



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA  
MINISTRY OF CLIMATE

To the Points of Contact for the Espoo  
Convention in Finland, Latvia and  
Sweden

Our ref 06.08.2024 6-3/24/1892-11

Regarding the environmental impact assessment of  
the offshore wind farm project “ELWIND (Estonia)”

On 2 May 2024, by letter No. 6-3/24/1892-2, Estonia notified in accordance with Article 3 of the Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden and Finland regarding the offshore wind farm project „ELWIND (Estonia)“. Latvia and Sweden indicated its wish to participate in the environmental impact assessment (EIA) procedure. In relation to the Agreement between Estonia and Finland on environmental impact assessment in a Transboundary Context, Finland informed that the decision on participation in the EIA procedure will be made at the EIA programme stage. Lithuania indicated that it does not intend to participate in the EIA procedure, however, was interested in receiving information about the progress of the project.

The ELWIND is a joint Estonian-Latvian state-run cross-border hybrid offshore wind farm project in the Baltic Sea. The administrative procedures (including EIA procedures) will be carried out separately according to the regulations of each country. In Estonia, the ELWIND wind farm is planned to be developed in west of Saaremaa island in the area defined in the national maritime spatial plan as suitable for the development of wind energy. The planned total installed capacity of the wind farm is 400–1000 MW with 20–100 wind turbines depending on capacity of each turbine (10–25 MW). The maximum height of the turbines is 330 m with a rotor diameter of up to 300 m. The area of the „ELWIND (Estonia)“ is *ca* 200,44 km<sup>2</sup>. The owner of the project is the Ministry of Climate of Estonia, the practical project implementation and leading the EIA procedure has been entrusted to the Environmental Investment Centre.

Hereby we inform that the offshore wind farm project „ELWIND (Estonia)“ has reached the EIA programme stage. The Environmental Investment Centre has translated the EIA programme into English and Latvian, also brief summaries in Swedish and Finnish have been prepared. Inter alia, the documentation includes an overview of the feedback provided by the neighbouring countries at the notification stage together with the experts' responses. All the forementioned documentation has been enclosed. On the basis of the EIA programme that has been declared compliant, the EIA report will be prepared.

In Estonia, the public display of the EIA programme takes place from 7 August to 30 August 2024. The public hearing meeting will take place on 12 September 2024 in Saaremaa Municipality.

Estonia kindly asks Latvia, Sweden and Finland to respond by 7 October 2024 (e-mail: [info@kliimaministeerium.ee](mailto:info@kliimaministeerium.ee)) at the latest, and to:

- provide possible comments concerning the scope for the assessment of the environmental impacts of the offshore wind farm project „ELWIND (Estonia)“ affecting your country;
- submit the comments you might receive from the public and authorities in your country regarding the EIA programme.

We also kindly ask Finland to inform whether your country intends to participate in the EIA procedure of the project.

In addition, considering that the ELWIND is a joint Estonian-Latvian offshore wind farm project, the developer is proposing to organize a virtual (MS Teams) public hearing meeting for the Latvian authorities and public. The Environmental Investment Centre will contact the Environment State Bureau of Latvia in terms of agreeing on the potential meeting and related practicalities.

#### Contacts information

Developer: Environmental Investment Centre – Mr. Tõnn Tuvikene, [tonn.tuvikene@kik.ee](mailto:tonn.tuvikene@kik.ee).

Decision-maker: Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority – Ms. Hanna-Liis Heinla, [hannaliis.heinla@ttja.ee](mailto:hannaliis.heinla@ttja.ee).

Transboundary EIA procedure: Ministry of Climate – Mr. Rainer Persidski, [rainer.persidski@kliimaministeerium.ee](mailto:rainer.persidski@kliimaministeerium.ee).

Sincerely Yours,

(signed electronically)

Hanna Vahter

Acting as the Point of Contact for the Espoo Convention

Enclosures: EIA programme (in English and Latvian, summaries in Finnish and Swedish)

List of recipients (Points of Contact):

Finland: Finnish Environment Institute, [transboundaryEIA.SEA@syke.fi](mailto:transboundaryEIA.SEA@syke.fi), [kirjaamo@syke.fi](mailto:kirjaamo@syke.fi)

Latvia: Environment State Bureau of Latvia, [pasts@vpvb.gov.lv](mailto:pasts@vpvb.gov.lv)

Sweden: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, [richard.kristoffersson@swedishepa.se](mailto:richard.kristoffersson@swedishepa.se)

For information:

Environmental Investment Centre, [info@kik.ee](mailto:info@kik.ee)

Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority, [info@ttja.ee](mailto:info@ttja.ee)

Ministry of Environment of Lithuania, [beata.vilimaite@am.lt](mailto:beata.vilimaite@am.lt), [rasa.griskeviciene@am.lt](mailto:rasa.griskeviciene@am.lt)

Rainer Persidski, +372 626 2973

[rainer.persidski@kliimaministeerium.ee](mailto:rainer.persidski@kliimaministeerium.ee)