

Case No: 64879
Event No: 488197
Dec. No: 668/08/COL

EFTA SURVEILLANCE AUTHORITY DECISION
of 29 October 2008
on Regional Aid for Transport of Round Wood
(Norway)

THE EFTA SURVEILLANCE AUTHORITY¹,

Having regard to the Agreement on the European Economic Area², in particular to Articles 61 to 63 and Protocol 26 thereof,

Having regard to the Agreement between the EFTA States on the Establishment of a Surveillance Authority and a Court of Justice³, in particular to Article 24 thereof,

Having regard to Article 1(2) of Part I and Articles 4(4), 6 and Article 8 of Part II of Protocol 3 to the Surveillance and Court Agreement⁴,

Having called on interested parties to submit their comments pursuant to those provisions

Whereas:

I. FACTS

1 Procedure

Pursuant to Article 1(3) of Part I of Protocol 3 to the Surveillance and Court Agreement, the Norwegian authorities notified their intention to grant aid in the form of regional grants for the transportation of round wood by letter of 31 October 2007 (Event No 449962).

By letter dated 11 June 2008 (Event No 480113), the Authority informed the Norwegian authorities that it had decided to initiate the procedure laid down in Article 1(2) of Part I of Protocol 3.

The Authority's Decision No 358/08/COL to initiate the procedure has not yet been published in the Official Journal of the European Union or the EEA Supplement thereto. The Authority called on interested parties to submit their comments thereon.

¹ Hereinafter referred to as the Authority.

² Hereinafter referred to as the EEA Agreement.

³ Hereinafter referred to as the Surveillance and Court Agreement.

⁴ Hereinafter referred to as Protocol 3.

By letter of 9 July 2008 (Event No 485151), the Norwegian authorities withdrew the notification of the aid measure.

II. ASSESSMENT

1 Reasons for closing

According to Article 8(1) of Part II of Protocol 3, the EFTA State concerned may withdraw a notification in due time before the Authority has taken a decision on the measure.

The Norwegian authorities informed the Authority by letter dated 9 July 2008 that they withdrew the notification of the scheme on Regional Aid for Transport of Round Wood.

According to Article 8(2) of Part II of Protocol 3, in cases where the Authority has initiated the formal investigation procedure, the Authority shall close that procedure upon withdrawal of the notification.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The formal investigation procedure initiated under Article 1(2) of Part I of Protocol 3 concerning the scheme Regional Aid for Transport of Round Wood (Case No 64879) is hereby closed.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Kingdom of Norway.

Article 3

Only the English version is authentic.

Done at Brussels, 29 October 2008

For the EFTA Surveillance Authority,

Per Sanderud
President

Kristján Andri Stefánsson
College Member