Fact sheet

Title of the process

Ukraine:
Znesinnia Regional Landscape Park
Versus Electric Power Supplier

Type of procedure

☐ Mediation procedure
☐ Procedure including mediation elements
☐ Other procedure — negotiations

Topic area

☐ Urban and land use planning
☐ Waste management
☐ Power industry
☐ Traffic, transportation
☐ Water management/supply and distribution
☐ Industry, trade, enterprises
☐ Telecommunications
☐ General environmental policies (genetic engineering, nuclear policy, etc.)
☐ Nature conservation
☐ Tourism
☐ Neighborhood conflict
☐ Other:

Initiator(s)

Znesinnia Regional Landscape Park and Lvivoblenergo Open Joint Stock Company, a local state electric power supplier

Short description of the case

On November 4, 2002 Lvivoblenergo, in accordance with the Rules of Electricity Supply Networks Maintenance, applied to the director of the Znesinnia Regional Landscape Park with a letter requesting a permit to cut 374 trees in a corridor under a 110-kilovolt high voltage electric line (HVEL-110 kV) situated in the park. The director of the park, concerned about the cutting of such a large number of trees, particularly in a core protection zone of the park, initiated a meeting of the Public Council at the Lviv Oblast State Administration on Environment and Natural Resources (henceforth “Public Council”) to settle this issue. During its meeting on January 10, 2003 the Public Council agreed to a proposal by the park and decided to approach the mayor of Lviv with a request to create a special working group that would develop a proposal to replace the high voltage electric lines with cable lines.

The deputy Lviv mayor on urban and land use planning and the Lviv City Council Commission on Nature Management, Environment Protection and Urban Development
have also supported these decisions. The result was a reallocation of the trees, and only 115 trees — instead of the initial 374 — have been cut and the rest – undergone the crown formation only. The decision of the Public Council on the need to replace the power lines with underground cable lines has been taken into consideration by the developer of the General Plan of Lviv City, which will be adopted in November 2005.

**Parties and other participants (number of individuals, names of participating public authorities, institutions, interest groups, etc.)**

The main parties of the conflict were the Znesinnia Regional Landscape Park and the local electric power supplier, Lvivoblenergo JSC.

Other participants in the conflict included:
- the local state and self-governmental bodies authorised to make decision on the approval of the clearing of the corridor under the HVPL (the Lviv Oblast State Administration on Environment and Natural Resources and the Lviv City Council),
- the Public Council of Lviv Oblast State Administration on Environment and Natural Resources (organizing a meeting of concerned parties, which helped to find a solution),
- non-governmental organisations (notably the NGO Znesinnia Renaissance from Lviv),
- the Ecopravo-Lviv charitable foundation (which provided free legal advice and guidance to the director of the park and NGOs), and
- local citizens (36 people).

**Client/financial sponsor**

The process did not involve any financial sponsor. The parties of the conflict acted within their own budgets while defending their interests during the conflict resolution process.

**Procedural guidance (e.g. professional mediators)**

The procedural guidance for protecting nature conservation interests (to the park, NGOs and citizens) was provided by Ecopravo-Lviv. It consisted of free legal consultations and guidance, as well as preparation of letters and documents.

The negotiations at the Public Council were facilitated by the head of the Public Council.

**Geographic dimension**

- ☑ local
- ☐ regional
- ☐ state-wide
- ☐ international
- ☐ EU-wide

**Status of process**

- ☑ concluded
- ☐ in execution
The conflict started on November 4, 2002 and was partially solved on January 10, 2003, when during the Meeting of the Public Council a decision was reached on the need to decrease the number of trees to be cut and to replace the power lines with cable lines. In February 2003 the reallocation of trees to be cut was made and the agreed number of trees (115 out of 374) were cut.

The conflict came to a close in May 2003 when the proposal of the park and decisions of the Public Council were taken into consideration by the Urban Plantation Institute, which was working on the development of the General Plan of Lviv City. It is expected that the Lviv City Council will adopt the plan in November 2005.