

Authority Services

23.1.2026

SYKE/2025/1017

Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
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Notification in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) regarding the planned Finnish hydrogen transmission network in Sea Lapland, Finland

In accordance with Article 3, Paragraph 1 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention), countries likely to be affected by projects with potential significant transboundary environmental impacts must be notified and consulted. As the party of origin, Finland hereby informs your country about the planned Finnish hydrogen transmission network in Sea Lapland.

Information on the planned project

Gasgrid Vetyverkot Oy is planning a national hydrogen transmission network from southern Finland to Tornio. The Finnish national hydrogen transmission network is part of the Nordic Hydrogen Route, a joint Nordic project of Gasgrid in Finland and Nordion Energi in Sweden. In 2024 the project received the European Union's Projects of Common Interest (PCI) status. In Sweden the project is located on Haparanda, Luleå, Umeå, and Kiruna.

The Sea Lapland section of the project in Finland is located in Tornio, Keminmaa, Kemi, and Simo. The hydrogen transmission network consists of high-pressure carbon steel pipes laid underground, as well as block valve and pressure reduction stations, which will be equipped with scarper and measuring stations. The hydrogen pipeline will be installed at a minimum depth of one metre in forest land and 1.2 metres in fields. The hydrogen pipeline route is a 10-metre-wide treeless area.

In the EIA procedure regarding the Sea Lapland section, the project's impacts will be assessed based on four alternatives. The alternatives are based on two undercrossing points on the Torne River and two on the Kemijoki River. The project is limited to the Swedish border on the Torne River, either north of the Haparanda town centre at Sölkäsaari (options VE 1 and VE 3) or at the village of Övre Vojakkala (options VE 2 and VE 4).

The EIA procedure in Finland

The Act on Environment Impact Assessment Procedure (252/2017) and the Decree on Environmental Impact Assessment Procedure (277/2017) regulate the EIA procedure in Finland.

The public display of the EIA programme of the Finnish hydrogen transmission network in Sea Lapland takes place in Finland between 28 January and 27 March 2026.



The Finnish Supervisory Agency will act as the competent authority in the Finnish EIA procedure.

Participation in the EIA procedure

During the public display of the EIA programme, a public event will be held in Finland on 18 February 2026 from 18.00 (Finnish time) onwards at Tornio Park Arena (Itäranta 4, Tornio). The coffee service is included and starts at 17:00 (Finnish time). The event will be bilingual (Finnish and Swedish). It is possible to participate in the event also remotely using YouTube stream. The link will be available in two weeks on the project's website:

<http://www.ymparisto.fi/kansallinen-vedyn-siirtoverkko-meri-lappi-YVA>.

Attached to this notification letter is the Swedish translation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Programme for the Finnish hydrogen transmission network in Sea Lapland and its attachments. The annexes are shared through the following link due to the large size:

[FileSender](#). The link is active from January 23 to February 11, 2026.

The full EIA programme in Finnish will be available 28 January 2026 onwards at the following webpage: <http://www.ymparisto.fi/kansallinen-vedyn-siirtoverkko-meri-lappi-YVA>.

Referring to Article 3, Paragraph 3 of the Espoo Convention, please send your response by e-mail to the register office of the Finnish Environment Institute (kirjaamo@syke.fi) and transboundaryEIA.SEA@syke.fi by **2 April 2026 at the latest** and:

- acknowledge the receipt of the notification,
- indicate whether your state intends to participate in the EIA procedure,
- provide comments concerning the scope for the assessment of the likely significant environmental impacts of the project affecting your state, and
- submit any comments you might receive from the public and authorities in your state.

Please indicate our reference number **SYKE/2025/1017** in your letter.

Head of Services

Jenni Juslén

Senior Officer,
Point of Contact to the Espoo Convention

Hanne Rajanen

This document has been electronically signed. The electronic signatures can be verified from the register office of the Finnish Environment Institute.



Appendices

Finlands nationella vätgasnät Sydvästra Lappland, Program för miljökonsekvensbedömning 2026

Bilaga 1 MKB-programmets kartor

Bilaga 2 A3 kartbilagor

Bilaga 3 Kriterier som används för bedömning av konsekvensernas betydelse

Bilaga 4 Landskapsplanens beteckningar

Bilaga 5 Tabell med nuvarande status för ytvatten och precisering av utredningar (på finska)

Bilaga 6 Metodbeskrivning av förstudien av småvattendrag (på finska)

For information

Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland
Ministry of the Environment

