

Prior Information Notice (PIN)

Announced on Doffin /TED/ June 30th 2026

Subject: Prior Information Notice about an Upcoming Request for Proposal (RFP) regarding sea trial / demonstration of passenger zero-emission vessels in inner parts of the Oslofjord (2027)

Ruter, the public transport authority for Oslo and Akershus county is preparing to gain more experience with zero-emission vessels that can rationally contribute to further development of Ruter's services. More information about Ruter is found on <https://ruter.no/en/about-ruter>

This Prior Information Notice (PIN) is the next step in Ruter's market engagement process, and it constitutes a pre-announcement of an upcoming request for proposal (RFP) for practical live testing of vessels.

This PIN is not a call for tender. It is a market information note only. It does not constitute a tender, an invitation to tender, or any form of pre-qualification. No contractual rights or obligations arise from the information herein. Ruter is at this stage under no obligation to issue a subsequent RFP, which is pending available funding.

Further steps in the procurement of vessel services will be made public in accordance with Norwegian public procurement law and the Public Procurement Regulations, and the underlying principles of equal treatment, transparency, and non-discrimination derived from EU procurement directives.

Project Information:

As a part of Ruter's continuous development is mapping potential suppliers and other stakeholders that could potentially contribute to ensuring zero-emission technologies for marine public passenger transport.

The Purpose of this PIN is

- A pre-announcement of an upcoming request for proposal (RFP) for practical testing of vessels, with passengers onboard.
- Provide all interested parties with equal access to updated information about Ruter's intention to further develop the marine public passenger transport services.
- Enable market actors to begin forming partnerships and consortia ahead of a formal procurement (RFP) process for piloting
- Pre-arrange trials and practical demonstrations of different types of readily available zero-emission* including electric passenger vessel(s), in the inner parts of the Oslofjord, most likely during early parts of 2027.

*: Zero emission meaning zero GHG-emissions, zero nitrous oxides, zero particles.

Ruter may conduct additional market dialogue activities prior to issuance of the RFP.

Formal indicative information about the upcoming RFP:

The experiences to be gained by the upcoming trial will support Ruter to refine its marine requirements, influence route planning and contract models, and will be based on market input and potentially subsequent trials.

The RFP will be a part of Ruter's internal evaluation and decision-making process. The RFP will request offers for testing vessels for a limited period. As a result of the coming RFP, Ruter intends to award up to maximum four companies with a contract for time-limited vessel trials.

Contracts will be awarded covering costs for vessel charter, crew, costs for ensuring legal and other needed public permissions, and for providing documentation of testing parameters, to be arranged by mutual agreement as a result of the RFP. There will be no remuneration to participate in the RFP itself for the interested parties that are not awarded a contract.

The results of the RFP might lead to extendable contracts, depending on the overall results of the testing, and pending available funding for vessel transport.

Testing key parameters:

Ruter will in the upcoming trials be particularly interested in evaluating vessels suitability related to (non-exhaustive listing)

- Electric or other types of emission-free propulsion system
- Energy supply needs, including electric charging and supply system and/or other infrastructure needs
- Energy use, documented through measurements, i.e. real reach in km or nm per re-fuel/recharge
- Assessment of vessel seaworthiness, in Norwegian winter conditions
- Passenger comfort under real conditions
- Availability for mobility impaired passengers
- Space for luggage and bicycles
- Suitability for various types of quays and jetties
- Other aspects relevant to Ruter as basis for further route planning

Indicative key elements regarding the upcoming RFP:

- The RFP will be issued during Q3 2026 (indicatively)
- Contracts to be awarded during 2026
- **Vessel testing timeline:** Planned for late 2026 and/or early 2027. The specific timing and duration to be decided.
- **Location:** The Inner Oslofjord, i.e. limited from Moss, Son, Tofte and towards Oslo. Specific testing routes will be decided.
- **Terms:** This project will be conducted through a procurement process, to ensure maximum value for the available funding for this purpose.
- **Vessel capacity & service speed:** The prime interest of Ruter is in vessels with a passenger capacity of minimum 10 up to 350 passengers, and with service speed between 8 and 30 knots.