



**Offshore Wind Farms**

**EAST ANGLIA ONE NORTH**

**PINS Ref: EN010077**

**and**

**EAST ANGLIA TWO**

**PINS Ref: EN010078**

**SEAS Response to the  
APPLICANTS RESPONSE TO  
ExA WQ1 Volume 2 Question 1.0.18  
DEADLINE 2 – 17 November 2020**

**by**

**SEAS (Suffolk Energy Action Solutions)**

**Unique Ref. No. EA1(N): 2002 4494**

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# SEAS RESPONSE

## APPLICANTS RESPONSE to

### ExA WQ1 Volume 2 Question 1.0.18

SEAS would like to respond at Deadline 2 to:

#### [The Applicants' Response to ExA WQ1 Volume 2 Question 1.0.18](#)

It is quite clear from the publicly available information that the Applicant's answer to Question 1.0.18 is woefully incomplete with regard to additional grid connection offers that have been made at the Friston site.

SEAS would draw your attention to [East Suffolk Council's and Suffolk County Council's Response to Examining Authority's First Round of Written Questions](#) in which they confirm, with reference to National Grid documents, that three of these projects; Nautilus, Eurolink and the Galloper Extension, will connect to the electricity Grid at Friston. A fourth project, the Gabbard Extension, is highly likely to receive confirmation of connection to the grid at Friston. <sup>i</sup> SCD1 (and by default SCD2) are confirmed in the same document as making landfall at Sizewell but, as yet, no confirmation of location for a grid connection. <sup>ii iii</sup>

With evidence available that three projects WILL connect to the grid at Friston if these Applications go ahead and other projects HIGHLY LIKELY to connect via a grid connection at Friston then the Applicant's claim that there is insufficient information within the public domain for any of the above projects to be considered within the cumulative impact assessment is simply not true. There is in fact SIGNIFICANT information available.

Evidently, all six of the above listed proposals need to be the subject of environmental assessment and taken into account in the Applicant's cumulative impact assessments. This would be in line with PINS Advice note seventeen: *Cumulative effects assessment relevant to nationally significant infrastructure projects* and enable the Examining Authority to keep to their stated intention that all projects planned to connect to the grid at Friston will be taken into account.

SEAS believe that the Applicant must openly acknowledge the cumulative impact of these six additional projects and undertake a full impact assessment of these projects before any further stage of the Examination can go ahead.

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<sup>i</sup> "The Councils are aware of the following grid connection proposals:

#### **Nautilus and Eurolink Interconnectors**

**Nautilus Interconnector** – 1.4GW HVDC subsea electricity link between GB and Belgium – Developer is National Grid Ventures (NGV) – Expected operation date 2028. The project has a webpage on the National Grid website <https://www.nationalgrid.com/group/about-us/what-we-%20do/national-grid-ventures/interconnectors-connecting-cleaner-future/nautilus> . A Briefing Pack containing information on the Nautilus project is also available <https://www.nationalgrid.com/document/125601/download>.

**Eurolink Interconnector** – 1.4GB HVDC subsea electricity link between GB and Netherlands – Developer is NGV.

It is known that the projects are considering a landfall point between Thorpeness and Sizewell and will require cabling to a converter station location and National Grid connection substation. A typical footprint for a converter station requires an area of five hectares with a maximum height of 24 metres. National Grid Electricity System Operator (NG-ESO) has provided grid connection offers for both Nautilus and Eurolink to a new 400kV substation located close to the Sizewell 400kV network.

The connection offer is identified on the Interconnector TEC register on the National Grid website <https://www.nationalgrideso.com/connections/registers-reports-and-guidance> . The point of connection is known to be the National Grid substation proposed under the EA1N and EA2 projects at Friston.

NGV has stated that for Nautilus and Eurolink to connect to the National Grid substation at Friston, the substation would require an extension for each project. NGV has confirmed that the maximum land take required to facilitate the extension is approximately 1.3 hectares for each connection offered <https://www.nationalgrid.com/document/132456/download>.

#### **Gallop Extension/Five Estuaries Offshore Windfarm**

Gallop Extension/Five Winds Offshore Windfarm – Capacity 353MW – Developer formerly Innogy now RWE – Round 3

In August 2019, the Crown Estate announced the conclusions of the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) confirming that seven projects including the Gallop Extension project were granted development rights.

The National Grid TEC register of connections identifies a connection offer for the Gallop Extension project <https://www.nationalgrideso.com/connections/registers-reports-and-guidance> An email sent from the developer to a Town Council in East Suffolk confirmed that the connection offer from NG-ESO relates to the substation proposed at Friston (See Appendix A of this document).

Although there is limited information within the public domain on this project, it is considered that National Grid could provide an estimation for the footprint of the extension required to the National Grid substation to accommodate this project.

#### **Greater Gabbard Extension/North Fall Offshore Wind Farm**

Greater Gabbard Extension/North Falls Offshore Wind Farm – Capacity – 504MW – Developed by SSE Renewables and RWE – Expected operational date 2030.

In August 2019, the Crown Estate announced the conclusions of the HRA confirming that the Greater Gabbard Extension project was granted development rights. It is understood that the Agreement for Lease has not also been signed.

At present there is no record of a connection offer on the National Grid connections register but a connection offer is anticipated shortly given that an Agreement for Lease has been signed and the website identifies that from 2020 project design work and community engagement will commence <https://www.northfallsoffshore.com/>."

<sup>ii</sup> **SCD1 and SCD2 Interconnectors**

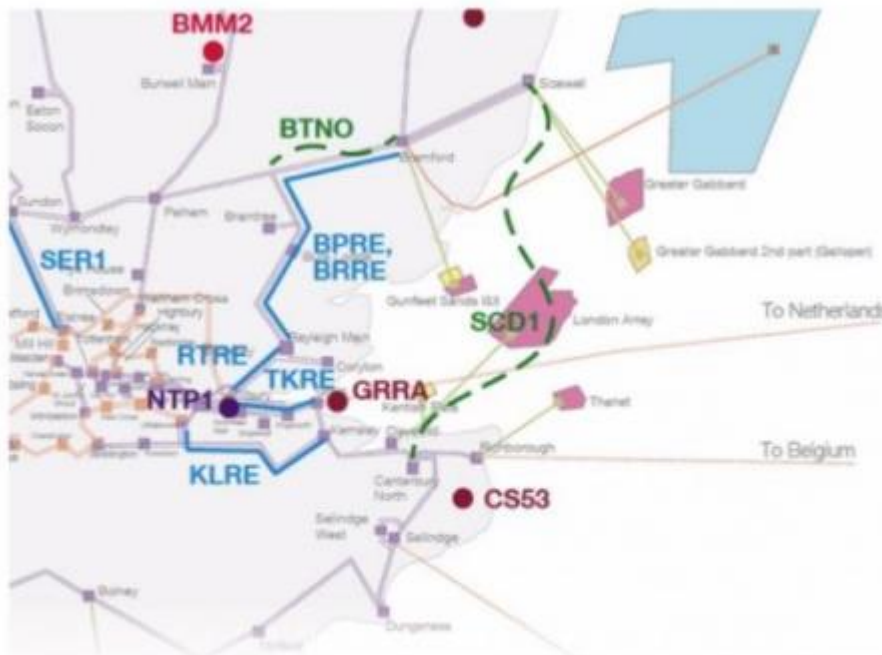
The NG-ESO Network Options Assessment January 2020 have recommended some network reinforcements as being necessary, including a subsea HVDC link between Sizewell and Canterbury  
<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/document/162356/download> Page 112

National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) has confirmed that they will be taking forward this reinforcement suggestion within their Network Policy Decisions June 2020 <https://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/electricity-transmission/document/134036/download>

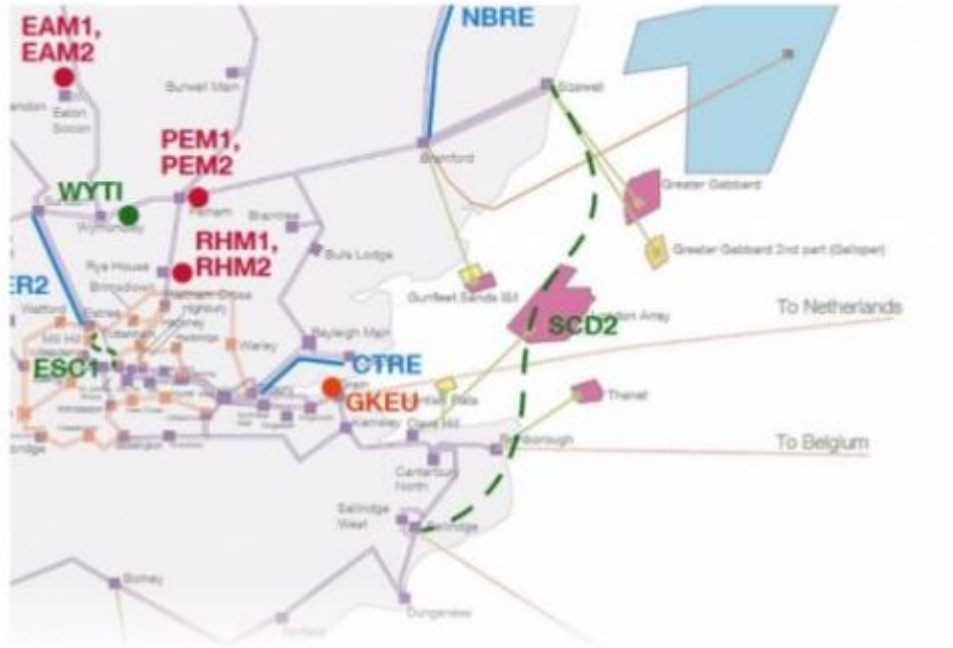
iii **A National Grid news gathering website Power Transmission** has details of SCD1 & SCD2 -  
<https://powertransmissiondistribution.co.uk/national-grid-project-news-projects-scd1-proposed-sizewell-to-canterbury-grid-interconnector-and-scd2-proposed-sizewell-to-sellindge-grid-interconnector/> See diagrams below

## National Grid Project news Projects – SCD1 – Proposed Sizewell to Canterbury Grid Interconnector / and SCD2 – Proposed Sizewell to Sellindge Grid Interconnector

National Grid post about the latest Projects – they have just announced two new 2GW HVDC Interconnector Projects – SCD1 – Proposed Sizewell to Canterbury Grid Interconnector / and SCD2 – Proposed Sizewell to Sellindge Grid Interconnector They will be connecting the Electricity Grid in the Sizewell area to existing Grid locations in Kent (Canterbury and Sellindge). The proposed routing of these Inter-connectors, referred to as SCD1 and SCD2 respectively is shown in the diagrams below. The planned completion date for SCD1 is 2028! These Interconnectors are to route part of the massive wind farm energy planned to be generated off the Suffolk Coast directly to London and the South-East , These Interconnectors will have Converter Stations up to 24m high and occupying at least 12 acres each in the same general area as substation equipment for the Nautilus, Eurolink and Scottish Power projects, as well as the expansion of Greater Gabbard and Galloper wind farms. And of course cabling from landfall to the Converter Stations will be required.



SCD1 – Proposed Sizewell to Canterbury Grid Interconnector



SCD2 – Proposed Sizewell to Sellindge Grid Interconnector