



## **Workshop on impacts of offshore wind energy on species and habitats protected under the Bird and Habitat Directives**

*We kindly invite you to this workshop that will take place on **Thursday, the 7<sup>th</sup> of February 2019**, from 10:00 to 17:00, at the premises of Ibis Hotel Hamburg Alster, Holzdamm 4-12 + 16, 20099 Hamburg.*

As part of the European Commission service contract “Reviewing and mitigating the impacts of renewable energy developments on species and habitats protected under the Bird and Habitat Directives”, commissioned by DG Environment to a consortium led by ARCADIS, **stakeholder consultations** are carried out in all EU Member States.

These consultations aim to collect specific information and insights on and an understanding of the potential direct and indirect impacts that the different forms of renewable energy developments (wind, solar, ocean, geothermal energy as well as bioenergy) may have on habitats and species protected under the EU nature legislation and to suggest concrete ways of mitigating them. Secondly, they aim to discuss possible obstacles that often appear during the permitting procedures of renewable energy developments in Member States, arising from insufficient scientific knowledge of the impacts of the developments on the protected species and habitats, as well as of the available mitigation measures. The final goal is to identify smart approaches on how renewable energy ambitions can be better reconciled with the Natura 2000 targets.

Stakeholder consultations by means of phone interviews have taken place in 20 Member States and have revealed a wealth of information. Workshops or group interviews are now being organized in 8 other Member States. For Germany a specific workshop dedicated to onshore wind and solar energy already took place. Now, a second workshop dedicated to offshore wind energy will take place in Hamburg.

**The workshop will cover issues such as impacts and mitigation measures (state of the art of knowledge and experience), addressing cumulative impacts, precautionary versus risk-based approach, post-monitoring data, sensitivity mapping, use of EC guidance, etc. and will benefit from identified ‘smart approaches’ in 20 Member States where interviews have taken place.**

We would like to limit the number of participants to max 25, in order to have more interactive discussions. We aim for a balanced audience consisting of project developers, planning and permitting authorities, NGOs and research institutions, and with expertise in offshore wind energy. The workshop will be in English, although participants are free to raise their comments and opinions in German.

**Please express your interest UNTIL the 1<sup>st</sup> of February** by sending an e-mail to Kim Driesen ([kim.driesen@arcadis.com](mailto:kim.driesen@arcadis.com)). We will confirm your registration upon receipt of your expression of interest.

**We look forward to welcoming you at this event!**

For all further information, please contact Johan Lammerant, EC Contract Project Leader at Arcadis ([johan.lammerant@arcadis.com](mailto:johan.lammerant@arcadis.com)).

