

Policy

Water management

At Ørsted, we are committed to ensure that water consumption and discharge are managed responsibly – particularly in regions where water is scarce.

Access to freshwater resources is essential for both Ørsted and for the communities and the environment near our sites. Therefore, Ørsted's withdrawal of freshwater and disposal of water are issues of environmental and societal importance.

Executive sponsorship

This policy is applicable to all Ørsted activities, locations, employees, and parties working on behalf of Ørsted. Heads of business units or shared functions are responsible for ensuring that this policy is implemented in their respective lines of business.

Policy

At Ørsted, we strive to:

- raise awareness of risks and actions that can be taken to reduce water consumption
- reduce water consumption by using efficient equipment or technology
- minimise water consumption by reusing water and replacing freshwater with other types of water, especially in regions where there is a risk of freshwater scarcity
- engage with local stakeholders around water management
- preserve aquatic biodiversity near our sites
- ensuring measures are in place to treat process water effluent before discharge
- implement measures to reduce pollutants rejected into water
- set targets, implement action plans, and continuously improve performance.

Furthermore, we will ensure compliance with any prevailing legislation, regardless of where we operate and apply recognised norms and standards relevant to the scope of work.

Compliance and enforcement of policy

We are all responsible for adhering to this policy and for following supporting corporate standards, procedures, and processes. We consider violation of and non-compliance with this policy as serious issues. Depending on the circumstances, breaching the policy can lead to a local disciplinary procedure.

Exception handling

Exceptions to this policy are subject to prior written permission from its policy approver. Unless exceptional conditions exist, exceptions will not be granted.

Related policies, standards, and processes

Ørsted's QHSE policy

Ørsted's offshore wind biodiversity policy