



Valsts vides dienests

State Environmental Service of the Republic of Latvia

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Rīgā

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Regarding notification of the initial impact assessment for activity listed in the Appendix I of the Espoo Convention (wind park “Smikši”)

The State Environment Service (hereinafter – the Service), acting as a Point of Contact regarding Notification in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (hereinafter – the Espoo Convention) of Latvia and the competent authority on the initial impact assessment (hereinafter – the IIA) and environmental impact assessment (hereinafter – the EIA) in Latvia, hereby notifies the Republic of Lithuania about the initiated IIA procedure of the development of the project “Construction of the “Smikši” wind farm in Dienvidkurzeme municipality, Kalēti and Gramzda parishes” (developer LLC “EWE Neue Energien 5”) (hereinafter – the Project).

The Project falls under item 22 of Appendix I to the Espoo Convention, concerning major installations for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (wind farms). Furthermore, the wind farm development area is located in the vicinity of the border of the Republic of Lithuania, with the nearest planned wind turbine located approximately 1.3 km from the border.

It is planned to construct up to 10 next-generation high-capacity wind turbines within the wind park, with a nominal generating capacity of 7.0–7.2 MW. According to the calculations, an area of 24.9 to 30.6 ha will be required for the construction of 10 wind turbines and associated infrastructure, including access roads and cable lines. More detailed information on the Project is provided by the developer and included in the attachment to this notification.

The competent authority responsible for carrying out the IIA and deciding on the application or non-application of the EIA is the Service. In accordance with the national legislation, the Service is currently carrying out the IIA of the proposed Project. The purpose of the initial impact assessment is to assess the significance of the potential adverse environmental impacts of the proposed activity and to determine whether an EIA is required.

In carrying out the IIA, the Service assesses the characteristics and location of the proposed activity and the potential environmental impacts associated with its implementation, including their potential transboundary effects. The assessment is based on the information provided by the developer and other available information.

The Service will consider the information and comments received from the potentially affected Party in determining the potential significance of the transboundary environmental impacts. Following completion of the IIA, the Service will decide whether an EIA of the Project is required, in accordance with the national legislation.

According to Article 3 of the Espoo Convention, where a proposed activity listed in Appendix I is likely to cause a significant adverse transboundary impact, the Party of origin shall, for the purposes of ensuring adequate and effective consultations under the Convention, notify any Party which it considers may be an affected Party as early as possible.

Referring to Article 3.3. of the Espoo Convention Latvia kindly asks the Republic of Lithuania to respond **by September 18, 2026**, at the latest and:

- acknowledge the receipt of the notification;
- provide its opinion on whether the Project may be expected to cause significant adverse transboundary environmental impacts on the territory of the Republic of Lithuania and, in such case, indicate whether the Republic of Lithuania intends to participate in the transboundary EIA procedure;
- provide any available information regarding potentially significant adverse transboundary environmental impacts of the Project on the territory of the Republic of Lithuania;
- submit any comments received from the public in the Republic of Lithuania concerning the potential transboundary environmental impacts of the Project.

Response to this notification should be sent to the State Environment Service of the Republic of Latvia (e-mail: pasts@vvd.gov.lv).

Attachment: Application for the intended activity of construction of the “Smikši” wind farm in Dienvidkurzeme municipality, Kalēti and Gramzda parishes (file: *Application_Smiksi_ENG.zip*).

Sincerely yours,
Director of Permitting Board

D. Kaleja

THIS DOCUMENT IS SIGNED WITH SECURE ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE AND
CONTAINS TIME- STAMP

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