



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF CLIMATE

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

Our ref 17.03.2025 16-3/25/1197-3

Regarding the environmental impact assessment of the
initial area of the offshore wind farm project “Saare-
Liivi”

On 2 February 2022¹, 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 Utilitas Wind OÜ offshore wind farm project „Saare-Liivi”² in the Gulf of Riga. Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden indicated its wish to participate in the environmental impact assessment (EIA) procedure of the project. The EIA programme has been sent to Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden and Finland on 8 September 2022³. Considering the Agreement between Estonia and Finland on environmental impact assessment in a Transboundary Context and the related discussions of the joint commission, Finland also indicated its wish to participate in the EIA procedure.

Hereby we inform that the EIA of the initial area⁴ of the offshore wind farm project “Saare-Liivi” has reached the EIA report stage. The developer has prepared a summary of the EIA report in English, also brief summaries in Latvian, Lithuanian, Swedish and Finnish have been prepared. All the forementioned documentation has been enclosed. The EIA report (together with annexes) in Estonian can be found in the document register of the Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority⁵.

In Estonia, the public display of the EIA report takes place from 17 March to 21 April 2025. The public hearing meeting will take place on 29 April 2025 (Kihnu Island, Kihnu Community Center, starting time 11.00).

Estonia kindly asks the affected Parties to respond by 19 May 2025 (e-mail: info@kliimaministeerium.ee) at the latest, and to:

- provide comments concerning the assessment of the environmental impacts of the project affecting your country;
- submit the comments you might receive from the public and authorities in your country regarding the EIA report.

¹ Ministry of Environment, letter No. 16-3/21/1696-5

² The former name of the offshore wind farm project was „Saare-Liivi 5”.

³ Ministry of Environment, letter No. 16-3/22/2464-5

⁴ On 25 April 2023 (Ministry of Environment, letter No. 16-3/22/2464-20), Estonia provided the affected Parties updated information regarding the project (i.e. the shift of the initial area planned to be encumbered in the public water body for the establishment of the offshore wind farm). Furthermore, also the EIA programme of the additional encumbered area of the offshore wind farm “Saare-Liivi” has been sent to the affected Parties on 11 July 2023 (Ministry of Climate, letter No. 16-3/23/1640-4). Please be informed that the developer will prepare a separate EIA report for the additional encumbered area of the project that will also be sent to the affected Parties for commenting.

⁵ <https://vis.tja.ee/modules/dokumendiregister/view/1028517>

Description of the project

Utilitas Wind OÜ wants to build the offshore wind farm “Saare-Liivi” in a marine area of the Gulf of Riga. The proposed activity is located in the internal sea, or coastal sea area, to the west of Kihnu island in the marine area bordering Pärnu County, i.e. in an area of the county-wide spatial plan for the marine area bordering Pärnu County identified as suitable for wind energy development. According to the superficies licence application in 2021, Utilitas Wind OÜ desired to design an offshore wind farm consisting of a maximum 299 turbines and the spacing between the turbines was put tentatively at 1 km (main alternative 1). The approved EIA programme of the initial area of the project encompassed the full spatial scope initiated by the superficies licence proceedings, including the main alternative 2 which pertains to the area designated for an offshore wind farm with up to 160 wind turbines. Based on studies of structural geology, birdlife and seabed habitats conducted from 2022 to 2024, a spatial alternative featuring up to 80 wind turbines (i.e. main alternative 3) was developed by the end of 2024. Therefore, the EIA report consistently assessed this main alternative 3 as the only feasible spatial option. The technical alternatives examined involved various types of wind turbine foundations, turbine heights (including rotor diameters) and potential layouts for the offshore wind farm.

Contacts information

Developer: Utilitas Wind OÜ – Ms. Kristiina Nauts, kristiina.nauts@utilitas.ee.

Decision-maker: Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority – Ms. Adeele Vesingi, adeele.vesingi@ttja.ee.

Transboundary EIA procedure: Ministry of Climate – Mr. Rainer Persidski, rainer.persidski@kliimaministeerium.ee.

Sincerely Yours,

(signed electronically)

Birgit Parmas

Point of Contact for the Espoo Convention

Enclosures: EIA report in English together with summaries in Latvian, Lithuanian, Swedish and Finnish

List of recipients (Points of Contact):

Finland: Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE), transboundaryEIA.SEA@syke.fi, kirjaamo@syke.fi

Latvia: Environment State Bureau of Latvia, pasts@vpvb.gov.lv, pasts@eva.gov.lv

Lithuania: Ministry of Environment, vitalijus.auglys@am.lt, beata.vilimaite@am.lt

Sweden: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, espoo@swedishepa.se, richard.kristoffersson@swedishepa.se

For information:

Utilitas Wind OÜ, utilitaswind@utilitas.ee

Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority, info@ttja.ee

Rainer Persidski, +372 626 2973

rainer.persidski@kliimaministeerium.ee