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Preliminary notification in accordance with Article 10 of the SEA Protocol regarding the phased regional land use plan for security and transport for Lapland 2050 in Finland

In accordance with Article 10, Paragraph 1 of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (the SEA protocol), countries likely to be affected by the implementation of a plan or programme with potential transboundary environmental impacts must be notified as early as possible. In addition to this, under Section 206 a (913/2022), Subsection 1 of the Finnish Land Use Act (132/1999) ((Alueidenkäyttölaki in Finnish and Lag om områdesanvändning in Swedish), the Finnish Environment Institute is responsible for notifying and consulting other EU member states of significant transboundary environmental impacts of a land use plan in compliance with Article 7 of Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (the SEA Directive).

According to Section 206 b (1150/2016), Subsection 2 (913/2022) of Land Use Act, the Finnish Environment Institute must notify the affected country of the impact assessment and send the available documents of a land use plan if the Finnish Environment Institute considers that the implementation of a land use plan has significant transboundary environmental impacts or the affected country so requests. As the implementation of the local detailed plan may have adverse environmental impacts on Sweden, Finland, as the party of origin, hereby notifies Norway and Sweden about the phased regional land use plan for security and transport for Lapland 2050 in Finland.

The notification under Article 10 of the SEA Protocol should include the draft plan or programme and its environmental report in accordance with Article 10, Paragraph 2 of the SEA Protocol. Therefore, this notification is a preliminary notification as the draft plan and its preparatory materials are not available yet at this stage of the land use planning. By sending a preliminary notification, the Finnish Environment Institute wishes to fulfil its responsibility to notify of the planned land use plan as early as possible in accordance with Article 10, Paragraph 1 of the SEA Protocol. The formal notification will be sent in the next stage of the land use planning.

Information on the planned land use plan

The existing regional land use plans of Lapland will be updated with three phased regional land use plans. The first phased regional land use plan will include themes related to the transport



system and security. The phased regional land use plan for security and transport for Lapland 2050 will cover the whole area of Lapland.

The aim of the phased land use plan is to update the existing regional land use plans due to the geopolitical situation and to respond to changes in the land use planning environment, especially with regard to the transport system and security. The aim of the land use plan is to indicate the development objectives for the transport system in accordance with the Lapland Transport Strategy 2050 and to consider the land use needs of the Finnish Defence Forces. In addition, key areas for large industrial or warehouse buildings will also be designated.

The land use planning procedure in Finland

In terms of land use planning, the SEA directive (2001/42/EC) has been implemented to Land Use Act (132/1999) and Land Use and Building Decree (895/1999) in Finland. Land Use Act and Land Use and Building Decree regulate land use planning procedure, such as the assessment of the impacts of land use planning on the environment.

The planning process for the phased regional land use plan is currently at the starting stage. At this stage, the participation and assessment scheme of the plan has been prepared. The starting stage will be followed by the preparation stage and the proposal stage.

The public display of the participation and assessment scheme takes place in Finland between 24 January and 24 February 2025.

Participation in the land use planning procedure

The participation and assessment scheme in Norwegian, Swedish and Northern Sámi are attached to this letter. The participation and assessment scheme is also available in Finnish at the following webpage of the Regional Council of Lapland:

<https://www.lapinliitto.fi/aluesuunnittelu/maakuntakaavoitus/vireilla-olevat-maakuntakaavat/lapin-turvallisuus-ja-liikennevaihemmaakuntakaava-2050/>.

Please send the response by email to the register office of the Finnish Environment Institute (kirjaamo@syke.fi) and transboundaryEIA.SEA@syke.fi by **10 March 2025 at the latest** and:

- acknowledge the receipt of the preliminary notification,
- indicate whether your state intends to participate in the land use planning procedure,
- provide views and comments on the material,
- submit any comments you might receive from the public and authorities in your state.

Please indicate our reference number **SYKE/2024/2420** in your letter.

More information

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Head of Services

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and the SEA Protocol

Wilma Poutanen

This document has been electronically signed. The electronic signatures can be verified from the register office of the Finnish Environment Institute.

Appendices

Laplands regionale faseplan for sikkerhet og trafikk 2050, Medvirknings- og evalueringsplan, 2.12.2024

Laplands etapplandskapsplan för säkerhet och trafik 2050, Program för deltagande och bedömning, 2.12.2024

Lappi dorvvolašvuoda- ja johtalusmuddoeanagottelávva 2050, Oassálastin- ja árvvoštallanplána, 2.12.2024

For information

Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Ministry of the Environment
The Regional Council of Lapland

