

**Reference for consultations and motives for accepted and rejected comments and recommendations
 on the Report on Strategic Environmental Assessment of OPIC 2014-2020**

“The Project BG161PO003-5.0.01-0003 “Effective Management of Operational Programme “Development of the Competitiveness of the Bulgarian Economy” 2007-2013” is implemented with the financial aid of Operational Programme “Development of the Competitiveness of the Bulgarian Economy” 2007-2013”, (Priority Axis 5 “Technical Assistance”), co-financed by the European Fund for Regional Development”.

№	Consultations/ community/ town hall/ inspection body/ agency/ NGO, etc. organizations	Quotes of the opinions / recommendations / comments etc.	Motives for Accepted/ Rejected comments
1.	Ministry of Health Outgoing № 04-08- 189/30.06.2014	<p>In terms of receipt in the Ministry of Health your letter with ref. № 04-08-189/31.05.2014 and attached documentation regarding Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" 2014- 2020, we wish to inform you the following:</p> <p>It appears from the submitted documentation that the Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment on Operational Programme “Innovation and Competitiveness” 2014-2020 (OPIC) includes various sections that assess and analyze the current state of the environment and the expected impact of the implementation of the activities upon the environmental factors and components. hygiene and health aspects has been taken into account, and assessment was made on the future positive or negative impact on human health resulting from the implementation of the planned activities under the priority axes and the key program objectives.</p> <p>The expected positive and negative impacts on human health and</p>	

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		<p>environmental components from the implementation of the indicative activities, included for funding under the operational program, have been considered in the submitted documentation.</p> <p>It is generally stated that due to the implementation of various activities under the priority axes sustained excessive pollution of the environmental factors is not expected (air, water, vibrations, noise, etc.).</p> <p>It is envisaged the implementation of the planned activities to lead to the fulfillment of the main goal of the program to achieve dynamic competitive economic development based on innovation, optimization of production chains and sectors with high added value.</p> <p>The program is based on 4 priority axes: Priority axis 1: Technological development and Innovation; Priority axis 2: Entrepreneurship and Capacity for growth of SMEs; Priority axis 3: Energy and Resource Efficiency; Priority axis 4: Technical Assistance;</p> <p>The implementation of the priority axes set in OPIC 2014- 2020 would lead to development of cooperation for innovation between enterprises business and academia, and between business and other carries of innovation capacityholders; financial instruments to support entrepreneurship and promote entrepreneurial ideas in areas related to European and regional challenges; support for pilot and demonstration initiatives to improve resource efficiency in enterprises and /or groups of enterprises.</p> <p>According to the submitted information the implementation of activities under Priority Axes 1, 2 and 3 are expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduce air pollution, a positive impact on climate factors, improving the general</p>	
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		<p>condition of surface and groundwater. The implementation of the priority axes will improve the overall condition of surface and groundwater in Bulgaria. Not expected negative but only positive cumulative impact of OPIC 2014-2020 with respect to the environment and human health, mainly through the activities under priority axes 1 and 3 of the program.</p> <p>It is expected within OPIC 2014-2020 to be funded projects that are prerequisites for building an integrated innovation capacity, moving up the value chain and creating long-term competitive advantages, incl. in the areas of environmental and low carbon technologies, increasing entrepreneurial activity, the development of sustainable market competitiveness of Bulgarian SMEs, in order to increase their export potential, increasing the share of enterprises in the economy with low carbon industries, increasing the number of more energy efficient production buildings, etc.</p> <p>The report's authors conclude that Version 3 of the draft OPIC 2014-2020 is permissible and consistent with the objectives of protecting the environment and leading to overall positive impact on the environment and human health, and because of that they suggest the program to be implemented in this version.</p> <p>In relation with the above, the Ministry of Health provides generally positive opinion on the Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment on the Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" 2014- 2020" suggesting as required measures to be entered the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Investment proposals which would be funded under OPIC 2014-2020, requiring EIA/SEA under the Environmental Protection Act, to be approved after appropriate procedures and upon presentation of the documents issued by the regulatory authorities in accordance with Art.	<p>A similar measure is included in Section 7 of the SEA Report.</p>
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		<p>18, para. 1 under the Ordinance of conditions and procedures for assessing the environmental impact (SG 25 /2003., last. amend. SG 94 /2012) and Art. 25, para. 1 under the Ordinance of conditions and procedures for environmental assessment of plans and programs (SG 57/ 2004, last amended SG 94 /2012), in compliance with the recommendations of the assessments, and conditions on the document;</p> <p>2. Giving priority to projects whose implementation will lead to improvement of environmental protection of human health;</p> <p>3. During the investment proposals that are expected to have possible adverse effects on the environment and risk to human health to provide for effective measures and to take timely measures for possible elimination.</p>	<p>In accordance with the requirement of the MH measure № 8 of the table in Section 7 of the SEA report is reformulated. The measure was added to the table of measures in Section 7 of the SEA Report</p>
2.	<p>The Basin Water Management Directorate Danube District – Pleven, Outgoing № 2829/19.06.2014 г.</p>	<p>With relation to the submitted letter with our ref. № 2829/02.06.2014 in Basin Water Management Directorate Danube District (BWMDDD) with center Pleven, with a request for an opinion pursuant to Art. 20, para. 1 of the Ordinance on the conditions and procedures for the environmental assessment of plans and programs related to consultations on Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Operational Programme "OPIC" 2014-2020, the opinion of BWMDDD is as follows:</p> <p>During the procedure on Strategic Environmental Assessment on the Operational Programme "OPIC" 2014-2020, BWMDDD has delivered its opinion on the draft terms of reference on the Scope of Work of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Report (letter our ref. № 2829/13.05.2014).</p> <p>In section 2 "Current state of the environment and possible development</p>	

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		<p>without application of OPIC 2014-2020 " of the Report of SEA in the part concerning the status of surface water and groundwater with included major National Report on the Environment Status and Protection 2011 (Adopted in 2013).</p> <p>The following technical gaps are admitted and need to be removed in the Report of SEA on "OPIC" 2014-2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The concepts "areas at risk of flooding" and "areas at high risk of flooding" does not exist under Directive 2007/60/EC and the Water Act - Chapter Nine "Protection against water-related damage and loss". Areas with significant potential risk of flooding are established for each Basin Directorate under Order of the Minister of Environment and Water; ➤ Risk assessment of surface and groundwater bodies for failing to achieve the environmental objectives is part of the development of the River Basin Management Plan. It is presented in the Management Plan, but identifying the condition of water bodies is to date 2010, respectively: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -surface water bodies - chemical state determined by the content of priority substances and environmental-biological, hydromorphological and physico-chemical indicators of quality elements and content of specific substances; -groundwater bodies - chemical and quantitative status; ➤ Measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of implementing the "OPIC" 2014-2020 on the environment and human health need to be consistent with FRMP 2016-2021 (FRAP is part of FRMP). 	<p>Reflected in Section 2.1.3 and 3.4.</p> <p>Reflected in the table in Section 7 of the SEA Report.</p>
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<p>3.</p>	<p>Basin Water Management Directorate in Black Sea District, Outgoing № 04-00-9 (4)/25.06.2014</p>	<p>With regard to the submitted Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment on the Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" 2014-2020 and the Draft of OPIC 2014-2020, we express the following opinion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Submitted Report of SEA meets the requirements of the legislation in structure and scope.2. Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" 2014-2020 " clearly set out the general and specific objectives meeting documents leading strategic development over the period to 2020. Investment priorities defined thematic objectives correspond to the regulations of European Union funds.3. The SEA Report reflects recommendations made by letter with our № 04-00-9/25.04.2014 on The Scope of Work of SEA.4. Analysis for all other plans and programs aimed at achieving compliance with European and national legislation on the environment and combating adaptation to climate change is presented.5. In the SEA Report is made an assessment of the eligible activities, taking into account the objectives and measures set out in the current RBMP and developed at the time Preliminary Assessments of Flooding Risk. An assessment of the current state and provide estimates of the possible impacts on surface and groundwater are made, incl. in relation to climate change; <p>By the assessments and analyzes are derived conclusions about compliance and the possible significant effects of the provisions of OPIC 2014-2020 against the objectives of environmental protection, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- in terms of RBMP - the activities planned under the program will not conflict with measures to achieve good water status. Investing in innovative technologies would lead to pollution reduction and water loss	<p>The opinion doesn't contain comments and recommendations to be reflected</p>
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		<p>reduction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- in terms of FRMP - the program does not provide direct action plans, but the same should comply investments and their realization with the flooding risk and to ensure sustainability of the objects of funding flood. Impact of OPIC 2014-2020 on water is generally assessed with a comprehensive positive character as the realization of the priority axes will improve the overall condition of surface and underground waters, which in turn will contribute to the key objectives set out in the FWD 2000/60/EC and Directive 2007/60/EC. <p>In view of the above, we accept the submitted Report of Strategic environmental Assessment on Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" 2014-2020 without remarks.</p>	
4.	Regional Inspectorate of the Environment and Water – Shoumen Outgoing № 3172/09.06.2014	After reviewing the attached documents on assessment and having regard to the attached reference on the results of consultations on Scope of Work of the Report, RIEW Shoumen has no remarks to the SEA Report and proposed measures and indicators.	The opinion doesn't contain comments and recommendations to be reflected.
5.	Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Waters – Smolyan, Outgoing № KO-01-129-(2)/16.06.2014	We accepted the Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment, Appendixes and Non-technical summary on the Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness 2014-2020" according to Art. 20, para. 3 of the Ordinance of the conditions and procedures for SEA on plans and programs, submitted by you In the submitted SEA Report, Appendixes and Non-technical summary on the Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness 2014-2020" all aspects of preparing the Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment are described including environmental components and factors listed in Article . 86,	The opinion doesn't contain comments and recommendations to be reflected.

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		<p>para. 3 of the Environmental Protection Act (EPA). All the alternatives, including the "zero" one are described adequately. There are proposed measures to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the implementation of the program on the environment.</p> <p>We wish to inform you that we have no remarks and recommendations on the submitted Strategic Environmental Assessment, Appendixes and Non-technical summary on the Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness 2014-2020".</p>	
6.	Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Waters – Veliko Turnovo, Outgoing № 1455/17.06.2014	<p>We express the following opinion in relation to the produced Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment on Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness 2014-2020":</p> <p>The main priority axes of the Operational Programme for Innovation and Competitiveness for the period 2014-2020 are listed in the Report under Version 3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Priority axis 1</u>: Technological development and Innovation, - <u>Priority axis 2</u>: Entrepreneurship and Capacity for growth of SMEs, - <u>Priority axis 3</u>; Energy and resource efficiency, - <u>Priority axis 4</u>: Technical assistance. <p>There are defined contribution strategies of the operational program to the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and achieve economic, social and territorial cohesion and strategy of the operational program to contribute achieving the Europe 2020 strategy goals.</p> <p>RIEW Veliko Tarnovo has no remarks in terms of consultations on the Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment on Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness " 2014 2020.</p>	The opinion doesn't contain comments and recommendations to be reflected.
7.	Regional Inspectorate of	We wish to inform you that the Regional Inspectorate of Environment and	

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<p>Environment and Water – Pleven Outgoing № 3107/17.06.2014</p>	<p>Water has no remarks on the submitted Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment on Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness " 2014-2020" (OPIC) in connection with the concerning consultations under Art. 20, para. 1 of Ordinance on the conditions and procedures for environmental assessment of plans and programmes (SEA Ordinance, adopted Decree № 139/24.06/2004, promulgated, SG 57/2004, amend., amended and supplemented, SG 3/2006, 29/2010, 3/2011, 38 / 18.05.2012). The report was developed in accordance with Art. 86, para. 3 of the Environmental Protection Act and the SEA Ordinance. Consultations were concerned with the public bodies, stakeholders and third parties who are likely to be affected by the implementation of the plan for preparing the report under Art. 19 of SEA Ordinance (letters, ref. № 2530/12.05.2014 of RIEW - Pleven on the Scope of Work of SEA Report on Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness " 2014- 2020").</p> <p>We consider that the information is sufficient to express a positive opinion on the Strategic Environmental Assessment on the Operational Program "Innovation and Competitiveness " 2014- 2020. We accept submitted conclusions on the impact of Version 3 of Operational Program "Innovation and Competitiveness " 2014-2020, as allowable and consistent with the objectives of protecting the environment as general and lead to a positive impact on the environment and human health, as well as that no significant negative impacts on the environment and public health in the implementation of the program.</p> <p>As far as the Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness " 2014- 2020" does not outline the framework for future development (on the territorial scope of RIEW- Pleven) specific plans, programs, projects and investment proposals for the construction of new facilities and expansion of existing ones, in</p>	<p>This requirement is reflected as a measure in Section 7 of the SEA Report.</p>
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		order to prevent potential significant negative impacts, and loss priority habitats of species in protected areas and sites of NEN (including "Natura 2000"), coordination and approval of investment intentions in each case should be done in case of a document of verification procedures in Chapter Six of the EPA and/ or Biodiversity Act (incl. for sites in "Natura 2000") and, if it is necessary the Protected Areas Act (for objects in protected areas).	
8.	Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water – Rousse, Outgoing № 1670/17.06.2014	Express the following opinion on the documentation after reviewing the submitted Report of SEA on OP "Innovation and Competitiveness 2014-2020": - Structure and content of the Report is in accordance with Art. 86, para. 3 of the Environmental Protection Act- EPA (SG 91/2002, amend., amended and supplemented, SG 22/2014); - Information on the consultations held to this stage of the procedure is attached to the Report; - Alternatives on the implementation of the Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness 2014-2020" have been reviewed and assessed. Resulting from the selected alternative - Version 3 of May, 2014 - plans, programs, projects and investment initiatives have complex positive effect on the environment and human health. Given the above, RIEW-Rousse has no objections and additional documentation requirements on the SEA documentation.	The opinion doesn't contain comments and recommendations to be reflected.
9.	Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water – Stara Zagora, Outgoing	We accept the submitted Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment on the Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness 2014-2020 as the fulfillment of your duties for consultation concerning under the application of Art. 20, para. 1 of the Ordinance on the conditions and procedures for environmental	The opinion doesn't contain comments and recommendations to be reflected.

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	№ KOC-01-1867/19.06.2014	<p>assessment of plans and programs (SEA Ordinance).</p> <p>The SEA Report is designed as a single document compliance with the requirements of Art. 86, para. 3 of EPA and was developed by a group of experts that meet the requirements of Art. 16, para. 1 of SEA Ordinance. Analyzes and specific prevent measures to reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the implementation of the program are recommended by the Strategic Environmental Assessment Report and as a result of these consultations.</p> <p>We accept the Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment and the scheme-consultations without remarks.</p>	
10.	Regional Inspectorate of the Environment and Water - Haskovo Outgoing № PD-236/23.06.2014	<p>Concerning the application of Art. 20, para. 3 of the Ordinance on the conditions and procedures for SEA of plans and programs (SG 57/04, amend., amended and supplemented, SG 3/2006, amend. SG 29/16 April 2010, amend., amended and supplemented. SG 38 /18 May 2012) RIEW- Haskovo accept submitted information of the consultations on the preparation of Strategic Environmental Assessment on "Innovation and Competitiveness" for the next programming period 2014-2020. After reviewing of the information RIEW expressed the following opinion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The SEA Report is designed as a single document in compliance with the requirements of Art. 86, para. 3 of EPA and it was developed by a group of experts that meet the requirements of Art. 16, para. 1 of the SEA Ordinance. The report includes a meaningful part, a list of sources of information and scheme-consultations.• The current state of environmental components and factors is described in the SEA on OP "Innovation and Competitiveness" for the next programming period 2014-2020. Generally the flora and	The opinion doesn't contain comments and recommendations to reflect.

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		<p>fauna in the region are described, species and habitats of conservation are marked. Protected areas and sites and their characteristic habitat types are identified.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trends in the environment without implementation of the OP are identified. The existing environmental problems identified at different levels related to OPRD, including areas of particular environmental importance, such as protected sites in NATURA 2000 are also described. • Significant impacts on the environment, including biodiversity, flora and fauna are identified. • There are envisaged measures to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the implementation of the OP on the environment. 	
<p>11.</p>	<p>Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water – Montana, Outgoing № 1072/23.06.2014</p>	<p>RIEW-Montana expressed the following opinion in terms of the Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment on Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" (OPIC)2014-2020:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Structure and scope of the Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment meet the requirements of Art. 86, para. 3 of the Environmental Protection Act (EPA) and Art. 17 of the Ordinance on the conditions and procedures for environmental assessment of plans and programs. 2. The main features and objectives of the operational programme and its connection with other relevant plans and programs are described. The strategic framework for the implementation of the program is described. It is in line with the consultations and technical assistance of the EU and its connection with other relevant plans and programs and the European 	<p>The opinion doesn't contain comments and recommendations to reflect.</p>

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		<p>strategic documents. There are indicated priority axes with the corresponding sub-priorities with thematic objectives and investment priorities, eligible activities and beneficiaries.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">3. The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and their possible development without implementation of the program, e.g. zero alternative are described.4. The National Water Resource Management Strategy by 2037 is circumstancially reviewed. Its Action Plan puts long-term goal of sustainable use of water resources, providing optimum levels present and future needs of the population and the economy, and aquatic ecosystems.5. The programme implementation will lead to the reduction of PM₁₀, improving air quality and reducing and/or maintaining the levels of noise.6. The impact of waste is correctly assessed in the SEA Report. It would be directly positive, long-term or permanent, because the OP contributes to the creation of new sustainable enterprises, increase entrepreneurial activity and successfully implementation of new business ideas for making waste in raw material and energy resources, which is directly related to the sustainable development of society.7. The potential impacts on environmental components in the implementation of the program were assessed as measures to prevent, mitigate and compensate for adverse impacts and analysis of the expected additive effect of these measures are identified. The necessary measures to monitor and control during the implementation of the plan are presented.	
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		<p>8. The necessary measures relating to monitoring and control during application of OPIC with indicators/metrics, periodicity of reporting source responsible for the collection and provision of information are indicated.</p> <p>9. The group of experts developed the SEA Report assessed Version 3 of the Draft of OPIC 2014-2020 as acceptable and consistent with the objectives of protecting the environment and leading to overall positive impact on the environment and public health in the implementation of the programme.</p>	
12.	Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water – Vratsa, Outgoing № B – 1116/23.06.2014	<p>Given the procedure of SEA on Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" 2014-2020 and in connection with your consultations under Art. 20, para. 1 of the Ordinance on the conditions and procedures for the environmental assessment of plans and programs / SEA Ordinance / in terms of the submitted documentation and the respective powers of the RIEW-Vratsa, we provide the following opinion:</p> <p>In the submitted Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment and attached Non-technical summary on the Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" 2014-2020 all aspects of preparing Strategic Environmental Assessment are affected including environmental components and factors, referred in Art. 86, para. 3 of the Environmental Protection Act (EPA). All of the alternatives, including the "zero" one are described adequately. There are proposed measures to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects of the implementation of the program on the environment.</p> <p>We inform you that we have no remarks and recommendations on the submitted Strategic Environmental Assessment and attached Non-technical</p>	The opinion doesn't contain comments and recommendations to be reflected.

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		summary on Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" 2014-2020.	
13.	Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water – Pernik, Outgoing № 04-00-4-/3/, 24.06.2014	<p>With regard to the consultations on the submitted in RIEW-Pernik Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment on Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" 2014-2020, RIEW-Pernik expressed the following opinion:</p> <p>Submitted SEA Report is elaborated meeting the requirements of Art. 86, para. 1 and para. 2 of the Environmental Protection Act (EPA), it is observed the content of Art. 86, para. 3 of the EPA and art. 17 of the Ordinance on the conditions and procedures for environmental assessment of plans and programs (SEA Ordinance, amended, amended and supplemented, SG 94/30.11.2012).</p> <p>In terms of submitted Draft and Strategic Environmental Assessment on the Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" 2014-2020 RIEW-Pernik has no remarks and recommendations.</p>	The opinion doesn't contain comments and recommendations to be reflected.
14.	Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water – Pazardzhik, Outgoing № KD-01-1552/ 25.06.2014	<p>We express the following opinion in connection with the submitted documentation on procedure of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) on the Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" 2014-2020, which we accept as meeting the requirements of Art. 20, para. 3 of the Ordinance on the conditions and procedures for SEA (SEA Ordinance):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In terms of submitted Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment on Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" 2014-2020 (OPIC 2014-2020) - no remarks and recommendations.• In terms of submitted Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment on OPIC 2014-2020 and its Appendix - no remarks and recommendations.• In terms of submitted Non-technical summary of the Strategic	The opinion doesn't contain comments and recommendations to be reflected.

		<p>Environmental Assessment Report on OPIC 2014-2020 - no remarks and recommendations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In terms of the submitted Draft of Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" 2014-2020 - no comments and recommendations. 	
15	<p>Ministry of Environment and Water, Outgoing № 04-00-1313/03.07.2014</p>	<p>With regard to the submitted documentation by your side on SEA of OPIC for programming period 2014-2020 (with ref. № 04-00-1313/31.05.2014 of the MOEW), we express the following opinion:</p> <p>I. In terms of the SEA Report:</p> <p>During the reviewing of the documentation some inaccuracies were found that need to be clarified as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On page 81, Section 2.1.3. "State of surface water" a strategic document "Maritime Strategy of the Republic of Bulgaria" should be deleted, because it has not been developed yet; • On page 81, Section 2.1.3. "State of surface water", as a strategic document should be added the Program for the construction of sewer systems by 2015. • On page 90, "Water for drinking-watersupply" - it is necessary to specify the text, given that it comes to treatment plants for drinking water /WTP/, but it is used the abbreviation of WWT - wastewater treatment; • On page 198 - in the table of Section 2.2. "Possible environmental development without application of OPIC 2014-2020" in terms of aspects of the surface and groundwater status, information should be added related to wastewater treatment; 	<p>Reflected</p> <p>Reflected</p> <p>Reflected</p> <p>Reflected</p> <p>Will be added action "introduction of water"</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On page 217, Section 2.4. of the table, "More efficient water use, incl. eco-innovation, new technologies in the field of water and methods in the the field of evaluation of the condition, monitoring and management, water treatment", we recommend to encourage the introduction of rotations (recycle cycles) for water use in manufacturing processes; • On page 245, Investment Priority 3.2. "Resource efficiency" - we consider it is necessary to correct the set statement that "there is no activities that would have an impact on the quantity and quality of water" because in increasing the efficiency of water use / for exmple the introduction of working cycle in enterprises / the amount of the used water would be reduced. <p>II. In terms of measures for monitoring and control on the plan implementation with respect to the environment and human health:</p> <p>In Setion 10 of the SEA Report measures are proposed for the purpose of monitoring and control on the impact of the program on the environment and human health. According to Art. 20, para. 8 of the Ordinance on the conditions and procedures for environmental assessment (SEA Ordinance) we agreed the proposed measures, taking into account the main objective of OPIC and the priority directions for support - technology development and innovation, entrepreneurship, and capacity for growth of small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), energy and resource efficiency. In relation to the measures for monitoring and control associated with decreasing water consumption of supported enterprises and reduction of waste, to propose take into account second indicator, linked to the resource efficiency of production (where applicable), as follows:</p>	<p>recycle cycle (rotations) in manufacturing processes" in Priority Axis 3 investment priority 3.2 "Resource efficiency".</p> <p>Additional indicators have been adopted – they</p>
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		<p>Measure: Reduction of water consumption of the supported enterprises</p> <p>Indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ratio of quantities consumed water before and after project implementation 2. Quantities of consumed water per unit of product before and after project implementation <p>Source of information: Beneficiaries</p> <p>Priority axis: 2 and 3</p> <p>Measure: Reduction of the amount of the waste intended for landfill .</p> <p>Indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ratio of the amount of waste generated before and after the implementation of the project, m3/per year 2. Quantities of generated waste per unit of product before and after project implementation. <p>Source of information: Beneficiaries</p> <p>Priority axis: 2 and 3</p> <p>III. Guidelines for follow-up actions to be taken on the SEA procedure on OPIC for programming period 2014-2020:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the Report on the SEA you should take into account the instructions of this letter and all comments received as a result of consultations under Art. 20, para. 1 and par. 3 of the SEA Ordinance, incl. reference with results of consultations. 2. After reflecting the notes you shall submit to the MOEW a complete request in accordance with Art. 23, para. 1 of the SEA Ordinance and to agree with 	<p>are reflected in Section 10 of the SEA Report. They will be included and reported on the procedures to which they are applicable.</p>
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		<p>the proposed additional indicators of measures on monitoring and control. To the request you should attach a document for paid fee according to Art. 1, para. 3 (500 lev) of the Tariff of fees collected by MOEW. You should pay the fee by bank transfer to the account:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IBAN BG35 BNBG 9661 3000 1387 01 BIC BNBGBGSD</p>	
16	<p>Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water – Varna, Outgoing № 04002625/9/03.07.2014</p>	<p>In connection with letter Outgoing № K-91-00-24/31.05.2014 from the Minister of Economy and Energy on consultations in accordance with Art. 20 of the Ordinance on the conditions and procedures for environmental assessment of plans and programs (promulgated SG 57/2004, amend.), after reviewing the above Report and attached Appendix we inform you that we don't have remarks and/or recommendations.</p>	<p>The opinion doesn't contain comments and recommendations to reflect.</p>
17	<p>Basin Water Management Directorate West Aegean District - Blagoevgrad Outgoing № ПД – 11-111/01.07.2014</p>	<p>In connection with your letter ref. № K-91-00-23/31.05.2014 and submitted Report on Strategic Environmental Assessment of <i>Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" (OPIC) 2014-2020</i>, Non-Technical Summary with Appendix and Draft of OPIC 2014-2020, and pursuant to Article 20, para. 3 of the <i>Ordinance on conditions and procedures for environmental assessment of plans and programs</i>, West Aegean Basin Directorate - Blagoevgrad expresses the following opinion:</p> <p>1. In the Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment on component "Water" the recommendations and suggestions from BDWAD - Blagoevgrad expressed in opinion of ref. № RD-11-111/23.05.2014 are taken into account;</p>	<p>Accepted</p>

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		<ol style="list-style-type: none">2. A copy of the above mentioned statement is also included as an Appendix to the Report;3. Water status (surface and underground) is examined in detail in section 2 of the SEA Report. We recommend a third catchment area to be added, namely Dospat River to WAD in section 2.1.3. Surface water status.4. Analysis of existing environmental problems in component "Water" are consistent with the WAD RBMP (2010-2015).5. OPIC 2014-2020 does not contradict the measures of achieving good water status, and has a contribution to achieving the objectives through activities for innovation and resource efficiency. It is consistent with the environmental risks associated with possible future flooding in order to projects sustainability in terms of flood risk. For this purpose the Preliminary assessment of flooding risk and identified areas with significant potential flooding risk be considered, which is developed by WABD - Blagoevgrad;6. OPICs 2014-2020 impact on water as a whole is with complex positive character as the realization of the priority axes will improve the overall condition of surface and groundwater in Bulgaria respectively in the West Aegean District. <p>Based on the above, the West Aegean Basin Directorate - Blagoevgrad express a positive opinion on the Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment of Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness".</p>	
18	The Basin Directorate for	In connection with your letter ref. № K-91-00-23/31.05.2014 on concerning	

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<p>Water Management – East Aegean Sea District, Plovdiv, Outgoing № ПД-09-175/02.07.2014</p>	<p>consultations on the Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" 2014-2020 and after reviewing attached Report on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA Report) and Non-technical summary of the SEA Report, The Basin Directorate for Water Management – East Aegean Sea District, Plovdiv (BDWMEAD-Plovdiv) expresses the following opinion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <u>These inaccuracies were noted</u> in the Report on Strategic Environmental Assessment of Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" :<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On fig. 2.1.3.4. Map of areas with risk for flooding in the East Aegean Sea District, on page 86 of the Report. The locations for potential future floods are represented erroneously (instead of AWSPFR - areas with significant potential flooding risk).• Available resources, permitted abstraction and free resources are presented for 2012 on page 96 of the Report, table 2.1.4.1. Fresh groundwater quantitative status. Actual data for 2013 are as follows: available resources - 55 726 l / sec; permitted abstraction - 17 165 l / sec; free resources 38 561 l / sec.2. In the Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment on Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" 2014-2020, <u>on Priority Axis 1: "Technological development and innovation" to be provided:</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">• In terms of the Water sector to assess the status and capacity of the existing wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) for the purification of waste water by production activity of enterprises in terms of specific pollutants and priority substances.	<p style="text-align: center;">Reflected</p> <p>The data, which was used were the only available at the time of preparation of SEA Report. Source of information: MOEW- National Report on the status and protection of the environment 2013. These data do not change the estimates and conclusions made in the SEA Report</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To support pilot models to calculate the optimal individual emission limits on industrial point source discharges of treated wastewater and methods for making the material balance in the discharge of wastewater into surface water bodies.• To support projects in the field of methods for efficient purification of industrial waste water, contaminated with specific pollutants and priority substances to achieve compliance with the standards for environmental quality of component water. <p>3. In the Report of Strategic Environmental Assessment of Operational Programme "Innovation and Competitiveness" 2014-2020 <u>to be provided on Priority Axis 2: "Energy and resource efficiency":</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In connection with the development of projects related to the use of water resources and energy production by water Report should describe the necessity of agreement these projects with The Basin Directorates for Water Management, River Basin Management Plans, Flooding Risk Management Plans and the Water Act.	<p>Recommendations do not concern the SEA Report.</p> <p>Recommendations concern draft of the Programme, which is produced by Thematic working group and legal analysis and assessments were made during its preparation. Eligible activities, including demarcation with other operational programs were based on the analyses and assessments. Financial resource for the priority axes was distributed as it was not reasonably necessary to include required from BD activities.</p> <p>Agreement of activities with BD related to the</p>
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			use of water resources and the production of energy by water is a legal requirement that each beneficiary is required to fulfill in accordance with the Water Act and regulations there to.
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