



Din l-Art Helwa

Din l-Art Helwa
133, Melita Street,
Valletta

Tel 21220358

email info@dinarthelwa.org
web <http://www.dinarthelwa.org>

Dr Kevin Gatt
Chairman - SEA Focal Point
Millenia, Level 3
Aldo Moro Road
Marsa

2nd September 2013

Dear Dr Gatt,

Revision of National Energy Policy – Strategic Environmental Assessment

We refer to your correspondence of 30th August 2013, and note that the Ministry of Energy and the Conservation of Water still has not provided a written reply to the issues raised in our letter of 27th June 2013 on the above subject. Over two months have now passed since our initial query was copied to the Ministry and we are concerned about this undue delay in providing a full response.

Please note that the environmental assessment of “single projects” through EIAs, as mentioned in your email, lies outside the scope of our query which focuses specifically on the National Energy Policy, which was already subject to an SEA.

It is evident that the development of an LNG terminal and a new gas-fired power station constitutes a significant modification to the National Energy Policy. In particular, this revision of the policy presents a major deviation from the “pecking order” of energy supply presented in the National Energy Policy. This revision may also affect targets for air emissions due to the reduced use of the interconnector for the supply of energy.

We are concerned that the correct procedures and environmental assessment to be followed when introducing this revision to the National Energy Policy may be ignored. In your email you indicate that the Ministry has stated that, “when the policy is revised, an SEA including the required public participation and consultation will be undertaken in terms of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations”. We would like to receive details as to how this requirement is being implemented.

Yours sincerely,

George Camilleri
Secretary General – Din l-Art Helwa

cc. Dr Mario Rodgers, Permanent Secretary, Ministry for Energy and the Conservation of Water