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

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Follow-up action in Case 88013

Reference is made to the Norwegian Government's letter of 30 August 2024, setting out Norway's timeline for follow-up action in Cases 88013 and 87599 concerning the Water Framework Directive ("WFD") (Doc No 1479096, your ref. 24/1828-).

In its letter, the Norwegian Government explained that it will assess how to fully transpose Article 11(3)(e) of the WFD into Norwegian law until the spring of 2025, with the intention of adopting amendments to the Norwegian Water Regulation fully transposing Articles 11(3)(e) and 11(5) of the WFD by 1 January 2026.

The Norwegian Government further explained its intention to establish a regulation to extend the standard terms for hydropower facilities by 1 January 2026. However, it also noted that in case this required legislative amendments to the Water Resources Act and the Watercourse Regulation Act, the regulation would not be adopted until 1 July 2026.

The Internal Market Affairs Directorate ("the Directorate") of the EFTA Surveillance Authority ("the Authority") welcomes the development and efforts by the Norwegian Government to address the findings in its letter of 6 May 2024 (Doc No 1441163).

At the same time, the Directorate emphasises the need to ensure full implementation of the Water Framework Directive in a timely fashion and therefore invites the Norwegian Government to consider expediting its assessment.

If deemed useful and to facilitate the process, the Directorate remains available to receive draft amendments and discuss these in a dedicated meeting.

The Directorate looks forward to continuing a constructive dialogue.

Yours faithfully,

Marco Uccelli
Deputy Director
Internal Market Affairs Directorate

This document has been electronically authenticated by Marco Uccelli.