

Case handler: Gabrielle Somers  
Tel: (+32)(0)2 286 1 876  
gas@eftasurv.int

Brussels, 23 January 2015  
Case No: 76709  
Document No: 742749



EFTA SURVEILLANCE  
AUTHORITY

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 Engebø mountain.

According to the complainant, the application process relating to the proposed mining project in Engebøfjellet, 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).

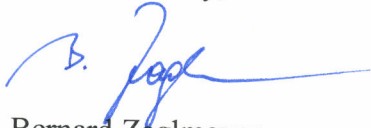
The Authority's Internal Market Affairs Directorate is presently considering the merits of the complaint.

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 Engebøfjellet, 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