

## **Biodiversity policy**

LT Energija develops renewable energy solutions and thus seeks to contribute to Lithuania's energy independence, the country's long-term sustainable development goals, and the European ambition of a climate-neutral economy.

LT Energija is seeking for balance between its activities and the preservation of biodiversity and ecosystems. Biodiversity is affected by renewable energy projects and its infrastructure.

While developing wind energy infrastructure LT Energija always considers the aspects and uniqueness of the local flora and fauna. Impacts on biodiversity can arise from the pollution, killing and injury of animals, noise generated during the construction of wind turbine foundations and other necessary structures, habitat loss, vibration, increased access to area, affecting the area's fauna. Meanwhile, operating wind turbine blades can endanger bird and bat populations.

This biodiversity policy defines the main principles LT Energija undertakes to follow when developing wind power projects. LT Energija employees, contractors, subcontractors and other business partners are introduced to this policy and are obliged to follow it.

LT Energija focuses on protecting biodiversity in the project preparation and territorial planning stages. To minimize the potential impact on biodiversity and ecosystems, LT Energija undertakes to:

- Ensure that the planned wind farms are properly located in cases where the responsibility for selecting the exact location of the wind farm is assumed. For this, LT Energija performs the necessary analyses and environmental impact assessment procedures, including determining the impact on local biodiversity and noise level modelling. Based on the analysis, in cooperation with environmental protection and other authorized authorities, LT Energija aims to select the most appropriate locations to avoid or mitigate the possible negative impact on local biodiversity. When choosing the sites for the wind farm projects, the assessment of whether the place does not fall into the "Natura 2000" ecological network or other protected areas is being done.
- Ensure that impacts on biodiversity during the construction phase are mitigated according to the available means. LT Energija follows the principle of non-disturbance of protected areas and the integrity of species and habitats of high ecological value, and when it cannot be avoided due to objective reasons, LT Energija commits to implement all the necessary impact reduction and compensation measures.
- Ensure adequate monitoring and mitigation measures during operations. After the wind farms are operational, LT Energija implements continuous monitoring (no less than 10 years from the start of operations) of the impact on biodiversity, which will ensure that the resulting impact is as intended.
- If an unforeseen impact on biodiversity is identified during monitoring, LT Energija is committed to implementing adaptive management should significant impacts on biodiversity arise.
- Ensure that after wind farms are decommissioned, the area where the activity was carried out is restored and the negative impact on biodiversity is minimized, and the maximum benefit to local habitats is achieved.

Any possible violation of this biodiversity policy can be reported via the hotline channel on www.ltenergija.lt. LT Energija employees, business partners, contractors and subcontractors, their employees, representatives of communities and all interested parties can submit anonymous and non-anonymous messages through this channel.

LT Energija annually reviews the implemented biodiversity policy, follows its provisions, and sets specific goals and objectives for protecting biodiversity and ecosystems.

Mindaugas Juodis CEO of LT Energija