



Richard Kristoffersson  
Phone: +46-10-698 17 69  
richard.kristoffersson  
@swedishepa.se

2024-10-03 Case number:  
NV-06840-22

Finnish Environment Institute  
(SYKE)  
kirjaamo@syke.fi  
transboundaryEIA.SEA@syke.fi  
cc: [ulla.helminen@syke.fi](mailto:ulla.helminen@syke.fi)

**Consultation in accordance with Articles 4 and 5 of the Espoo Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) regarding a planned offshore wind farm “Polargrund Offshore” in Sweden’s territorial waters and exclusive economic zone.**

The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency notified Finland on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July 2022 of the developers plans to apply for a permit for the "Polargrund offshore" wind farm. Finland replied to the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency that they request to participate in consultations in accordance with the Espoo Convention.

In accordance with Articles 4 and 5 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention), Sweden hereby invites Finland to submit comments on Polargrund Offshore ABs permit application and environmental impact report (EIA) for the plans for the offshore windfarm project “Polargrund Offshore” in Sweden's territorial water and in the economic zone.

**The planned project**

The developer, Polargrund Offshore AB, has now applied for construction, operation and decommissioning of the planned project Polargrund Offshore. The Polargrund wind farm comprises a maximum of 120 wind turbines with a maximum total height of 350 m. The wind farm will be able to produce electricity of about 10 TWh or about 200,000 tons of hydrogen per year. The project area is located in the Gulf of Bothnia and lies within both the territorial sea and Sweden's economic zone and borders Finland's economic zone. The wind farm is located approx. 10 km from the nearest island and approx. 35 km from the nearest mainland in Sweden. The project area has an area of 341 km<sup>2</sup> and an average depth of approx. 45 m.

As the planned project area is located in both Swedish territorial waters and the Swedish economic zone, permission is required in accordance with the Environmental Codes chapter 9 and chapter 11 and also the Act (1992:1140) on Sweden's economic zone.

The attached EIA is the basis for both permit applications and this consultation regards both applications.

### **Upcoming process**

The developer has now submitted an application and environmental impact assessment to the Land and Environmental Court in Umeå according to chapter 9 and chapter 11 of the environmental code for construction, operation and decommissioning of the planned project Polargrund Offshore. Permits for the part of the project area that lies within Sweden's economic zone are applied for in accordance with the Act (1992:1140) on Sweden's economic zone where the Swedish government is the permitting authority.

There are two applications which lead to two permits that will be shared with Finland when they have been tried.

Sweden kindly asks you to submit your comments **no later than 27<sup>th</sup> of November 2024** and to:

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

Kindly send the answer to this consultation by e-mail to:

[registrator@naturvardsverket.se](mailto:registrator@naturvardsverket.se). Please indicate Case number NV-06840-22 and "Polargrund" in your answer.

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This decision has been made digitally and therefore lacks signatures.

For the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

Nanna Wikholm  
Head of Unit

Richard Kristoffersson  
Point of Contact, Espoo Convention

Attachments in Swedish and Finnish

- Application according to SEZ
- Application according to Environmental Code
- Annex D. Environmental impact statement
- Appendix D.15. Professional fishing
- Appendix D.18 Nautical risk analysis
- Appendix D.18.1 Calculations and assessment of reduced park area
- Application according to SEZ
- Application according to the Environmental Code
- Annex B. Consolidated list of conditions
- Annex C. Technical description
- Appendix C.1 Technical description hydrogen gas

Cc.

The Ministry of Climate and Enterprise, Eleonora Rönström and Bastian Ljunggren