

**L.N. 211 of 2015****ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING ACT  
(CAP. 504)****Environmental Impact Assessment (Amendment)  
Regulations, 2015**

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred by article 61 of the Environment and Development Planning Act, the Minister for Sustainable Development, the Environment and Climate Change and the Parliamentary Secretary for Planning and Simplification of Administrative Processes, after consultation with the Malta Environment and Planning Authority, have made the following regulations:-

**1.** (1) The title of these regulations is the Environmental Impact Assessment (Amendment) Regulations, 2015, and these regulations shall be read and construed as one with the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2015, hereinafter referred to as "the principal regulations".

Citation and scope.

S.L. 504.79

(2) The purpose of these regulations is to transpose and implement the provisions related to Regulation (EU) No. 347/2013 of the European Parliament and the Council on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure, to include reference to the co-ordination of environmental assessment procedures arising from the requirements of Council Directives 2014/52/EU, 92/43/EEC and other related Union legislation.

**2.** Immediately after sub-regulation (9) of regulation 3 of the principal regulations, there shall be added the following new sub-regulations:

Amends regulation 3 of the principal regulations.

"Coordination of procedures in relation to projects of common interest.

(10) In accordance with the requirements arising from Regulation (EU) No. 347/2013 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure, the Director of Environment Protection shall ensure that for Projects of Common Interest (as defined in Annex IV of Regulation 347/2013), environmental assessment procedures arising from the requirements of Council Directives 2014/52/EU ("the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive"), 92/43/EEC ("the Habitats Directive"), 2009/147/EC ("the Birds Directive") and any other relevant sectoral Directives, as appropriate, are to be carried out in a coordinated manner.

Procedures to be following when Projects of Common Interest are likely to have transboundary impacts.

(11) Where the Minister is aware that a Project of Common Interest in Malta is likely to have significant effects on the environment in another State, or where a State is likely to be significantly affected, the provisions of sub-regulation (10) shall also apply. The coordinated approach shall also take into consideration the Convention on access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters ("the Aarhus Convention") and the Espoo Convention on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context ("the Espoo Convention"), where applicable."

