



Brussels, 31 march 2016

Commissioner Margrethe Vestager, EU Commissioner for Competition

Commissioner Karmenu Vella, EU Commissioner for Environment and Fisheries

Copy: President Jean-Claude Juncker, President of EU Commission

Dear Commissioner Vestager, Dear Commissioner Vella,

Following up on the communications that we last presented to the Commission concerning the Ilva case, in its environmental and state-aid aspects, Peacelink would like to update you with relevant information.

After the official confirmation by competent authorities of the dramatic peaks of dioxin (790 picograms of dioxin per square meter per day, where the threshold reference value is 21), Peacelink has asked the the European Commission to enquire with the Italian Institutions with immediate urgency. We thus would like to know if an answer has been delivered so far.

Moreover, we would like to provide the Commission with a very detailed report on the AIA (environmental integrated authorization) works, based on the latest ISPRA analysis of the advancement of the measures. Our experts have found several critical points and outstanding violations, that need to be reported for the urgent sake of people's safety.

To name a few, we are very worried about the GRF (iron and metal waste management area), where incandescent waste material is deposited on the ground liberating into air very dangerous emissions, and attacking the soil where these substances do penetrate (prescription number 16-h and 16-i).

We have identified extremely infringements, documented by ISPRA, also for prescription 1, related to the covering of mineral parks as well as for several others. Prescription 26 on the

movement of dusty materials represents a big danger, for human health. Our report and ISPRA report are being sent with this letter, providing all necessary information.

Peacelink would also like to ask the European Commission which evaluations are being made on the loan that the Italian Government has accorded to Ilva, violating European legislation on state aid.

We believe that the 800 million euros that should be granted from the “Stability law” will help the plant continue its production: as it was clearly stated by local press, these sums are needed to pay salaries, while the situation on the ground remains critical.

To this link, the recent fire on transport belts inside the plant, one the many incidents that keep on happening (http://www.ansa.it/puglia/notizie/2016/03/28/in-fiamme-nastro-trasportatore-allilva_3de932b3-d966-404c-b8c4-31b3b3a315e4.html)

The European Commission has pointed out, in the infringement procedure launched in 2013, that Italy is failing to ensure Ilva’s compliance with EU requirements on industrial emissions, with serious consequences for human health and the environment.

In addition to the breaches of the IPPC Directive and the resulting pollution, the Commission has underlined, over the last years, that the Italian authorities have not ensured that ILVA takes the necessary remedial measures or bears the costs of such measures to deal with the damage that has already been produced and that is still ongoing, which opens up the question on the recovering of the areas at the end of the cycle of production.

The Commission had also noted deficiencies in waste management, together with insufficient protection and monitoring of soil and groundwater. With this letter, we also provide a detailed and updated report on the waste management situation.

Peacelink asks the Commission if It is satisfied with the Italian Authorities responses and its recent actions on the ground, taking into consideration the fact that loans already granted in the past have not ameliorated the working conditions of Ilva workers nor the health and environmental rights of the population.

If state aid accorded in the past were not directed to the full implementation of the IPPC permit (the AIA should have been completed by 2015), why is the Commission permitting that Italy keeps a dangerous and heavily indebted plant alive with public money?

Postponing once more the deadline for the potential completion of the AIA works (the new decree law 191/15 of 4/12/2015 pushes the deadline to 2017) - which do not constitute any innovative measure but a simple, standard and basic action of keeping the plant up to the

minimal norms - represents an additional ENVI violation and does not justify the state aid that the new decree guarantees.

Antonia Battaglia, Alessandro Marescotti, Luciano Manna

Three handwritten signatures are displayed side-by-side on a light gray background. The first signature on the left is 'Antonia Battaglia', the middle one is 'Alessandro Marescotti', and the one on the right is 'Luciano Manna'.

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