

December 11, 2013
CF-1-2/8-37

To H.E. Zim Yong Kim
President of the World Bank Group

Distinguished President Kim,

The Ministry of Economy avails itself of the opportunity to present its compliments and is writing this letter to draw your attention to the CASA-100 Project (Electric Energy Transmission and Trade between Central and South Asia), now actively discussed by some of the parties, in spite of its economic inefficiency, non-viability, and substantial errors in design documentation.

For your consideration we have attached the CASA-1000 Project review note prepared by specialist R&D institutions in Uzbekistan with considerable experience in the development and implementation of regional projects and a leading position in the energy sector of the Central Asian region.

Given that the implementation of this project is possible only with the construction of gigantic hydro-engineering structures and dams, which can result in irreversible social and environmental consequences in the Central Asian region, the Republic of Uzbekistan stands strongly against the involvement of the respected institution such as the World Bank in this project, and has hope that the arguments and estimations made by competent leading experts with considerable experience in implementing energy sector projects will help the Bank in making the right decision.

Should the project continue to be actively promoted, the expert group intends to make appropriate statement in international media.

We sincerely hope that the Bank will take due notice of the negative assessment of the project and make the right decision to prevent this project from being realized.

If required, we stand ready to dispatch an expert team to the Bank's Headquarters to provide detailed explanation on the inefficiency, risks, and negative consequences of the CASA-100 Project, as well as additional information relevant to the project.

Sincerely Yours,

Galina Saidova
Minister of Economy of the Republic of Uzbekistan
World Bank Governor for the Republic of Uzbekistan

Cc:

Ms. Laura Tuck, VP for Europe and CA
Mr. Saroj Kumar Ja, WB Regional Director
Mr. Jorg Frieden, WB Executive Director