

To the Point of Contact for the Espoo Convention in Latvia Environment State Bureau of Latvia Our ref 12May 2023 No 7-12/22/4516-2

Exchange of information regarding initiation of environmental impact assessment in Pärnu county

According to the agreed approach of the joint commission on environmental impact assessment (EIA) under the agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Latvia on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, the Ministry of the Environment of Estonia is informing Latvia about the following proposed activity.

The decision-maker Estonian Environmental Board has informed the Ministry of the Environment of Estonia about the initiation of EIA of a proposed activity within the 15 km area from the Estonian-Latvian border.

On 9 December 2021, the Estonian Environmental Board initiated EIA on the basis of the application by the developer VALICECAR OÜ for an extraction permit in the Massiaru III sand quarry which consists of two land units with an area of 24,49 ha (including the mine service plot). The validity of the applied extraction permit is 15 years, the mineral resource (construction sand) is used for road construction and civil works. The land disturbed by extraction shall be reclaimed into grassland and water bodies.

The Massiaru III sand quarry is located in Pärnu county Häädemeeste rural municipality. The closest point from the common border is about 3,2 km. A figure illustrating the location of the proposed activity is enclosed.

The Estonian Environmental Board is in the position that the proposed activity is not likely to cause significant adverse transboundary impacts to Latvia. In case of additional questions, please contact directly Mr Karl Markus Wahlberg (senior specialist, Estonian Environmental Board, karl.wahlberg@keskkonnaamet.ee).

Sincerely Yours,

Kaupo Heinma

Point of Contact for the Espoo Convention

Enclosure: figure

For information: Estonian Environmental Board

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