



East Anglia ONE North Offshore Wind Farm and East Anglia TWO Offshore Wind Farm

Agendas for Issue Specific Hearings2 (ISHs2): Onshore siting, design and construction

Date: **Wednesday 2 and Thursday 3 December 2020**

Arrangements Conference: **9.20am**

Participants must join the Arrangements Conference in order to register and be permitted access to the virtual Issue Specific Hearing.

Hearing start time: **10.00am**

Venue: **Virtual hearings via Microsoft Teams**

Full instructions on how to join online or by phone will be sent to parties registered to attend, shortly before the hearings.

Hearings Guidance: Please see Annex A of these Agendas.

Invited Participants:

Parties are welcome to attend both scheduled days if they feel it would be useful to them. Suggested days are included in brackets after participant's names where appropriate. The ExAs invite participation by:

- the Applicants;
- Suffolk County Council (SCC);
- East Suffolk Council (ESC);
- Suffolk Coast and Heath AONB Partnership
- The Rt Hon Therese Coffey Member of Parliament for Suffolk Coastal
- Friston Parish Council
- Knodishall Parish Council
- Aldringham cum Thorpe Parish Council
- Aldeburgh Town Council



- Natural England (NE);
- Historic England (HE);
- Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (Ofgem) **(Day 1)**;
- National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc (NGET);
- National Grid Electricity System Operator (NG ESO);
- National Grid Ventures (NGV);
- EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd **(Day 1)**;
- NNB Generation Company (SZC) Limited **(Day 1)**;
- Office of Nuclear Regulation (ONR) **(Day 1)**;
- SASSES Substation Action Save East Suffolk;
- SEAS Suffolk Energy Action Solutions;
- Save Our Sandlings;
- Suffolk Energy Action Coalition;
- Suffolk Coast DMO; and
- Suffolk Preservation Society.

Invitees are requested to contact the Planning Inspectorate by **noon on Thursday 26 November 2020** to confirm their attendance.



Agendas for ISHs2 – Wednesday 2 December

9.20am	Arrangements Conference
	Registration by the case team

10.00am	Issue Specific Hearings 2
1.	Welcome, introductions and arrangements for these Issue Specific Hearings 2
2.	<p>Context and update</p> <p>In the light of the time that has elapsed since the acceptance of the two applications for examination, the Applicant and other IPs are invited to provide an update on the information provided to the ExA on external changes which have occurred since the submission of the applications and their relationship and effect, if any, on the projects, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Recent decisions by the SoS BEIS on energy proposals in the Eastern and South Eastern regionsb) The acceptance of examination of proposals for Sizewell C, and the implications of this and any further progress in the decommissioning of Sizewell A and changes to Sizewell Bc) Crown Estate licensing agreements in respect of proposed offshore windfarms including Five Estuaries and North Fallsd) National Grid structure, policy and plans in the local area, including their strategic function and future plans for the proposed substation and Grid connection site and the potential impact of Sizewell C.e) Developments in energy policy, including the National Grid ESO Offshore Coordination Project and the BEIS Offshore Transmission Network Review, including whether the development of any 'offshore ring main' (ORM) or other alternative connection development projects which it has been argued might serve the proposed developments are now or might in relevant timescales become serious possibilities to which the Applicant and the SoS might reasonably have regard.



	<p>The ExAs will invite submissions from invited IPs and Other Persons who wish to raise matters in relation to this item.</p> <p>The Applicant will be provided with a right of reply.</p> <p>This item will draw on responses to the ExA's First Written Questions [PD-018], including but not limited to 1.0.17-1.0.18, 1.14.1 to 1.14.3, and 1.14.5 to 1.14.6.</p>
3.	<p>Strategic siting - approach</p> <p>The ExAs will ask the Applicant to present the approaches taken to each project's onshore components, with respect to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) The choice to make a new onshore connection, as opposed to utilising/expanding existing connections at Bawdsey or creating new connections elsewhere.b) The specific need for, and justification of, locations of landfall at Thorpeness and substations/transmission systems connections, including the proposed National Grid substation and connections to the grid at land north of Friston. To include details of the strategic decision-making process for the proposed locations and their generation capacities – why were the sites chosen, and in what order?c) Justification for the proposed cable alignments – was this as a result of the chosen landfall and substation locations? What rationale was used in the decision-making process of routes or ways to link up the chosen locations? <p>The presentation should include details on the reasons for changed strategies in relation to landfall and grid connection locations and how these were evaluated; evaluation criteria in assessing alternative substation locations and their potential for mitigation; and strategic justification of the Rochdale envelope and land required for the development north of Friston.</p> <p>The ExAs will invite submissions from invited IPs and Other Persons who wish to raise matters in relation to this item.</p> <p>The Applicant will be provided with a right of reply.</p>



	This item will draw on responses to the ExA’s First Written Questions [PD-018], including but not limited to 1.0.17-1.0.19, 1.14.1 to 1.14.3, and 1.14.5 to 1.14.
Break and close of Day 1 – ISHs2 Adjourned	

Thursday 3 December	
9.20am	Arrangements Conference
	Registration by the case team

10.00am	Issue Specific Hearings 2 Resumed.
4.	<p>Local siting - impacts and mitigation</p> <p>The ExAs will wish to explore the following matters relevant to onshore siting and design with the Applicant including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Design and impact of the proposed landfall and cable alignments on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the Suffolk Coast AoNB, b. Heritage Assets c. Public Rights of Way (PRoW) and local landscape implications. b) Design and impact of the proposed substations/transmission systems connections, including the proposed National Grid substation and connections to the grid, specifically in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Overarching siting and design issues b. Landscape and Visual Impact, including upon PRoWs c. Historic Environment d. Achieving good design



	<p>The above discussions will include but not be limited to the following issues: evaluation of the proposed cable alignments and effect on relevant interests, including in relation to corridor widths; preferred substation layouts and their impact on mitigation measures; evaluation of cooling technologies and other effects in relation to the proposed substations and how these affect design; how 'good design' including design excellence and sustainability in respect of the projects as a whole and the substations in particular will be addressed, implemented and monitored; effect on the setting and significance of heritage assets and the relevance of any mitigation; the effect on any designated PRoWs and; the effectiveness of proposed mitigation measures and whether further mitigation can be implemented with regard to (but not limited to) – visual effects, environmental effects, public rights of way, the setting of heritage assets. The discussions will consider relevant policy and the tests therein.</p> <p>Following on from Agenda Item 2, the ExA may wish to draw upon any issues that have arisen during the ISH to also examine any cumulative impacts, including timetables for development and the potential for overlap and possible wider impacts arising from the proposed substations and grid connection site.</p> <p>The ExAs will invite submissions from invited IPs and Other Persons who wish to raise matters in relation to this item.</p> <p>The Applicants will each be provided with a right of reply.</p> <p>This item will draw on responses to the ExA's First Written Questions [PD-018], including but not limited to 1.0.1 to 1.0.16, 1.0.21, 1.8.1 to 1.8.14, 1.10.1 to 1.10.6, 1.10.8 to 1.10.16, 1.10.18, 1.10.22, and 1.10.25 to 1.10.26</p>
5.	<p>Possible scope for changes to the DCO Applications</p> <p>The ExAs will review the matters emerging from Agenda Items 2 to 4 above and will ask whether there is any possible need for changes to the DCO Applications before them to accommodate any of these. If there are, the possible scope, timing and process applicable to any such changes will be explored.</p> <p>The ExAs will ask for the Applicants' submissions.</p> <p>The ExAs will invite submissions from invited IPs and Other Persons who wish to raise matters in relation to this item.</p>



	<p>The Applicants will each be provided with a right of reply.</p>
6.	<p>Any other business relevant to the Agenda</p> <p>The ExAs may raise any other minor and consequential topics bearing on the project descriptions and options as is expedient, having regard to the readiness of the persons present to address such matters.</p> <p>The ExAs may extend an opportunity for the Applicants, IPs and Other Persons to raise matters relevant to the project descriptions and options that they consider should be examined by the ExAs.</p> <p>If necessary, the Applicants will each be provided with a right of reply.</p>
7.	<p>Procedural Decisions, Review of Actions and Next Steps</p> <p>The ExAs will review whether there is any need for procedural decisions about additional information or any other matter arising from Agenda items 2 – 4.</p> <p>Submissions will be sought from the Applicants and any relevant IPs or Other Persons before determining whether decisions may be required, what they might address and whether timescales for performance are required.</p> <p>If the ExAs determine to make any procedural decisions, they may make these decisions orally (subject to confirmation in writing) or may reserve their decisions to be made in writing after the closure of the hearings.</p>
9.	<p>Closure of the Hearings</p>

Guidance about participating in Issue Specific Hearings

Joining as a speaker

The speakers invited to each session of each hearing are listed on page 1 of the Agenda. As stated in the Agenda, parties are welcome to attend both scheduled days if they feel it would be useful to them. Suggested days are included in brackets after participant's names where appropriate.

If your name is listed for a hearing, please join the Arrangements Conference for that hearing, at the time specified on page 1 of the Agenda. This enables arrangements to be explained and hearings to make a prompt start.

You will receive joining instructions on how to join the hearing in a separate email, in advance of the event (at least 48 hours). This email will also explain what to do if you have difficulties getting connected.

Joining as an observer

If you are an Interested Party (IP) and you asked to observe, you will receive:

- a link to a livestream to watch the hearings in real time; and
- a link to the recordings of the hearings after they have concluded; or

Members of the public can view and listen to the hearings on the National Infrastructure Planning Website using a livestream in real time or a recording after they have concluded.

Frequently Asked Questions

To help you participate effectively, we have published frequently asked questions (FAQs) on virtual events. This includes an explanation as to why these hearings are being held virtually in light of the Coronavirus public health provisions:

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#) v2.1

These also provide information about Microsoft Teams (the system used by the Planning Inspectorate to conduct hearings over the internet) and the digital devices and phones that can be used to join the hearing. Please read the FAQs before you join your hearing as they will help you to prepare and get the best out of your participation. Particular attention is drawn to the FAQ advice 'How do I protect my privacy in Virtual Events' and to Annex H to the Rule 6 Letters, which varies the Planning Inspectorate's National Infrastructure Privacy Policy for virtual events.

Participation, conduct and management of Issue Specific Hearings

Participation by speakers

The business of an ISH is limited to the matters identified in the agenda. Oral submissions on other subject matters or from persons who are not IPs may only be heard at the discretion of the ExAs. It is strongly preferable that any such

issues arising from IPs are brought to an Open Floor Hearing (OFH) where there is no subject matter Agenda and IPs may raise any important and relevant matter.

Any IPs or Other Persons who are not listed as invitees to an ISH but who wish to participate in it should contact the Planning Inspectorate by **noon on 26 November 2020**. A request to be heard should outline the items on this agenda on which they wish to speak and provide a summary of the issues that they wish to raise.

Participation is subject to the ExAs' power to control the hearings. Hearings will be managed in the interests of ensuring that the submissions of invited persons are fully heard within the allotted time. The ExA are conscious that a diverse range of bodies have been invited to the Hearings. This allows for a wide range of interactions between the ExA and interested parties, allowing all present to have access to the evidence under discussion and providing the ExA with opportunities to form their views.

Participants may be legally represented if they wish, but the hearings will be conducted to ensure that legal representation is not required. Parties may attend with expert advisers relevant to matters covered within these agendas but may equally participate without expert advice if they so wish.

Management of ISHs

Guidance under the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) (PA2008)¹ and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 provides that the ExAs will probe, test and assess the evidence through direct questioning of persons making oral representations at hearings. Questioning at the hearings will be led by the ExAs.

Cross-questioning is regulated by the ExAs and is only seldom employed at hearings. Cross questioning of a person giving evidence by another person will only be permitted if the ExAs decide it is necessary to ensure that representations are adequately tested or to ensure that a person has had a fair chance to put their case.

The agendas may be amended by the ExAs at the start of the hearings. Furthermore, the ExAs may wish to raise matters arising from oral submissions, and Relevant Representations (RRs), and pursue lines of inquiry in the course of the discussions which are not listed on the agendas.

The hearings will run until the ExAs are content that all matters on the agendas have been addressed. To avoid virtual event fatigue, session breaks will be provided after approximately 90 minutes of business, subject to ExA discretion. Additional breaks may be taken during proceedings if required to enable the ExAs to deliberate on any matters arising.

¹ 'Planning Act 2008: Guidance for the examination of applications for development consent', (DCLG March 2015).

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/418015/examinations_guidance-final_for_publication.pdf

All participants are advised that any new evidence presented orally at these hearings should be included in post-hearing submissions including written submissions of oral case and submitted at the next relevant deadline for the application to which it relates, in order to ensure that it has been recorded accurately.

Contingencies

If a hearing is unable to proceed for technical reasons, then the ExAs may adjourn incomplete business to reserved hearing time on Friday 4 December 2020, from 10am. Notice of any adjournments will be provided in the banners on the National Infrastructure Planning Website for each Application. If the hearings proceed without disruption, then these reserved hearings will not proceed.

Relationship between ISHs for East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO

ISH2 for the East Anglia ONE North application is being held at the same time, date and place as ISH2 for the East Anglia TWO application. The two hearings will take place as a single event and a single agenda has been prepared to cover both hearings. The same is true of ISHs1.

Should the ExAs need to hear evidence relating to only one or other of the applications, this can be managed during the course of proceedings.

More information about how the ExAs are managing the relationship between the application for East Anglia ONE North and the application for East Anglia TWO can be found in our [Frequently Asked Questions](#).