

**Minister Parts, Mr. Veskimägi and Mr. Ruusunen, distinguished participants,**

I am very pleased to participate in the EstLink 2 Corner Stone Event. It gives the opportunity to see a very concrete result of the Estonian and Finnish cooperation. This joint project - the EstLink 2 power cable- shows what we can achieve together.

When the Estlink power market area was launched in the spring of 2010 it turned out to be a success, making it possible to proceed with EstLink 2. It also convinced the European Union to direct significant financial aid to the EstLink 2 project.

See projekt on kahe ülekandesüsteemi operaatori – Eleringi ja Fingridi ning Eesti ja Soome valitsuste ühine eesmärk. Oma valitsuse nimel võin ma kinnitada, et oleme väga rahul kõikide osapoolte tiheda koostööga projekti elluviimisel.

Me ootame suure innuga kaabliühendustööde lõpetamisega Püssi ja Porvoos Anttila vahel 2014. aasta alguses.

Distinguished participants,

Let me say that also the future integration of the power markets looks promising. The long term goal is to create a

Baltic market with reliable prices connected to the Nordic market. I sincerely hope that the work in this area proceeds well.

Working together in the energy field is very important for Estonia and Finland, but also for our region and the entire EU. Developing the EU's internal energy markets cannot be overemphasized. Well- functioning energy markets improve energy security and enhance investments in the field. By opening up the internal electricity market, Estonia shows a good example for others.

Ladies and Gentleman, EstLink 2 is a concrete symbol of the close relations between Finland and Estonia. I am confident that the successful cooperation on this project will serve as an encouragement for other common projects between our countries.

Ja meil on veel palju unistusi, mida võiksime koos teha. Meri pole meid kunagi eraldanud, pigem teineteisega kokku liitnud. Nii ühendab meri meid ka selles merekaabliprojektis. Me oleme ehitanud ja ehitame silda Soome ja Eesti rahvaste vahel nii minevikus, tänapäeval kui ka tulevikus.

Thank you.

