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Mr L Beltrandi

Issued via email

Our Ref: 3814637

Date: 17 July 2018

Dear Mr Beltrandi,

Proposed Substations for East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two Offshore Wind Farms

Thank you for your correspondence sent to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) on 26 June 2018. MHCLG has passed your correspondence to the Planning Inspectorate for a response, as we administer the Planning Act 2008 process prior to the relevant Government department making the final decisions on Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) applications.

As the East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two proposals are still at the pre-application stage of the Planning Act 2008 process, we strongly advise you to provide your comments on the proposals directly to the developer, ScottishPower Renewables, at this stage. Responding to a developer's pre-application consultation is the best way to influence a proposal, as the developer has a duty to have regard to responses to statutory pre-application consultation, ahead of submitting their application to the Planning Inspectorate.

I note from your correspondence that you have concerns with the Developer's proposed cable routes and substation locations for East Anglia One North and Two. Developers of projects of this scale are required to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and produce an Environmental Statement (ES). As part of the EIA process, the Developer is required to undertake a cumulative effects assessment.

National Policy Statements provide the primary basis for making NSIP decisions. The Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1) states at paragraph 4.2.5 that: '*When considering cumulative effects, the ES should provide information on how the effects of the applicant's proposal would combine and interact with the effects of other development (including projects for which consent has been sought or granted, as well as those already in existence)*'.

EN-1 can be found on this link:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/47854/1938-overarching-nps-for-energy-en1.pdf

For more information on cumulative effects assessment, I have provided a link to the Planning Inspectorate's advice note 17:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/Advice-note-17V4.pdf>.

It is likely that a draft form of the cumulative effects assessment will be published by the applicant at the pre-application stage for comment, as part of their statutory consultation (within their Preliminary Environmental Information report).

In addition, the National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3) at paragraph 2.6.34 highlights that offshore wind farm developers will need to work within the Ofgem regulatory regime for offshore transmission. EN-3 can be found on this link:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/47856/1940-nps-renewable-energy-en3.pdf

I hope you have found the above information to be helpful.

Yours sincerely

Kathryn Dunne

Kathryn Dunne
Infrastructure Planning Lead

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