



European Bank
for Reconstruction and Development

Thomas Mirow

President

Mr Piotr Traskowski

Energy Coordinator

CEE Bankwatch Network

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23 November 2009

Dear Messrs Traskowski, Fodor and Engelsland and Ms Watters,

Thank you for your letter dated 13 November and for sharing with the EBRD your concerns regarding the case of Mr Andrey Zatoka.

As you know, the Bank regularly evaluates progress in transition in all of its countries of operations, including Turkmenistan. In keeping with the provisions of the Agreement Establishing the Bank, this includes an assessment of transition to multiparty democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights. The information which you have provided will be taken into consideration during the development of the new country strategy for Turkmenistan. Please also note that through its Resident Office in Ashgabat, the EBRD is keeping a regular contact with the specialised political organisations such as the OSCE, as well as the diplomatic missions in the Turkmen capital.

We greatly value an ongoing dialogue with your organisations and other civil society stakeholders, which helps us enhance our understanding of human rights aspects in our countries of operations.

We appreciate your organisation's continued interest in the activities of the EBRD in Turkmenistan and constructive contribution to the review of the country strategy for Turkmenistan.

Yours sincerely,