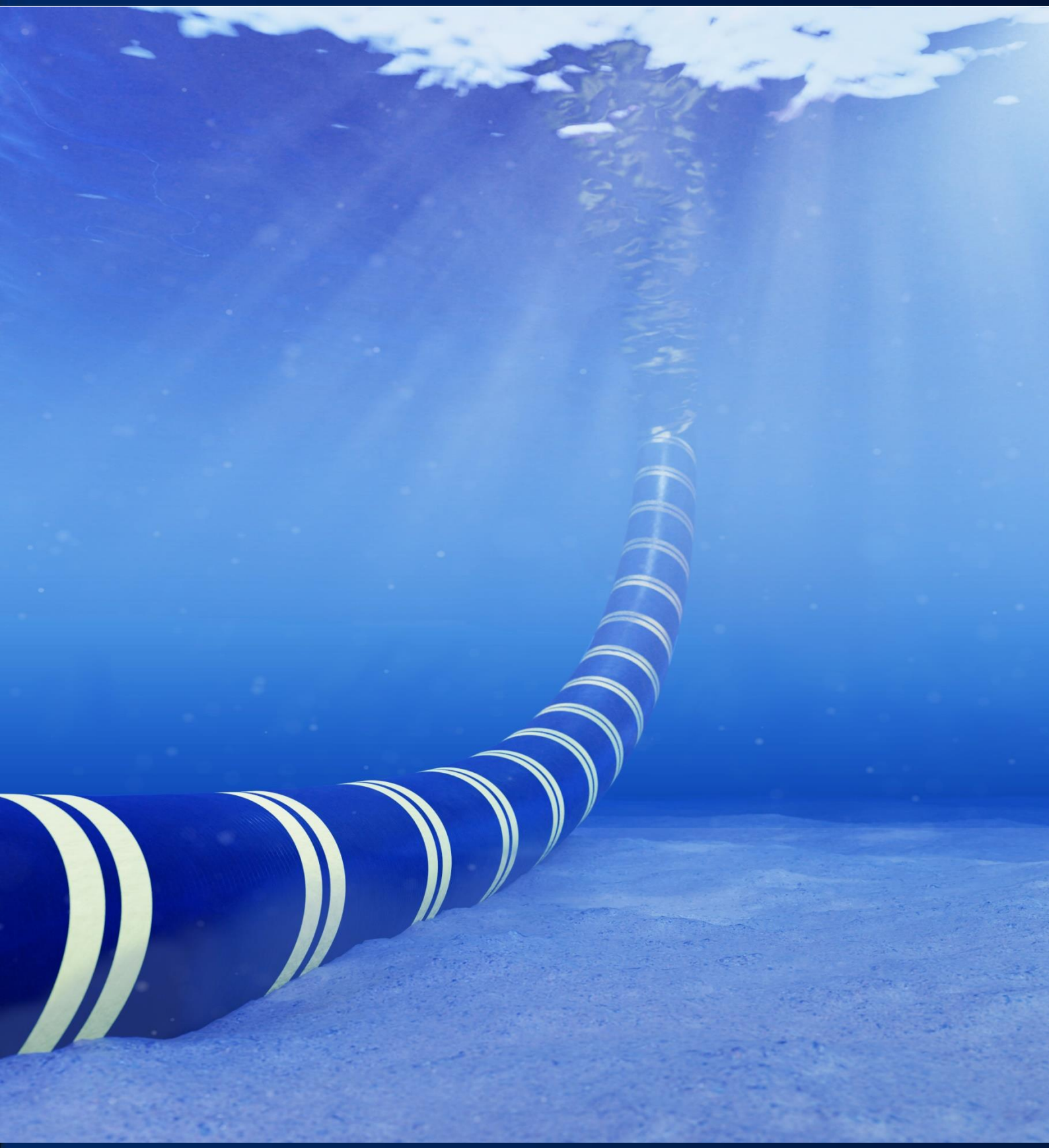
KYRIAKIDES GEORGOPOULOS
LAW FIRM



PUBLIC LAW AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA PRACTICES

New Law accelerates procedure regarding Telecom and Energy Subsea Infrastructure Projects in Greece

New Law accelerates procedure regarding Telecom and Energy Subsea Infrastructure Projects in Greece

BY KONSTANTINOS VOUTERAKOS, VICTORIA MERTIKOPOULOU, KONSTANTINOS KAVADELLAS, STAVROULA GENIKALIOTI, THEODORA LIAMETI

By virtue of the very recently adopted Law no. 4850/2021 (article 110, addition of section i) to art. 14 par. 2 of Law 2971/2001), the acceleration of the procedure for the concession of the use of the seashore, the beach, the seabed and the bottom of the sea with regard to the interconnection of islands with the electricity transmission and the network is explicitly provided. This is expected to significantly facilitate the installation of telecommunications and electric power transmission cables and the performance of associated works, enabling the interconnection of the islands with the mainland in this respect. In particular, the concession decision, which may also refer to the inland part of the Country, is issued by the Minister of Finance, within a short period of time (50 days at the latest), following an application to the competent Land Service. A concession may also be granted for the construction of other projects approved in accordance with the environmental licensing procedure. This applies to projects aimed at reinforcing the transmission system, the electricity distribution network and to telecommunications networks, to island interconnection projects and in general to any project related to their construction and operation or to environmental licensing as an accompanying project, including road construction and access projects.

This legislative addition is of great significance because the existing provisions for the execution of works on the seashore, the beach and the seabed did not explicitly mention a concession procedure for the interconnection of islands with the electricity transmission and the telecommunications network. Also, the provision of a shorter period for the issuance of the concession decision was deemed necessary, in view of the urgent need to expand broadband access and direct energy interconnection of the islands in order to achieve high speed connectivity and energy efficiency.

The project of installation of submarine electricity and telecommunications cables may also include the installation of substations, as well as any other construction deemed necessary for the performance of the main

project, including the space necessary for the installation of the equipment and personnel required for the safe operation and maintenance of the project.

Moreover, it is stipulated in this amendment that the EETT (National Telecommunications and Post Commission) 'Regulation for the determination of transit fees and fees for the use of transit rights' applies to the installation of submarine telecommunications' cables.

The above provisions are expected to simplify and expedite the process of issuing the concession decision for the use of seashore and beach in the short term, in order to facilitate transition to ultrafast broadband connectivity as well as expand energy interconnection with a view to achieving energy efficiency of the islands, in the long term.

Contact Us

Konstantinos Vouterakos

SENIOR PARTNER

k.vouterakos@kglawfirm.gr

Victoria Mertikopoulou

PARTNER

V.Mertikopoulou@kglawfirm.gr

Konstantinos Kavadellas

PARTNER

c.kavadellas@kglawfirm.gr

ATHENS OFFICE
28, Dimitriou Soutsou Str.,
115 21 Athens

T +30 210 817 1500
F +30 210 685 6657-8

E kg.law@kglawfirm.gr

THESSALONIKI OFFICE
31, Politechniou Str.,
546 26 Thessaloniki

T +30 2310 441 552
E kg.law@kglawfirm.gr

www.kglawfirm.gr

Follow Us

Disclaimer: This newsletter contains general information only and is not intended to provide specific legal, or other professional advice or services, nor is it suitable for such professional advice, and should not be used as a basis for any decision or action that may affect you or your business. Before making any decision or taking any action that may affect you or your business, you should consult a qualified professional advisor. We remain at your disposal should you require any further information or clarification in this regard.

©Kyriakides Georgopoulos, 2021