

FEDERAL MARITIME AND HYDROGRAPHIC AGENCY

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



BUNDESAMT FÜR
SEESCHIFFFAHRT
UND
HYDROGRAPHIE

Hamburg Office

Authorities and public participation of the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency on the Site Development Plan and the environmental reports (North Sea and Baltic Sea) within the framework of the strategic environmental assessment

Date
16.08.2024
Extension
+ 49 (0) 40 3190 - 6123
Reference
(please quote in your answer)
080001-5442/003

Dear Sir or Madam,

according to §§ 4ff. WindSeeG, the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH) amends and updates the site development plan.

The site development plan with its designations serves to promote the development of offshore wind energy and grid connection subsea cables that are required for this. Its purpose is to achieve the legally set expansion targets for offshore wind energy, to expand electricity generation from offshore wind turbines in a spatially ordered and with an efficient use of space, to ensure the orderly and efficient use and utilisation of offshore grid connections and to plan, construct, commission and use offshore grid connections in parallel with the expansion of electricity generation from offshore wind turbines.

BSH addresses i. a. the following topics in the procedure of update and amendment of the site development plan:

- Spatial designation of additional areas and sites to achieve the statutory expansion target of at least 40 GW by 2035 and at least 70 GW by 2045.
- Spatial and temporal designation of offshore grid connection sub-sea cables and platforms
- Spatial designation of interconnectors
- Spatial designations and review of the definition for "interconnections"
- Adaptation of planning principles
- Adaptation of the spatial designations to the conditions resulting from the previous topics
- Determination of "acceleration areas" and grid infrastructure areas within the meaning of the Directive 2001/2018
- Determination of associated avoidance and mitigation measures.



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A strategic environmental assessment is being carried out concomitantly.

The preliminary draft of the site development plan and the draft of the scope of the strategic environmental impact assessment were published on 1st September 2023. An online hearing on the (preliminary) draft documents and the comments of the transmission system operators took place on 2nd November 2024.

The North Sea and Baltic Sea riparian states were notified by letter dated 28th February 2024 in accordance with § 60 UVP/ESPOO Convention.

The scope of the investigation for the preparation of the environmental reports of the strategic environmental impact assessment was established.

Based on the results of the consultation and the hearing, the draft site development plan and the environmental reports were prepared.

The national authority and public participation was initiated on 7th June 2024.

The documents are available in German on the BSH website at:
[BSH - Laufende Fortschreibung Flächenentwicklungsplan](#)

For the transboundary participation and on the basis of feedback on the notification of 28th February 2024, the draft documents are available in the following languages at this link:

[BSH - Ongoing update of the site development plan](#)

- Cover letter (German, English, Danish, Finnish, Dutch, Polish)
- Draft site development plan (German, English, Danish, Finnish, Dutch, Polish)
- Environmental Report North Sea (German, English, Danish, Dutch)
- Environmental Report Baltic Sea (German, English, Danish, Polish, Finnish)

Authorities and private parties in the North Sea and Baltic Sea States have the opportunity to comment on the draft documents until 16th October 2024 [two months].

Due to the prescribed time frame, the deadline for comments can principally **not** be extended.

It is requested that comments and statements are to be addressed to:

**Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency
Department O/O15 (Order of the Sea)
Bernhard-Nocht-Str. 78
20359 Hamburg**

or by e-mail to EingangOdM@bsh.de.

In principle, all comments and statements submitted in the procedure will be published on the BSH website. If complete publication is barred by legal reasons, please submit a blacked-out version suitable for publication. A list of all comments and statements submitted will be published.

In addition, a hearing on

Wednesday, 4th September 2024
at 10:00 a.m.
Handwerkskammer Hamburg
Holstenwall 12, 20355 Hamburg
– Großer Saal 304 –

will be offered.

The appointment will be held in German.

If you wish to attend a meeting to discuss possible transboundary environmental impacts, please let me know by 4th September 2024. I will then organise a separate date.

Procedural overview:

Initiation of the procedure	01.09.23
Publication of the preliminary draft of the Site Development Plan and the draft scope	01.09.23
Opportunity for comment (national)	02.10.23
Hearing date/Scoping (national)	02.11.23
Early notification (transboundary)	28.02.24
Determination of the scope of the environmental report	05.06.24
Publication draft Site Development Plan and draft environmental report	07.06.24
Participation of public authorities and the public (national) und transboundary consultations (transboundary)	Q3/24
Hearing	04.09.24
Elaboration and coordination/consent final site development plan and environmental reports	Q3-Q4/24
Public announcement (national) and Information on adoption of the plan (transboundary)	expected Q4/24

King regards

On behalf of

Verena Seemann