

FACT SHEET

November 2013

Permitting Process for the Nord Stream Pipeline

The Nord Stream Pipeline required permits from all five countries through whose territorial waters and/or exclusive economic zones (EEZ) the pipeline runs: Russia, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, and Germany. In addition to national permits, the project brought together all nine Baltic Sea states in one of the most complex international environmental consultations ever undertaken based on the UNECE Espoo Convention.

Nord Stream invested more than 100 million euros in surveys and planning and consulted widely with authorities, experts and stakeholders in all Baltic Sea states to ensure that the design, routing, construction and operation of the pipeline are safe and environmentally sound.

National permitting processes

- Nord Stream submitted applications for permits to the relevant authorities in the five permitting countries according to the requirements of country-specific national legislation (see the appendix for an overview).
- Comprehensive national EIAs were performed by acknowledged experts in all five permitting countries. Together with the Espoo Report, the national EIA reports describe all relevant environmental parameters in the Baltic Sea.

International consultations

- As a transboundary infrastructure project, Nord Stream falls under Art. 3 of the UNECE “Espoo Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in a Transboundary Context”. The international consultation process according to the Espoo Convention has the purpose of giving all countries affected by the Nord Stream Pipeline the opportunity to review the Projects’ potential impact.
- The 2,585-page Nord Stream Espoo Report describes the transboundary impact of the project along the whole route on flora, fauna, seabed conditions, shipping, fishery, tourism and more. The report was written in English and translated into all nine languages of the Baltic Sea countries.
- Nord Stream participated in more than 20 public hearings and a large number of meetings to discuss the results of the EIA studies with relevant authorities and stakeholders, and to jointly agree upon the requirements for Nord Stream's Espoo Report.
- In addition, the public and other stakeholders in all nine Baltic Sea countries had the opportunity to review and comment the Espoo Report during a public participation period from March to June 2009.

A benchmark project

- The EIA findings demonstrate that the majority of impacts arising from Nord Stream's offshore activities are insignificant and will have no long-term effects on the Baltic Sea environment.
- The outcome of the international consultations was taken into account in the national permitting procedures and after receiving the last permit required for construction in February 2010, pipe laying started in April 2010.
- In the planning phase, Nord Stream set a benchmark of transparency and international collaboration on transboundary environmental impact assessments.

More information at www.nord-stream.com

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Appendix – National legislation applicable to the Nord Stream project

Country	Legislation	Authorities	Permits issued
Russia	<p><i>Federal laws about</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal Sea Water, Territorial Sea and Nearest Zone of Russian Federation • Continental Shelf of Russian Federation • Exclusive Economic Zone of Russian Federation • Environmental Expertise <p><i>Decree of the Government of Russia about Approving the Order of Laying of Undersea Cables and Pipelines in Internal Sea Water and in Territorial Sea of Russian Federation</i></p>	<p>Leningrad Region Authorities</p> <p>Various Russian Federal Authorities</p> <p>Ministry of Natural Resources (Rosprirodnadzor)</p>	<p>Construction Permit – 18.12.2009</p>
Finland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Finnish EIA Act (468/1994) • The Finnish Act on the EEZ (Act 1058/2004) • The Water Act (Act 264/1961) 	<p>Ministry of Employment and the Economy (EEZ)</p> <p>Regional State Administrative Agency for Southern Finland</p>	<p>EEZ Permit – 05.11.2009</p> <p>Water Permit – 12.02.2010</p>
Sweden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Act on the Continental Shelf (Act 1966:314) <p>No <i>EIA</i> is expressly required for the construction</p>	<p>Swedish Ministry of Enterprise</p>	<p>Construction Permit – 05.11.2009</p>
Denmark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Act on the Continental Shelf (1101:2005) as specified in Administrative Order (361:2006) on Pipeline Installation on the Danish Continental Shelf for Transport of Hydrocarbons <p>The <i>EIA</i> is an integrated part of the permitting procedure.</p>	<p>Danish Energy Authority</p>	<p>Construction Permit – 20.10.2009</p>
Germany	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Industry Act (EnWG) • Federal Mining Act (BBergG) <p>The <i>EIA</i> is parallel to and integrated in the permitting procedure.</p>	<p>Mining Authority of Stralsund</p> <p>Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH)</p>	<p>Construction permit Territorial Waters – 21.12.2009</p> <p>Construction permit EEZ – 28.12.2009</p> <p>Permit for re-routing – 26.02.2009 and 19.08.2010</p>