



Vides pārraudzības valsts birojs

Environment State Bureau of the Republic of Latvia

Rūpniecības iela 23, Rīga, LV-1045, Latvia, phone +371 67321173, e-mail pasts@vpvb.gov.lv, www.vpvb.gov.lv

Riga

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Ref. to: Case number NV-08204-22

Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
registrator@naturvardsverket.se

Regarding the transboundary environmental impact assessment of offshore windfarm project “*Södra Victoria*” in Sweden’s exclusive economic zone

The Environment State Bureau (hereinafter – the Bureau), 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 environmental impact assessment (hereinafter – the EIA) in Latvia, thanks the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency for information sent concerning the offshore windfarm project “*Södra Victoria*” in Sweden’s exclusive economic zone with reference to Article 3 of the Espoo Convention.

The Bureau has gathered opinions expressed by various stakeholders and agrees with estimation that Latvia is not likely to be affected to such an extent that would require participation in the EIA and transboundary consultations under the Espoo Convention.

The Bureau informs that more detailed comment is provided by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development Republic of Latvia. Taking into account that the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency has already informed about the construction of six planned offshore windfarm in Sweden's exclusive economic zone (the offshore windfarm “*Södra Midsjöbanken*” (notification of September 7, 2020), offshore windfarm “*Galatea-Galenep*” (notification of 23 September 2020), offshore windfarm “*Kattegatt Syd*” (notification of 24 February 2021), offshore windfarm “*Baltic Offshore Delta*” (notification of 21 January 2022), offshore windfarm “*Erik Segersäll*” (notification of June 3, 2022) and offshore windfarm “*Baltic Offshore Epsilon*” (notification of September 6, 2022)), in the opinion of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development Republic of Latvia, it is necessary to pay increased attention to the common impact of all these offshore windfarms, for example, regarding the migration of birds and bats, the impact on fish and marine mammals, in order to prevent possible cumulative effects, which may also potentially lead to transboundary impacts.

Though Latvia does not intend to take part in the transboundary consultation process as an affected party, we kindly ask the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency to inform us about

the findings of transboundary impact, especially if negative impacts on the environment are possible in the territory of Latvia, and the results of the EIA.

Best regards,

Daiga Avdejanova (signature*) Director of Environment State Bureau of the Republic of Latvia

**Document is sign with secure electronical signature*

Ilze Lielvalode, phone: +371 67770813
e-mail: ilze.lielvalode@vpvb.gov.lv