



SWEDISH
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION
AGENCY

2025-06-27

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Case number
NV-25-031396

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Notification pursuant to Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) regarding uptake of manganese nodules from the sea south east of Skellefteå in EEZ the Bothnian Bay in Sweden

According to article 3 point 1 of the Espoo Convention, affected countries shall be notified and consulted on projects that are likely to cause transboundary environmental impacts. As a party of origin, Sweden hereby notifies Finland regarding the plans for uptake of manganese nodules from the seabed in the economical zone (EEZ) in the Bothnian Bay.

Information on the project

The company SOM AB is planning to apply for a permit for uptake of manganese nodules from the seabed within the EEZ in the Bothnian Bay. The actual area is eight square kilometers, and it is located approximately 70 kilometers south east of Skellefteå in the county of Västerbotten (see map on page 17). Within the area 450 000 tonnes of manganese nodules are expected. Potential transboundary effects are dispersion of sediments, clouding, during the process when nodules are harvested and water and sediments are transferred back to the seabed.

The company will apply for a permit in accordance with the Swedish Continental Shelf Act. A potential permit will be issued by the government.

Enclosed to this notification is the suggested scoping of the environmental impact assessment (EIA) in Swedish and in Finnish.

Participating in the transboundary EIA-procedure

Referring to Article 3.3 of the Espoo Convention, Sweden kindly asks Finland to respond **no later than 18 of September 2025** and

1. acknowledge the receipt of the notification,
2. indicate, whether Finland intends to participate in the EIA procedure

3. provide comments concerning the scope for the assessment of the environmental impact of the project on your territory.
4. submit any comments you might receive from the public in Finland.

Kindly send the answer to this notification by e-mail to:

registrator@naturvardsverket.se with a copy to espoo@swedishepa.se Please indicate Case number NV-25-031396 and “manganese nodules” in your answer.

This decision has been made digitally and therefore lacks signatures

For the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

Nanna Wikholm
Head of Unit

Åsa Blomster
Point of Contact, Espoo Convention

Attachments

Consultation document (Swedish and Finnish)

Cc.

Ministry of Climate and Enterprise, Eleonora Rönström