



Energētikas un vides aģentūra

Energy and Environment Agency

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Riga

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Ref. 20.05.2025 case number NV-25-027413, “Slite”

The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

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Regarding the environmental impact assessment of the planned offshore wind farm “Slite” in Sweden’s economic zone

The Energy and Environment Agency of the Republic of Latvia (hereinafter – the Agency), 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 regarding the planned offshore wind farm “Slite” in Sweden’s economic zone (hereinafter – the Project) with reference to Article 3 of the Espoo Convention.

The Agency hereby acknowledges the receipt of the notification and prepared documentation¹. Please be informed that the Agency published received information regarding the Project on Agency webpage² on 22 May 2025 and sent information directly to the involved authorities. The Agency 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 Economics of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Latvia in cooperation with the Health Inspectorate, the State Centre for Defence Logistics and Procurement, the National Armed Forces, the Nature Conservation Agency, the State Environment Service, the Kurzeme Planning Region, the Latvian Institute of Aquatic Ecology. The Agency has not received comments from the public.

The Agency has gathered and evaluated opinions expressed by all above mentioned authorities regarding necessity of entering into transboundary consultations. The Agency agrees with

¹ Received on 21 May 2025, registration No 2.10/1693/2025-S.

²<https://www.eva.gov.lv/lv/parrobezu-ietekmes-uz-vidi-novertejumu-projekti/atkrastes-veja-parka-slite-buvnieciba-baltijas-jura-zviedrijas-teritorialajos-udenos>

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 Transport of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Economics of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Latvia, the State Centre for Defence Logistics and Procurement, the National Armed Forces, the State Environment Service and the Nature Conservation Agency proved more detailed comments concerning the potential transboundary impacts as well as scope for the assessment of the environmental impacts of the Project.

- The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Latvia in cooperation with the Health Inspectorate concludes that the Project will not have a direct impact on the territory of the Republic of Latvia in terms of human health.
- When examining the area and solution included in the submitted documents, the Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Latvia concludes that 6 cable corridors are to be constructed from planned wind farm area. The first cable corridor is intended to be built in the vicinity of the Fårösund, which overlaps with the State Joint Stock Company “Latvia State Radio and Television Centre” electronic communications network infrastructure – the maritime optical cable Ventspils - Gotland (Fårösund) route in the Baltic Sea off the coast of Sweden. If as a result of the public consultation of the EIA procedure an agreement is reached regarding the construction of the offshore wind farm “Slite”, then the performer of the project shall receive the technical regulations of State Joint Stock Company “Latvia State Radio and Television Centre” and agree on the necessary measures for the protection of the sea cable.
- In evaluating the information provided in the notification, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Latvia determines within the scope of its competence that, considering the geographical location of the Project at a significant distance from the territory of the Republic of Latvia, direct and significant transboundary impact on the marine waters environment of Latvia and its resources, including the fishery sector, is not currently foreseeable.
- According to the State Centre for Defence Logistics and Procurement, subordinate authorities of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Latvia evaluated the submitted documents and concluded that the Project does not affect the performance of the activities and functions of the Ministry of Defence and subordinate institutions thereof.
- The National Armed Forces after evaluating the information provided in the notification, concludes that no significant impact on the territory of the Republic of Latvia is expected.
- The State Environment Service noted that the initial report *prima facie* assesses the potential impacts on the surrounding flora and fauna (including fish, bats, birds, etc.), landscape, cultural heritage, recreational resources, fisheries, etc. The State Environment Service concluded that no significant environmental impacts are expected in the territory of Latvia and the exclusive economic zone.
- The Nature Conservation Agency is interested to see the results of the SEA regarding biodiversity in the Baltic Sea and encourages research not only wintering and migrating birds, but also on molting birds – that is, how many and which bird species are present in the planned activity area during the feather molting process.

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 results of the EIA of the Project and the findings of transboundary impact, especially if

negative impacts on the environment are possible in the territory of Latvia, incl. on fish resources of the Baltic Sea and Latvian fisheries interests.

Enclosed 7 documents (files: *Ministry of Health_Slite.pdf*, *Ministry of Transport_Slite.pdf*, *National Armed Forces_Slite.pdf*, *Ministry of Agriculture_Slite.pdf*, *State Centre for Defence Logistics and Procurement_Slite.pdf*, *Nature Conservation Agency_Slite.pdf*, *State Environment Service_Slite.pdf*).

Sincerely yours, Director

D.Avdejanova

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CONTAINS TIME- STAMP

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