

The Finnish and Estonian TSOs, Fingrid Oyj (Fingrid) and Elering OÜ (Elering), have decided to carry out the studies, obtain permits and define specifications for EstLink 2 HVDC electricity transmission interconnection between Finland and Estonia. The new interconnection will increase the electricity transmission capacity between the two countries from the present 350 MW up to 1000 MW. This increase of the transmission capacity is one of the preconditions of the integration of future power market between the Baltic Member States and Nord Pool Spot. In addition to that, the new interconnection also increases the reliability of the Baltic power systems, while decreasing their dependency on the Russian power supply. The market based benefits deriving from the second interconnection between Estonia and Finland were analyzed in the multiregional study between Nordel, BALTSO and Polish areas which was completed in February 2009. The results clearly show that the planned interconnection is socioeconomically profitable to the Baltic Sea area.

News Corner

Needed environmental studies for the permits will be done in both countries. The environmental impact assessment procedure (EIA) is not required in Finland nor in Estonia.

The application for European Energy Programme for Recovery (EEPR) grant was submitted to EU by Fingrid and Elering in July 2009. The decision should be published in the beginning of 2010.

The seabed survey has been conducted by Fugro OSAE GmbH during summer 2009. The final report will be ready in December 2009.

Common project organisation has been established in Fingrid and Elering.

PreQualification of the HVDC converter station and HVDC submarine cable suppliers will be published in December 2009.

Project Status

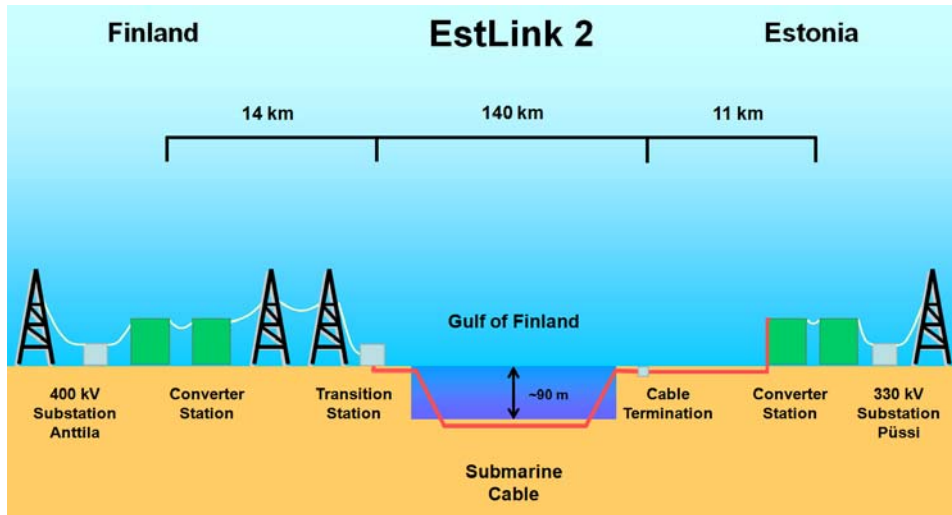
The project is currently at the pre-planning phase. The cable and converter station working groups in project team is currently preparing the inquiry documents.

Environmental issues are on the table and required environmental studies will be finalised to enable fast progress of the permits and project.

Preliminary route selection for the submarine cable, overhead line and land cable has been carried out. The overall design of overhead line in Finland has been started.

EstLink 2

- Capacity: 650 MW
- Rated voltage: 450 kV
- Technique: Monopolar LCC with an insulated return
- Total length: ~ 165 km
- Submarine cable: ~140 km
- Overhead line in Finland: ~14 km
- Underground cable in Estonia: ~11 km
- Commissioning: earliest 2013 and latest 2016 (depending on EU funding and fulfillment of market criteria)





EstLink 2 HVDC interconnection cross section

Key milestones 2009 and 2010

- Seabed survey report done in December 2009
- Starting of PQ procedures for the cable and converter suppliers in December 2009
- Environmental studies and permit applications done in February 2010
- Final investment decision in May 2010
- Inquiry documents ready for the cable and converter in May 2010
- Signing of the cable and converter contracts in December 2010

Schedule

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Preparatory works								
Grid interconnection in Finland								
Grid reinforcement in Estonia								
Extension of Anttila substation								
Extension of Püssi substation								
HVDC cable and OHL								
HVDC converter stations								
Tests and commissioning								

-  Specification, tendering, etc. internal work
-  Contractor planning, construction, testing etc.

More information

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