

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

11.06.2025 6-3/24/1948-9

Regarding the environmental impact assessment of the offshore wind farm projects Liivi 1 and Liivi 2 in the Gulf of Riga

On 30 April 2024, Estonia sent a notification in accordance with Article 3 of the Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) regarding the project plan by the developer Estonia Offshore Wind DevCo OÜ<sup>2</sup> (hereinafter the *Developer*) to construct an offshore wind farm in the Gulf of Riga. Following the notification, Latvia indicated its wish to participate in the environmental impact assessment (hereinafter EIA) in a transboundary context. Finland informed Estonia that the decision on participation in the EIA procedure would be made in the EIA programme stage. Lithuania stated that it does not intend to participate in the transboundary consultation process as the affected party, but requested to be provided with information about the progress of the projects, the solutions for connecting the wind farms to the electricity grids and the impact on electricity grids in the Baltic region. Sweden did not indicate its wish to participate in the EIA procedure.

The Developer plans to construct an offshore wind farm in the Gulf of Riga in two areas: Liivi 1 and Liivi 2. Due to their geographical proximity and the expected similarity in environmental impacts, the EIA procedures for these two projectes have been merged.

The proposed Liivi 1 offshore wind farm will consist of up to 57 wind turbines with a total capacity of up to 900 MW, and up to 2 substations. The planned maximum power of one wind turbine is up to 25 MW and the maximum height above the average sea level is up to 400 meters. The planned area of the wind farm in the Liivi 1 area is 77,7 km<sup>2</sup>.

The proposed Liivi 2 offshore wind farm will consist of up to 88 wind turbines with a total capacity of up to 1400 MW, and up to 3 substations. The planned maximum power of one wind turbine is up to 25 MW and the maximum height above the average sea level is up to 400 meters. The planned area of the wind farm in the Liivi 2 area is 114,9 km<sup>2</sup>.

The Ministry of Climate of Estonia hereby informs that the projects have reached the EIA programme stage. The Developer has submitted the EIA programme in English, along with brief summaries of the EIA programme in Latvian and Finnish. The documentation includes an overview of the feedback provided by the neighbouring countries at the notification stage, along with the experts' responses. All the aforementioned documents are enclosed. Based on the EIA programme that has been declared compliant, the EIA report will be prepared.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Letter No 6-3/24/1948-2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The legal successor of UAB "Ignitis renewables projektai 6"

In Estonia, the public display of the EIA programme will take place from 16 June 2025 to 15 July 2025. Public meetings will be held on 12 August 2025 in Ruhnu municipality and 14 August 2025 in Saaremaa municipality.

The Ministry of Climate of Estonia kindly asks Latvia and Finland to respond by **11 August 2025** (email: info@kliimaministeerium.ee) at the latest, and to:

- acknowledge the receipt of this letter;
- provide any comments and proposals regarding the assessment of the environmental impacts of the project on your territory;
- submit any comments you might receive from the public and authorities in your country regarding the EIA programme of the project.

The Ministry of Climate of Estonia also kindly asks <u>Finland</u> to confirm whether your country intends to participate in the EIA procedure of the project.

In addition, we kindly ask <u>Latvia</u> to inform the Ministry of Climate of Estonia (by **1 July 2025**) whether you wish for a public hearing to be organised.

## Contacts information

- Developer: Estonia Offshore Wind DevCo OÜ Ms. Maie Leier maie.leier@ignitis.lt
- Decision-maker: Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority Ms. Carmen Tau, carmen.tau@ttja.ee; Ms. Hanna-Liis Heinla, hannaliis.heinla@ttja.ee
- Transboundary EIA procedure: Ministry of Climate Ms. Lilli Tamm, lilli.tamm@kliimaministeerium.ee

Sincerely Yours,

(signed digitally)
Birgit Parmas
Point of Contact for the Espoo Convention

## **Enclosures:**

- 1. Annex 1 EIA programme in English
- 2. Annex 2 Summary of the EIA programme in Latvian
- 3. Annex 3 Summary of the EIA programme in Finnish

List of recipients (Points of Contact):

- Finland: Finnish Environment Institute, transboundaryEIA.SEA@syke.fi, kirjaamo@syke.fi
- Latvia: Energy and Environment Agency, pasts@eva.gov.lv

## For information:

- Sweden: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, espoo@swedishepa.se, richard.kristoffersson@swedishepa.se
- Lithuania: Ministry of Environment of Lithuania, vitalijus.auglys@am.lt, beata.vilimaite@am.lt
- Estonia Offshore Wind DevCo OÜ, maie.leier@ingnitis.ee
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