

NV-05464-13

Consultation regarding German plans on the windfarm Windanker at Rügen in accordance with the environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context.

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#### I. Viewpoints

The National Defence Radio Establishment (FRA) Offers – against the background of a question about the establishment of wind power on German water – no viewpoints about the notice.

FRA does want to inform the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency of the following:

#### Classified national interest for Sweden's overall defence

FRA's facilities with a system for electronic surveillance have been identified by the Armed Forces as being of national interest for Sweden's total defence according to chap. 3 § 9 of the environmental code. The area that is of national interest for Sweden's total defence should, according to the cited paragraph, be safeguarded against actions that markedly can obstruct utilisation of the facilities. Information about the surveillance sectors and frequency bands within which electronic surveillance operates as well as information about the sites from which electronic surveillance is carried out is covered by confidentiality, according to chap. 15 § 2 of the Public Access to Information and Secrecy Act (2009:400). From this information, conclusions can be drawn about the type of operations, means, methods and capability, among other things, and that presumably could damage the country's defences or in some other way compromise the country's security if the information is disclosed.

#### Negative impact on the national interest for total defence

The technical system and ancillary facilities for electronic surveillance that are affected negatively by the proposed establishment are encompassed, as mentioned above, by confidentiality and thus cannot be openly disclosed or more fully described.

Establishment of wind farms on both the Polish and Swedish parts of the Southern Middle Banks, or adjacent to the Southern Middle Banks, runs counter to the interests and needs of Sweden's total defence. The wind farms will bring about disruptions in FRA's technical system for electronic surveillance and thereby impede FRA's ability to fulfil the mission mandated by the government.

#### II. General information on FRA

FRA is a government agency under the Ministry of Defence with about 700 employees and a head office on Lovö outside Stockholm. FRA is part of the Swedish intelligence service charged with conducting electronic surveillance in accord with the law (2008:717) on electronic surveillance in defence intelligence service activities and associated provisions under the law. FRA also works to strengthen information security within critical social functions that deal with sensitive information by testing the vulnerability of IT systems, among other things.

**FRA conducts electronic surveillance with the aim of surveying external military threats, threats against Swedish personnel during international initiatives, international terrorism, foreign intelligence activities opposed to Swedish interests and other international circumstances of importance to Swedish foreign, security and defence policies. All electronic surveillance is oriented towards foreign situations and takes place on behalf of the government, the Government Offices of Sweden, the Armed Forces, the Swedish Security Service and the National Criminal Police. Permission from the Defence Intelligence Court is required for all electronic surveillance.**

**FRA fulfils its electronic surveillance mission by collecting signals in electronic form at a number of facilities in different places in Sweden as well as from aircraft and ships. The collection of electronic intelligence is susceptible to disruption. The agencies making the assignment (government, etc.) have an on-going need for intelligence reporting, and electronic surveillance operations continuously contribute to the protection of Sweden and Swedish interests. In order to satisfy national security interests, it is therefore of critical importance to protect facilities for electronic surveillance from disruption.**