

*The format for notification of an affected Party of a proposed plan or programme under article 10 of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment was adopted by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment by the [Decision II/7](#) at its sixth session held in Geneva from 2 to 5 June 2014.*

*This document contains excerpt from the Decision II/7 and can only be used in conjunction with the full text of Decision II/7 and not as a stand-alone document.*

### **Notification of an affected Party of a proposed plan or programme under article 10 of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment**

<i>Description of information to be included</i>	<i>Information</i>
<b>General information on the plan or programme</b>	
Name of the plan or programme	<b>Partial Revision North Sea Programme 2022 - 2027</b>
Type and sector of plan or programme (e.g., local land-use plan, national energy strategy)	The North Sea Programme 2022 – 2027 is an independent annex to the National Water Programme of the Dutch government containing the North Sea policy and the marine spatial plan. Among other things, the North Sea Programme designates offshore wind farm zones that provide space for the development of wind farms up to and including 2030/31.
Territorial coverage (e.g., regional, national)	National (including Dutch Exclusive Economic Zone)
Main content and purpose of the plan or programme (e.g., framework setting for projects, determination of use of land) and its links with other plans or programmes	The North Sea Programme 2022 – 2027 is being revised, to ensure the continuity of offshore wind energy, designating new offshore wind farm zones to be developed after 2031. This plan sets the framework for the Wind Farm Site Decisions (projects).
Whether the plan or programme is binding	Binding* <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not binding <input type="checkbox"/>  *The programme is self-binding for the Dutch government.
<b>Submitted documents</b>	
Draft plan or programme	Enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> Not enclosed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (in which case, date by it will be transmitted)
Environmental Report	Enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> Not enclosed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (in which case, date by it will be transmitted)

Other documents (with description)	Summary of Draft Memorandum on Scope and Level of Detail for the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and the participation plan
Languages into which documents are or will be translated	The summary of the draft Memorandum on Scope and Level of Detail and the participation plan are translated in English and German.
<b>Description of the decision-making procedure and of the strategic environmental assessment (SEA) procedure in the Party of origin</b>	
Description of the phases of the planning procedure	The policy preparation for the Partial Revision has begun. It is envisaged that the government will arrive at a draft decision on the Partial Revision in the first quarter of 2025, with a final decision being made in September 2025. The first formal step in this process is adopting a draft Memorandum on Scope and Level of Detail and a participation plan. This notification is meant to notify neighbouring countries in this first formal step of the process on the preparation of the SEA and to provide the opportunity to participate.
Legal basis for the planning procedure (quoting the regulation or other legal basis)	The Dutch Water Act / per January 1 <sup>st</sup> 2024 integrated in the Environment and Planning Act (Omgevingswet)
Description of the phases of the SEA procedure, including participation of the affected Party	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Scoping phase: drafting Memorandum on Scope and Level of Detail for the SEA</li> <li>2. Public inspection draft Memorandum on Scope and Level of Detail</li> <li>3. The preparation of the SEA.</li> <li>4. The integration of environmental considerations into the Partial Decision.</li> <li>5. Public inspection draft decision Partial Revision and SEA</li> <li>6. Final decision Partial Revision</li> </ol>
Legal basis for the SEA procedure (quoting the regulation or other legal basis)	The Dutch Water Act / per January 1 <sup>st</sup> 2024 integrated in the Environment and Planning Act (Omgevingswet)
Present phase of the planning procedure and of the SEA procedure	Public inspection draft Memorandum on Scope and Level of Detail and preparation of the SEA
Time schedule of the foreseen continuation of the planning procedure and of the SEA procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Public inspection draft Memorandum on Scope and Level of Detail (December 2023 / January 2024)</li> <li>2. Executing SEA (2024)</li> <li>3. Public inspection draft decision Partial Revision and SEA (Q1 2025)</li> <li>4. Final decision Partial Revision (September 2025)</li> </ol>
Process and timing of the possible adoption of the plan or programme	
<b>Information on the public participation process in the Party of origin</b>	
Opportunities for the public to participate:	<p>17 January 2024: webinar for international stakeholders</p> <p>Public inspection draft Memorandum on Scope and Level of Detail:</p>

	12 December 2023 – 22 January 2024
Start and end dates for the public to provide comments on the environmental report and draft plan or programme	Q1/Q2 2025 public inspection draft decision Partial Revision and SEA
How the public is informed of the public participation process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notifications via the Espoo contact points</li> <li>• National public inspection procedure via <a href="http://www.platformparticipatie.nl">www.platformparticipatie.nl</a></li> <li>• Publication in federal Staatscourant and one of the major national newspapers (Volkskrant)</li> <li>• Webinar public inspection on draft Memorandum on Scope and Level of Detail (January 2024)</li> </ul>
Whether a public hearing is organized and, if so, when	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(in which case, the date of the hearing)</p> <p>No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
How the public is informed of the adoption of the plan or programme and how the information specified in article 11, paragraph 2, is made available	<p>- Notifications via the Espoo contact points</p> <p>- Publication via <a href="http://www.platformparticipatie.nl">www.platformparticipatie.nl</a>, newspapers and several websites like <a href="http://www.noordzeeloket.nl">www.noordzeeloket.nl</a></p>
Expected time schedule for transmittal of comments and questions by the public of the affected Party on the draft plan or programme and on the full environmental report	Q1 2025: public inspection draft decision Partial Revision and SEA
<b>Involved authorities in the Party of origin</b>	
Authority responsible for the planning procedure	Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management
Authority/institution responsible for the adoption of the plan or programme	Dutch government
Authority responsible for the SEA procedure	Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management
Authority/institution responsible for the SEA decision (if applicable)	Dutch government
<b>Affected Parties</b>	
List of Parties to which notification has been sent	Denmark Germany Belgium United Kingdom Norway France

	Ireland
<b>Point of contact for the transboundary procedure</b>	
Authority responsible for coordinating activities relating to the transboundary SEA procedure: name, address, email, telephone and fax numbers	Titia Kalker + 31 621689718 postbusprogrammanoordzee@minienw.nl
<b>Deadlines for response to the notification</b>	
Deadline for responding to indicate whether the affected Party wishes to participate	2 February 2024
Deadline for transmission of comments on the draft plan or programme and the full environmental report by authorities of the affected Party (if different from above)	Not yet determined

<b>Means of communication</b>	
Means by which letters from the Party of origin are sent (e.g., e-mail, fax, post, via embassy)	E-mail, from postbusprogrammanoordzee@minienw.nl
Means by which affected Parties are asked to send their letters	E-mail, contact via postbusprogrammanoordzee@minienw.nl