

LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS APLINKOS MINISTERIJA THE 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://www.am.lt

Ministry of Environment Protection an Regional Development

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Pieldu str. 25, Riga LV-1494 Latvia pasts@varam.gov.lv, sandija.balka@varam.gov.lv

NOTIFICATION REGARDING THE PROPOSED WIND FARM

According to Lithuanian legislation, directive 2011/92/EU (amended by 2014/52/EU) of the European Parliament and of the Council *On the Assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment* (hereinafter – EIA Directive), installations for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (wind farms) and UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (hereinafter – ESPOO Convention), is subject to the screening on the environmental impact assessment (hereinafter – screening on EIA).

The proposed economic activity is planned very close to the Latvian border, taking into account the requirements of the Article 7 of Directive 2011/92/EU and Article 3 of ESPOO Convention we would like to notify you about the initiation of the screening on environmental impact assessment (hereinafter – EIA) procedure for the proposed installations for the harnessing of wind power for energy production.

Screening on EIA procedure is being initiated by VVP Investment Ltd, the consultant of the developer Ekosistema Ltd prepares the EIA documentation (screening for EIA).

VVP Investment plans the construction and operation of 2 wind power plants, projected capacity of each is up to 4.8 MW, rotor diameter up to 149 m, height of structures up to 230 m. Water, land, soil and / or biodiversity resources will not be used in the location. The planned 2 wind power plants are the development of the earlier planned and up till now not implemented activity – the wind park consisting of 7 wind power plants, for which screening has been already done. It is planned to use one of the alternative sources of energy – wind power. The beginning of the preparatory and construction works of the planned wind power plants is not clear yet; it could be in 2019-2020. Construction would be performed in one stage then.

Location of proposed economic activity – Telšiai County, Mažeikiai District Municipality, Židikai Ward, Bataičiai and Palūšė Villages. The shortest distance from the planned wind power plants to the national border with the Republic of Latvia is 0.4 km.

The national screening for EIA procedure is performed in one stage. The screening on EIA document is prepared and presented to the entities of environmental impact assessment (the executive body of the municipality in the territory whereof the proposed economic activity is to be carried out, the institutions authorised by the Minister of the Interior responsible for fire and civil protection, the institutions authorised by the Minister of Culture responsible for the protection of cultural properties) and public for a review

and consultation. Screening for environmental impact assessment shall have the objective of determining whether a specific proposed economic activity is subject to environmental impact assessment. The competent authority shall, upon examining the screening information, proposals of entities of environmental impact assessment and the public concerned, adopt a screening conclusion on whether an environment impact assessment is obligatory.

Please advise us about your willingness to participate in the EIA procedure by 5 of March 2019 and inform the competent authorities and the public of Latvia about the proposed project. In case of positive answer please provide comments on the screening for EIA document (the document in Lithuanian language is available on website http://gamta.lt/files/Viesinimui_PAV_atranka_2VJ_VVP_2018_po%20pastabu.pdf; the summary of which (including information about possible transboundary impacts) is in English, attached to this letter) by the same date. Please address your response to this notification and comments to Mr. Vitalijus Auglys point of contact regarding Notification in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context. The contact information is provided below:

Mr. Vitalijus Auglys
Head of Pollution Prevention Policy Group
Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania
Telephone (+370 5) 2663651
E-mail: vitalijus.auglys@am.lt

Yours sincerely

Rėda Brandišauskienė Vice-Minister



SUMMARY OF INFORMATION FOR SELECTION REGARDING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF PLANNED ECONOMIC OPERATIONS (CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF 2 WIND POWER PLANTS) IN MAŽEIKIAI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, ŽIDIKAI WARD, BATAIČIAI AND PALŪŠĖ VILLAGES

Organizer of planned economic operations:

UAB (Private Limited Liability Company) "VVP Investment", Šaulių St. 19, LT-92137 Klaipėda, mob. tel.: (8 659) 98265, el. p.: <u>info@vvpinvestment.lt</u>.

Planned economic operations:

Construction and operation of 2 wind power plants, planned capacity of each of which is up to 4.8 MW, rotor diameter: up to 149 m, total height of the structures: up to 230 m, in Mažeikiai District Municipality, Židikai Ward, Bataičiai and Palūšė Villages in the course of expansion of the planned wind park consisting of 7 wind power plants, capacity of each of which is up to 4.8 MW.

No water, earth, soil and / or biological variety resources will be used after 2 wind power plants are constructed in the area close to the wind park consisting of 7 wind power plants which was planned earlier. It is planned to use one of the alternative sources of energy – wind power. The beginning of the preparatory and construction works of the planned wind power plants is not clear yet, it could be in 2019-2020. Construction would be carried out in one stage then.

Location of planned economic operations:

Telšiai County, Mažeikiai District Municipality, Židikai Ward, Bataičiai and Palūšė Villages, cadastral Nos. of lots: 6134/0003:47 and 6134/0003:14. Layout coordinates of planned wind power plants: 6254751, 377018; 6254799, 380073. Pursuant to the solutions of the general plan of the territory of Mažeikiai District approved by the Decision No. T-95 of 27/03/2009 of Mažeikiai District Municipality Board, the territory in which construction and operation of wind power plants is planned is designed for infrastructure and wind energy.

The shortest distance from the planned wind power plants to the national board with the Republic of Latvia is 0.4-0.8 km (see fig. 1).

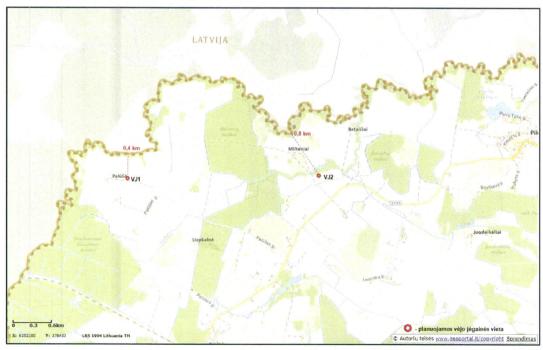


Fig. 1. Layout scheme of planned wind power plants

UAB "VVP Investment", the organizer of the planned economic operations, has already planned a wind park consisting of 7 wind power plants in this territory and has formed a sanitary protection zone for these operations. The locations of construction of the wind power plants planned by the previous project are presented in figure 2.

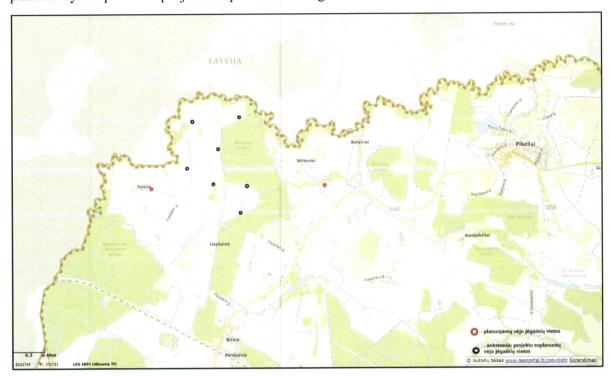


Fig. 2. Layout scheme of planned wind power plants in respect of the wind power plants which were planned before

When planning construction and operation of the two wind power plants, it is planned to use the existing infrastructure, e.g. local roads (access roads) which will be strengthened and / or renovated as needed. Generated electricity from wind power plants will be connected to the connection location specified in the connection specifications of the operator of the power networks using underground 110 kV voltage power cables.

Environmental impact:

One of the main aspects of assessment of environmental impact of wind power plants is noise since it is a direct and clearly "tangible" effect having clear limit values as well as determination and forecasting methods. Therefore, the distance corresponding to at least 45 dBA sound level will be maintained and a sanitary protection zone will be formed taking it into account in order to avoid exceeding the noise levels of wind power plants from the two planned wind power plants to the closest territories of residential homesteads and to the national border with the Republic of Latvia. Calculations of noise and dispersion of shadows were carried out and their results showed that total increased shadowing and / or noise of the wind power plants which are being or have already been planned will not reach the closest residential environment and the national border with the Republic of Latvia. Planned economic operations will not have any negative impact on weather or climate whatsoever. Wind energy can replace organic fuel used for generating electricity completely. As organic fuel is being incinerated, many pollutants are emitted to the surrounding air; the pollutants cause greenhouse effect, induce global warming, formation of

smog and acid rain which destroys vegetation and oxidizes soil. Therefore, usage of wind power is a very important factor for solving environmental issues.

The effect on the landscape cannot be measured or calculated quantitatively; therefore, impact reduction measures are limited and the structures of the wind power plants will be designed imitating the shapes existing in the nature and painted in bright colours in order to reduce the effect on the landscape. Special composition of paint will enable avoiding glittering structures and generation of reflections. Predominant vertical elements – high technogenically designed structures rising above the existing elements of the landscape will appear in the agrarian, scarcely urbanized landscape; however, the form of the said structures is not too expressive to cause a strong visual effect on the environment or to block and / or prevent from viewing the protected and / or recreational territories and valuable panoramas.

It is forecasted that no significant environmental impact will be caused during the planned economic operations and that the construction works of the wind power plants will not be performed during spring migration of birds, i.e. in March-May, and such works will take place for as short period of time as possible in order to reduce any disturbances to local brooding birds. The most optimal time for performing the construction works of the wind power plants is August-February.

Even if any wind power plant(s) falls (breaks) in an extreme situation, it (they) will not endanger the environment and public health. Mechanical deformations of the towers of wind power plants, their collapse and falling of the blades would cause negative consequences and would be dangerous close to the towers only because heavy structures cannot be carried by the wind. Therefore, the area of potential impact is determined by the height of the structures only which will be up to 230 at the most in this case, whereas the residential territory closest to the wind power plants is 0.6 km away and the national border with the Republic of Latvia is 0.4 and 0.8 km away. Planned economic operations will not have any significant international impact on the environment.