



# REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION in GDAŃSK

Gdańsk, 04 August 2023

RDOŚ-Gd-WOO.420.59.2023.AM.3

return receipt

## Resolution

Pursuant to Article 108 (1) (1) of the Act of October 3, 2008 *on the provision of information on the environment and its protection, public participation in environmental protection and environmental impact assessments* (consolidated text, Journal of Laws of 2023, item 1094, as amended), hereinafter referred to as the EIA Act, and Article 123 of the Act of June 14, 1960 *Code of Administrative Procedure* (Journal of Laws of 2023, item 775, as amended), and in connection with §2(1)(5) and §3(1)(61) of the Regulation of the Council of Ministers of September 10, 2019 on projects that may significantly affect the environment (Journal of Laws of 2019, item 1839, as amended), at the request of the Investor: Elektrownia Wiatrowa Baltica-1 Sp. z o. o., represented by attorney Ms. Natalia Kaczmarek, letter ref: EWB1-RDOS-0061 dated 24.07.2023 for the issuance of a decision on environmental conditions and, therefore, for the determination of the scope of the report on the environmental impact assessment of the project,

### I hereby decide as follows:

for the project named: **"OWF Baltica - 1 Offshore Wind Farm"**, located in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the Republic of Poland, on the eastern side of the Central Shoal, at a distance of about 75 km north of the shoreline, opposite the Smołdzino municipality and the Łeba municipality (Pomeranian Voivodeship):

1. **determine the need** to conduct a transboundary environmental impact study;
2. **impose the obligation** to prepare the following documentation necessary for this proceeding in Swedish and Danish:
  - a) application for issuing a decision on environmental conditions,
  - b) project information sheet - containing up-to-date, basic information regarding the planned project in paper and electronic form,
  - c) those parts of the report on the environmental impact of the project that will enable the country whose territory would be affected by the planned project to assess the possible significant transboundary environmental impact - in paper and electronic form.

## JUSTIFICATION

On 24.07.2023, the Regional Director of Environmental Protection in Gdańsk received an application from the Investor: Elektrownia Wiatrowa Baltica-1 Sp. z o. o., represented by attorney Ms. Natalia Kaczmarek, letter ref: EWB1-RDOS-0061 dated 24.07.2023 for the issuance of a decision on environmental conditions for the project named: **"OWF Baltica -1 Offshore Wind Farm"**.

The application was accompanied by:

- 1) Information sheet of the project (4 copies + CD version);
- 2) A map on a scale that ensures the legibility of the data presented, with the marking of the anticipated area where the project will be implemented, and the anticipated area that will be affected by the project, along with a record of the map in electronic form;
- 3) Powers of attorney for: Ms. Natalia Kaczmarek, Mr. Radosław Opióła and Mr. Juliusz Gajewski to represent the company;
- 4) Proof of payment of stamp duty for the issuance of decisions (PLN 205) and powers of attorney (PLN 51).

In connection with the above, by notice dated 27.07.2023, ref: RDOŚ-Gd- WOO.420.59.2023. AM. 1 the local authority informed the Investor about the initiation of proceedings in the case as well as the possibility to get acquainted with the documents and to submit possible comments and applications. Information about the application has been posted on the publicly available data list Ekoportal ([www.ekoportal.pl](http://www.ekoportal.pl)) under number 472/2023, maintained pursuant to Article 21 of the EIA Act.

In accordance with §2(1)(5) of the Regulation of the Council of Ministers of September 10, 2019, on projects that may significantly affect the environment (Journal of Laws of 2019, item 1839, as amended), the planned project is qualified as *"installations using wind energy for electricity generation with a total nominal power of no less than 100 MW, located in the maritime areas of the Republic of Poland"*.

In addition, heliports qualify as projects with a potentially significant impact on the environment (§3(1)(61) *"airports other than those listed in §2(1)(30) or helipads, excluding helipads referred to in the Regulation of the Minister of Health of June 27, 2019 on the hospital emergency department (Journal of Laws 2021, item 2048)"*), which could potentially be installed on offshore electrical substations.

In view of the above, under Article 71 (2) (1) of the EIA Law, the implementation of the project requires a decision on environmental conditions.

The planned project will involve the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Baltica-1 Offshore Wind Farm Complex with a maximum total capacity of 900 MW (hereinafter: OWF Baltica-1 or the Project). The area of the OWF Baltica-1 is located in the EEZ of the Republic of Poland, on the eastern side of the Central Shoal, in the depth range from approx. 16 m to approx. 50 m, at a distance of about 75 km north of the shoreline, opposite the Smołdzino municipality and the Łeba municipality (Pomeranian Voivodeship):

The power produced by the OWF Baltica-1 will be sent onshore via a power connection, which will constitute a separate project and will be subject to a separate procedure for issuing a decision on environmental conditions.

Taking into account that the project is one that may always have a significant impact on the environment, and due to the fact that it is located in a maritime area, according to the wording of Article 75(1)(1)(c) of the EIA Act, the competent authority to consider the case is the Regional Director of Environmental Protection in Gdańsk.

The area of the OWF Baltica-1 will cover an area of 85.53 square kilometres. The table (Table 1) shows the geocentric coordinates of the turn points of the boundary of the area of the OWF Baltica-1. The table (Table 2.) shows separately the coordinates of the part where wind turbines, offshore substations and cable lines are planned, and the coordinates of the part where only cable lines will be built.

Table 1. Geocentric coordinates of the turn points of the boundary of the OWF Baltica-1 area:

Boundary point symbol	Geocentric geodetic coordinates in the ETRS89 reference system	
	Geodetic latitude <t>	Geodetic longitude A
1	55°38'16,206" N	17°38'03,776" E
2	55°36'16,018" N	17°35'40,167" E
3	55°33'43,771" N	17°34'46,304" E
4	55°32'09,162" N	17°35'21,458" E
5	55°32'03,321" N	17°35'23,627" E
6	55°31'56,204" N	17°35'26,269" E
7	55°31'19,695" N	17°35'29,710" E
8	55°31'17,057" N	17°35'29,579" E
9	55°31'01,612" N	17°35'26,574" E
10	55°30'53,163" N	17°35'24,930" E
11	55°30'42,510" N	17°34'50,515" E
12	55°29'53,123" N	17°32'14,175" E
13	55°29'43,030" N	17°30'45,137" E
14	55°29'36,940" N	17°29'52,854" E
15	55°29'25,168" N	17°29'31,287" E
16	55°28'57,603" N	17°26'25,966" E
17	55°28'56,144" N	17°25'54,331" E
18	55°31'42,251" N	17°26'44,303" E
19	55°31'43,594" N	17°27'00,863" E
20	55°31'46,079" N	17°27'12,463" E
21	55°33'19,449" N	17°31'23,992" E
22	55°34'06,850" N	17°33'40,983" E
23	55°34'32,229" N	17°33'59,580" E
24	55°35'07,555" N	17°33'41,076" E
25	55°36'2,838" N	17°32'11,364" E
26	55°36'6,396" N	17°32'2,976" E
27	55°36'56,064" N	17°29'5,042" E
28	55°37'24,525" N	17°30'35,467" E
29	55°37'45,553" N	17°31'42,228" E
30	55°37'34,673" N	17°32'5,771" E
31	55°37'27,287" N	17°32'42,422" E

Boundary point symbol	Geocentric geodetic coordinates in the ETRS89 reference system	
	Geodetic latitude <t>	Geodetic longitude A
32	55°37'27,289" N	17°33'21,362" E
33	55°37'34,677" N	17°33'58,079" E
34	55°38'41,045" N	17°37'26,888" E
35	55°38'33,742" N	17°37'18,176" E

Table 2. Geocentric coordinates of the turn points of the boundary of the area of the OWF Baltica-1, divided into the part for the construction of wind turbines, offshore substations and cable lines, and the part for the construction of cable lines only:

Boundary point symbol	Geocentric geodetic coordinates in the ETRS89 reference system	
	Geodetic latitude <t>	Geodetic longitude A
Part of the area of the OWF Baltica-1 for wind turbines, offshore substations and cable lines		
1	55°30'56,004" N	17°29'05,042" E
2	55°37'24,525" N	17°30'35,467" E
3	55°37'45,553" N	17°31'42,228" E
4	55°37'34,673" N	17°32'05,771" E
5	55°37'27,287" N	17°32'42,422" E
6	55°37'27,289" N	17°33'21,362" E
7	55°37'34,677" N	17°33'58,079" E
8	55°38'41,045" N	17°37'26,888" E
9	55°38'31,390" N	17°37'15,371" E
10	55°36'39,919" N	17°34'51,822" E
11	55°36'38,132" N	17°34'49,825" E
12	55°35'37,494" N	17°33'51,521" E
13	55°35'32,435" N	17°33'48,439" E
14	55°35'07,555" N	17°33'41,076" E
15	55°36'02,838" N	17°32'11,364" E
16	55°36'06,396" N	17°32'02,976" E
17	55°34'06,850" N	17°33'40,983" E
18	55°33'18,564" N	17°34'01,464" E
19	55°31'58,034" N	17°34'28,954" E
20	55°31'19,286" N	17°34'32,633" E
21	55°30'53,817" N	17°34'27,689" E
22	55°30'08,491" N	17°32'04,213" E
23	55°29'58,893" N	17°30'39,551" E
24	55°29'57,369" N	17°30'31,942" E
25	55°29'54,694" N	17°30'25,390" E
26	55°29'25,168" N	17°29'31,287" E
27	55°28'57,603" N	17°26'25,966" E
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29	55°31'42,251" N	17°26'44,303" E
30	55°31'43,594" N	17°27'00,863" E

Boundary point symbol	Geocentric geodetic coordinates in the ETRS89 reference system	
	Geodetic latitude <t>	Geodetic longitude A
31	55°31'46,079" N	17°27'12,463" E
32	55°33'19,449" N	17°31'23,992" E
Part of the area of the OWF Baltica-1 to be used for cable line construction		
1	55°38'33,742" N	17°37'18,176" E
2	55°38'16,206" N	17°38'03,776" E
3	55°36'16,018" N	17°35'40,167" E
4	55°33'43,771" N	17°34'46,304" E
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30	55°36'39,919" N	17°34'51,822" E
31	55°38'31,390" N	17°37'15,371" E

Wind turbines and offshore substations will be located inside the area designated in the decision on the permit for the erection and use of artificial islands, structures and devices in Polish maritime areas (Polish: PSzW), taking into account the provisions of the permit. The implementation of the Project will also take into account other restrictions arising from separate regulations, such as the Regulation of the Council of Ministers of April 14, 2021 on the *adoption of the spatial development plan for internal marine waters, territorial sea and exclusive economic zone at a scale of 1:200,000* (Journal of Laws 2021 item 935, as amended), which prohibits in the basin POM.60.E, where the Project is located, the erection of artificial islands and structures at a distance of less than 2 km from the border of the

Natura 2000 area "Hoburgs bank och Midsjöbankarna" (SE0330308), which is an important area for wintering seabirds, the occurrence of grey seals and the main population area for porpoises in the Baltic Sea.

The basic infrastructure of the Baltica-1 offshore wind farm includes:

- offshore wind turbines - nacelle with rotor and support structure (above-water part, transition elements and underwater part);
- offshore substation or offshore substations that include offshore transformer stations and, in the case of an HVDC solution, also offshore converter stations;
- offshore medium- or high-voltage power cable lines with accessories.

Table 3. Key technical parameters of the infrastructure of the OWF Baltica-1

Parameter	Data describing the parameter
<b>Wind farms</b>	
Maximum rated power of the OWF	900 MW
Capacity of a single wind farm	15 to 25 MW
Maximum number of wind turbines	from 36 units for units with the capacity of 25 MW to 60 for units with the capacity of 15 MW
Maximum diameter of the wind turbine rotor	from 236 m for units with the capacity of 15 MW to 310 m for units with the capacity of 25 MW
Minimum clearance between rotor working area and sea surface	20 m
Maximum height of the wind turbine above sea level	330 m
<b>Offshore substations</b>	
Maximum number of offshore substations	4
<b>Parameters of power cable lines in the power transmission system within the OWF connecting wind turbines with each other and with the offshore substations</b>	
Power transmission technology	HVAC or HVDC
Type of power cable	three-core with aluminium and/or copper conductors and optical fibre inside the cable structure
Voltage rating of the service conductor of a power cable	66 kV or 132 kV
Maximum cross-sectional area of the service conductor of a power cable	2500 mm <sup>2</sup>
Maximum depth of cable line burial in the seabed	6 m below seabed depth or, exceptionally, laid on the bottom with permanent protection measures
Maximum length of cable lines	140 km

The area of the OWF Baltica-1 is located in the north-central EEZ of the Republic of Poland at a distance of approx:

- 550 m from the border of the EEZ of Sweden;
- 60.0 km from the border of the EEZ of Denmark;
- 84.3 km from the border of the EEZ of Russia;
- 92.9 km from the border of the EEZ of Lithuania;
- 101.7 km from the border of the EEZ of Latvia;
- 203.7 km from the border of the EEZ of Germany.

The border of the area of the OWF Baltica-1 is located at a distance of approx. 550 m from the border of the EEZ of Sweden and approx. 60 km from the border of the EEZ of Denmark, hence transboundary impacts on the territory of these countries resulting from the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Baltica-1 offshore wind farm are very likely to occur, taking into account the type and scale of the anticipated implementation activities and the existing knowledge on the environmental impacts of offshore wind farms. Sources of such impacts may include, for example, underwater noise emissions generated during the installation of wind turbine foundations and substations on marine mammals and fish (including cumulative impacts with other planned and implemented offshore wind farms). The impact of the OWF Baltica-1 may cumulate with the impact of, for instance, Offshore Wind Farm OWF Bałtyk I (Maximum Installed Power - 1560 MW) located just 1.4 km from the project in question, for which the environmental decision procedure found it necessary to conduct proceedings on transboundary impacts on the territory of Sweden and Denmark. Accordingly, these states should be allowed to see this information.

Table 3. Preliminary list of potential transboundary impacts

resulting from the implementation of the OWF Baltica-1

Environment or human activity subject to transboundary impact	Impact of influence
Protected areas	To the north, at a distance of 2 km from the OWF Baltica-1 construction area, is the Natura 2000 area Hoburgs bank och Midsjöbankarna (SE0330308) designated in the EEZ of Sweden. According to the standard form of the area, the objects of protection in the area are two natural habitats - Sandbanks permanently covered by shallow water (code: 1110) and Reefs (code: 1170), three bird species: guillemot ( <i>Cepphus grylle</i> ), common eider ( <i>Somateria mollissima</i> ) and long-tailed duck ( <i>Clangula hyemalis</i> ), as well as porpoise ( <i>Phocoena phocoena</i> ) (SDF 2016). The area's standard data form identifies a number of threats with negative impacts on the area, of which the following were considered the most important: shipping lanes (D03.02), active fishing activities (F02.02), and oil spills into the sea (H03.01). Fishing with nets (F02.01.02), surface water pollution (limnic, terrestrial, marine and brackish) (H01) and nitrogen inputs (H04.02) were considered medium-level threats, and non-native foraging species (101) were considered low-level threats.
Birds	A set of wind turbines, whose structures will rise to a maximum height of 330 meters above sea level, could pose a permanent obstacle to bird migration.
Benthic organisms	Sedimentation of bottom sediment lifted into the water depths during the construction of support structures and linear infrastructure of the OWF Baltica-1 may negatively affect the functioning of plant and animal benthic communities in the sedimentation range, which is likely to extend beyond the boundary of the EEZ of the Republic of Poland.

Environment or human activity subject to transboundary impacts	Impact of influence
Underwater sound	Activities primarily related to the construction of support structures (mainly piling) generate noise, which with its spatial extent may extend to marine areas beyond the EEZ of the Republic of Poland. The negative impact of underwater noise will be particularly significant for marine mammals and fish with swim bladders.
Shipping	The Area of the OWF Baltica-1 will be a navigational obstacle and cause a permanent change in the shipping routes of vessels - the usual route to and from the port of Klaipeda currently runs through the area.
Fishing	The Area of the OWF Baltica-1 may be excluded in whole or in part from commercial fishing, which may reduce the volume of fishing in this area of the Baltic.

On the basis of the submitted documents (including the project information sheet), the local authority determined that it is necessary to conduct proceedings on transboundary impact originating from the territory of the Republic of Poland also due to the location of the OWF Bałtyk I at the Polish-Swedish exclusive economic zone border and about 60 km from the Polish-Danish exclusive economic zone border, and due to its type and nature.

In view of the above, there is a likelihood of transboundary impact on Swedish and Danish territory, and engaging in appropriate proceedings is necessary.

Under Article 108(1)(1) of the EIA Act, it is the applicant's responsibility to translate the documentation referred to in Article 108(4) into the language of the country whose territory would be affected by the project.

In view of the above, it was decided as at the outset.

## LEGAL INSTRUCTION

A party may file a complaint against this decision with the General Director of Environmental Protection through the authority issuing the order, within 7 days from the date of its delivery.



p.p. Regional Director of Environmental Protection in  
Gdańsk

*Agnieszka Moszczyńska*  
acting Head of the  
Environmental Assessment Department

Distribution:

1. Elektrownia Wiatrowa Baltica-1 Sp. z o. o., via the attorney Ms. Natalia Kaczmarek, ul. Długi Targ 41/42a, 80-830 Gdańsk (Investor)
2. aa

Prepared by Agata Mach, tel. 58 68 36 812

Copy to:

1. General Director of Environmental Protection, Al. Jerozolimskie 136, 02-305 Warsaw

