



**LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS APLINKOS MINISTERIJA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA**

A. Jakšto St 4, LT-01105 Vilnius, tel: (+370 5) 266 35 39, fax: (+370 5) 266 36 63, e-mail: info@am.lt http://am.lrv.lt

Ministry of the Environment
of the Republic of Estonia
keskkonnaministerium@envir.ee

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**REGARDING THE NOTIFICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3 OF THE
CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN A
TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT CONCERNING THE SAARE WIND ENERGY OU
OFFSHORE WINDFARM PROJECT IN THE WEST COAST OF SAARE COUNTY**

Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania would like to thank the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia for the notification in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in a Transboundary Context (hereinafter referred to as Espoo Convention) concerning the Saare Wind Energy OU offshore windfarm project in the west coast of Saare county (hereinafter referred to as Saare Wind Energy OU project).

Ministry of Environment of Lithuania, acting as an authority responsible for coordination of transboundary EIA and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) processes in accordance with the Espoo Convention published the received documentation (notification, map of the location of the proposed project, application of the developer) on its website and distributed it to the relevant national authorities, providing an opportunity to submit comments and proposals.

Ministry of Environment of Lithuania having evaluated the material received and having summarized the answers of the national authorities maintains the position that the planned offshore windfarm construction may affect bird species that overwinter in Lithuania and migrate through Estonian territorial waters: Red-throated diver, Velvet scoter, Long-tailed Duck, etc. Windfarm built in Estonian territorial waters may have significant negative impact on all wintering water birds population in the eastern Baltic (including Lithuanian territorial waters).

Based on this position Ministry of Environment of Lithuania informs that Lithuania **intends to participate** in the transboundary EIA procedure as the affected party and kindly asks to keep us informed about the following procedures.

Yours sincerely,

Justina Grigaravičienė
Vice-minister

R. Griškevičienė, tel: +370 695 11585, e-mail: rasa.griskeviciene@am.lt