

Authority services

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Public

Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
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Consultation in accordance with Article 10 of the SEA Protocol regarding the Government of Åland's master plan proposal and environmental report for the establishment of offshore wind power in the northern waters of Åland

In accordance with Article 10 of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (SEA Protocol) and with Article 7 of the Directive 2001/24/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, Finland hereby consults Sweden regarding the Government of Åland's master plan proposal and environmental report for the establishment of offshore wind power in the northern waters of Åland.

Information on the Sunnavind master plan for wind power

The Sunnavind project was launched by the Government of Åland in 2021 and represents a further development of the two northernmost energy zones identified in the marine spatial plan. In autumn 2023, work began on the planning and environmental assessment of the Sunnavind master plan.

The master plan for Sunnavind is planned and established as a master plan with legal effect in accordance with Section 21 of the planning and building Act for Åland (plan och bygglag (2008/102) för landskapet Åland), which can be used as a basis for granting building permits.

The maximum building rights are stipulated by the maximum permitted number of wind turbines and the maximum height. A total of 301 wind turbines is planned to be permitted within six wind power areas, covering a total area of approximately 1,230 square kilometres. The number of wind turbines is indicative for the individual properties but binding for the wind power area. This means that if, following more detailed assessments, any area within a particular property or municipality is found to be unsuitable for construction, these turbines may be planned within other properties or municipalities, provided they remain within the total wind power area. The permitted maximum height of the turbines is 350 metres above mean sea level, which has been used as a basis for the impact assessment in the environmental report.

The SEA procedure

Finland notified Sweden on 14 May 2025 about the Government of Åland's project Sunnavind master plan for enabling offshore wind power and the strategic environmental assessment of the plan, and Sweden replied on 28 April 2025 that Sweden intends to participate in the further

planning procedure since the plan likely has transboundary impact on Sweden's environment and Swedish interests. Sweden also sent comments from the stakeholders.

This consultation concerns the Government of Åland's Sunnanvind project's report on the comments received within the framework of the international consultation which the Government of Åland conducted regarding the draft master plan and the draft environmental report for the establishment of offshore wind power in the northern sea areas of Åland.

The report aims to describe the conduct of the international consultation, the comments received and the Government of Åland's position regarding the comments received during the process. The comments received have been an important part of the planning process in highlighting the need for various studies and analyses ahead of the final drafting of the master plan proposal and the environmental report. The stakeholders are invited to submit comments on the report and the revised master plan proposal.

Once the content of the master plan proposal has been approved by the Government of Åland, the aim is for a master plan proposal to be submitted to the relevant municipalities for consideration. The component master plans will only come into force once the municipal council in each municipality has adopted the component master plan proposal for its area. Parties who have expressed an interest in following the progress of the plan will be provided with the adopted component master plans once the respective municipality has adopted the proposal.

Participation in the procedure

The master plan proposal and its appendices can be downloaded from FileSender link:

<https://filesender.funet.fi/?s=download&token=b88adf20-e4e0-4efa-9089-e2e7d4688093>

The master plan proposal and its appendices can also be found on the Government of Åland's website for the Sunnanvind project: <https://www.sunnanvind.ax/sv/generalplanforslag>.

Please send the response by email to the Register Office of the Finnish Environment Institute (kirjaamo@syke.fi) and transboundaryEIA.SEA@syke.fi by **10 July 2026 at the latest** and:

- acknowledge the receipt of the consultation letter and the attachments,
- provide views and comments on the material,
- submit any comments you might receive from the relevant stakeholders in your country.

Please indicate our reference number **SYKE/2025/951** in your letter.

More information

Responsible SEA authority: Government of Åland, Specialist in water management Susanne Vävare, susanne.vavare@regeringen.ax

Protocol on SEA: Finnish Environment Institute, Senior Officer Hanne Rajanen, transboundaryEIA.SEA@syke.fi

Head of services

Jenni Juslén

Senior officer,
Point of Contact to the Espoo Convention
and the Protocol on SEA

Hanne Rajanen

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

Appendices	Planbeskrivning daterad_21052026 Översiktlig plankarta daterad_21052026 Bilaga 1. Medverkans- och informeringsplan samt samrådsunderlag inför avgränsningssamråd (MIP) Bilaga 2. Samrådsredogörelse (MIP) Bilaga 3. Miljörapport Bilaga 4. Bedömningsgrunder Bilaga 5. Underlagsutredning Miljögifter i sediment Bilaga 6. Underlagsutredning Bottenhabitat, naturtyper och bentiska samhällen Bilaga 7. Underlagsutredning: Radar surveillance and visual observations of bird migration at Åland 2024 Bilaga 7. Underlagsutredning: Radarbevakning och visuella observationer av fågelmigration på Åland 2024 Bilaga 8. Underlagsutredning Häckande, rastande, födosökande och övervint- rande fåglar Bilaga 9. Underlagsutredning Fladdermusinventering Bilaga 10. Underlagsutredning Natura 2000-områden och marina däggdjur Bilaga 11. Underlagsutredning Synbarhetsanalys Bilaga 12. Kulturmiljö och landskapsbild Bilaga 13. Underlagsutredning Yrkesfiske Bilaga 14. Underlagsutredning Sjöfartsanalys Bilaga 15. Underlagsutredning Driftbullenutredning Bilaga 16. Underlagsutredning Visualiseringar Bilaga 17. Kompletterande underlagsutredning fågel Bilaga 18. Kompletterande underlagsutredning sjöfart Bilaga 19. Samrådsredogörelse generalplanutkast Bilaga 20. Redogörelse ESBO hörande Bilaga 21. Icke-teknisk sammanfattning av generalplanförslag och miljörapport
For information	Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland Ministry of the Environment Government of Åland