



Pro Danube International
Währinger Gürtel 134
1090 Vienna/Austria
Manfred Seitz, General Secretary

Subject: A Reply to Your Letter of 2 March 2012

Dear Mr. Seitz,

After I had read your above mentioned letter, on behalf of „HPP Djerdap“, please be informed as follows:

- the decision to stop the navigation along the Danube is not within the competence of „HPP Djerdap“ but within the competence of other relevant organizations;
- the Romanian side has exceptionally this winter unilaterally acted by not providing ice-breakers according to the 1998 Convention;
- we have warned them several times about their obligations through our joint decision-making bodies but without any results;
- we have also warned them through the competent Serbian ministries (including energy and water resources industries), which further warned the competent Romanian ministries that „SH Portile de Fier“ had carried no activities in respect of its obligations, but without any effect, either;
- we do not know anything about the details concerning the „Goliat“ ice-breaker (we had no information about it from the Romanian colleagues);
- according to the 1998 Convention, as in the previous years, „HPP Djerdap“ has provided the „Greben“ ice-breaker;
- according to the 1998 Convention, neither „HPP Djerdap“ nor „SH Portile de Fier“ **are obliged to provide the conditions for the transport** (Article 22 of the Convention defines precisely the obligations of both the parties as well as the sectors for actions on both the Serbian and the Romanian sides);
- regardless of the above and under the request of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy of the Republic of Serbia, according to the instructions of „HPP Djerdap“, the „Greben“ ice-breaker operated in Smederevo and Grocka, assisting in release of frozen vessels (although the vessels concerned must not have been there at all in view of the fact that the navigation had been stopped along the Danube on 6 February 2012);
- weather conditions were such, fortunately enough, that there were no harmful consequences even without the activities on the Romanian side;
- possible harm for the navigation you mention is certainly the consequence of weather conditions and not the consequence of non-fulfilment of obligations by „HPP Djerdap“ (please be reminded that the Government of the Republic of Serbia declared the state-

- of-emergency in the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia due to severe weather conditions and that the conditions were similar in the surrounding countries, too);
- if the Romanian side had acted the state of ice would have certainly been better (it would have lasted less) and the stop of navigation would be shorter for some days at least;
 - at the next meeting of the Djerdap Serbian-Romanian Mixed Commission, which meetings are usually held at the end of May or at the beginning of June, the problems caused by the Romanian side would certainly be discussed since the Report on Measures Taken to Fight Ice has been a standing item in the agenda of the spring meetings;
 - as for „HPP Djerdap“, it will also be ready to act according to the 1998 Convention next year, too and help even in cases it is not its obligation, as this year.

I assume the Romanian colleagues would also forward their reply to your letter. I am also kindly asking you to forward a copy of this reply to all those you had addressed your letter to and I thank you in advance.

In case you would need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Ref. No. 10-960
Date: 5 March 2012
Kladovo

„HPP Djerdap“ Ltd. Kladovo
Director

Dragan Stanković, B. Eng.

