

To Espoo Point of Contact in

Sweden Norway Landskab og Skov J.nr. 2020 - 23574 Ref. SIZI Den 5. februar 2021

## Notification in accordance with Article 10 of the protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Espoo convention regarding the plan and Strategic Environmental Assessment for Hesselø Offshore Wind Farm in Denmark

Denmark hereby informs you about the upcoming consultation in connection with the scoping phase for the plan and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) regarding Hesselø Offshore Wind Farm (OWF). The hearing material is described below, please see 'List of documentations.

As announced in our previous letter from the 5 January 2021, the scoping phase for Hesselø OWF is scheduled to start on 12 February 2021. The Danish Energy Agency will conduct a public hearing of 5 weeks in Denmark and consequently a corresponding 5 weeks Espoo hearing according to article 10 of the protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Espoo-convention. The consultation period is scheduled to be conducted **from 12 February to 19 March 2021**.

Hesselø OWF is to be placed north of Zealand in Hesselø Bay in the Kattegat at a distance of 32 km from Zealand and around 20 km from the small island Hesselø. The wind farm will have an installed capacity of between 800-1.200 MW and mustbe fully commissioned by the end of 2027. The Danish Energy Agency plans to launch the tendering process in 2021, with the announcement of the winner of the tender at the end of 2022.

On 2 July 2020, the Minister for Climate, Energy and Utilities instructed the Danish TSO Energinet to carry out, among other things, a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the plan for Hesselø OWF and an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for all onshore facilities. The SEA of the plan for Hesselø OWF and the EIA of the onshore facilities are expected to be performed and approved in Q3 2022.

The environmental assessment process for Hesselø OWF will include:

 Prior to final bids (Today – 1<sup>st</sup> semester 2022): Completion of a SEA of the plan for Hesselø OWF that meets the requirements in the Act of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Danish SEA Act).

- *Prior to final bids:* Completion of additional environmental surveys and studies in addition to the requirements imposed for a SEA in order to provide critical data for as much risk mitigation as possible for Hesselø OWF site prior to final bids.
- *Prior to final bids (Today 1<sup>st</sup> semester 2022):* An EIA of the specific project onshore from the landfall in Gilbjerg Hoved and onwards to the point of connection in Hovegård Højspændingsstation.
- *Q4 2022:* Deadline for final bids and announcement of the concession winner.
- After final bids: An EIA of the specific project offshore and up to the landfall is to be carried out after the concession winner has been appointed, and a specific project has been described in sufficient detail. The concession winner is to carry out and complete the project-specific EIA offshore. The EIA report must comply with current regulations in the Environmental Assessment Act, and there must be relevant consultations etc. An approved environmental impact assessment report is required before the Danish Energy Agency can issue a licence for construction of the offshore wind farm.

## List of documentations:

- Idéoplæg Hesselø Havvindmøllepark Indkaldelse af idéer og forslag til afgrænsning af Strategisk miljøvurdering (SMV) af plan for Hesselø Havvindmøllepark og Miljøvurdering (VVM) for landanlæg til Hesselø Havvindmøllepark *(in Danish – attached to the present letter)*.
- A draft of the "Udtalelse om afgrænsning af miljørapport (SMV) for planen for Hesselø Havvindmøllepark" (*in Danish*)" as well as a draft of the "Plan for Hesselø Havvindmøllepark til brug for Strategisk Miljøvurdering" (*in Danish*) can be downloaded from the Danish Energy Agency's website <u>here</u> (available from the 12 February 2021, when the public consultation begins).

You can also read more about the Hesselø OWF tender <u>here</u>.

Denmark, as Party of origin, kindly asks you to answer to the following **no later than 19 March 2021**:

- Please acknowledge receipt of the present notification and let us know if you wish to participate in the SEA-process,
- Please submit any comments you might have concerning the hearing material.

Please kindly send your comments to <u>Espoo@mst.dk</u> (with reference to journal number **2020-23574**).

## For more information about the SEA for Hesselø OWF:

The Danish Energy Agency Carsten Niebuhrs Gade 43 DK-1577 København V Denmark Contact person: Randi Lucie Aliaga Phone: +45 33 92 78 35 E-mail: <u>rla@ens.dk</u>

If you have any questions regarding Hesselø OWF related to the Espoo consultation, do not hesitate to contact us for clarifications at <u>Espoo@mst.dk</u> (with reference to journal number 2020-23574).

Kind regards,

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