



SWEDISH ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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2013-08-28 Case number:
 NV-05464-13

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Comments from the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) on environmental impacts from the wind farm Windanker in the German exclusive economic zone (EEZ)

With increasing establishment of wind farms in the southern Baltic Sea cumulative effects become apparent and planning of the sea becomes vital. Therefore the EIA for the Windanker wind farm should include existing and planned wind parks in the area as well as an account of cumulative effects on migrating and feeding species, in particular birds. The planning ought to include proposals for migration corridors. Suggestions of what such corridors would look like, width, directions etc need to be further elaborated and presented in the EIA.

According to the document "*Maritime environment study for the application of the Windanker offshore wind farm*", cranes (*Grus grus*) migrating from Sweden to Rugen pass through the wind park area. A study of the full spring and autumn migration (including flight altitudes) of cranes needs to be conducted before the wind park can be accepted.

The harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) is critically endangered in the Baltic Sea and the population consists most probably of only a few hundred individuals. Genetic studies indicate that the Baltic population is genetically isolated and hence special caution need to be applied in management. An account of mitigation measures during the construction phase, such as scaring

devices or use of so called bubble curtains, should be applied and described in the EIA.

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