



SWEDISH  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION  
AGENCY

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**Swedish reply to the additional consultation pursuant Art. 5 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) regarding the planned offshore wind farm “Klaipeda” in the Lithuanian marine territory of the Baltic Sea**

The Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania invited Sweden via the Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April 2023 regarding the planned development and operation of the offshore wind farm (OWF) *Klaipeda*, located in the Lithuanian marine territory of the Baltic Sea.

The Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania then invited Sweden to further consultations based on the questions and comments received from Swedish national authorities and the public.

The Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Lithuania states that OWF *Klaipeda* will include 43 – 87 wind turbines with a maximum height of 300 meters and an individual effect of 20 MW. The estimated capacity of the entire project is set to be 700 MW.

**Consultation in Sweden**

The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency is the responsible authority for submitting and receiving notifications and otherwise fulfilling obligations for environmental impact assessments in a transboundary context (Espoo Convention) in Sweden, according to the Environmental Assessment Regulation (SFS 2017:966). The received comments on prior consultation answers have been circulated for consideration by SEPA to relevant agencies that previously raised questions regarding the EIA.

The consultation period lasted from the 21<sup>th</sup> of July, 2023 until August 21, 2023.

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**Remarks received during the consultation.**

A summary of the statements received is included below, please note that the summary is written on behalf of the SEPA and not for the body to which the proposal is referred for consideration.

All statements are enclosed in full to this letter.

*BirdLife Sweden* still highlights the risks of the localizing the proposed offshore wind farm as close as 1 km from the nearest Natura 2000 as a sufficient measure to reduce the impact to “insignificant level. Furthermore, BirdLife Sweden also believes, under the present circumstances (i.e. the risk of reducing the values of the Natura 2000 population of e.g. velvet scoter), that there is no room for building the windfarm and then evaluate the impacts.

The *Swedish Pelagic Federation (SPF)* still claims that there is a lack of knowledge how fish stocks and the greater environment is impacted by various factors such as underwater noise, vibrations, shifts in currents or electromagnetic fields around high voltage cables and therefore cannot rule out a reliable impact assessment and more knowledge of these potential interactions. Furthermore, they reply to the question if they have further information regarding harm induced by constant noise on Baltic herring and Atlantic sprat and mention few reports but unfortunately with poor data.

The *Swedish Transport Administration* thanks the Ministry of Environment for the response to their questions raised and see the response as sufficient.

**Conclusion**

As some of the opinions raised during the consultation still express uncertainties, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency wish that these should be taken in consideration by Lithuanian competent authority in making the decision on the environmental impact assessment.

The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency can conclude that Lithuania has fulfilled their obligations in accordance with the Espoo-convention and do not see the need for further consultation.

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*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 for the  
Espoo Convention

**Cc**

The Swedish Ministry of Climate and Enterprise, Sandra Jalalian and Bastian Ljunggren

**Enclosed, statements made by:**

BirdLife Sweden  
the Swedish Pelagic Federation (SPF)  
the Swedish Transport Administration

