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Answer given by Ms Roswall
on behalf of the European Commission
(8.9.2026)

The Commission services are in contact with the Italian authorities in the context of the Italian authorities' communication of 10 June 2025 pursuant to Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive¹. These exchanges have so far included several rounds of letters and a meeting since that communication.

The Commission intends to continue this exchange to oversee the correct application of EU legislation.

With respect to the compatibility of the project with relevant provisions of the EU public procurement Directives², the Commission has provided guidance on the methodology the competent contracting authority should apply to verify compliance with these conditions before authorising the planned modifications. The Italian authorities have indicated that they will take due account of this methodological guidance and have confirmed that, on the basis of the interpretation proposed by the Commission, the planned modifications appear to satisfy the relevant requirements under EU law.

¹ Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora, OJ L 206, 22.7.1992, p. 7–50.

² https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/single-market/public-procurement_en.