Explosives facility in Hurummarka

Fact sheet for the press · Updated 9 November 2026

The Norwegian state is planning a new facility for producing military explosives at Tofte in Hurummarka, a forest area in Asker municipality, south-west of Oslo. Chemring Nobel is the developer, Forsvarsbygg (the Norwegian Defence Estates Agency) is proposing the plan, and the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development (KDD) is the planning authority.

> **We are not opposed to Norway having a defence capability. We are opposed to Hurummarka being chosen without alternatives being properly assessed.**

Key figures

Plan area	Around 15 km² (15.3 km² in the planning programme), roughly 2,100 football pitches. This is the area within which the factory, safety zones, roads and fences are to be planned.
Fenced area	The feasibility study previously estimated around 4.4 km². How much will be built and fenced in is to be settled in the draft zoning plan.
Alternatives	One: Tofte. Sites outside the Hurum peninsula were dropped before the impact assessment began.
Consultation submissions	1,189 on the planning programme, 725 of them using the Citizens' Campaign's template.
Ready for use	By 2030 at the latest, according to the planning programme.
State support in 2027	Up to NOK 309 million for Chemring Nobel in the draft state budget.

A process with only one alternative

In January 2026 the government decided that the plan will be drawn up as a state zoning plan. The municipality is only a consultation body, and there is no right of appeal against the decision. The planning programme, which was out for consultation from 27 April to 15 June 2026, has only one alternative: Tofte.

Fieldwork for the impact assessment and ground investigations in the plan area began before the planning programme was finalised. KDD has written to the Citizens' Campaign that the fieldwork will not be used as an argument for keeping Tofte as the only alternative.

Nature, outdoor recreation and the Oslofjord

Hurummarka is a large, continuous forest area with bogs and lakes, widely used for walking, berry and mushroom picking and time in nature. Not everything within the plan area will be built on. But an explosives facility requires safety zones, access control and new infrastructure, and it breaks up the forest, including outside the fences.

Discharges from the new facility would go into the Oslofjord. Chemring Nobel's plant at Sætre already discharges there, and the company has applied to the Norwegian Environment Agency for permission to wait until 1 January 2030 before meeting stricter requirements for discharges to water.

Where the case stands now

- **27 April–15 June 2026:** The planning programme was out for consultation. 1,189 submissions were received.
- **June–September:** Fieldwork at Tofte for Forsvarsbygg, and ground investigations in the plan area for Chemring Nobel.
- **10 September:** Asker municipal council voted down a proposal to require that at least one alternative outside Hurummarka be assessed as a full alternative, by 43 votes to 11.
- **7 October:** The government proposed up to NOK 309 million for Chemring Nobel in 2027. Up to NOK 154.7 million of this is to speed up the project for a new facility, with a view to a possible investment decision in mid-2027. The Storting (the Norwegian parliament) adopts the budget in December.
- **31 October:** Demonstration for Hurummarka in Oslo. 31 organisations were behind it, and up to 1,000 people took part, according to the Citizens' Campaign's estimate.
- **Next steps:** KDD will finalise the planning programme. The draft zoning plan and impact assessment are scheduled to go out for consultation in winter 2026–27, and the state plans to adopt the zoning plan during 2027.

What we are asking for

- That at least one real alternative outside Hurummarka is assessed to the same standard as Tofte.
- That the knowledge base is made public while the work is under way: the mandate, methods, data and reports from the fieldwork.
- That Hurummarka is protected as a continuous area for nature and outdoor recreation.

Who we are

The Citizens' Campaign for Hurummarka (Folkeaksjonen for Hurummarka) was founded on 23 February 2026. We are independent of political parties and made up of local residents and professionals with a range of political views.

These parties and organisations have expressed opposition to locating the facility in Hurummarka: the Green Party (MDG), the Red Party (Rødt), Red Youth, the Socialist Left Party (SV), Socialist Youth, the Centre Party (Sp), AUF Akershus, Nature and Youth, the Norwegian Society for the Conservation of Nature (Naturvernforbundet), Greenpeace, the Norwegian Peace Association, Skogaksjonen, Knus Krigsmaskinen (AFS), Jewish Voices for Just Peace, Latin America Groups in Norway (LAG) and the Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions (LO).

Press contacts

International and English-language press
Victor Ljunggren Szepessy, board coordinator
Phone +47 940 68 710
vicszepessy@gmail.com

Norwegian press and general enquiries
Isak Gregers Eriksen, spokesperson
Phone +47 989 96 921
hurummarka@gmail.com

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