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2024-09-16

Case number:
NV-06165-24

To the Point of Contact in:
Latvia
Lithuania
Poland
Germany

Notification pursuant to Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) regarding a planned offshore wind farm “Elinor” in Sweden's exclusive economic zone between Gotland and the Swedish mainland.

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 your state regarding the plans for the offshore windfarm “Elinor” in the Baltic Sea.

Information on the project

The developer, RWE Renewables Sweden AB, plans to apply for permit to construct and operate the offshore wind farm ‘Elinor’ in Swedish exclusive economic zone (SEZ). The Elinor wind farm is planned to be built approximately 25 km northwest of Gotland and 60 km east of Södermanland County and 65 km east of Kalmar and Östergötland County. The project area of the wind farm is in both Swedish territorial waters and within the Swedish exclusive economic zone. The planned capacity amounts to about 3 GW, which is produced by up to 200 turbines. The planned facility also includes internal cable networks and up to 6 sea-based transformer stations.

The attached consultation document forms the basis for delimitation consultations prior to future applications for permits under the Swedish Economic Zone Act (1992:1140) and the Continental Shelf Act (1966:314) for the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Elinor offshore wind farm, including the associated inter array cables, as well as for carrying out the surveys required to investigate the planned wind farm area.

The construction and operation of wind turbines and associated projects in the SEZ, requires a permit from the Swedish Government in accordance with the Swedish Exclusive Economic Zone Act (1992:1140). In a permit assessment under the Swedish Exclusive Economic Zone Act, certain rules in the Swedish Environmental Code (1998:808) apply. Government approval is also required in accordance with the Continental Shelf Act (1966:314) for the developer to be allowed to place out cables on the continental shelf including both the internal network cables within the OWF as well as the marine cables from the OWF to the shore.

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

Participating in the transboundary EIA-procedure

Referring to Article 3.3 of the Espoo Convention, Sweden kindly asks eventual comments **no later than the 28th of October 2024** 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 cc: richard.kristoffersson@swedishepa.se

Please indicate Case number NV-06165-24 and “Elinor” in your answer.

This decision has been made digitally and therefore lacks signatures

For the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

Nanna Wikholm
Head of Unit

Richard Kristoffersson
Point of Contact, Espoo Convention

Attachments

Consultation document Elionor (Polish and English)

Cc.

The Ministry of Climate and Enterprise, Bastian Ljunggren and Eleonora Rönström