



SWEDISH
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION
AGENCY

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Sweden's response to the notification in accordance with Article 10 of the protocol for strategic environmental assessment to the Espoo convention regarding the local detailed plan Hepomäki, Kuopio city Finland, SYKE/2026/606

The Swedish Environmental protection Agency (SEPA) has been notified by Finland regarding the local detailed plan and its amendment for Hepomäki. The notification is pursuant to Article 10 in the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Sweden acknowledge that the notification has been received and inform that Sweden would like to take part in the further environmental assessment procedure. Views and comments on the plan and the assessment is presented below.

Consultation in Sweden

The document for consultation has been circulated for consideration to Swedish central government agencies, three county administrative boards, non-governmental organizations and the public during the period from 8 of May until 12 of June. The documentation has also been published on the SEPA website.

The Swedish EPA is the authority responsible for fulfilling the obligations following from, inter alia, Article 10 in the protocol (SEA) to the Espoo convention. However, SEPA does not evaluate the consultations received with a view to presenting an overall Swedish position. For a comprehensive view of the comments received during the consultations, we refer to the enclosed statements.

Comments received

A brief summary of the statements with comments is provided below, please note that the summary is written by the Swedish EPA and not the referred body. All statements are attached and must be read in full text.

The Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning assesses that the risk of sabotage against nuclear activities has increased. This may justify mutual information sharing between affected countries in the event of a risk of radiological releases, in accordance with existing conventions for peacetime accidents. The planning and measures for industrial areas with SMR operations

may include radiological detection, monitoring stations, as well as provisions for emergency services, transportation, healthcare, and potential evacuation and accommodation.

The Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management assesses that, under normal operation, the activity is not expected to result in significant transboundary effects on Swedish aquatic environments. However, given the lack of established practice for SMR facilities, the Agency wishes to participate in the forthcoming consultation process, with particular focus on risks in the event of an accident that may affect Swedish interests.

The Swedish Food Agency considers that Sweden should be given the opportunity to review and provide comments. The environmental impact assessment should include an analysis of severe accident scenarios, including the risk of radionuclide dispersion and consequences for drinking water and food production, also in relation to EU limit values.

The Swedish Radiation Safety Authority requests to participate in the continued environmental assessment process and to take part in the environmental impact assessment, including an account of potential transboundary impacts in the event of a severe accident.

The Swedish Forest Agency assesses that the matter does not concern its areas of responsibility or statutory duties and therefore submits no comments.

The County Administrative Board of Västerbotten has no opinion on whether the planning area in Hepomäki is suitable as a site for a small-scale nuclear power plant for district heating and sees no need to continue participating in the process.

The County Administrative Board of Stockholm County assesses that there is no need for Sweden to participate in the continued environmental assessment process of the local master plan.

Swedish Civil Defense and Resilience Agency, The Swedish Energy Agency, The County Administrative Board of Uppsala County, The County Administrative Board of Gävleborg and The County Administrative Board of Norrbotten County have no comments.

Conclusion and summary

Sweden acknowledge the notification and hereby informs that Sweden intends to participate in the SEA procedure.

The decision has been made electronically and there is no need for signatures.

For the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

Nanna Wikholm
Head of Unit

Åsa Blomster
Point of Contact for the Espoo protocol

Attachment with comments from:

The Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management

The Swedish Board of Agriculture

The Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning

The Swedish Radiation Safety Authority

The Swedish Food Agency

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Ministry of Climate and Enterprise, Ebba Kvernebo Sunnegren