



Vides pārraudzības valsts birojs

Environment State Bureau of the Republic of Latvia

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Riga

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Ref. to: February 27, 2019 No (10)-D8-792

Espoo focal point:

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Regarding the notification of the proposed wind farm

Environment State Bureau (hereinafter – the Bureau), acting as a competent authority on environmental impact assessment (hereinafter – EIA) in Latvia, confirms receipt of the notification that was sent about the proposed wind farm near the border of the Republic of Latvia (hereinafter – The Project). The Project is planned in Mažeikiai district, Reivyčiai Ward, Kabaldikai and Tulnikiai Villages, approximately 0,8 km from the border of the Republic of Latvia.

Having assessed the notification, we conclude that The Project is planned as an expansion of an existing wind power park that consists of 19 wind turbines (the total planned amount of wind turbines after The Project – 23). We also conclude, that the closest municipality in the territory of Latvia, that could have negative impacts on its territory – is the same municipality (Saldus county) that could be affected by the cumulative impacts of the projects of similar nature, that were addressed in the letter of the Bureau of March 5, 2019 No 5-01/180 (reference to the notification of January 29, 2019 No (10)-D8-387). To some extent the possible impacts on environment, in particular – on landscape as well as bird and bat mortality risk from collisions with wind turbines, can be cumulative. Since the summary in English is very concentrated and does not reflect findings in this field (total and cumulative impacts with other projects), we remain cautious that a more profound assessment of impacts is necessary.

During the consultation phase of The Project we received comments and opinions regarding the possible impacts on the environment from Environmental Service, Nature Conservation Agency and Saldus County (the bordering municipality). Most concerns were repeatedly expressed by Environmental Service (impact on birds and bats) and the local municipality, in particular – the impact on the landscape, the flickering effect and low frequency noise, as well as impact on the aviation.

The Bureau agrees with the concerns expressed during the consultation phase, and sustain the opinion expressed by the Bureau in the letter No 5-01/180 of March 5, 2019 (as a reference to notification of January 29, 2019 No (10)-D8-387). Latvia remains cautious regarding The Project, especially the possible cumulative effects on the environment from numerous projects of similar

nature close to Latvian border. Therefore, we intend to participate in the EIA process, if EIA will be applied.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Arnolds Lukšēvics
Director of Environment State Bureau of the Republic of Latvia

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