

Press Release

6th September 2016

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Rosatom-Fennovoima's water construction work threatens the Baltic Sea environment

Terramare, a subsidiary of the Boskalis group, has started massive water construction work in the Finnish Bothnian Bay, destroying nature of the Pyhäjoki seashore. Russian-Finnish company Rosatom-Fennovoima plans to build a nuclear power plant in Pyhäjoki, but it does not even have a construction permit, its environmental permit is under the appeal process and the overall situation of the permits is indeterminate. The environmental permit has been appealed by both Fennovoima and environmental organizations. The permit reveals that endangered species, such as the grayling *Thymallus thymallus* which is critically endangered (as cited in HELCOM BSEP140), are threatened.

Taking advantage of the unclear permit situation, the Boskalis-Terramare is hired to begin the water construction work without proper preliminary measures to mitigate the harm to the environment. Rosatom-Fennovoima is giving the public and associates wrong and misleading information on the environmental impacts.

Rosatom-Fennovoima wants to cut costs by refusing to use geotextile to protect sediments from harming fish and other fauna and flora. The company tries to avoid the examination of the endangered species. Boskalis is now in the same situation as the major forestry company Stora Enso was in the spring of 2015: they had a deal for clear cutting the forests of the Hanhikivi Cape. In this case there was also a situation with endangered species and unclear permit status. Stora Enso had professional experience in public image management and it refused to do the job under controversial permit conditions.

In addition to the environmental concerns, working with Fennovoima is not commercially advisable. The economic base of the company is weak: the minor Finnish owners try to secede, and the downfall of Russian economy and the international sanctions will influence the viability of the project. Based on this poor and unstable position of Fennovoima, the permit situation and the environmental risks, Boskalis-Terramare risks to become liable for major environmental damages. Some damages may be irreplaceable, e.g. an endangered local fish variant cannot be restored once destroyed.

Fennovoima is a political company fostered by Finnish and Russian state powers. Practically all commercial companies such as E.on, Ovako and Boliden have left the project, leaving misguided Finnish municipal and state companies in the project. Fennovoima is actively taking advantage of the geopolitical situation in Europe. Finnish government is claimed to have been acting under external pressure whilst promoting Fennovoima's interests through official means. The nuclear power project is a social and political concern especially to the Baltic Sea region, Finland, Sweden

and Northern Europe, where Boskalis is active. The "references" of the constructor Rosatom include Chernobyl and Russian nuclear weapons. After one half-life of cesium-137, Chernobyl nuclear disaster still pollutes fish and mushroom in Northern and middle Europe with radioactive cesium considerably above EU sales limit 600 Bq/kg.

We require the works to be stopped immediately and rectification of the damages.

Friends of the Earth Finland – Anti-Nuclear Action Group
Nature Conservation Association of the Northern Ostrobothnia
Women for Peace Finland
Women Against Atomic Power
Amandamaji

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Fennovoima environmental permit under appeal, which also Fennovoima has appealed:
https://tietopalvelu.ahp.fi/Lupa/Lisatiedot.aspx?Asia_ID=939836 (in Finnish)

HELCOM

<http://helcom.fi/Lists/Publications/BSEP140.pdf> (in English)

Political situation:

<http://www.kauppalehti.fi/uutiset/selvitys-pyhajoen-ydinvoimala-putinin-kasiohjauksessa---suomen-varauduttava-venajan-vaikutusyrytyksiin/bWDiCNah> (in Finnish)

<http://www.kauppalehti.fi/uutiset/selvitys-pyhajoen-ydinvoimala-putinin-kasiohjauksessa---suomen-varauduttava-venajan-vaikutusyrytyksiin/bWDiCNah> (in Finnish)

<https://www.hbl.fi/artikel/um-oroat-over-fennovoima/> (in Swedish)

Olli Ainola: http://www.iltalehti.fi/talous/2015091720365175_ta.shtml (in Finnish)

Unto Hämäläinen: <http://www.hs.fi/kuukausiliite/a1457073613452> (in Finnish)

Alpo Rusi: <http://www.verkkouutiset.fi/politiikka/rusi%20nord%20stream-54420> (in Finnish)

Political and economic situation of Fennovoima:

Finnish Foreign ministry: <http://tem.fi/documents/1410877/2616019/Ulkoministeri%3%B6n+lausunto.pdf> (in Finnish)

The Finnish Institute of International Affairs report with English summary:

http://www.fiia.fi/en/publication/607/venajan_muuttuva_rooli_suomen_lahialueilla/

For further information: <https://www.facebook.com/Boycott-Boskalis-Terramare-destroys-sea-nature-for-Rosatom-in-Pyhajoki-173946696371548/>