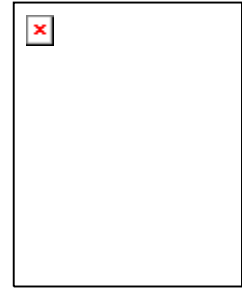


DR. CAROLINE LUCAS
Green Party

for the South East of England



Commissioner Jacques Barrot
DG Transport
The European Commission
B1049 Brussels
Belgium

July 21st 2005

Dear Commissioner,

I am writing to object to the proposed Via Baltica, which the Polish government are constructing, with EU funds, to link Helsinki with Warsaw.

The grounds for my objection are that the proposed route will cut through Puszcza Augustynska, one of the oldest and largest forests in Europe and home to 19 endangered species of birds and some rare mammals. The route will also cut through the migration paths of wolves and wild cats, with no provisions made to ensure that these animals can continue to move around freely.

In January of this year, I understand that the Polish Minister with responsibility for the road, Jan Kurylczyk, admitted that alternative routs had not been considered when planning the Via Baltica. I am asking, therefore, that the Commission look into whether or not the proposals breach EU law. In particular I am concerned about the failure to carry out an adequate Environmental Impact Assessment and potential breaches of legislation on wild birds, habitats and other species protection.

I trust you will give this matter your attention and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caroline Lucas".

Caroline Lucas - Green Party MEP for South East England.