

Authority Services

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Complementary consultation in accordance with Article 4 and 5 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) regarding the Karhakkamaa windfarm and the 400 kV transmission line in Tornio, Finland

On 23 January 2024, Finnish Environment Institute invited Sweden in accordance with Articles 4 and 5 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and Article 10 of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (the SEA Protocol) to provide comments on the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) report and component master plan for the Karhakkamaa windfarm and the 400 kilovolt (kV) transmission line in Tornio, Finland.

Sweden sent the comments to the Finnish Environment Institute regarding the EIA report and component master plan on 5 April 2024 and wished to continue the consultations in accordance with Article 5 of the Espoo Convention. On 23 April 2024, Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Lapland has considered the EIA report to be inadequate and requested the developer to supplement it.

The EIA report of the planned Karhakkamaa windfarm has been updated. Therefore, in accordance with Articles 4 and 5 of the Espoo Convention, Finland, as the party of origin, invites you to provide comments on the updated EIA report.

Information on the planned project

Tornio Karhakkamaa Tuuli Ky is planning to establish a windfarm in Karhakkamaa, Tornio, Finland. The project area is located approximately 32 kilometres to the north of the centre of City of Tornio. The project area is connected to the border of Ylitornio municipality and is located, at its closest, approximately 4 kilometres from the Torne river and the Swedish border. The project area covers 9,140 hectares. The total height of the planned wind turbines will be up to 300 meters. Approximately, their unit power will be 6-10 megawatts and their total capacity will be 252-480 megawatts.

To transmit the produced electricity to the electricity network, a 400 kV transmission line will be built from the windfarm project area to the Petäjäsoski substation. The planned electricity



transmission route will be approximately 52 kilometres long and it will pass through the of City of Tornio, Tervola municipality and the City of Rovaniemi. Alongside the windfarm and the transmission line, a new 400 kV substation will be built in the planned area, and the necessary connecting roads and service roads between wind turbines as well as underground cables or overhead cables and substations between the wind turbines will be renovated or built.

The following alternatives are assessed in the project: no new wind turbines are built (ALT 0), 48 new wind turbines are built (ALT 1) or 42 new wind turbines are built (ALT 2). The electricity transmission route options are located alongside the current Petäjäsoski-Letsi 400 kV transmission line, to the north side (VE A) or to the south side (VE B). In addition, the option VE 0 for electricity transmission, in which the transmission line is not constructed, will be considered.

Environmental impacts of the planned project are assessed in connection with the land use planning process of the component master plan for the Karhakkamaa windfarm.

The EIA procedure in Finland

The Act on Environment Impact Assessment Procedure (252/2017, the EIA Act) and the Decree on Environmental Impact Assessment Procedure (277/2017) regulate the EIA procedure in Finland.

When a land use plan is drawn up for a project referred in Section 3 of the Finnish EIA Act, environmental impacts of the project can be assessed in connection with land use planning process according to Section 9 (245/2017), Subsection 3 of the Land-use Building Act (132/1999).

The public display of the updated EIA report of the planned Karhakkamaa windfarm in Tornio takes place in Finland between 16 October and 16 December 2024.

Participation in the EIA procedure

During the public display of the updated EIA report, a public event will be held in Finland on 21 November 2024 at 18.00-20.00 (a coffee service from 17.30 onwards), at City Council Hall, Suensaarenkatu 4, 95400 Tornio. The event will be bilingual (Finnish and Swedish). It is possible to participate in the event also from Sweden remotely in Teams through the following [link](#).

The updated EIA report in Finnish is available at the following webpage:
<https://www.tornio.fi/asuminen-ja-ymparisto/kaavoitus-ja-mittaus/kaavatori/>.

Please send your response, including acknowledgement of receipt of this letter and comments on the materials, by e-mail to the register office of the Finnish Environment Institute (kirjaamo@syke.fi) and transboundaryEIA.SEA@syke.fi **by 3 January 2025 at the latest** and:

Please indicate our reference number **SYKE/2023/554** in your letter.



More information

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Appendices Karhakkamaa vindkraftspark och kraftledning på 400 kV,
miljökonsekvensbeskrivning

For information Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland
Ministry of the Environment

