



## **The Planning Act 2008**

**East Anglia One North (EA1N) and East Anglia Two (EA2) Offshore Wind Farms**

**Planning Inspectorate Reference: EA1N – EN010077 & EA2 – EN010078**

**Deadline 8 – 25 March 2021**

**East Suffolk Council's Summary of Oral Case - Issue Specific Hearing 11**

**Issue Specific Hearing 11 (10 March 2021) – Flood Risk and Drainage**

Examining Authority's Question		East Suffolk Council's Summary of Oral Case	References
<b>Agenda Item 1 – Welcome, introductions and arrangements for these Issue Specific Hearings 11</b>			
<b>Agenda Item 2 – Policy framework in relation to flood risk and drainage</b>			
<p>Including but not limited to NPS, NPPF, NPPG, Friston Surface Water Management Plan and local planning policies.</p> <p>The Applicants, SCC, ESC and SASES and any other relevant participants will be invited to comment.</p>		<p>ESC considers the relevant national policy in relation to flood risk and drainage is set out in Section 5.7 'Flood Risk' of the Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1). EN-1 states that energy projects over 1 hectare should be accompanied by a flood risk assessment and provides the minimum requirements for this. EN-1 also highlights that priority should be given to the use of sustainable drainage systems and that the project should be appropriately flood resilient and resistant. National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3) does not contain a specific section on flood risk in relation to offshore wind. Finally, National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks Infrastructure (EN-5) also does not contain a specific section on flood risk but refers back to EN-1 in paragraph 2.4.2 regarding the need for the Environmental Statement (ES) to assess the resilience of the project to climate change.</p> <p>In terms of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) the key relevant paragraphs are 155 to 165. The NPPF identifies that development should be made safe for its lifetime without increasing flood risk elsewhere and that major development should incorporate sustainable drainage systems.</p>	

		<p>Planning Practice Guidance contains a section on ‘Flood Risk and Coastal Change’ which is relevant.</p> <p>ESC’s Local Plan contains local policies of relevance including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy SCLP3.4 ‘Proposals for Major Energy Infrastructure Proposals’ – which seeks to ensure that appropriate flood risk measures which include the effects of climate change are incorporated into projects to protect the site during construction, operational and decommissioning stages.</li> <li>• Policy SCLP9.5 ‘Flood Risk’ – this policy emphasises that developments should exhibit the three main principles of flood risk, in that they should be safe resilient and should not increase flood risk elsewhere.</li> <li>• Policy SCLP9.6 ‘Sustainable Drainage Systems’ – requires sustainable drainage systems to be integrated into landscaping schemes and green infrastructure provision and contribute to design quality of the scheme.</li> </ul> <p>The Suffolk Flood Risk Management Strategy is also relevant which sets out guiding principles on tackling flooding. One of the key objectives is to prevent an increase in flooding as a result of new development by ensuring that sustainable drainage systems are properly considered and incorporated into works.</p>	
<b>Agenda Item 3 – Flood risk and drainage during construction</b>			
<p>a) Assessment and methodology  b) Management of surface water and sediment  c) Outline Code of Construction Practice</p>		<p>ESC defers to SCC as the Lead Local Flood Authority on these matters.</p>	

<p>The Applicants, SCC, ESC and SASES and any other relevant participants will be invited to comment</p>			
<p><b>Agenda Item 4 – Operational flood risk and drainage</b></p>			
<p>a) Surface water flooding in Friston  b) Baseline information/existing conditions  c) Outline Operational Drainage Management Plan submitted at D6 including but not limited to:  - Methodology and assessment  - SuDs hierarchy  - Infiltration  - Attenuation  - Discharge to Friston watercourse  - Adoption and maintenance    d) Relationship with Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Strategy (OLEMS)</p> <p>The Applicants, SCC, ESC and SASES and any other relevant participants will be invited to comment.</p>		<p>ESC defers to SCC as the Lead Local Flood Authority on these matters.</p>	
<p><b>Agenda Item 5 – Any other business relevant to the Agenda</b></p>			
<p>The ExAs may extend an opportunity for participants to raise matters relevant to the</p>		<p>Requirement 22 of the draft Development Consent Orders (DCOs) secures the Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) which</p>	

topic of these hearings that they consider should be examined by the ExAs.

If necessary, the Applicants will be provided with a right of reply.

includes a surface water and drainage management plan and a flood management plan in relation to the construction works. Requirement 41 of the draft DCOs secures the operational drainage management plan. ESC supports the wording of both the requirements which identifies the relevant planning authority as the discharging authority. Requirement 41 identifies SCC and the Environment Agency as consultees.

In relation to Requirement 41, ESC fully recognises the vital importance of designing and implementing an appropriate and functional drainage scheme. This is an essential component of the design process and fundamental to the successful operation of the site. The operational drainage scheme is a key component feeding into and affecting the overall design of the site. It is considered that to aid the holistic approach to site design and ensure consistency ESC should remain the discharging authority. SCC's role as the Lead Local Flood Authority is however fully recognised and ESC would not seek to discharge this requirement without their agreement. ESC would like to make it clear that it is not that site design would be prioritised over the design and implementation of an acceptable drainage strategy, the strategy is a fundamental component part.

This approach is also in line with the NPPF which identifies that sustainable drainage systems should where possible provide multifunctional benefits and local policy (SCLP9.6) which seeks the integration of drainage solutions into site design and solutions to complement the overall landscaping scheme and deliver other environmental improvements.

		ESC considers it should remain the discharging authority for this requirement for the reasons set out above.	
<b>Agenda Item 6 - Procedural decisions, review of actions and next steps</b>			
<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 to 5.</p> <p>To the extent that matters arise that are not addressed in any procedural decisions, the ExAs will address how any actions placed on the Applicants, Interested Parties or Other Persons are to be met and consider the approaches to be taken in further hearings, in the light of issues raised in these hearings.</p> <p>A written action list will be published if required.</p>			
<b>Agenda Item 7 – Closure of hearings</b>			