



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA  
MINISTRY OF CLIMATE

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

Our ref 02.10.2024 7-12/24/4237-3

Notification in accordance with Article 3 of the  
Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a  
Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) regarding  
the offshore wind farm in Area 1 and Area 2 in the Gulf  
of Riga

As the Party of origin, Estonia is hereby sending a notification in accordance with Article 3 of the  
Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) of the project  
plan by the developer Liivi Offshore OÜ (hereinafter *the developer*) to construct an offshore wind  
farm in Area 1 and Area 2 in the Gulf of Riga.

Description of the project

The developer intends to construct an offshore wind farm in the Gulf of Riga, south of  
Kihnu Island. Schematic maps illustrating the location of the proposed project are enclosed in  
Annexes 1 and 2.

The proposed offshore wind farm consists of two adjacent areas, Area 1 and Area 2. The wind  
farm, including both of those areas, will consist of up to 140 wind turbines with a total capacity  
of up to 2010 MW. The planned maximum power of each wind turbine is up to 20 MW, and the  
maximum height above average sea level is up to 300 meters. The total planned area of the wind  
farm is 168,08 km<sup>2</sup>.

The proposed activity may have a transboundary impact on various aspects, including marine  
water quality, marine mammals, and fish and bird populations. Therefore, as the decision-maker  
responsible for development consent, the Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory  
Authority has requested that the Ministry of Climate notifies potentially affected parties.

## Environmental impact assessment (EIA) procedure

On 5 January 2021, Eesti Energia AS<sup>1</sup> submitted two separate applications to the Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority for a superfices licence: one for Area 1 and the other for Area 2. On 28 February 2024, the developer submitted an application to merge Area 1 and Area 2 and thereby to initiate a single procedure for the superfices licence. On 5 June 2024, the latest supplemented application was submitted. The developer is applying for a superfices licence valid for 50 years. The main document of the supplemented application is enclosed in Annex 3.

According to the Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management System Act (hereinafter *the Act*), the decision-maker will determine whether to initiate an environmental impact assessment (EIA) based on the application for the development consent. The Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority initiated the procedure for the superfices licence in Area 1 and Area 2, along with an EIA, on 6 September 2024 (decision number 1-7/24-307, Annex 4). Given the supplemented application by the developer, Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority merged the procedures for the superfices licence and the EIA.

As stipulated by the Act, following the initiation of the EIA, the leading expert or an expert group under the supervision of the leading expert will prepare an EIA programme (scoping document). The decision-maker will seek opinions from all relevant authorities regarding the content of the EIA programme and will organise its public display and public hearing. After considering the opinions received during this process, the developer will submit the EIA programme to the decision-maker for verification of compliance with the requirements.

Subsequently, based on the EIA programme declared compliant, the EIA report will be prepared. The EIA report stage involves procedures similar to those in the programme stage.

When making a decision to grant or refuse to grant development consent, the decision-maker will take the results of the EIA and the environmental measures outlined in the EIA report into account. This also includes, where relevant, the results of transboundary consultations.

If the affected Party intends to participate in the EIA procedure, the draft of the EIA programme and EIA report will be forwarded to the affected state. Consultations are commenced regarding the environmental impact resulting from the proposed activity and environmental measures to be taken.

## Answer to the notification

Kindly send the answer to this notification to the Ministry of Climate (info@kliimaministerium.ee) by 3 December 2024 and:

- Acknowledge the receipt of the notification;
- Indicate whether your country intends to participate in the offshore wind farm project's EIA procedure;
- Provide any possible comments concerning the scope for the assessment of the environmental impacts of the project affecting your country.

## Bilateral Agreement between Estonia and Finland

In relation to the Agreement between Estonia and Finland on environmental impact assessment in the meeting of the joint Commission on EIA. During this meeting, the Commission discussed the EIA notification practice between the countries and proposed to continue following the existing practice. However, in justified cases, Finland has the option to decide whether to participate in the specific EIA procedure at the EIA programme stage.

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<sup>1</sup> The legal predecessor of Liivi Offshore OÜ

## Contacts information

- Developer: Liivi Offshore OÜ – Mr. Johann-Gustav Lend, johann.gustav.lend@enefitgreen.ee; Mr. Karmo Kõrvel, karmo.korvek@enefitgreen.ee
- Decision-maker: Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority – Ms. Viktoria Burtin, viktorja.burtin@ttja.ee
- Transboundary EIA procedure: Ministry of Climate – Ms. Lilli Tamm, lilli.tamm@kliimaministeerium.ee

Sincerely Yours,

(signed electronically)

Birgit Parmas

Point of Contact for the Espoo Convention

## Enclosures:

- Annexes 1 and 2 – maps
- Annex 3 – superficies licence application
- Annex 4 – EIA initiation decision

## List of recipients (Points of Contact):

- Finland: Finnish Environment Institute, transboundaryEIA.SEA@syke.fi, kirjaamo@syke.fi
- Latvia: Environment State Bureau of Latvia, pasts@vpvb.gov.lv
- Lithuania: Ministry of Environment, vitalijus.auglys@am.lt, beata.vilimaite-silobritiene@am.lt
- Sweden: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, espoo@swedishepa.se, richard.kristoffersson@swedishepa.s

## For information:

- Liivi Offshore OÜ: info@enefitgreen.ee
- Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority, info@ttja.ee

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