



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

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Environmental State Bureau of the Republic of
Latvia

June, 2023

No.(10)-D8-

Email: pasts@vpvb.gov.lv

**NOTIFICATION REGARDING PROPOSED ECONOMIC ACTIVITY LISTED IN
APPENDIX I TO THE ESPOO CONVENTION**

As a country of origin under whose jurisdiction a proposed activity is envisaged to take place, the Republic of Lithuania hereby notifies the Republic of Latvia about proposed activities listed in Appendix I to the UN Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (hereinafter referred to as Espoo Convention) – a major installations for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (a wind farm).

Economic activity is proposed by a Lithuanian developer „Biržų vėjas”, comprises construction and operation of up to 35 wind power plants (wind turbines) in Biržai District Municipality (administrative centres of Nemunėlis Radviliškis and Parovėja).

Wind power plants (WPP) will have a maximum mast height of up to 180 m, a total height of up to 270 m with a raised blade, and a rotor diameter with blades of up to 180 m. The capacity of each power plant will be up to 7,5 MW.

The minimum distance from the planned economic activity (PEA) area to the territory of the Republic of Latvia would be approximately 0.88 km. The nearest larger settlement (Skaistkalne) to the PEA sites in the territory of the Republic of Latvia is approximately 2.8 km and the nearest residential building is approximately 1.2 km away. The nearest protected natural area (including Natura 2000) in the territory of the Republic of Latvia to the location of the WPPs is the natural monument/geological formation "Skaistkalnes karsta kritenes", which is located approximately 1.2 km from the planned WPP.

According to Lithuanian legislation installations for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (wind farms) are subject to environmental impact assessment.

Information on proposed activity, including available information on their possible transboundary impact is attached to this notification (in English).

Referring to Article 3.3 of the Espoo Convention and other relevant provisions of international and national legislation we kindly ask you to respond **by August 10, 2023** at the latest by:

- acknowledging the receipt of the notification;
- providing comments concerning the environmental impact assessment;
- submitting any comments, you might receive from the public and relevant authorities in your country;
- indicating whether you intend to participate in the environmental impact assessment procedures as a potentially affected country.

Please address your response to this notification 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:

Mr. Vitalijus Auglys
Head of Pollution Prevention Policy Group
Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania
Telephone: (+370 6) 864 6087
E-mail: vitalijus.auglys@am.lt
CC: beata.vilimaite@am.lt

Yours sincerely,

Vice-Minister
Daiva Matusevičė

Enclosed. Information on the planned economic activity and its possible transboundary impact (in English), 5 pages.

R. Griškevičienė, +370 695 11585, el. p. rasa.griskeviciene@am.lt

INFORMATION ON THE PLANNED ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND ITS POSSIBLE TRANSBOUNDARY IMPACT

1. Name (title), address, telephone, e-mail of the developer:

- UAB „Biržų vėjas”, J. Janonio a. 5, LT-41170, Biržai, Phone No: +370 610 25533, E-mail.: evaldas@rdg.lt.

2. Information on the nature of the proposed activity:

2.1. title of the proposed economic activity:

- Construction and operation of up to 35 wind power plants (hereinafter referred to as WPPs) planned by UAB "Biržų vėjas" in the administrative centres of Nemunėlis Radviliškis and Parovėja, Biržai District Municipality, Panevėžys County.

2.2. type of activity:

- A planned economic activity (hereinafter referred to as PEA) is to produce energy from renewable installations as defined in COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION (EU) 2022/822 of 18 May 2022 on speeding up permit-granting procedures for renewable energy projects and facilitating Power Purchase Agreements. This activity is listed in Annex I to the 1991 UN/ECE Convention on transboundary Environmental Impact Assessment (the Espoo Convention) (No 22).

2.3. description of the proposed activity:

- The PEA in Biržai District Municipality (administrative centres of Nemunėlis Radviliškis and Parovėja) covers construction and operation up to 35 WPPs on privately owned land plots, as well as installing a necessary infrastructure for their operation (an electricity transformer substation (hereinafter referred to as the ETS), underground electricity transmission cables, service yards and access roads, etc.) (Annex No. 1). The environmental impact assessment is carried out for the three technical alternatives. The WPPs will have a maximum mast height of up to 180 m, a total height of up to 270 m with a raised blade, and a rotor diameter with blades of up to 180 m. The capacity of each power plant will be up to 7,5 MW.

Nature of the PEA: generation of electricity from renewable wind energy sources and its transmission to the existing electricity transmission grid operated by AB Litgrid.

Technology. The technological process of the PEA consists of two main stages:

- Electricity generation in WPP;
- Supply/transmission of the generated energy to the existing electricity transmission system.

The planned WPPs will generate electricity at 33 kV. The generated electricity will be transmitted from the power plant via an underground electricity cable to the planned ETS, where the electricity will be transformed upwards of a high voltage of 110 kV or 330 kV and transmitted to the electricity transmission grid.

A schematic view of the WPP and the process flowsheet are shown in Figures 1 and 2.

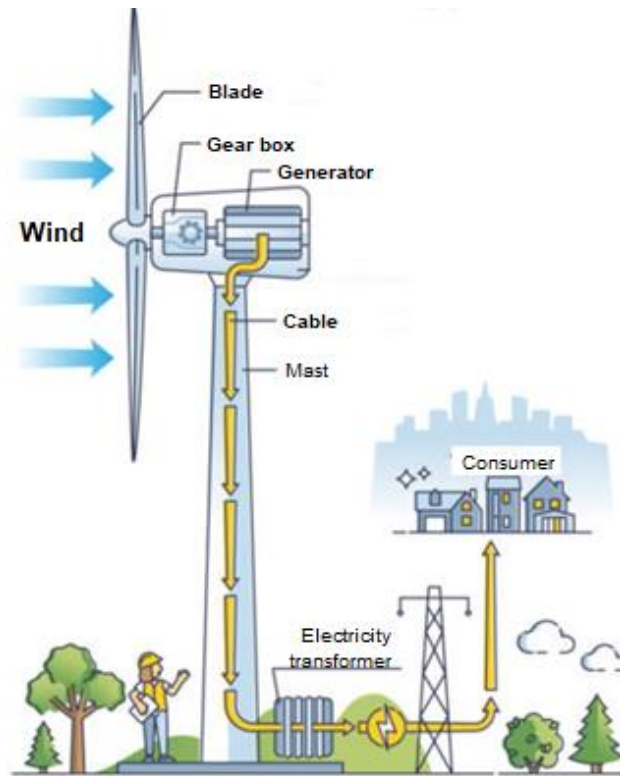


Figure 1: Principal diagram of a WPP process



Figure 2. Principal view of a WPP

2.4. scale of the proposed activity:

- The total capacity of the planned WPPs park will not exceed a combined capacity of 262.50 MW.
- The land plots on which the WPPs are planned are owned by natural or legal persons. These land plots are uninhabited. For the construction and operation of the WPPS the land plots

will be developed into separate 35 sites (up to ~ 0.3 ha) with the necessary infrastructure for the construction and operation of the WPPs. The land plots for the operation of the WPPs are leased on the basis of separate long-term agreements with the owners of these land plots. The land adjacent to the planned WPPs is undeveloped and predominantly arable land and grassland.

- The PEA shall make maximum use of local roads (or sections of roads), preceded by reinforcement and/or renovation where necessary. Construction of separate sections of access road is planned if there is no access to the planned location of the WPPs. Approximately 21 km of access roads are to be reconstructed/rebuilt according to a preliminary estimation.
- Underground electricity cables are also planned to be laid between the WPP and the planned location of the ETS. According to preliminary estimation – approx. 69.7 km of underground electricity transmission cables are planned to be laid underground.
- No significant negative effects on soil and subsoil are expected during the construction of the WPPs and the infrastructure necessary for their operation (sites, road sections, underground electricity cables, ETS), as well as during the operation of the WPPs.
- No groundwater or surface water will be used during the operation of the WPPs. There will be no generation of domestic and industrial wastewater.
- Only small amounts of metal and mixed construction waste may be generated during the construction and installation of the WPPs and its infrastructure. No direct generation of waste (hazardous, non-hazardous, radioactive) is foreseen during the operation of the WPP, only episodic waste from repair/refurbishment or maintenance is possible, which would be handed over for disposal to waste management companies.
- No hazardous chemicals will be used or stored during the implementation and operation of the WPPs.

2.5. time-frame for proposed activity:

- The planned phases for the implementation of the PEA (installation, construction and operation) are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. The planned phases for the implementation of the PEA

Phase No.	Name of the Operational Phase	Duration of the Action Phase
1st	Environmental impact assessment and decision on the feasibility of the PEA	12 months
2nd	Preparation, coordination and obtaining of technical/work designs and construction permits for WPPs	6-12 months
3rd	Construction of the WPPs Park and installation of the necessary infrastructure	approx. 6 - 24 months from the date of obtaining the construction permit
4th	Operation of the WPPs Park	up to 35 years *
5th	Dismantling of the WPPs and restoration/reclamation of the site	approx. 6 - 24 months

* The lifetime can be extended according to the demand and the technical capacity of the site.

3. Information on the location of the proposed activity:

3.1. location and description of the location:

- The territory of the PEA is located in the northern part of the territory of the Republic of Lithuania, in Biržai District Municipality, Panevėžys County (Annex No. 1). The minimum distance from the PEAs direct solution area to the territory of the Republic of Latvia would be approximately 0.88 km. The nearest larger settlement (Skaistkalne) to the PEA sites in the territory of the Republic of Latvia is approximately 2.8 km (from the planned WPP "N17") and the nearest residential building is approximately 1.2 km away. The nearest protected natural area (including Natura 2000) in the territory of the Republic of Latvia to the location of the WPPs is the natural monument/geological formation "Skaistkalnes karsta kritenes", which is located approximately 1.2 km from the planned WPP "N6".
- The objects of the PEA do not fall within and are not adjacent to the territories and protection zones of cultural heritage sites and sites and protected areas, as well as protected areas of the European Ecological Network Natura 2000, nor do they fall within the territories of forests, natural habitats of European Community importance.
- The planned WPPs do not fall within the territory of the karst region of Northern Lithuania, yet some of the planned WPPs ("N6", "N11", "N17", "N20", "N21") are located between 25 and 74 m away from the boundary of the low-activity karst area.

3.2. rationale for location of the proposed activity:

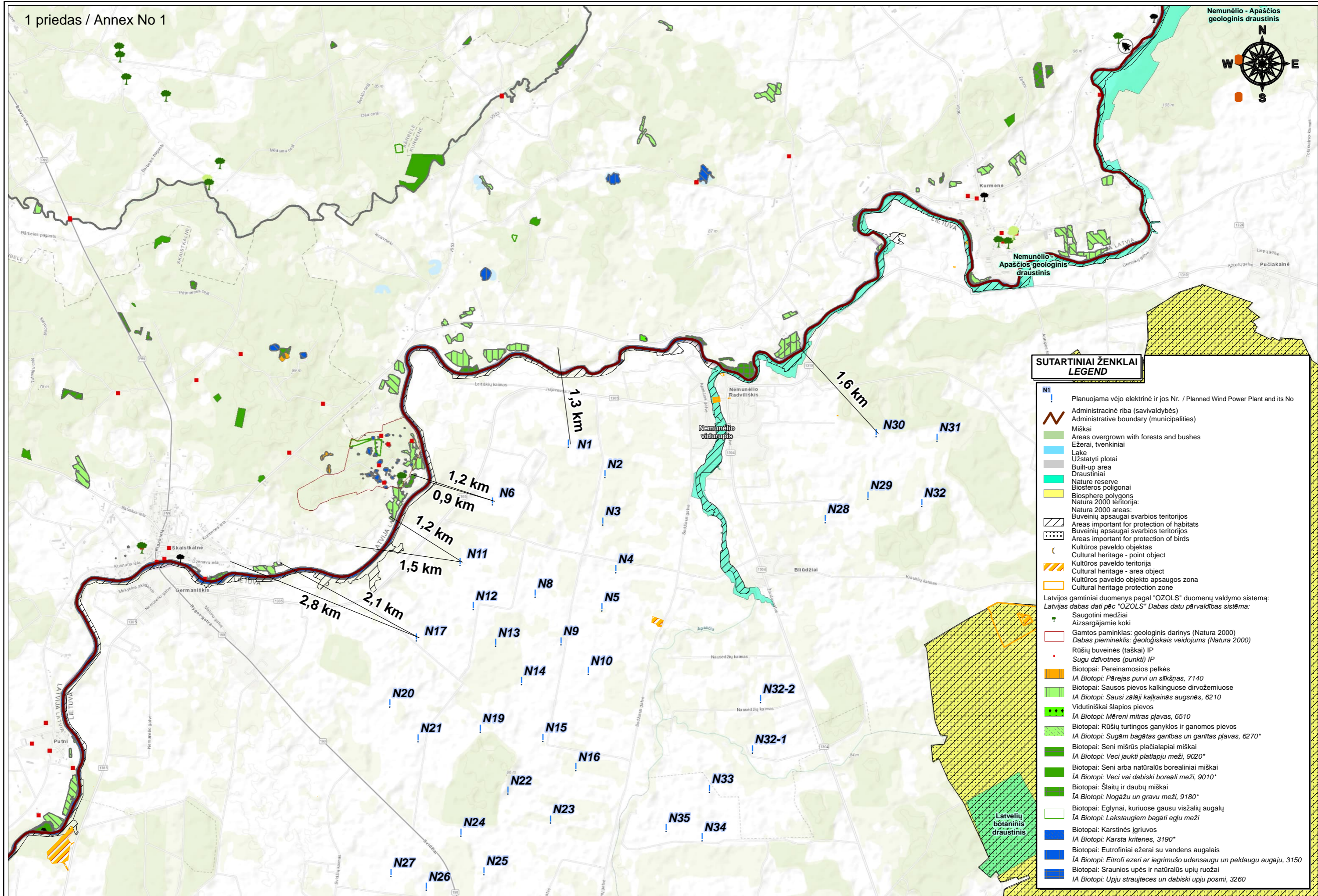
- The location of the planned economic activity has been chosen due to the low population density of the area, favourable geographical conditions and flat terrain, the predominantly agricultural land use, the possibility of reaching an agreement with the owners of the land plots and the existing engineering infrastructure.

3.3. maps and other pictorial documents related to the spatial boundaries of the proposed activity:

- Annex No. 1.

4. Information on possible significant adverse transboundary impact of the proposed activity:

- The environmental impact assessment of the PEA has shown that direct and indirect effects of the PEA, at one level or another, on various elements of the natural environment (ambient air, surface water, subsoil, soil, landscape, protected areas, biodiversity) are likely to occur within a range of several tens of metres up to a few kilometres around the WPPs area.
 - The results of the noise and shadow flicker modelling of the proposed WPPs show that the area of potential supra-normal effects is not within the territory of the Republic of Latvia and does not have a negative impact on its residential and public environment.
 - The planned WPPs will be visible from the territory of the Republic of Latvia up to a distance of several kilometres, depending on the chosen observation point.
 - The environmental impact assessment shows that after implementing proposed avoidance and mitigation measures no significant negative effects are expected on the territories of neighbouring foreign countries and their natural and social environment and inhabitants because of the implementation of the PEA and the operation of the WPPs.
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DETALŪS METADUOMENYS

Dokumento sudarytojas (-ai)	Lietuvos Respublikos aplinkos ministerija 188602370, A. Jakšto g. 4, LT-01105 Vilnius
Dokumento pavadinimas (antraštė)	NOTIFICATION REGARDING PROPOSED ECONOMIC ACTIVITY LISTED IN APPENDIX I TO THE ESPOO CONVENTION
Dokumento registracijos data ir numeris	2023-06-29 Nr. D8(E)-3957
Dokumento gavimo data ir dokumento gavimo registracijos numeris	–
Dokumento specifikacijos identifikavimo žymuo	ADOC-V1.0
Parašo paskirtis	Pasirašymas
Parašą sukūrusio asmens vardas, pavardė ir pareigos	Daiva Matusevičė, pavaduojanti (-s) viceministrę Ramintą Radavičienę
Sertifikatas išduotas	DAIVA VELIČKAITĖ-MATUSEVIČĖ LT
Parašo sukūrimo data ir laikas	2023-06-29 15:42:38 (GMT+03:00)
Parašo formatas	XAdES-T
Laiko žymoje nurodytas laikas	2023-06-29 15:42:54 (GMT+03:00)
Informacija apie sertifikavimo paslaugų teikėją	EID-SK 2016, AS Sertifitseerimiskeskus EE
Sertifikato galiojimo laikas	2021-09-08 18:05:26 – 2026-09-07 23:59:59
Informacija apie būdus, naudotus metaduomenų vientisumui užtikrinti	"Registravimas" paskirties metaduomenų vientisumas užtikrintas naudojant "RCSC IssuingCA, VI Registru centras - i.k. 124110246 LT" išduotą sertifikatą "DBSIS, Informatikos ir ryšių departamentas prie Lietuvos Respublikos vidaus reikalų ministerijos, į.k.188774822 LT", sertifikatas galioja nuo 2022-05-19 16:48:06 iki 2025-05-18 16:48:06
Pagrindinio dokumento priedų skaičius	1
Pagrindinio dokumento priedamų dokumentų skaičius	–
Priedamo dokumento sudarytojas (-ai)	–
Priedamo dokumento pavadinimas (antraštė)	–
Priedamo dokumento registracijos data ir numeris	–
Programinės įrangos, kuria naudojantis sudarytas elektroninis dokumentas, pavadinimas	DBSIS, versija 3.5.73.1
Informacija apie elektroninio dokumento ir elektroninio (-ių) parašo (-ų) tikrinimą (tikrinimo data)	Atitinka specifikacijos keliamus reikalavimus. Visi dokumente esantys elektroniniai parašai galioja (2023-06-29 16:34:12)
Paieškos nuoroda	–
Papildomi metaduomenys	Nuorašą suformavo 2023-06-29 16:34:12 DBSIS