

## Accompanied Site Inspection 2 - additional submission

Additional information for the examining panel with reference to Day 2 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021

- Agenda items 7 Inspection of Sandlings SPA – proposed crossing location of onshore cable corridor

With reference to:

ISH3 agenda item 6b *Matters in relation to the crossing solutions and the Outline Crossing method Statement* and

ISH5 agenda item 6 *Public Rights of Way (PRoW)*

- a. Construction effects on the PRoW network
  - i. Effects on users

I supply further information in support of our position that the Sandlings SPA, Work Area 12, should not be subject to open trenching techniques in preference to a trenchless operation. We believe this decision was taken as a cost saving exercise and the decision was camouflaged under an environmental consideration with respect to air pollution and noise. The result of this decision to not use trenchless method will result in the loss and destruction of valuable heathland, trees and shrubs, vital to bird and wildlife. Please refer to the enclosed map.

Areas marked 1 are regularly used by the Sizewell reed deer herd as overnight foraging and sleep location.

The highlighted line follows the western border of Footpath 26 consisting of a number of native species of tree and shrub vital to the survival of bird and wildlife. Many species populate this area and can be observed at differing times of the day and year,

I walk this footpath 3 times a day for the past 27 years and have observed many species transiting through and foraging on seeds, fruits and insects along the hedgerow and accompanying fields and open spaces. A list of species observed is added below.

The area marked 1 closest to area 12, and area 12 itself is periodically mown by RSPB for at least 20 years to prohibit invasive growth of gorse and bramble, maintaining suitable habitat for ground dwelling bird species. The RSPB have not been submitting many detailed submissions on these projects as with limited additional spare time or resources they are concentrating on the more detrimental Sizewell C application.

Whilst we welcome the additional area of protection, marked as Area 12a on the latest 2.3.2 Works Plans (onshore) document, the area marked as 12 is extremely important and should not be subject to any disruption for the reasons set out above.

Nightingale	Stonechat
Turtle Dove	Pheasant
Wood Pigeon	Swallow
Chaffinch	Blackbird
Lesser spotted woodpecker	Wren
Green woodpecker	Goldfinch
Chiff Chaff	Thrush
Yellowhammer	Robin
Finch (various)	Crow
Blue Tit	Rook
Great Tit	Magpie
Long tailed tit	Red Deer
Common Buzzard	Fox
Kestrel	Badger
Barn Owl	Stoat
Little Owl	Weasel
Curlew	Adder
Wheatear	Slow worm
Skylark	

Whilst this list is not exhaustive, the above are the most commonly observed species in this area.

I submit this further information to aid the site inspectors in their deliberations

