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Our ref: SIZE-SP004 / 20025411 (NE internal ref: 357965)  
Your ref: EN010012



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**Wendy McKay**  
Lead member of the Panel of Examining Inspectors  
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cc. [REDACTED]@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

Dear Ms McKay

**Application by NNB Generation Company (SZC) Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for The Sizewell C Project**

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

The following constitutes Natural England's formal statutory response for Examination Deadline 3.

**1. Issue Specific Hearings (ISHs)**

- 1.1. Natural England note that dates and topics for ISHs in July have been provided by the Examining Authority, provided in their Rule 13 letter (dated 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021).
- 1.2. As previously advised by Natural England in our Deadline 1 response [REP1-027], we wish to make oral representations at the ISHs. However, in order to consider attending the ISHs scheduled, we request a detailed agenda and list of questions specifically for Natural England as far in advance of the ISHs as possible. Our decision on whether or not we will attend, and notification of the Natural England representatives to attend, will be based on the response to this request and any progress made on the outstanding issues within our remit as outlined in our Written Representations [REP2-153] and Statement of Common Ground with the Applicant [REP2-071].
- 1.3. At this stage, we wish to make you aware that Natural England are unable to attend the ISH on Landscape and visual impact and design. However, we remain happy to provide written responses to any questions raised for Natural England by the Examining Authority.

1.4. Our non-attendance at any hearings should not be construed as a lack of concern on outstanding issues, or a lack of willingness to engage.

## **2. Comments on TR543 Modelling of the Temporary and Permanent Beach Landing Facility (BLF) at SZC**

2.1. Natural England are satisfied with the assessments provided in this report. We advise that this report supports the Applicant's conclusion that the presence of the Temporary and Permanent BLFs will not significantly influence coastal processes along the Minsmere frontage.

2.2. As such, we are satisfied that the presence of the BLFs will not cause an adverse effect on the integrity (AEoI) of Minsmere to Walberswick Heath and Marshes SAC, Minsmere – Walberswick SPA, Minsmere – Walberswick Ramsar site.

2.3. However, we advise that we still need to review the reports relating to the Coastal Defence Features (TR531, TR544, TR545) before we can advise on adverse effects to coastal designated sites in isolation, and potentially in combination with the BLFs.

2.4. While some reports have been submitted to the examination (TR543 & TR544), the Applicant has informed us that they intend to submit an updated version of TR544 at Deadline 3, while other reports remain outstanding. We require all coastal geomorphology modelling reports to be submitted with sufficient time for review, for us to be able to advise the Examining Authority if the Project will alter coastal processes, and subsequently if any alterations will cause an adverse effect on coastal designated sites.

## **3. Comments on Applicant's first revised draft DCO**

3.1. Natural England note the submission of the Applicant's first revised draft DCO. At this stage we have been unable to review the revised document. We will endeavour to provide our advice at examination Deadline 5 (23<sup>rd</sup> July).

This concludes Natural England's advice at this time, which we hope you will find helpful.

For any queries relating to the content of this letter only, please contact Jack Haynes on 

Yours sincerely,

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Norfolk & Suffolk Area Team

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