

## Environmental Policy Statement of the Ports of Bremen 2024

As the second-largest port location in Germany, the ports of Bremen handle functions which are of central economic importance at both national and regional level. The Senate of Bremen is fully aware of its responsibility of reconciling not only social, but also economic and environmental concerns in the interests of sustainability. The environmental management system “PERS – Port Environmental Review System” was introduced in 2011 with regard to environmental issues. PERS documents the efficiency of the ports in terms of environmental protection, promotes continuous improvements and provides a framework for stipulating and reviewing the environmental targets. As part of that process, an Environmental Report is updated and published at two-yearly intervals. This practice satisfies the requirements of EcoPorts, the ESPO environmental policies and the actors at the ports.

*I herewith declare that the ports of Bremen*

- take steps over and above the legally required environmental standards in order to develop and implement **innovative environmentally friendly technologies and processes** in respect of the ports and shipping. Sharing knowledge with the actors involved continues to play a key role in that connection;
- have continued to ensure **GHG-neutral port infrastructure** since 2023 and endeavour to reduce emissions even further and thus minimise the necessary share of certified emission reduction credits. To achieve that target, plant and equipment, the fleet of motor vehicles and service vessels will be changed over to emission-free drive systems and renewable energy supply, new sources of energy developed and appropriate energy storage systems established;
- pursue the objective of making the ports of Bremen a **carbon-neutral and low-emission port location** by 2035. With that aim in mind, they support the endeavours of the port industry to evolve into a “green” hub within “green” transport corridors of a sustainable supply chain; the climate-neutral Überseehafen project and the Fischereihafen climate alliance are just two examples. The development of suitable targets for reducing air pollutant emissions is also under investigation;
- actively promote the generation, storage, use and processing of **green hydrogen** for both the port industry and shipping and will establish appropriate import and distribution structures for supplying the hinterland. Integrating Bremerhaven into the hydrogen core grid is specified in the coalition government agreement and this target is being pursued in order to promote the establishment of a green hydrogen economy;
- are investigating the establishment of carbon export terminals in order to contribute to the establishment of transport chains which are dedicated to the disposal and, where applicable, reuse of CO<sub>2</sub> from **carbon capture processes** and plant in the interests of climate change mitigation;
- take a holistic approach to **digitisation, the use of artificial intelligence and the environment**: process optimisation should deliver benefits for the environment and the climate. High-quality data are a fundamental criterion for doing so and should be provided in a user-friendly and targeted manner;
- are expanding their knowledge of the environment. The present **environmental monitoring** activities will be continued and expanded to enable better evaluation of change and target achievement and made available for planning processes;
- regard compliance with the demands of **water protection** (Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Water Framework Directive) and **nature conservation** (Natura 2000, Wadden Sea World Heritage Site) as a fundamental boundary condition and take these aspects into account in port operations and port development. They aim to ensure that the environment is not impaired for man or nature to such an extent that the future of the port is in jeopardy;
- raise awareness of the demands of a **circular economy** in the port sector and endeavour to avoid waste which has a hazardous impact on the environment.



Kristina Vogt  
Senator for Economic Affairs, Ports and Transformation

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