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The Swedish Maritime Administration's observations regarding the planned offshore windfarms off Saeby and Bornholm in Denmark.

Introduction

The Swedish Maritime Administration (SMA) is a governmental agency responsible for availability, accessibility and safety of waters and fairways in Swedish Territorial Waters and within Exclusive Economic Zone. Furthermore the Swedish Maritime Administration (SMA) strives for high quality and environmentally friendly seaborne transportation, for regional growth as well as development of equal and sustainable transport networks and systems.

Comments

The documents present plans for establishing two offshore windfarms off Saeby and Bornholm in Denmark.

As safety of shipping and shipping routes is a primary commitment for the SMA, submitted comments refer mainly to the availability, accessibility and safety of shipping and its surface navigation.

Safety distances

The SMA would like to suggest that, for both windfarms, safety distances are presented between the planned windfarms and fairways in order to avoid future collisions and accidents.

This also includes a specification of what kind/size of vessels should be allowed to pass within the planned shipping corridor of the Saeby windfarm. Pleasure crafts within ship class 1 could have air drafts exceeding 20 meters which is identified as a potential hazard / risk when passing through the windfarms.

The Marine Nautical Institute (MNI) has presented a report regarding marine spatial planning which could serve as guidance considering safety distance from windfarms. The document can be downloaded from this link <http://www.nautinst.org/en/forums/msp/>.

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VHF Radio and radar

The SMA suggests that a survey on the possible impact on VHF band radio is made. VHF channel 70, used for digital safety broadcasting, and also AIS broadcasting are important for the safety of shipping.

Decommissioning

The reports do not describe what eventually will happen with the windfarms when they are decommissioned after 20 to 25 years. There is for example a need to decide future use of the area, after the windfarms are decommissioned, as this can determine the type of foundation to select when constructing the windfarms.

The handling of this matter, decided by the Head of the Infrastructure unit Marielle Svan was made in participation with nautical advisor at the Infrastructure unit Tomasz Krzyński and nautical advisor Johan Eriksson, the latter as reporting officer.

Marielle Svan

Johan Eriksson