



ROYAL NORWEGIAN
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND ENERGY

According to list

Your ref	Our ref	Date
	23/933-1	14.6.2023

Consultation in accordance with the SEA-protocoll article 10

Norway hereby informs you of the consultation of the proposed program for strategic environmental assessment for potential new areas for offshore renewable energy on the Norwegian continental shelf.

The Norwegian Ministry of Petroleum and Energy has sent the proposal on a public consultation of six weeks in Norway and will consequently conduct a six-week consultation according to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (SEA) Article 10. The consultation period will last from 14th of June to 26th of July 2023. The Norwegian Environmental Agency is Norway's national point of contact and we ask that they are copied in on all correspondence regarding this consultation.

Project overview

A group of directorates led by the Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate has identified 20 areas which will be assessed in a strategic environmental assessment in accordance with the Offshore Energy Act. The areas are shown in figure 1. The group of directorates has also proposed two programs for strategic environmental assessments. The first is for the areas Sørvest F og Vestavind F. These two areas are expansions of areas previously opened for offshore energy production. The second program is for the 18 new areas which have been identified.

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Figure 1: Areas which will be assessed in a strategic impact assessment in accordance with the Offshore Energy Act.

The consultation includes three documents. The first document is common guidelines and requirements for the two assessments. The second document is a proposed program for strategic environmental assessment for the two areas Sørvest F and Vestavind F. The third

document is a proposed program for strategic environmental assessment for the 18 new areas.

Potential transboundary impacts

Development of renewable energy, offshore wind being the most likely, can have transboundary effects, especially for birds, fish and marine mammals.

Consultation process

Norway kindly asks the receiving points of contact to do the following, no later than 26th of July 2023:

- To please confirm receipt of this consultation letter
- To distribute the documentation to the relevant authorities
- To submit comments regarding the assessment of the cross-border impacts of your country as a result of the project as being minor and not significant
- To submit any comments from the relevant authorities in your country

Comments should be sent to post@oed.dep.no with copy to espoo@miljodir.no with reference number: 23/933

Consultation material

For your assessment, the following material is attached to this consultation letter:

- Guidelines for the strategic EIA assessments.
- Proposal for the strategic EIA programme for allocation 2025
- Proposal for the strategic EIA programme for 18 identified areas.

For those of you who can read Norwegian, more information is available here: [Forslag til utredningsprogram \(nve.no\)](https://www.nve.no/utredningsprogram).

Yours sincerely

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This document is signed electronically and has therefore no handwritten signature

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