

*The format for notification to an affected Party of a proposed activity under article 3 of the Convention was adopted by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context by **Decision I/4** at its first meeting held in Oslo from 18 to 20 May 1998.
This document contains excerpt from Annex to Decision I/4 (Table 1) and can only be used in conjunction with the full text of Decision I/4 and not as a stand-alone document.*

Notification to an affected Party of a proposed activity under article 3 of the Convention

1. INFORMATION ON THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY	
(i) Information on the nature of the proposed activity	
Type of activity proposed	<p>Two different project and permits with both an EIA:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. sand extraction for coastal maintenance (suppletion sand) 2. sand extraction of construction sand (commercial activity) <p>The study areas of the EIAs largely overlap.</p>
Is the proposed activity listed in appendix I to the Convention?	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
Scope of proposed activity (e.g. main activity and any/all peripheral activities requiring assessment)	<p>Sand extraction for coastal maintenance</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) navigating to the extraction location; 2) extracting sand at the extraction location (extraction pit); 3) transport back from the coast where the suppletion took place; <p>The suppletion itself, transport to the coast where suppletion takes place, applying the sand on the locations and applying the sand on the beach, are not part of the scope of the EIA.</p> <p>Sand extraction for construction sand</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) navigating to the extraction location; 2) extracting sand at the extraction location (extraction pit); 3) transporting to the transshipment location in or near a harbor; <p>The actual use of construction sand for housing and infrastructure projects are not part of the scope of the EIA.</p>
Scale of proposed activity (e.g. size, production capacity)	<p>The total sand requirement for the period 2028 to 2037 is 130 million m³ (net) for sand extraction for coastal maintenance and 130 million m³ (net) for construction sand for commercial activities. In total 260 million m³ (net) can be extracted, or 300 million m³ (gross).</p>
Description of proposed activity (e.g. technology used)	<p>Trailing suction hopper dredgers are used for these projects</p>

<p>Description of purpose of proposed activity</p>	<p>Sand extraction for coastal maintenance: Without sand extraction and suppletion, we have no control over the development of the Dutch coast. The Netherlands naturally has an eroding coast; more sand disappears than is supplied. In 1990, the dynamically rising coastline was chosen. The location of the Basic Coastline is decisive. If coastal measurements show that the coast in a certain location is smaller than this basic coastline, Rijkswaterstaat (part of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Watermanagement) will check whether maintenance is required. The North Sea has been designated as an extraction location in the National Water Program 2022-2027 and the North Sea Program 2022-2027.</p> <p>Construction sand for commercial activities: A large amount of sand is extracted from the North Sea every year to meet the national market demand for construction sand. Construction sand is used for projects on land such as the realization of new housing locations, business parks, and the construction of infrastructure. How much sand is needed depends on market demand, which is partly driven by the economic situation. In the coming years, demand for construction sand from the North Sea will continue, as land-based sand supplies are insufficient to meet growing needs.</p>
<p>Rationale for proposed activity (e.g. socio-economic basis, physical geographic basis)</p>	<p>Physical geographic basis.</p>
<p>Additional information/comments</p>	
<p>(ii) Information on the spatial and temporal boundaries of the proposed activity</p>	
<p>Location</p>	<p>Several locations in the North Sea, between the border of the coastal foundation set as a line at 20 metres below the Amsterdam Ordnance Datum (NAP) and 12 nautical miles seaward. The preferred area for sand extraction (supply sand and construction sand) will be expanded by 2 nM (nautical miles) seaward from the 12 NM line in the future.</p>
<p>Description of the location (e.g. physical-geographic characteristics, socio-economic characteristics)</p>	<p>To be determined in the EIA</p>

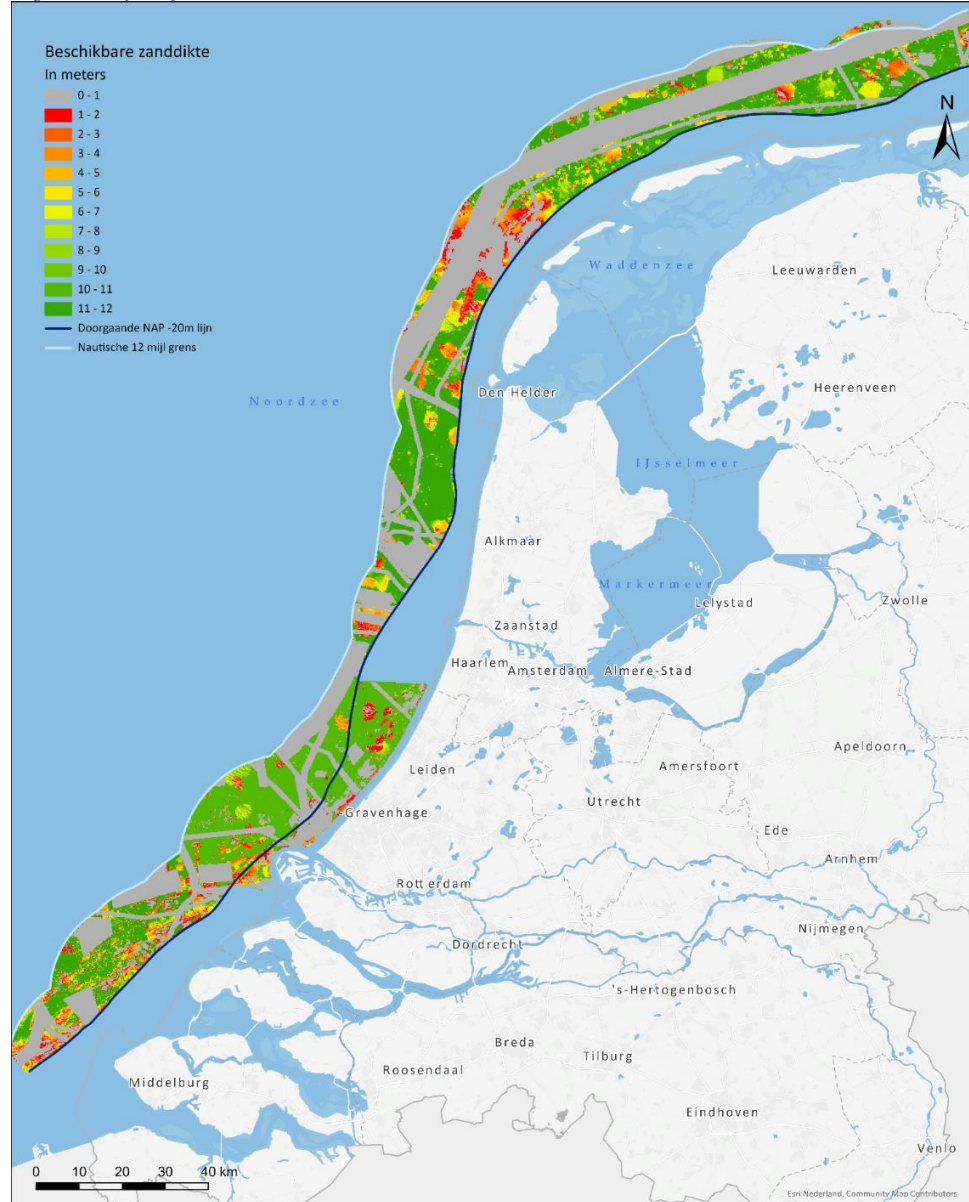
Rationale for location of proposed activity (e.g. socio-economic basis, physical-geographic basis)	Physical geographic basis
Time frame for proposed activity (e.g. start and duration of construction and operation)	2028-2037

Maps and other pictorial documents connected with the information on the proposed activity

Figure 1 Existing and possible new sand extraction sites



Figure 2 Layer of extractable sand.



Additional information/comments

The picture on the first map above are all potential sand extraction zones that will be looked at in the EIA, although some additional zones may still be added in the EIA itself.

The second map depicts the available sand, with grey zones being excluded from extraction due to the existence of infrastructure at sea.

(iii) Information
on expected environmental impacts and proposed mitigation measures

Scope of assessment (e.g. consideration of: cumulative impacts, evaluation of

In the EIA, sand extraction in demarcated search-areas along the complete Dutch coast, alternatives regarding deeper extraction and future-proof extraction will be examined. The main themes of impacts to be investigated are: coast & sea (morphology, soil

alternatives, sustainable development issues, impact of peripheral activities)	composition, water movement, sludge spreading obfuscation), nature & environmental aspects (noise, emissions, etc.), history at sea (archaeology, paleogeology), and utility functions at sea.
Expected environmental impacts of proposed activity (e.g. types, locations, magnitudes)	To be determined in the EIA, but anticipated environmental impacts include the removal of sandy seabed habitats at a local scale, emissions from dredgers during sand extraction, and increased turbidity in and around the extraction site.
Inputs (e.g. raw material, power sources)	To be determined in the EIA
Outputs (e.g. amounts and types of: emissions into the atmosphere, discharges into the water system, solid waste)	To be determined in the EIA, but expected outputs include regular emissions associated with large seafaring vessels. During extraction, some sand may spill and end up in the water column, and eventually resettling elsewhere.
Transboundary impacts (e.g. types, locations, magnitudes)	Transboundary impacts may occur in sand extraction areas in the North Sea near the border with Flanders and Germany. Although, the impacts are estimated to be limited. This will be further determined in the EIA.
Proposed mitigation measures (e.g. if known, mitigation measures to prevent, eliminate, minimize, compensate for environmental effects)	To be determined in the EIA.
Additional information/comments	
(iv) Proponent/developer	
Name, address, telephone and fax numbers	<p>Sand extraction for coastal maintenance: Rijkswaterstaat ZD Kustlijnzorg Tom Koppenol: tom.koppenol@rws.nl Poelendaelesingel 18 4335 JA Middelburg</p> <p>Sand extraction of construction sand: Stichting La MER Huibert van Driel h.vandriel@stichtinglamer.nl</p>

(v) EIA documentation	
Is the EIA documentation (e.g. EIA report or EIS) included in the notification?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If the answer to the above is no or partially, description of additional documentation to be forwarded and (approximate) date(s) when documentation will be available	The Notifications on Scope and Level of Detail are included (in Dutch). The EIA's will be forwarded in 2026 or the beginning of 2027.
Additional information/comments	
2. POINTS OF CONTACT	
(i) Points of contact for the possible affected Party or Parties	
Authority responsible for coordinating activities relating to the EIA (refer to decision I/3, appendix) - Name, address, telephone and fax numbers	
List of affected Parties to which notification is being sent	Flanders and Germany
(ii) Points of contact for the Party of origin	
Authority responsible for coordinating activities relating to the	Sand extraction for coastal maintenance: Rijkswaterstaat ZD Kustlijnzorg Tom Koppenol: tom.koppenol@rws.nl

<p>EIA (refer to decision I/3, appendix) - Name, address, telephone and fax numbers</p>	<p>Poelendaelesingel 18 4335 JA Middelburg</p> <p>Sand extraction of construction sand: Stichting La MER Huibert van Driel h.vandriel@stichtinglamer.nl</p>
<p>Decision-making authority if different than authority responsible for coordinating activities relating to the EIA - Name, address, telephone and fax numbers</p>	<p>Ministry of Infrastructure and Watermanagement.</p> <p>The competent authority for sand extractions for coastal maintenance is the Inspectie Leefomgeving en Transport (ILT): Mr. Emile Lamers (emile.lamers@ilent.nl). Graadt van Roggenweg 500 3531 AH Utrecht</p> <p>The competent authority for Fill sand is Rijkswaterstaat Zee & Delta (RWS ZD): Mr. Sander de Jong (sander.de.jong@rws.nl). Poelendaelesingel 18 4335 JA Middelburg</p>
<p>3. INFORMATION ON THE EIA PROCESS IN THE COUNTRY WHERE THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY IS LOCATED</p>	
<p>(i) Information on the EIA process that will be applied to the proposed activity</p>	
<p>Time schedule</p>	<p>The EIA will start in late summer 2025. The EIA is expected to be completed by the end of 2026 or the beginning of 2027.</p>

<p>Opportunities for the affected Party or Parties to be involved in the EIA process</p>	<p>In accordance with the public consultation procedure, anyone can submit opinions on the two Notifications on Scope and Level of Detail (starting in 2025) and on the EIAs (in 2027). The Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment will review the Notifications on Scope and Level of Detail, and then a review on the EIA will take place in 2026/2027.</p> <p>Neighboring countries can provide their views on the Notifications on Scope and Level of Detail at this moment. Send your views to info@platformparticipatie.nl. This is the preferred option. When the EIAs are finalized, this information will be shared with neighboring countries.</p>
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Opportunities for the affected Party or Parties to review and comment on the notification and the EIA documentation	Neighboring countries can provide their views on the Notification and the Notifications on Scope and Level of Detail. Send your views to info@platformparticipatie.nl . This is the preferred option. When the EIAs are finalized, this information will be shared with neighboring countries.
Nature and timing of the possible decision	The goal is that the permits for the sand extraction will be granted, with the first expected by the end of 2027.
Process for approval of the proposed activity	The process will take place according section 3.4 of the Algemene wet bestuursrecht (Awb). This means that the EIA will be published together with the concept-permit. Anyone can provide their opinion according to the EIA and concept-permit for a period of 6 weeks. During this period, the Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment will advise, along with legal advisors. The Authority has to make the decision (permit), taking into account the received opinions and advices.
Additional information/comments	More information on sand extraction can be found on Noordzeeloket.nl (English is available) Additional information on research projects done on the effects of sand extraction can be found at ZanduitZee.nl (mostly in Dutch).
4. INFORMATION ON THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS IN THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	
Public participation procedures	
Expected start and duration of public consultation	Starting date: 28 th January Duration: 6 weeks
Additional information/comments	
5. DEADLINE FOR RESPONSE	
Date	Deadline: 10 th March