

2022-07-12

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Ministry of the Environment Finland kirjaamo.ym@gov.fi Ms. Seija Rantakallio Seija.rantakallio@ym.fi

Notification pursuant to Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) regarding a planned offshore wind farm "Polargrund Offshore" in Sweden's exclusive economic zone.

According to article 3 point 1 of the Espoo Convention [EIA], affected countries shall be notified and consulted on projects that are likely to cause transboundary environmental impacts. As a party of origin, Sweden hereby notifies your state regarding the plans for the offshore windfarm "Polargrund Offshore" in the Bothnian Bay.

Information on the project

The developer, wpd Offshore Sweden, plans to investigate the possibility of establishing offshore wind power in the Swedish Exclusive Economic Zone [SEZ] in the Bothnian Bay. Nearest islands, Malören and Sandskär, are localised 10 km away from the project area, and nearest land is localised 33 km away from the project area. The project area is 442 square kilometres with capacity of 70 - 120 wind turbines with a maximum height of 350 metres. The project is estimated to have the potential for approximately 3000 MW in installed power with an annual production of about 9 - 10 TWh. The possible hydrogen production is estimated to 400 - 600 kg per hour and turbine.

The construction and operation of wind turbines and associated projects in the SEZ requires a permit from the Swedish Government in accordance with the SEZ Act (1992:1140). Government approval is also required by law of the Continental Shelf Act (1966:314) to place cables on the continental shelf, as well as extraction of natural resources. Government permit is required by ordinance (2013:251) issued under the Environmental Code (1998:808) for operation and

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construction for production of hydrogen. For further details, please see the attached document.

Comments received during the consultation process will be compiled and included in a consultation report. The consultation report is used as a basis for the EIA and is to be added as an attachment when the applications are submitted for consideration.

Participating in the transboundary EIA-procedure

Referring to Article 3.3 of the Espoo Convention, Sweden requests that potential comments are to be submitted **no later than September 30th**, 2022 and:

- 1. acknowledge the receipt of the notification,
- 2. indicate, whether your country intends to participate in the EIA procedure,
- 3. provide comments concerning the scope for the assessment of the environmental impacts of the project on your territory,
- 4. submit any comments you might receive during the public consultation in your country.

Kindly forward your answer to this notification by e-mail to registrator@naturvardsverket.se and indicate case number: NV-06840-22 as well as "Polargrund Offshore".

This decision has been made digitally and therefore lacks signatures

For the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

Nanna Wikholm

Head of Unit Jelena Mitreska

Administrator

Attachments

Consultation document (Swedish, Finnish)

Cc.

The Ministry of the Environment, Emma Sjöberg wpd Offshore Sweden, Mona Date