

To the Points of Contact for the Espoo Convention in Finland, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden

Our ref September 2022 No 16-3/22/2464- 5

Regarding the Utilitas Wind OÜ Saare-Liivi offshore wind farm project in the Gulf of Riga

On 2 February 2022, Estonia notified Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden and Finland concerning the Utilitas Wind OÜ Saare-Liivi (formerly known as "Saare-Liivi 5") offshore wind farm project in the Gulf of Riga. Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden indicated its wish to participate in the environmental impact assessment (EIA) procedure.

In relation to the Agreement between Estonia and Finland on environmental impact assessment in a Transboundary Context and to the discussions in the 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the joint Commission on EIA, Finland has the possibility to make the decision on participating in the particular EIA procedure at the EIA programme stage. Finland answered that it is not yet in a position to confirm its participation in the EIA procedure.

Hereby we are informing you that the project has reached the EIA programme stage and considering the above the EIA programme is sent to all the forementioned countries. The developer has translated the EIA programme into English, also brief summaries in Latvian, Lithuanian, Swedish and Finnish have been prepared. Inter alia, the documentation includes an overview of the feedback provided by neighbouring countries to the EIA notification together with the developer's responses. All the forementioned documentation has been enclosed.

In Estonia, the public display of the EIA programme takes place from 8 to 30 September 2022. The public hearings will take place on 17 October 2022 in Kihnu (physical meeting) and 19 October 2022 in Pärnu (physical/virtual meeting). On the basis of the EIA programme that has been declared compliant by the decision-maker, the EIA report will be prepared.

Estonia kindly asks the addressed Parties to respond by 8 November 2022 (e-mail: keskkonnaministeerium@envir.ee at the latest and:

- to provide comments concerning the scope for the assessment of the environmental impacts of the project on your territory;
- to submit the comments you might receive from the public and authorities in your country regarding EIA programme.

## Description of the project

Under the application for superficies licence, Utilitas Wind OÜ planned an offshore wind farm consisting of a maximum 299 turbines with a spacing of an estimated 1 km between turbines. The purpose of use of the structure is to generate power and/or hydrogen via the offshore wind power plant infrastructure. According to the EIA programme, the EIA will look at main alternative 1 which is an offshore wind farm area with up to 160 wind turbines and a spacing between the turbines of an estimated 1 to 1.25 km. As "sub-alternatives" to main alternative 1, the EIA will look at and evaluate alternative technical solutions to different components. The power rating of the turbines will be evaluated in the range of 14-20 MW and the maximum peak height studies will range up to 400 m.

## Contacts information

Developer: Utilitas Wind OÜ – Ms Kristiina Nauts, kristiina.nauts@utilitas.ee.

Decision-maker: Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority – Ms Nele Väits, nele.vaits@ttja.ee.

Transboundary EIA procedure: Ministry of the Environment of Estonia – Mr Rainer Persidski, rainer.persidski@envir.ee.

Sincerely Yours,

Kaupo Heinma

Point of Contact for the Espoo Convention

Enclosures: EIA programme in English and summaries in Latvian, Lithuanian, Swedish and Finnish

List of recipients (Points of Contact):

Finland: Ms Seija Rantakallio, seija.rantakallio@ym.fi

Latvia: Environment State Bureau of the Republic of Latvia, pasts@vpvb.gov.lv

Lithuania: Mr Vitalijus Auglys, vitalijus.auglys@am.lt

Sweden: Mr Richard Kristoffersson, richard.kristoffersson@swedishepa.se

For information:

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