



Vides pārraudzības valsts birojs

Environment State Bureau of the Republic of Latvia

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Riga

25.10.2024 No. 5-05/1220/2024

Ref. 16.09.2024 Case number NV-06165-24, “Elinor”

The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

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Regarding the environmental impact assessment of the planned offshore wind farm “Elinor” in Sweden’s economic zone between Gotland and the Swedish mainland

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, would like to express gratitude to the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency for notification sent concerning regarding the planned offshore wind farm “Elinor” in Sweden’s economic zone between Gotland and the Swedish mainland (hereinafter – the Project) with reference to Article 3 of the Espoo Convention.

The Bureau hereby acknowledges the receipt of the notification and prepared documentation¹. Please be informed that the Bureau published received information regarding the Project on Bureau`s webpage² on 20 September 2024 and sent information directly to the involved authorities. The Bureau received opinions regarding the Project and its potential transboundary impacts within the scope of competence from the Ministry of Climate and Energy of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Smart Administration and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Latvia, the State Environment Service, the Nature Conservation Agency, the Latvian Institute of Aquatic Ecology, the Kurzeme Planning Region, the State Centre for Defence Military Objects and Procurement. The Bureau has not received comments from the public.

The Bureau has gathered and evaluated opinions expressed by all above mentioned authorities

¹ Received on 17 September 2024, registration no 5-05/2574/2024.

²<https://www.vpvb.gov.lv/lv/parrobezu-ietekmes-uz-vidi-novertejumu-projekti/par-ietekmes-uz-vidi-novertejumu-zviedrijas-atkrastes-veja-elektrostaciju-parka-elinor-buvniecibas-projektam-baltijas-jura>

regarding necessity of entering into transboundary consultations. The Bureau agrees with general estimation that Latvia is not likely to be affected to such an extent that would require participation in the EIA of the Project as an affected country under the Espoo Convention.

The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Latvia, the State Environment Service and the Nature Conservation Agency provided more detailed comment regarding the protentional transboundary impacts. The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Latvia informed that due to the distance and possible impact of the planned activity, no risk to human health in Latvia was identified. The State Environment Service informed that Consultation report includes assessment of the potential impacts (including cumulative and transboundary) on the surrounding flora and fauna (including fish, bats, birds, etc.), landscape, cultural heritage, recreational resources, fisheries, etc. from which the State Environment Service concludes that no significant environmental impacts are expected in the territory of Latvia and the exclusive economic zone. The Nature Conservation Agency provided opinion that direct impacts on the territory of the Republic of Latvia are not expected.

The authorities had no comments concerning the scope for the assessment of the environmental impacts of the Project.

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 of the Project, including results regarding biodiversity in the Baltic Sea.

Sincerely yours,

Indra Kramzaka (*signature**) Deputy Director of Environment State Bureau of the Republic of Latvia

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