette 70/05, 139/08) and Article 4 of the Ordinance on the appropriate assessment of projects (Official Gazette 89/07), related to Article 6, paragraph 2, item 5 and Annex IV, item 3, sub-item 5 of the Regulation on environmental impact assessment (Official Gazette 64/08, 67/09), and Article 15, paragraph 3 of the Act on Organization and Scope of Central State Administration Bodies (Official Gazette 199/03, 30/04, 136/04, 22/05, 44/06, 05/08, 27/08, 77/09), regarding a request submitted by the company APO d.o.o., Savska cesta 41/IV, Zagreb to carry out appropriate assessment of the project for the ecological network within the procedure of environmental impact assessment which will be implemented by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction, the Ministry of Culture issues, in accordance with a special regulation, the following

**CERTIFICATE**

The planned project – construction of a flood defence system on the right bank of the Neretva River in the town of Metković, employer Hrvatske vode, Zagreb – will not have a significant impact on the ecological network or its conservation objectives.

**Justification**

 The company APO d.o.o., Savska cesta 41/IV, Zagreb submitted on 18 June 2009 to the Ministry of Culture a request to assess the appropriateness of the planned construction of the flood defence system on the right bank of the Neretva River in the town of Metković, (Employer: Hrvatske vode, Zagreb) for the ecological network.

 The application was supported by an Environmental Impact Study, “Flood Defence in the Town of Metković – Right Neretva Riverbank” (June 2009). Having inspected the Study, which included an excerpt from the National Ecological Network (NEN) for the project area, and having assessed impacts during construction and operation of the planned structure on the ecological network or its conservation objectives, the Ministry has the following conclusions:

1. The planned project lies in the National Ecological Network areas HR5000031 Neretva Delta, areas important for wild taxa and habitat types, and HR1000031 Neretva Delta, internationally important area for birds.
2. Putting up dikes and equipping them with the required structures will not adversely affect the living communities in the project area or/and in the wider Neretva delta area.
3. Potential adverse impacts of putting up new dikes and other structures and of activities in the wider area will be reduced by taking protection measures to be laid down in the Environmental Impact Study, in particular measures which will define:
* The period of executing the works with regard to the bird nesting period in the project area;
* The access and movement of construction machinery to reduce a potential adverse impact in the area where works are executed on the existing natural values;
* New borrow pits shall not be established in the NEN area for obtaining material to construct the planned structures;
* Excavation parameters in the Glibuša watercourse and minimisation of its impacts and of a potential impact on the Norin watercourse and the fish fauna in both watercourses;
* The probability of potential impacts on the protected areas of Prud and Pod Gredom.

 Based on the review of the above-mentioned Study and on the opinion of the State Institute for Nature Protection, Zagreb, the Ministry of Culture concludes that the project, i.e. its characteristics will not have any significant impact on the ecological network or conservation objectives of the ecological network. Consequently, the developer is not obliged to perform the main assessment.

 HEAD

 Kornelija Pintarić

To be delivered to:

1. APO d.o.o., Savska cesta 41/IV, Zagreb
2. State Institute for Nature Protection, Trg Mažuranića 5, Zagreb
3. Records, here
4. Files, here