



## Meeting note

<b>File reference</b>	EN010077 and EN010078
<b>Status</b>	<b>Final</b>
<b>Author</b>	Siân Evans
<b>Date</b>	4 May 2017
<b>Meeting with</b>	Scottish Power Renewables
<b>Venue</b>	Teleconference
<b>Attendees</b>	<b>The Planning Inspectorate</b> Chris White (Infrastructure Planning Lead) Kay Sully (Case Manager) Siân Evans (Case Officer) Gail Boyle (Senior EIA and Land Rights Advisor) Alison Down (EIA and Land Rights Advisor) <b>Scottish Power Renewables (UK) Ltd</b> Jon Allen (Principal Environmental Consultant – Royal HaskoningDHV) Paolo Pizzolla (Project Director – Royal HaskoningDHV)
<b>Meeting objectives</b>	Update meeting on the East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO projects
<b>Circulation</b>	All attendees

### Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

The Applicant and the Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) introduced themselves and their respective roles. The Inspectorate reminded the Applicant of its openness policy and ensured those present understood that any issues discussed and advice given would be recorded and placed on the Inspectorate's website under section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008). Advice given did not constitute legal advice upon which the Applicant (or others) can rely.

The Applicant gave an update on the East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO projects. The offshore geophysical surveys will start mid-May 2017. The onshore cable route selection and substation site selection is progressing. The layout for the turbines is developing.

Evidence Plan meetings were held in April 2017 and the survey strategy has been agreed for fish and ornithology. Strategies regarding physical processes and marine mammals are being progressed. The Applicant is producing minutes after each meeting, at the back of which is an agreement log to track what has and has not been agreed. These will then feed into Statements of Common Ground. The Inspectorate commented that this was a good way of tracking issues.

The Applicant advised that their non-statutory consultation is ongoing. The Local Authorities are keen to be kept informed, and at a meeting the previous week they gave a good steer for future engagement.

The Applicant advised that they will start dialogue with relevant parties regarding transboundary issues pre-scoping.

The Applicant discussed lessons learnt from the East Anglia ONE application. Much of it related to the pre-construction stage however in relation to drafting of the DCO, the definition of pre-commencement was considered as not being flexible enough. This knowledge was incorporated into the East Anglia THREE DCO, however the Inspectorate advised that it was useful to record what actually works in practice as evidence for future Examinations.

The Applicant advised that they had learnt that it was important to make clear at public engagements events what all elements of a project are so that the community is fully aware of how they may be affected. For example the red line boundary should include off-site works, showing access to the cable corridor.

The Applicant advised that they have started the procurement process for onshore geophysical surveys, although the detail and scope is still to be agreed with the Local Authority. Ground investigation works along the cable route are required where it deviates from the East Anglia ONE and THREE route. There will be onshore ecology surveys that as a minimum will consider areas where the route deviates from that previously surveyed. These are expected to start in spring 2018.

The Applicant advised that they intend to submit scoping reports for both projects at the same time and that this will be in the first or second week of November 2017 so that consultees are not required to respond over the Christmas period. The Inspectorate advised that while scoping the East Anglia THREE and FOUR projects at the same time did not cause any major problems many consultees submitted joint responses. The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to communicate to consultees that ideally separate responses are most helpful. However where joint responses are submitted consultees should be clear which comments relate to which project and/or where comments relate to both projects.

The Inspectorate highlighted concern about scoping the projects at the same time despite them being submitted for Examination a year apart and advised that the Applicant should consider the balance between consultation fatigue for the consultees and getting the most out of consultation responses. The Inspectorate advised that the more up to date the environmental information is on a project the better, but accepted the Applicant's intention to scope at the same time as unlikely to significantly affect the robustness of the scoping exercise in this regard.

## **A.O.B**

- Next project update meeting 13 July 2017.