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2025-05-06 Case number:
NV-06840-22

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**Consultation in accordance with Article 5 of the Espoo Convention
on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo
Convention) regarding a planned offshore wind farm "Polargrund Offshore" in
Sweden's territorial waters and exclusive economic zone.**

The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency invited Finland on the 16th of December 2024 to comment on the developers EIA and permit for the "Polargrund offshore" wind farm. Finland replied to the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) with comments received from Finnish authorities and organizations.

In accordance with Articles 5 of the Espoo Convention, Sweden hereby invites Finland to submit comments on Polargrund Offshore ABs replies to received comments from Finland.

Current phase and upcoming process

The developer, Polargrund Offshore AB, has applied for construction, operation and decommissioning of the planned project Polargrund Offshore to the Government regarding permit under the Act (1992:1140) on Sweden's economic zone and to the Environmental Court of Umeå for a permit required in accordance with the Environmental Codes chapter 9 and chapter 11. The EIA for the application is the basis for both permit applications. The transboundary consultations have followed the permit procedure handled by the environmental court as this procedure started first.

The Environmental Court has informed the SEPA that the Swedish Armed Forces have objected to the planned project and that they intend to, in accordance with 21 chap. 7 § of the environmental code, with its own opinion, refer the matter to the Government for examination. Polargrund Offshore AB has not contested the applicability of the provision or that the case should be referred to the Government.

The now relevant consultation presents the developers' replies to previously received comments to the EIA as the final step of consultation before referring to the matter to the Government. Considering this, the court intends to decide the case without an oral hearing.

Sweden kindly asks you to submit your comments **no later than 26th of May 2024** and to:

- provide comments concerning the assessment of the environmental impacts of the project affecting your country.
- submit any comments you might receive from the public and the authorities in your country.

Kindly send the answer to this consultation by e-mail to:
registrator@naturvardsverket.se. Please indicate Case number NV-06840-22 and “Polargrund” in your answer.

This decision has been made digitally and therefore lacks signatures.

For the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

Nanna Wikholm
Head of Unit

Richard Kristoffersson
Point of Contact, Espoo Convention

Attachments (already sent to PoC in Finland):

Injunction issued by the court
Comments from Polargrund Offshore
Cumulative effects concerning maritime matters
Cumulative effects
Appendix K, Consolidated list of terms and conditions
Reply to submitted comments
Response to statements concerning maritime matters
Survey programme for migratory fish
Polargund Offshore Abs reply and written submission