



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF CLIMATE

Finnish Environmental Institute (SYKE)
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Your ref 31.10.2024 SYKE/2024/1695

Our ref 31.03.2025 6-3/24/3651-6

Regarding the environmental impact assessment of
the submarine power cable project EstLink 3 in
Estonia

On 3 September 2024, Estonia sent a notification¹ in accordance with Article 3 of the Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) regarding the project plan by the developer Elering AS (hereinafter *the Developer*) to install a submarine power cable EstLink 3 in the Gulf of Finland. Finland indicated its wish to participate in the environmental impact assessment (hereinafter *EIA*) in a transboundary context.

The Developer intends to install a high-voltage submarine power cable EstLink 3 in the Gulf of Finland. To transmit electrical energy via EstLink 3, up to four cables may be required, depending on the chosen technology: three electrical cables and one fiber-optic communication line. The planned capacity of the submarine power cable is up to 700 MW at a direct current voltage up to 525 kV. The total length of the submarine cable connection is approximately 130 km, of which about 54 km remains within Estonian waters. The cable will be embedded in the seabed sediments at a depth of about 1 to 1,5 meters. Elering AS is applying for a superficies license with a validity of 50 years. The design lifespan of the submarine cable is estimated to be between 40 and 60 years.

Hereby, the Ministry of Climate of Estonia informs that the project of the EstLink 3 submarine power cable has reached the EIA programme stage. The Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority has submitted the EIA programme in English and Finnish (both enclosed). Based on the EIA programme that has been declared compliant, the EIA report will be prepared.

In Estonia, the public display of the EIA programme will take place from 31 March 2025 to 21 April 2025. The public meeting will be held on 23 April 2025 in Sutlepa village in Lääne-Nigula municipality.

The Ministry of Climate of Estonia kindly asks Finland to respond by 31 May 2025 (email: info@kliimaministeerium.ee) at the latest, and to:

- acknowledge the receipt of this letter;
- provide any comments and proposals regarding the assessment of the environmental impacts of the project on your territory;

¹ Letter No 6-3/24/3651-2

- submit any comments you might receive from the public and authorities in your country regarding the EIA programme of the project.

Contacts information

- Developer: Elering AS – Ms. Viktoria Muske, viktoriamuske@elering.ee
- Decision-maker: Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority – Ms. Adeele Vesingi, adeele.vesingi@ttja.ee
- Transboundary EIA procedure: Ministry of Climate – Ms. Lilli Tamm, lilli.tamm@kliimaministerium.ee

Sincerely Yours,

(signed electronically)

Birgit Parmas

Point of Contact for the Espoo Convention

Enclosures:

1. Annex 1 – EIA programme in Finnish
2. Annex 2 – EIA programme in English

For information: Elering AS, Consumer Protection and Technical Regulatory Authority

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