



commission for environmental impact assessment

To the Minister of the Environment
Nino Chkhobadze
Ministry of Environment of Georgia
68a, Kostava Street
380015 TBILISI
Georgia

your reference
01/366

your letter of
26 April 2000

our reference
1120/052/Kh/lw

subject Advice for guidelines for
environmental impact assessment (first
phase) of the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan Main
Export oil pipeline in Georgia

direct dial
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Utrecht,
8 June 2001

Excellency,

At your request the Dutch Minister of the Environment Jan Pronk has asked the Dutch Commission for Environmental Impact Assessment (MER) to assist you with the environmental and social aspects of the "Baku - Tbilisi - Ceyhan Main Export oil pipeline project" in Georgia.

A working group (see for the composition Appendix 3) of the aforementioned Commission was then assigned to advise you on these matters, applying the Dutch standards.

The working group visited Tbilisi from 7 till 15 May of this year and had intensive contacts with a large number of ministries, institutions, international organisations, GIOC, NGO's, the British Petroleum Company and the Royal Netherlands Consulate in Georgia.

During our meeting you asked the working group to assist you with the following actions:

- setting up guidelines for a study on route selection as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment study (EIA);
- to review, the aforementioned study based upon your approved guidelines;
- setting up the guidelines of the second part of the EIA, the study on environmental and social impact assessment;
- to review, the second part EIA based upon your approved guidelines.

I hereby send you the guidelines for the study on route selection (first phase EIA).

Please let us know if you have questions and inform us about your approval of these guidelines in order for us to proceed as quick as possible with the setting up of the guidelines for the second part of the EIA.

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Finally, I would like to inform you that we are willing to assist with the review of the monitoring & evaluation of the project. In accordance with you, the 'filling-in' of our assistance should be discussed in more detail.

With warm regards,



Dick de Zeeuw,
Chairman of the working group