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2020-03-30 Case number:
NV-02575-20

To point of contact in:
Finland

Notification pursuant to Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) regarding the planned 400 kV powerline between Messaure and Keminmaa.

According to article 3 point 1 of the Espoo Convention, 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 Finland regarding the Swedish part of the planned 400 kV power line between Messaure I Jokkmokk municipality and Keminmaa Finland.

Information on the project

The Swedish organization Svenska Kraftnät and their Finnish counterpart, Fingrid Corporation, are planning a new power line between Messaure transmission network station in Jokkmokk municipality, Norrbotten County, and Keminmaa transmission network station in Finland. The power line is planned to be built as a 400 kV AC line for alternating current. The new power line is needed to improve market integration and equalize electricity prices between Finland and the rest of the Nordic region, to increase security of supply in Finland and to provide opportunities for reduced climate impact from fossil electricity generation. The European Commission has designated the project as a project of common interest.

Planning for the power line is at a stage where several alternative lines are being studied within a wide investigation corridor. The corridor of investigation has been proposed following an early public dialogue, which included several alternative corridors. The purpose of the consultation that takes place in Sweden is partly to inform the relevant authorities and the public about the plans for the new power line, and partly to gather opinions and information. An important part of both the consultation and the consultation under the Espoo Convention is also to define the content and formulation of the environmental impact

assessment that is prepared before the permit application. After the consultation, all opinions received are compiled in a consultation report.

Following the consultations, an overall assessment of the route alternatives is made and Svenska Kraftnät selects the route for the new power line for the coming application. Comments received in the consultation is an important part of the assessment. An environmental impact assessment for the selected management route is developed and forms the basis for the forthcoming concession application. Since the new power line is a foreign connection, the Swedish Energy Market Inspectorate (Energimarknadsinspektionen) is handling the application, but final decisions are made by the Swedish government.

Participating in the transboundary EIA-procedure

Referring to Article 3.3 of the Espoo Convention, Sweden kindly asks the addressed Parties to respond **until 15 maj 2020** at the latest 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 from the public in your country.

Kindly send the answer to this notification by e-mail to:

registrator@naturvardsverket.se Please indicate Case number NV-02575-20 in your answer.

This decision has been made digitally and therefore lacks signatures

For the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

Karolina Ardesjö-Lundén
Head of Unit

Richard Kristoffersson
Point of Contact, Espoo Convention

Appendixes

- Underlag Esbo-samråd Messaure-Keminmaa (Swedish)
- Espoon sopimuksen mukainen neuvotteluasiakirja Messaure-Keminmaa (Finnish)
- Liite_1_Yleiskartta_Bilaga_1_Översiktskarta (Finnish)
- Bilaga 10 Innehållsförteckning MKB (Swedish)
- Liite 10 YVAN alustava sisällysluettelo (Finnish)

Cc.

Svenska Kraftnät, Matilda Björkheden
The Ministry of the Environment, Emma Sjöberg