



Authority Services

11 September 2026

SYKE/2023/554

Public

Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
Åsa Blomster
espoo@swedishepa.se
asa.blomster@swedishepa.se

Consultation in accordance with Article 10 of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Protocol on SEA) to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) regarding the component master plan in Tornio, Finland

In accordance with Article 10 of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Protocol on SEA) to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) Finland as the Party of origin hereby invites Sweden to provide comments on the plan proposal for the component master plan in Tornio regarding the wind farm Karhakkamaa. In addition to the Protocol on SEA, the letter is sent in accordance with Article 7 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).

Finland has conducted transboundary consultations with Sweden regarding the wind farm Karhakkamaa project and its associated 400 kV transmission line under the Espoo Convention and the Protocol on SEA. On 23 January 2024, Finland invited Sweden to provide comments on the environmental impact assessment (EIA) report and the component master plan. On 5 April 2024, Sweden sent the comments to Finland regarding the EIA report and component master plan and wished to continue the consultations. On 23 April 2024, the competent EIA authority, the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Lapland (ELY Centre of Lapland) considered the EIA report to be inadequate, and a request was made for it to be supplemented. On 11 October 2024, Finland invited Sweden to provide further comments. On 3 January 2025, Sweden sent the response and comments to Finland and wished to continue the consultation.

Information on the land use plan

Tornio Karhakkamaa Tuuli Ky is planning a wind farm in the area comprising a maximum of 46 wind turbines. The wind farm is planned to consist of wind turbines with foundations, substations and underground cables and roads connecting the turbines. Internal electricity transmission within the land use plan area will be implemented through underground cabling. The land use plan area is located in the City of Tornio, approximately 32 kilometres north of the centre of Tornio. The distance to the centre of Ylitornio is approximately 17 kilometres. At the current proposal stage, the plan area covers approximately 9,537 hectares, whereas during the preparation stage it covered 9,140 hectares. As a result, the turbines have been relocated further south from the vicinity of the Ylitornio municipal boundary. The northwesternmost turbine, located closest to the Swedish border, has been removed.

The nearest built-up area is located in Karunki, at its closest approximately 9.7 kilometres south of the land use plan area, and in the centre of Ylitornio, at its closest approximately 13.9 kilometres northwest of the plan area. On the Swedish side of the border, the nearest built-up areas are Karunki, located approximately 12 kilometres south of the plan area, and Hietaniemi, located approximately 11 kilometres northwest of the plan area.

The land use planning procedure

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 component master plan is currently at the proposal stage. At this stage, the plan proposal and related materials have been prepared. The public display of the plan proposal will take place in Finland from 16 September to 16 November 2026. Responses will be prepared to the comments received during the proposal stage. If no amendments are required, the plan will proceed to the approval stage, which is expected to take place in late 2026.

The purpose of the local master planning process for the wind farm is to enable the construction of wind turbines in the area. There is currently no land use plan in force within the planning area that would permit the construction of the wind farm. The project therefore requires the preparation of a component master plan. Previously, the EIA and land use planning were conducted as a joint procedure. The EIA report was made available to the public, after which the responsible EIA authority issued its reasoned conclusion on the EIA report.

Participation in the land use planning process

The draft plan materials are available in Finnish 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=fd9c0a2d-7348-4976-976d-1b96065df342>. The shared folder expires on 23 September 2026. The documents will also be available in Finnish and Swedish on the following webpage: <https://www.tornio.fi/karhakkamaan-tuulivoimaosayleiskaava/>. In addition, a link to the before mentioned webpage will be available on the following webpage: <https://www.tornio.fi/kaava-tori/>.

During the public display of the plan proposal, a public meeting will be held in Finland on 7 October 2026 at 5:00 p.m. (Finnish time) onwards at Karunki School (address: Jokivarrentie 2369, Tornio). Coffee will be served from 4:30 p.m. onwards. A public meeting will be held in Sweden on 8 October 2026 at 5:00 p.m. (Swedish time) onwards at Karunki församlingshem (address: Kyrkholmsvägen 54, Karunki). Coffee will be served from 4:30 pm onwards. An interpreter for Finnish and Swedish will take part in the public meeting in Sweden. It is also possible to participate in the meetings remotely using the following links: [link in Finland](#) and [link in Sweden](#).

Please send your response, including acknowledgement of receipt of this letter and comments on the materials, by e-mail to 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 **14 December 2026** at the latest. Please indicate our reference number **SYKE/2023/554** in your letter.

Further information

Land use planning authority: City of Tornio, City Architect Harri Ryyänen, harri.ryynanen@tornio.fi

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

Senior Officer,
Point of Contact to the Espoo Convention
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

Materials in Swedish:

- Plankarta för förslaget till generalplan
- Planbeskrivning
- Bilaga 1 Program för deltagande och bedömning
- Bilaga 2d Synpunkter internationella samrådet och ett gemensamt bemötande
- Bilaga 2f Svenska yttranden över planförslaget samt myndighetens bemötanden
- Bilaga 3a Svar på yttranden
- Bilaga 3b PDB respons, synpunkter från Finland
- Bilaga 3c Respons PDB, åsikter från Sverige
- Motiverad slutsats

Materials in Finnish:

- Kaavaehdotuskartta
- Kaavaselostus
- Liite 1 Osallistumis- ja arviointisuunnitelma
- Liite 2a Kaavaluonnoksesta Suomesta saatu palaute ja vastineet
- Liite 2c Kaavaluonnoksesta Suomesta saadut mielipiteet ja niiden vastineet
- Liite 2d Kaavaluonnoksen kv-kuulemisessa saadut mielipiteet ja yhteisvastine
- Liite 3a Vastineet lausuntoihin
- Liite 3b OAS palaute, mielipiteet Suomesta
- Liite 3c OAS palaute, mielipiteet Ruotsista
- Liite 4 Perustellun päätelmän huomioiminen
- Liite 5 Luonto- ja linnustoselvitys
- Liite 6 HIA-selvitys
- Liite 7 Arkeologinen inventointiraportti
- Liite 8 Arkeologinen täydennysinventointi
- Liite 9 Näkemäalueanalyysi ja havainnekuvat
- Liite 10 Melu- ja varjostusmallinnusraportti
- Liite 13 Viitasammakkoselvitys
- Perusteltu päätelmä

Send list

Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

For information

Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland
Ministry of the Environment
City of Tornio