



SAVE OUR SANDLINGS

**Offshore Wind Farms
EAST ANGLIA ONE NORTH PINS Ref: EN010077
&
EAST ANGLIA TWO PINS Ref: EN020078**

comment from
Save Our Sandlings

**Applicant Deadline 3
Important Hedgerow & Trees
Preservation Plan**

Submission for Deadline 4

Applicant Deadline 3 Important Hedgerow & Trees Preservation Plan.

Hedgerow 1 ¹

We are very concerned at the potential loss of important hedgerow Temp 1, E-106/020/0 ²
³. This forms part of the Holloway, Footpath 20 .

A hollow way⁴ or sunken lane are centuries-old thoroughfares worn down by the traffic of time. They're one of the few examples of human-made infrastructure still serving its original purpose, although many who walk through Holloways don't realise they're retracing ancient steps. We object most strongly to the desecration and vandalism of an ancient trackway when a suitable and viable alternative exists in close proximity.

Where FP20 meets Thorpeness Common, there is a vehicle track circumnavigating the common. Whilst we deplore the removal of any hedgerow, a suitable opening could be made from Works 7 to access this track and then access Works 8 directly. Whilst this would result in the loss of 2 sections of hedgerow, damage to an ancient trackway **would be prevented**.

Hedgerow 3 4 and 5 ⁵

Similarly, the removal of Important Hedgerows 3 and 4 should be avoided where ever possible, especially in the case of hedgerow 3. To remove the entire length when there is sufficient land either side to accommodate project activities appears to be chosen as a result of lazy planning, an easy option. These hedgerows serve an important purpose not only for wildlife as refuge corridors for many smaller species, but also attracting many the many insects who are a vital crop pollinators and food source for birds etc.. Hedgerows act as essential wind barriers, especially hedgerow 3 as it is in a North/South alignment moderating the coastal winds and preventing excessive soil creep, especially important in the Sandlings area of extremely fine soil particles.

The crossing of hedgerow 5 should be limited to least width possible or avoided completely as this is a North/South alignment and is important for the reasons highlighted above.

¹ 2.10 EA2 Important Hedgerows and Tree Preservation Order Plan – Sheet 1

² 2.5 EA2 Temporary Stopping up of PRoW Plan – Sheet 1

³ 8.4 EA2 Outline Public Rights of Way Strategy Page 5

⁴ [Holloways: Roads Tunneled Into the Earth by Time - Atlas Obscura](#)

⁵ 2.10 EA2 Important Hedgerows and Tree Preservation Order Plan – Sheet 2

Hedgerow 10⁶

As identified above, hedgerows serve many purposes for animals and birds, and to prevent excessive movement of soil through wind action. This hedgerow has a North/South alignment essential to controlling soil creep.

Summary

We understand that trees, hedgerows or deep rooted plants vegetation may be planted within 1 metre of the cable route. To this end we propose the following: -

1. Hedgerows and tree removal should be limited to the very least amount practicable to ensure the maximum original structure remains.
2. We would like to see the open areas between established hedgerows infilled with permanent artificial barriers complementing the existing planting, providing all the features and benefits of refuge and safe passage to bird, insect and wildlife of the natural hedgerows removed, and additionally offering effective wind barriers.
3. These structures need to form part to the operation and maintenance procedures for the service life of EA1N and EA2 to ensure similar long term benefits of the removed hedgerows.
4. We would also like to see further mitigation in additional hedgerow planting and restoration of poorer quality hedgerows on at least a 2:1 ratio along the whole cable route areas.

The above covers only those hedgerows and trees immediately within the Sandlings area. Whilst we would like to comment further on the remaining proposed affected hedgerows, personal time and Covid-19 restrictions preclude visiting each location and providing detailed observations. Our opinions are equally valid for all trees and hedgerows along the cable route identified in 2.10 xxx Important Hedgerows and Tree Preservation Order Plans for these two projects. We are extremely disturbed that many existing ancient trees and hedgerows are to be permanently lost and destroyed by these projects. The Sandlings landscape is important not only for flora and fauna but also the health and well-being of residents and visitors alike, who enjoy the unspoilt views and landscapes of Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB area.

⁶ 2.10 EA2 Important Hedgerows and Tree Preservation Order Plan – Sheet 4