

Nine Network Australia
Jet Studios, 18 Lettice Street
SW6 4EH London
United Kingdom

Reykjavík, 22. júlí 2021
UST202107-189/S.S.
09.06.01

Subject: Permit to drive the path through Einihlíð

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received an application from Nine Network Australia, dated 19. July 2021, for off-road driving via the path through Einihlíð in relation to cinematography at Fagradalsfjall on the 27. July 2021.

According to art. 31 in the Nature Conservation Act no. 60/2013 it is prohibited to drive off road in Iceland. If off-road driving is a necessary component of filming, the Environment Agency of Iceland can give authorization.

Description of the project:

The project is a news feature story regarding the eruption at Fagradalsfjall. A drone will be used to film the eruption site and lava flow for the news feature story. Due to the crew bringing a lot of heavy equipment they will need to drive close to the eruption site and will use the path through Einihlíð which is subject to the authorization of the Environment Agency of Iceland.

Impact assessment:

The Environment Agency of Iceland considers the project to be minimal and not likely to adversely affect the environment of the area to be driven, as there are already track marks there made by first responders, scientists and cinematographers. The path through Einihlíð has been used a lot in recent months and is in poor condition. Conditions can also deteriorate rapidly when wet. This route is important for first responders in the event of an accident. In sections the road is steep and narrow, and it is difficult for cars driven from opposite directions to meet. To minimize the risk of damage due to the project, the licensee must follow the conditions of the license.

Conclusions and conditions:

The Environment Agency of Iceland hereby grants Nine Network Australia permission on its behalf to drive the path through Einihlíð as described above on 27. July 2021 on the following conditions:

- Keep this letter with you on site during the project. The permit conditions should be introduced to the staff of the project beforehand.
- If the project dates or description changes the Environment Agency shall be notified as soon as possible.
- Only cars with a minimum of 38” tires may be driven on the path through Einihlíð.

- Air must be released from tires before entering the path through Einihlíð to minimize damage that the vehicles may have on the tracks.
- The number of trips through the Einihlíð path should be kept at absolute minimum.
- While on the path through Einihlíð, the applicant must give way to first responders.
- To prevent the project from encouraging off-road driving in Iceland vehicle driving of road should never be seen in the product being produced. The vehicle should only drive to and from the designated filming area. All new tire tracks must be removed after the filming ends.
- Every measure must be taken not to cause damage the path through Einihlíð.
- The vehicle emission control must be in good condition, and it must be secure that no polluted liquid contaminates the soil or water.
- When driving off-road it should be done in a way that causes the smallest possible damage to the environment.

If the licensee causes damage to nature, then, according to art. 87 in the Nature Conservation Act no. 60/2013, the Environment Agency of Iceland can order the licensee to fix damage to nature and vegetation and/or stop the project.

The Environment Agency of Iceland can according to art. 89 in the Nature Conservation Act no. 60/2013 change conditions of the permit, add new conditions or withdraw the permit in order to prevent damage to nature if environmental conditions change.

According to art 89. in the Nature Conservation Act no. 60/2013, the Environment Agency can withdraw the permit if conditions of the permit are not complied to.

A permission from the landowners is be needed for the project.

The decision may be appealed to the Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources according to art. 26 of Act no. 37/1993 on Administrative Procedures, based on Art. 91 of Act no. 60/2013 on Nature Conservation within three months from the date of this letter.

Permission fee:

Environment Agency of Iceland charges a fee for processing applications for permits for off-road driving based on Article 92 of Act no. 61/2013 on Nature Conservation. The fee is 39.400 ISK according to art. 24. a. in the agency's tariff no. 535/2015.

Sincerely

Daníel Freyr Jónsson
advisor

Sigríður Skaftadóttir
lawyer