

The High North – Infrastructure and Industrial Development

(follow up of conference Where Gas meets Ore, Nov. 2010)

Voksenåsen in cooperation with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Embassies of Finland and Sweden in Oslo, the EU Delegation and the Nordic Investment Bank

Conference at Voksenåsen, November 28-29 2011

This is our third conference highlighting the industrial development in the High North. This time our conference will focus on the infrastructure needed to meet future demands.

The mineral deposits in the High North are of great significance and there is a great potential for new findings as well as for developing older mines. The Nordic research environment related to minerals have formed a cooperation platform that will be presented at our conference.

The industries in the High North face significant growth and development. This applies especially to the mineral- and petroleum related industries but also other areas like seafood and tourism are in rapid growth. Another growth impulse might come as political signals in Norway now will encourage plans for landing natural gas in northern Norway – gas that can be used for industrial purposes in the whole High North region.

To meet the coming growth in the High North it is important that the transport system be developed in a manner that support the industrial needs. As an example plans for Ofotbanen indicate an increase in yearly transport from 17 to 40 mill. tons in 10 years. The Norwegian Transport authorities presented in June this year a study on future needs for transport infrastructure in the High North. The Swedish authorities will present a similar plan in December this year and will give a preview at our conference.

The ministers of Trade-, Transport and Infrastructure from Norway, Sweden and Finland will attend our conference as well as leading industrialists from the High North.

Welcome to a conference that will address some very important development signals for the High North!



Monday November 28th

17.00 Registration and coffee

17.30 Welcome

Ingrid Hjelt af Trolle, Swedish ambassador to Norway

17.40 New possibilities in the High North: Industrialization based on Natural Gas, Minerals and New Infrastructure investments (and Norwegian priorities during the Chairmanship of the Barents Council)

Erik Lahnstein, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway

EU participation in infrastructure development in the North

Siim Kallas, EU Commissioner of Transport (*tbc*)

19.00 Dinner Honorary Dinner Guests:

Siim Kallas, EU Commissioner of Transport (*tbc*)

Magnhild Meltveit Kleppa, Minister of Transport, Norway

Catharina Elmsäter-Svärd Minister for Infrastructure, Sweden

Ewa Björling, Minister for Trade and Nordic Cooperation, Sweden

Merja Kyllönen, Minister of Transport, Finland

Erik Lahnstein, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway

Tuesday, November 29th

09.00 Welcome: **Maimo Henriksson**, Finnish ambassador Norway

09.10 Infrastructure in the North: coordinated plans in Finland, Sweden and Norway

Magnhild Meltveit Kleppa, Minister of Transport, Norway

Catharina Elmsäter-Svärd Minister for Infrastructure, Sweden

Ewa Björling, Minister for Trade and Nordic Cooperation, Sweden

Merja Kyllönen, Minister of Transport, Finland

Q&A

10.30 Break



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- 11.00 A mineral knowledge center in and for the European High North region – planned developments
Jack Ødegård, SINTEF
- 11.20 Industrial development and the need for better infrastructure in the High North.
- **Arne O. Holm**, Nordområdesenteret
- **Andreas Lind**, Norrbottens Handelskammare
- **Timo Rautajoki**, Lapland Chamber of Commerce
- 12.00 Lunch
- 13.00 Current infrastructure planning
- Norway: **Torbjørn Naimak**, Statens Vegvesen
- Sweden: **Arnold Vonkavaara/Krister Palo**, Trafikverket, Region Nord
- Finland: **Jorma Leskinen**, ELY-centralen Lapland
- 13.45 EU and Nordic involvement in project financing in the High North
Stefán Jón Fridriksson, Senior manager, Nordic Investment Bank
Oddgeir Danielsen, Director, Northern Dimension Partnership on Transport and Logistics
Hanna Lehtinen, Deputy Director General, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Finland
- 14.30 Break
- 15.00 Panel discussion: Industrial, financial and environmental challenges for development in the High North
Lars-Eric Aaro, CEO, LKAB, Sweden
Ilkka Korhonen, the Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Finland
Felix Tschudi, Chairman, Tschudi Shipping Co and Centre for High North Logistics
Hannele Pokka, Ministry of Environment, Finland
Moderator: **Pär Weihed**
- 16.15 End





Registration through www.voksenaasen.no or by sending an email to program@voksenaasen.no

Kindly write name, title, organisation/company and billing address

Conference fee : Day 1: NOK 650.- (including dinner)

Day 2: NOK 650.- (incl. Lunch and coffee breaks)

Day1 and 2: NOK 950.-

Deadline November 15th

For questions contact Mikael Klingberg +47 907 47 314 or mikael.klingberg@voksenaasen.no

For more information please visit us at www.voksenaasen.no, on Facebook or twitter @voksenasen.

Voksenåsen - Norway's national gift to Sweden given as a token of gratitude for Swedish humanitarian aid during and right after WWI - celebrated it's 50th anniversary last year. Voksenåsen, owned by the Swedish state through the Ministry of Culture, is a great place for Nordic meetings – with modern hotel and conference facilities at 500 meter altitude, 20 minutes from the center of Oslo – with Sweden's best view!

