

FEDERAL MARITIME AND HYDROGRAPHIC AGENCY

BSH · P.O. Box 30 12 20 · 20305 Hamburg · Germany

Responsible authority/  
Designated ESPOO Contact Point  
Please refer to attached list



BUNDESAMT FÜR  
SEESCHIFFFAHRT  
UND  
HYDROGRAPHIE

Hamburg Office

**On behalf of the Federal Ministry of the Interior,  
for Building and Community**

**Participation of neighbouring states in the second draft of the maritime spatial plan for the German exclusive economic zone in the North Sea and the Baltic Sea and the revised environmental reports pursuant to section 9 subsection 3 and subsection 4 sentence 3 of the German Spatial Development Act (ROG) and sections 60, 61 of the German Environmental Impact Assessment Act (UVPG); SEA Protocol**

**Opportunity to comment on certain amendments**

Date  
4 June 2021  
Extension  
+ 49 (0) 40 3190 - 6110  
Reference  
(please quote in your answer)  
080001-5442-001

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH), on behalf of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, for Building and the Home Affairs (BMI), is initiating the cross-border participation of the authorities and the public in the second draft of the update of the maritime spatial plans and the revised environmental reports.

### **Information on the procedure**

The BMI, which is responsible for maritime spatial planning in the German exclusive economic zone (EEZ) in the North Sea and the Baltic Sea, informed the public in a letter dated 19 June 2019 about the planned update of the 2009 maritime spatial plans. With the approval of the BMI, the BSH is carrying out the preparatory steps for the revision.

The littoral states of the North Sea and the Baltic Sea were notified of the revision of the 2009 maritime spatial plans in a letter dated 10 March 2020. There was an opportunity to comment on the conception of the revision and during the scoping of the strategic environmental assessment as part of early participation. An early international consultation meeting was held on 24 April 2020. The scoping framework for carrying out the strategic environmental assessment was determined on 17 September 2020.



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Subsequently, the draft of the new maritime spatial plan and the environmental reports were prepared.

Participation of national authorities and the public on the draft plan and the environmental reports was initiated on 25 September 2020.

International participation on the draft plan and the environmental reports was initiated with the notification of 4 December 2020. Public authorities and the public of neighbouring countries had the opportunity to comment on the consultation documents until 15 January 2021.

Comments were received from Great Britain (England), the Netherlands, Sweden, Poland, Latvia and Estonia, while Belgium, Denmark and Ireland requested further participation without submitting comments.

As a result of the national and international consultation, the BMI and the BSH have revised the draft spatial plan and coordinated it with the federal ministries concerned. The environmental reports were also revised accordingly as part of the strategic environmental assessment.

### **Publication of documents**

The following documents are available on the BSH website:

[https://www.bsh.de/EN/TOPICS/Offshore/Maritime\\_spatial\\_planning/Revision/revision\\_node.html](https://www.bsh.de/EN/TOPICS/Offshore/Maritime_spatial_planning/Revision/revision_node.html)

- The second draft of the spatial development plan, fully translated into English, Polish and Danish,
- The maps in English translation, as well as the plan map legend in English, Polish and Danish,
- the full English translation of the revised environmental report for the North Sea and the Baltic Sea,
- the full Polish translation of the revised environmental report for the Baltic Sea, and
- the Danish translation of the executive summary of the revised environmental report for the North Sea and the Baltic Sea.

### **Possible comments on certain amendments to the draft plan**

The provisions of national law provide the public and public bodies with the opportunity to comment **only** on those amendments to the draft plan which affect their interests for the first time or to a greater extent than the previous draft plan. Amendments that may trigger first-time or more severe effects are mainly found in:

- Chapter 2.1 (Shipping)
- Chapter 2.2.2 (Wind energy)
- Chapter 2.4 (Protection and enhancement of the marine environment)

To make the amendments easier to find, an additional version of the environmental reports has been published on the BSH website at the above link in which these amendments have been identified.

You have the opportunity to comment on the amendments to the draft plan that affect your concerns for the first time or more strongly than in the previous draft, as well as on the corresponding amendments to the environmental reports, until **30 June 2021**.

Please address the comments to:

Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency  
Department O/O33 (Management of the Sea)  
Bernhard-Nocht-Str. 78  
20359 Hamburg

or by e-mail to [EingangOdM@bsh.de](mailto:EingangOdM@bsh.de)

In principle, all comments submitted in the procedure will be published on the BSH website. If you do not agree with publication, please submit an additional redacted version suitable for publication. A list of all comments submitted will be published.

In addition, there will be an opportunity to ask questions in English. The purpose of the meeting is to exchange information.

It will take place as an online conference

**on 15 June 2021.**

If you are interested in participating, please register at the above addresses or by e-mailing [EingangOdM@bsh.de](mailto:EingangOdM@bsh.de) by **11 June 2021**. The agenda and dial-in details will be made available to registered participants before the conference.

I kindly ask the relevant spatial planning authority or the designated Espoo contact points to make the consultation documents available to the public concerned in the neighbouring state in an appropriate form. In doing so, I kindly ask in particular to indicate

- where, in what form and within what period of time the documents will be made available to the public of the other state,
- to which German authority the public concerned in the other state can submit comments, in what form and within what period of time, as well as
- that in the procedure for public participation, all comments for the procedure on the admissibility of the project are excluded upon expiry of the specified period, and
- that a further international date for consultation and exchange of information will take place on **15 June 2021** as an online conference in English and
- that the dial-in information will be communicated after registration.

**Please note:**

We would like to point out that a translation software was used. The final version of the plan document and the environmental reports will be translated professionally.

Yours faithfully

For the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Hunke', written in a cursive style.

Anna Hunke