



To points of contact for Espoo Convention in:

Russia
Estonia
Latvia
Lithuania
Poland
Germany
The Netherlands
United Kingdom
Norway
Sweden
Finland

Consultation of concerned authorities and other
stakeholders in accordance with Article 6 in the SEA
protocol regarding the Danish Maritime Spatial Plan

Dear Sir and Madame

Regarding the delimitation of the content of the environmental assessment of the transboundary impacts on the environment as a consequence of the Danish Maritime Spatial Plan, Denmark hereby notifies Russia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Germany, The Netherlands, United Kingdom, Norway, Sweden and Finland about consultation of public authorities

The notification is in accordance with the SEA protocol, article 6 and 9(1)¹ about designation of authorities, since it has been identified that authorities with specific responsibilities within the area of environment or health may be affected.

Information about the Maritime Spatial Plan

Information about the content in the Danish Maritime Spatial Plan and the delimitation of the environmental assessment is given in the document "Report on delimitation of environmental assessment of the Danish Maritime Spatial Plan", which is attached to the e-mail containing this notification.

The Maritime Spatial Plan is prepared in direct connection to the second Danish Marine Strategy. The Maritime Spatial Plan divide the Danish sea area into different zones; Development zones, zones for sea traffic corridors, air traffic zones, nature and environmental protection zones and zones for general use.

This is Denmark's first Maritime Spatial plan. The Maritime Spatial Plan designates substantial areas to renewable energy and nature protection purposes.

¹ Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context. Kiev, 21 May 2003.

The purpose of the designation is to ensure reservation of areas for new offshore windmills and energy islands concurrently with project and technology development, improved economic possibilities, and concurrently with increased demand for renewable energy in the transport sector and other sectors. During preparation of the Maritime Spatial Plan, the possibilities of co-existence between different types of landuse are assessed in relation to, whether different kind of installations or activities can be put into practice in the same area, and whether it can be realised simultaneously or eventually at shifted times.

Environmental assessment of the Maritime Spatial Plan including the time schedule

Assessment of the impacts of the Danish Maritime Spatial Plan on the environment is required in accordance with paragraph 8 (1) in the Danish Legislation on Environmental Assessment². Therefore, drawing of a report on the environmental assessment is required.

We would like to ask you to consult the relevant authorities and stakeholders in your country *from March 26 to April 24, 2020*.

After this period, the strategic environmental assessment of the Maritime Spatial Plan is drawn up, and the strategic environmental assessment is expected to be put out for public consultation for six months from June 2020 to November 2020. When the Maritime Spatial Plan is put out for public consultation, the materials, which are put out for consultation in our affected neighbouring countries, will be translated to the relevant languages. Text in maps will, however, only occur in Danish and English.

Issuing of the final Maritime Spatial Plan with environmental assessment is expected in the quarter of 2021. At that time, the decision can be appealed to the Danish Plank Complaints Board.

The consultation procedure regarding the environmental assessment of the transboundary impacts of the Danish Maritime Spatial Plan follows the same schedule and avenues of complaint.

The following impacts are identified as potentially transboundary:

Impact on maritime traffic and maritime traffic safety, obstruction of routes of migratory birds, displacement of resting sea birds, impacts on marine mammals as a result of underwater noise, marine pollution (oil spill), greenhouse gas emissions and visual changes (see table 1).

² Paragraph no. 1225 on environmental assessment of plans, programmes and specific projects, 25th October 2018.

Table 1: Overview of environmental factors and possible transboundary impacts.

Transboundary impacts	Receptors	Planned usage
Obstruction of routes of migratory birds	Migratory birds	Infrastructure (bridges), energy (renewable)
Displacement of resting birds	Resting sea birds	Infrastructure (oil and gas), energy (renewable and other human activities)
Emission of greenhouse gasses	The Climate	Oil and gas extraction
Sea pollution (oil spill)	Water quality, impact on fish population, marine birds, benthic fauna	Energy, extraction of raw materials, extraction of oil and gas, infrastructure (bridges/tunnels)
Underwater noise (seismic- and piling work)	Marine mammals	Energy (renewable), energy (oil/gas), extraction of raw materials
Visual changes	The population	Energy (renewable), infrastructure (bridges/tunnels)
Hydrographic changes	Oxygen depletion, fish populations	Energy (renewable), infrastructure (bridges/tunnels)
Obstruction of navigation routes	Maritime traffic and maritime traffic safety	Energy (renewable), infrastructure (bridges/tunnels)

Consultation in accordance with Article 6 in the SEA Protocol

Denmark requests response on the following issues *no later than April 30, 2020*:

- Acknowledgement of the receipt of this notification
- Declaration of, whether you want to participate in the processing of the environmental assessment.
- Your remarks on the subjects included in the delimitation of content in the environmental assessment of transboundary impacts, and eventually remarks on further subjects that should be considered in the environmental assessment.

Remarks regarding the planned project and/or the content of the future environmental assessment of transboundary environmental impacts can be sent to

the Danish Environmental Agency at espoo@mst.dk, marked reference number 2020-3411.

Finally, Denmark point out that the consultation materials exclusively is forwarded electronically as e-mail. Additionally, the materials will be available on the website www.havplan.dk.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Helle Eriksen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending to the right.

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