



Nord Stream 2
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Press release

Nord Stream 2's Environmental Impact Assessment Report on public display in Finland

- > **Environmental Impact Assessment Report Finland submitted to Coordinating authority**
- > **Public consultation phase begins today in Finland**
- > **Impacts assessed to be negligible or minor within the Finnish EEZ**

[Helsinki, Finland – 7-Apr-17] The official public consultation phase of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report was launched today when Finland's coordinating authority Uusimaa ELY Centre put Nord Stream 2's EIA documentation on public display for two months. Project developer Nord Stream 2 AG submitted its national EIA Report, together with its "Espoo Report" on potential transboundary impacts to the coordinating authority earlier this week. Public hearings will be held in Helsinki, Kotka and Hanko in early May. During the public display period, the public will have the opportunity to participate in the procedure and to comment on potential environmental impacts on Finland of the planned Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline through the Baltic Sea.

The environmental impact assessment findings included in the EIA Report indicate that the impacts caused by the Nord Stream 2 pipeline will be mostly negligible or minor within the Finnish EEZ. Nord Stream 2's EIA Report concludes that - according to its environmental consultant Ramboll - most of the potential impacts will be local and short-term, occurring during the construction phase. The pipeline project and its alternatives are assessed to be environmentally viable.

In addition to the extensive environmental impact assessments, the EIA Report describes key characteristics of the project's technical solutions. Furthermore, the Report includes descriptions of the planned activities for mitigating potential negative environmental impacts.

The transboundary impacts of the planned pipeline on Finland from other countries' of the Baltic Sea are described in Nord Stream 2's Espoo Report, in accordance with the United Nations Espoo Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in a Transboundary Context. Based on the Espoo Report, the five permitting countries inform each other as well as all other Baltic Sea coastal states about potential transboundary environmental impacts of the pipeline project, provide with the possibility for making comments and consult each other in an international consultation process.

The EIA procedure will be completed after the coordinating authority has received all the statements and opinions on the Report's findings and, based on them, provided its own statement on the project.



The EIA Report and the coordinating authority's statement will be taken into consideration in the subsequent permitting phase. EIA and permitting processes will be carried out in accordance with the national legislations of all five countries through whose Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and/or territorial waters the pipeline will pass: Russia, Finland, Sweden, Denmark and Germany.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report Finland, a link to the map portal and a summary of the EIA, are available in Finnish, Swedish and English on Nord Stream 2's website at: <https://www.nord-stream2.com/fi/permitting-finland/>

About Nord Stream 2

Nord Stream 2 is a planned pipeline through the Baltic Sea, which will transport natural gas over 1,200 km from the world's largest gas reserves in Russia via the most efficient route to consumers in Europe. Nord Stream 2 will largely follow the route and design of the successful Nord Stream pipeline. With Europe's domestic gas production projected to halve in the next 20 years, Nord Stream 2's twin pipeline system will help Europe to meet its future gas import needs, with the capacity to transport 55 billion cubic metres of gas per year, enough to supply 26 million European households. This secure supply of natural gas with its low CO₂ emissions will also contribute to Europe's objective to have a more climate-friendly energy mix with gas substituting for coal in power generation and providing back-up for intermittent renewable sources of energy such as wind and solar power. www.nord-stream2.com

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