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inclusion of Climate Changes

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SEA of Water Sector Plans: Inclusion of Climate Changes

Sanne Vammen Larsen

In 2000 the European Parliament and the European Council passed the Water Framework Directive to be implemented in the Member States, among these Denmark. The consequence of the directive is that the authorities shall prepare plans for the aquatic environment, plans which according to European and Danish law are subject to a strategic environmental assessment (SEA). A seemingly important environmental factor for the water sector is the repercussions of climate change, however, the prospect of the Danish authorities including climate change in their considerations are not good. This paper reviews the connections between climate change and water, in order to gain an overview of the consequences of climate change for water sector planning. Based on this, the paper includes comments on the status for the inclusion of climate change in the preparation of the new water sector plans and SEAs in Denmark.