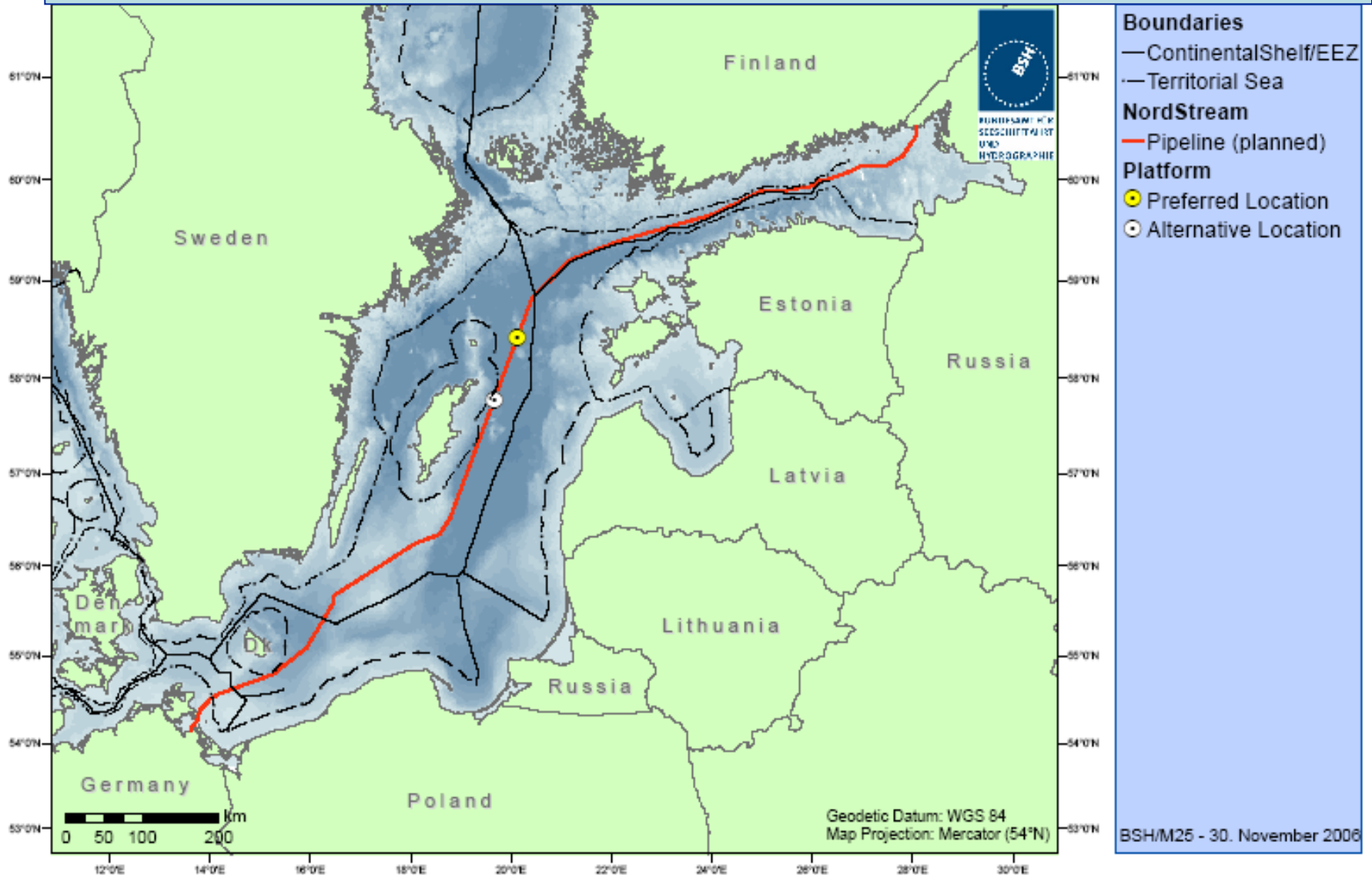




Nord Stream project - experiences from Parties of Origin

Sten Jerdenius, Seija Rantakallio
Swedish and Finnish Ministries of the Environment

Originally planned Pipeline route



A unique project in the Baltic Sea

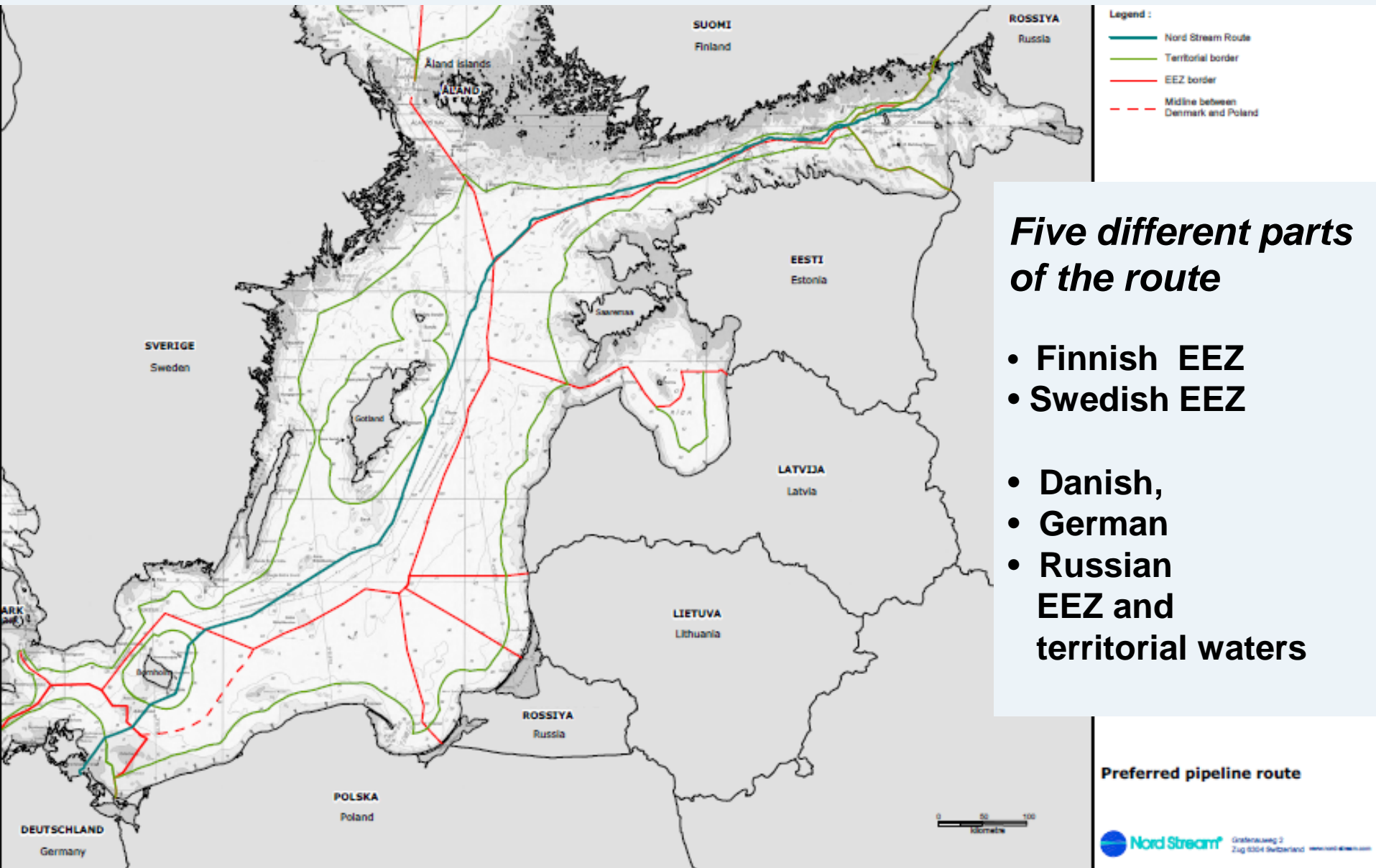
- *Biggest project in the Baltic Sea*
- *The first project of its kind in the Baltic Sea*
- *Involved all nine Baltic Sea countries*
- *Aroused great environmental concern and strong political opinions*
- *Espoo application only concerned environmental issues*
- *Cooperation on EIA Convention application lasted 3½ years*

Baltic Sea environment a common concern

- *Heavy eutrophication causing oxygen free large dead areas and algae blooming*
- *Toxic and dangerous substances in water and sediments*
- *Risks for shipping, oil spill risks*
- *Natura 2000 areas*
- *Vulnerable fish stocks and mammals*
- *Risk for deteriorating the already bad environmental situation*
- *No experience of consequences of pipelines in the special Baltic Sea*



Permits needed from five countries



Early Espoo application decisions

Appendix I project

Convention applies




Four Parties of Origin

Joint responsibilities



Russia's role

*PoO as far as
legislation allows*



Eight Affected Parties

*All Baltic Parties
are Affected Parties*



Common goal

*Coordinated
procedure*



Notification (Article 3).

- Informal Espoo cooperation group formed
- Coordinated work ½ year to get an acceptable project information document for notification
- Coordinated common notification of five PoO and Russia Nov 2006 with
 - same notification letter
 - common scoping document in English and languages of all countries
 - common timing for commenting 3 months
- All countries agreed to have public participation in notification phase (even when not all normally have requirements)

Result of Notification

- All nine countries wanted to cooperate
- Many critical comments and demands for studies of alternative routes
- Developer reviewed project and proposed certain alternative routings
- All Parties and Russia agreed that two modifications were so large that new consultation was needed.

Overall EIA Document

- *It took 2½ year to get a document accepted by Parties of Origin but that was main document for permitting in five countries*
- *Joint EIA not possible because of different national requirements*



**Nord Stream Environmental
Impact Assessment (EIA)
Documentation for Consultation
under the Espoo Convention**

Nord Stream Espoo Report: Non-Technical Summary

February 2009

Conclusions concerning developer

- need to understand the different steps, procedure and requirements of the Convention
- need to have highly qualified environmental expertise within the Company and an active role in combining demands from the different countries
- need to start Convention process only when project is sufficiently developed – feasibility study recommended
- need to understand the different national EIA and permit granting procedures
- need to understand the obligations of Parties of Origin
- Continuity within company project staff required



Conclusions for Parties of Origin

- Form a cooperation group and agree on procedure
- Early contact between Developer and Espoo Point of Contacts important
- Take time to
 - discuss project documents and quality standards,
 - understand different legislation/procedures
 - reach a common understanding.
- Speaking with 'One Voice' to the Developer
- Process designed according to the Party with most demanding legislation and procedures

Overall Conclusions

- Without the Espoo Convention procedure – which was coordinated, orderly and clear – permits for the project would have been difficult to obtain
- The Espoo Convention proved in this project to be an efficient instrument for intergovernmental coordination
- Routing and building techniques were improved
- We got a good overall view of Baltic Sea conditions and possible impacts, setting standard for future projects