



SWEDISH
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION
AGENCY

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Sweden's response to Poland's request to conclude the consultations pursuant to Article 5 the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context [Espoo Convention] regarding the planned offshore wind farm "Baltyk I"

Between December 19, 2023, and February 21, 2024, Sweden was given the opportunity to review and comment on the environmental impact assessment for the *Baltyk I* offshore wind farm (OWF) in the Polish economic zone. The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency replied to Poland with comments received. The Polish Environmental Protection Agency, as the authority responsible for the Espoo Convention, has forwarded the responses to the Swedish comments received to allow the Swedish parties to assess if the responses are sufficient for the transboundary consultation under Article 5 of the Espoo Convention can be concluded.

The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) is the responsible authority for submitting and receiving notifications and otherwise fulfilling obligations for environmental impact assessments in a transboundary context [Espoo Convention] in Sweden, according to the Environmental Assessment Regulation (2017:966).

The SEPA hereby acknowledges having received the responses made to the Swedish comments and, after review, considers the cross-border consultation to be concluded.

Review period in Sweden

The responses to the Swedish comments have been circulated for consideration by the SEPA to BirdLife Sweden, the County Administrative Board of Gotland,

the County Administrative Board of Kalmar, the Geological Survey of Sweden, the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management, the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute, the Swedish Transport Agency and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. The review period lasted from June 5, 2024, to July 4, 2024.

Remarks received during the review period

Statements were made in English and are enclosed in full. A brief summary follows below.

BirdLife Sweden does not consider the transboundary consultation to be concluded prior to a Natura 2000 assessment having been carried out unless OWF *Baltyk I* is moved from its current, proposed location to deeper waters further south, outside important feeding and wintering areas for long-tailed ducks. The organization also stresses the need for:

- Studies on potential and actual impacts from OWF on the seasonal mass migration of birds with consideration of species attracted to “artificial light at night” in specific weather conditions.
- Analysis of weather data and migration patterns to identify high-risk situations and the development of curtailment techniques.

The Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI) confirms that the clarifications provided are sufficient to conclude the transboundary consultation.

The Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) states that all comments and aspects raised by the University were adequately considered and responded to, and that the transboundary consultation can be concluded.

This decision has been made digitally and therefore lacks signatures

For the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

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For information only

The Swedish Ministry for Climate and Enterprise: Bastian Ljunggren and Eleonora Rönström

The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency: Nanna Wikholm, Richard Kristoffersson, Egon Enocksson and Åsa Blomster

Enclosed, statement made in English

BirdLife Sweden

the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI)

the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)