

Ympäristöministeriö Miljöministeriet Ministry of the Environment

Date 21.4.2020 VN/6157/2020

Ministry of Environment and Food of Denmark Environmental Protection Agency e-mail: espoo@mst.dk

Response to the notification for the Danish Maritime Spatial Plan and the related Strategic Environmental Assessment

With reference to your letter received on 16 March 2020 concerning the Danish Maritime Spatial Plan and the related Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA). Finland has the possibility to participate in the assessment procedures in accordance with article 10 of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the UN/ECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context. Although this response is given in the context of this Convention, Finland also acknowledges the transnational cooperation mentioned in the article 11 of the Maritime Spatial Planning Directive (2014/89/EU). Finland would like to thank Denmark for the notification.

The Ministry of the Environment of Finland would like to inform Denmark that Finland does wish to participate in the transboundary consultations as provided for by article 10 of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Danish Maritime Spatial Plan and the related Strategic Environmental Assessment. We note with satisfaction that the relevant materials needed in transboundary consultations will be translated to Finnish.

Regarding the possible environmental effects of the maritime spatial plan, and its cumulative effects with other projects and plans, the Ministry of the Environment wishes to state in general that it is vital that the different construction projects and plans in Baltic Sea do not, individually or cumulatively, alter the water conditions in the sea and do not result in significant, long-term adverse effects on bird life or other marine organisms. The Ministry of the Environment considers that the effects identified in the notification letter as potentially transboundary are relevant and should be adequately assessed in the SEA. In addition, we would also like to mention the possible risks related to activities that can release hazardous substances from dumped chemicals.

Yours sincerely,

Permanent Secretary

Hannele Pokka

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