



Vides pārraudzības valsts birojs

*Environment State Bureau of the Republic of Latvia*

Rūpniecības iela 23, Rīga, LV-1045, Latvia, phone +371 67321173, fax +371 67321049, e-mail [vpvb@vpvb.gov.lv](mailto:vpvb@vpvb.gov.lv), [www.vpvb.gov.lv](http://www.vpvb.gov.lv)

Riga

January 15, 2021 No 5-01/39

Ref.to: December 8 2020, No 7-12/20/5341-1

**Espoo focal point: Mr. Kaupo Heinma**  
Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Estonia  
[keskkonnaministeerium@envir.ee](mailto:keskkonnaministeerium@envir.ee)

**Regarding information exchange concerning intended activity in Valga city**

Environment State Bureau (hereinafter – the Bureau), acting as a competent authority on environmental impact assessment (hereinafter – EIA) in Latvia, would like to thank the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Estonia for information sent regarding initiation of EIA for the intended activity – Dredging of Pedele I and Pedele II reservoirs in Valga city.

As the intended activity is planned downstream of the Pedele River, the planned dredging works cannot have a significant impact on the water quality of water bodies in the territory of Latvia, nor increase the risk of floods in the territory of Latvia. There is no data that the planned activity could have a long-term direct or indirect impact on the freshwater biodiversity and ecological processes, as well as on other Latvian natural values. Therefore, the Bureau shares the opinion of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Estonia that the intended Dredging of Pedele I and Pedele II reservoirs in Valga city is not likely to have significant transboundary affects, and Latvia does not intend to take part in the transboundary consultation process.

However, State Environmental Service and Valka municipality have asked to forward their wish to be informed about the commencement of works in the reservoir that is in the close vicinity of the common border. It is also kindly asked by State Environmental Service to ensure that hydraulic structures (the bridge and the water level regulator) and their functioning is not negatively affected by the works carried out in the western end of this reservoir, as well as not to place the excavated soil upstream of the Pedele River. In addition – the recommendation of Nature Protection Agency is to carry out the dredging considering recommendations of freshwater habitat experts and ichthyologists.

We are looking forward to our successful bilateral cooperation in the field of environmental assessment in the transboundary context. We also kindly ask to receive information, if EIA findings showed that negative transboundary impact is possible.

Sincerely yours,  
Arnolds Lukševics

Director of Environment State Bureau of the Republic of Latvia