Ministry of Climate and Environment  
Postboks 8013 Dep  
N-0030 Oslo  
Norway  

Dear Sir/Madam,  

Subject: Complaint alleging failure by Norway to comply with Directive 2000/60 in relation to a mining project in Western Norway  

On 13 January 2015, the EFTA Surveillance Authority received a complaint against Norway concerning the proposed mining project in the Engebo mountain.  

According to the complainant, the application process relating to the proposed mining project in Engebofjellet, in conjunction with proposal to dispose of mining tailings in the Førde Fjord, has not respected the requirements of the Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC).  

The Authority’s Internal Market Affairs Directorate is presently considering the merits of the complaint.  

In order for the Authority to examine and assess the complaint, the Norwegian Government is invited to respond to the following issues:  

1. Has a license been granted with regard to the proposed mining project in Engebofjellet, County of Sogn and Fjordane? If not, please explain the current status of the application together with an indication, if possible, of when a decision is likely to be taken.  

2. Please provide an overview of the possibility to appeal against a decision to grant a license for such a project. In particular, it would be useful to know who can launch any such an appeal and on what grounds.  

3. Please confirm which river basin district the area in question falls under. Is there a draft river basin management plan currently in force for this river basin? If so, please provide a copy. If the river basin management plan has not yet been finalised, please provide a draft, if available.
After a preliminary assessment has been undertaken, the Directorate may, where appropriate, ask the Norwegian Government to provide further information as well as its observations on the complaint.

Yours faithfully,

Bernard Zaglmayer
Deputy Director
Internal Market Affairs Directorate