

Authority services

5 May 2026

SYKE/2026/607
Public

Points of Contact for Notification in
Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Germany,
Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland and Sweden

Notification in accordance with Article 10 of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) regarding the local detailed plan and its amendment (Sorsasalo), Finland

In accordance with Article 10, Paragraph 1 of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Protocol on SEA), Finland, as the Party of origin, hereby notifies your state regarding the local detailed plan and its amendment (Sorsasalo) in the City of Kuopio, Finland. In addition to the Protocol on SEA, the notification is sent in accordance with Article 7, Paragraph 1 of Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (SEA Directive).

Information on the planned land use plan

The preparation of the detailed local plan and its amendment concerning the Sorsasalo industrial area has been initiated. The planning area is located in the northern part of the central urban area of Kuopio. The currently valid local detailed plan for the area was mainly prepared for the Finnpulp bio product factory. The aim of the local detailed plan and its amendment is to create an area that allows diverse industrial functions as well as to consider the amendment needs of the operators in the area. In addition, plans are underway for a potential small modular reactor (SMR) plant for district heating for Kuopion Energia Oy and a renewable fuel plant for KIC InnoEnergy S.E. The construction of the latter would also be possible with the currently valid local detailed plan. In parallel in separate procedures, the possibilities for locating a similar facility in the Hepomäki area is examined. In addition, a separate environmental impact assessment (EIA) procedure is undertaken for the SMR project.

Regarding the local detailed plan, no alternative plans were prepared, as two ongoing major projects and the terrain largely determine the area's solution. The impacts of the amendment are assessed compared to the valid local detailed plan. The plan area is covered by the local master plan for the central urban area of Kuopio, which has been approved in 2000. The plan area is covered by local detailed plans approved in 2000 and in 2016. However, there are properties in the south-eastern side of Lukkosalmentie and a property in Kallavesi which do not have a valid local detailed plan.

As part of the planning process, the impacts on the built environment, traffic impacts, impacts on nature and the natural environment, impacts on climate, social impacts and impacts on children, cultural impacts, impacts on safety and land use restrictions and economic impacts are examined.

The land use planning procedure in Finland

In terms of land use planning, the SEA Directive has been implemented to the Land Use Act (132/1999) and the Decree (895/1999) in Finland. The Land Use Act and the Decree regulate land use planning procedure, such as the assessment of the impacts of land use planning on the environment.

The planning process for the local detailed plan is currently at the preparation phase. At this phase, the draft plan and its preparatory materials have been prepared. The public display of the draft plan and its preparatory materials take place in Finland from 8 April to 8 May 2026. The responsible land use planning authority in Finland for this land use plan is the City of Kuopio. The preparation phase will be followed by the proposal phase, which is planned for late 2026. The next stage of the process is approval, which is expected in early 2027. The land use plan is expected to come into force late 2027.

Participation in the land use planning procedure

Finland is currently planning its first SMR project. Finland is committed to apply the precautionary principle and to ensure that possible transboundary environmental impacts are considered. Finland has made the consideration to notify Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland and Sweden.

The draft plan and its preparatory materials are available in Swedish and English. The participation and assessment scheme, and a description of land use planning system in Finland are available in Danish, English, Estonian, German, Latvian, Lithuanian, Norwegian, Polish and Swedish. The documents, which have been prepared by the land use planning authority, can be downloaded from the following shared folder: <https://filesender.funet.fi/?s=download&token=9c1ab5c6-5076-48ae-908c-90d85fb7cbd5>. The shared folder expires on 26 May 2026. The preparatory material for the plan is also available at the following webpage, which is maintained by the land use planning authority: <https://www.kuopio.fi/en/environment-and-housing/urban-planning/planning-of-a-district-heating-small-modular-reactor/>. The documents in Finnish are available at the above-mentioned webpage.

Referring to Article 10, Paragraph 3 of the Protocol on SEA, please send the response to the e-mail of the register office of the Finnish Environment Institute (kirjaamo@syke.fi) and to the e-mail address of the Point of Contact in Finland (transboundaryEIA.SEA@syke.fi) by **17 June 2026 at the latest** and:

- acknowledge the receipt of the notification,
- indicate whether your state intends to participate in the SEA procedure,
- indicate the preferred document language,
- provide views and comments on the material,
- submit any comments you might receive from the public, authorities and others concerned in your state.

Please indicate our reference number SYKE/2026/607 in your letter.

More information

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Protocol on SEA: Finnish Environment Institute, Laura Aitala-Martesuo, transboundaryEIA.SEA@syke.fi

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and the Protocol on SEA

Laura Aitala-Martesuo

This document has been electronically signed. The electronic signatures can be verified from the register office of the Finnish Environment Institute.

Appendices

2119_2025 Local detailed plan description_English.pdf (1.7 MB)
 2119_2025 Local detailed plan description_Swedish.pdf (1.7 MB)
 2119_2025 Land use plan draft_English.pdf (2.1 MB)
 2119_2025 Land use plan draft_Swedish.pdf (2.1 MB)
 2119_2025 Land use planning system in Finland_Danish.pdf (30.5 kB)
 2119_2025 Land use planning system in Finland_English.pdf (26.5 kB)
 2119_2025 Land use planning system in Finland_Estonian.pdf (26 kB)
 2119_2025 Land use planning system in Finland_German.pdf (27.6 kB)
 2119_2025 Land use planning system in Finland_Latvian.pdf (28.2 kB)
 2119_2025 Land use planning system in Finland_Lithuanian.pdf (27.9 kB)
 2119_2025 Land use planning system in Finland_Norwegian.pdf (29.6 kB)
 2119_2025 Land use planning system in Finland_Polish.pdf (27.8 kB)
 2119_2025 Land use planning system in Finland_Swedish.pdf (27.2 kB)
 2119_2025 Participation and assessment scheme_Danish.pdf (503 kB)
 2119_2025 Participation and assessment scheme_English.pdf (439.3 kB)
 2119_2025 Participation and assessment scheme_Estonian.pdf (429.9 kB)
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 2119_2025 Participation and assessment scheme_Latvian.pdf (412 kB)
 2119_2025 Participation and assessment scheme_Lithuanian.pdf (414 kB)
 2119_2025 Participation and assessment scheme_Norwegian.pdf (534.2 kB)
 2119_2025 Participation and assessment scheme_Polish.pdf (460.3 kB)
 2119_2025 Participation and assessment scheme_Swedish.pdf (430.4 kB)

Send list

as per send list on the following page

For information

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