



Meeting note

Project name	East Anglia ONE North (EA1N) and East Anglia TWO (EA2)
File reference	EN010077 and EN010078
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	16 May 2018
Meeting with	Scottish Power Renewables (SPR)
Venue	TQH, Bristol (teleconference)
Meeting objectives	Projects update meeting
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 (s51) of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under s51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

Welcome and introductions

The Applicant and the Inspectorate team introduced themselves and their respective roles.

Project update

The Applicant provided an overall programme update, and confirmed that Scottish Power decided to progress both projects East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO in parallel during the pre-application stage. Therefore the timescales for the statutory consultation under section 42 of the PA2008 are aligned and will be carried out in Q1 2019. The timescales are aligned from the impact assessment and cumulative impact assessment point of view and to assist with the stakeholder engagement.

The Applicant has given some consideration to submitting both projects at the same time, and discussed the matter with the Local Authorities (LAs) and key statutory bodies, including Marine Management Organisation (MMO), Historic England (HE) and Natural England (EN). The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to keep in mind the resourcing that will be required from Interested Parties (IPs), the LAs and other statutory parties, and potential difficulties during combined examination stage for parallel NSIPs. The Inspectorate stated that it regarded a gap between the two examinations as important if this was possible as it would allow IPs to fully participate in the two examinations. The Inspectorate would look to minimise resource intense clashes between the two projects for all participants in the process.



The Applicant intends to submit the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for EA2 in Q4 of 2019, and will update their projects pages imminently.

Transboundary screening

The Inspectorate referred the Applicant to the updated [Advice Note Twelve: Transboundary Impacts and Process](#) and advised that the approach has been amended in response to comments from Espoo, in agreement with BEIS and other parent departments. The approach now includes for the issue of a press release to member states for the purposes of public engagement. The Inspectorate is currently awaiting further information from BEIS before the process is undertaken for EA1N and EA2; however, the initial stage of the process has been progressed. Based on the Applicant's Scoping Report we intend to consult with France, Germany, Belgium, Denmark, The Netherlands and Sweden. The Inspectorate will publish the screening and initiate consultation at the same time, and will notify the Applicant. Transboundary screening is an ongoing duty of Secretary of State and can be carried out anytime it is deemed appropriate (ie when new information becomes available), but as explained in Advice Note Twelve as a minimum the Inspectorate carries out a screening following scoping, and then following acceptance, if applicable.

Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) and consultation

The Applicant gave an overview of different consultation activities proposed, linked to the published SoCC. It will be communicating the revised programme to stakeholders, including publication of a booklet confirming the selection of W1 zone (renamed Zone 7) as the preferred site for the substations, and outlining all key works proposed for the site. The projects' websites will be updated with the new information and advice on how members of the public can engage during the process. Phase 3 Consultation began on Monday 14th May and will last until 28th August 2018 to allow sufficient time for the members of public and stakeholders to get involved, and to understand proposed mitigation to minimise impact on the landscape. The Applicant intends to hold Parish Council briefings, as well as the Public Information Days (PID) at the end June / beginning of July, followed by a repeat of these at the end of July, then allowing for all feedback forms to be returned. All information published on the East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO websites will be made available also on the Inspectorate's website through the direct links.

In regards to the engagement with the local community the Applicant confirmed that it responds quickly and appropriately to many letters and emails received from the Parish Councils and members of the public. The Applicant also referred to the recent correspondence from the Local Authorities sent to Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), and copied to the Inspectorate, regarding the cumulative impacts of NSIPs on the Suffolk Coast. The Applicant will provide a response to the letter explaining their own position on key points, such as methodology of selecting a site and practical ways of managing potential impacts. The Inspectorate said that it also respond to the letter and would be happy to hold a meeting for all parties to discuss matters; however, it would need to consider logistics and location for such event. It also recommended following approach as advised in [Advice Note Seventeen: Cumulative effects assessment](#).



Evidence Plan Steering Group

The Applicant confirmed that the last round of the meetings and discussions on topics such as mammals and ecology have been very positive. The Applicant intends to hold the next progress update conference call rather than the meeting to discuss matters.

Offshore and Onshore Area of Search

The Applicant confirmed that it soon will be able to refine and reduce the development area boundary within the existing study area. The key driver for the change was looking at the reduction to bring the offshore boundary further south from EDF infrastructure.

In regard to the onshore area of search the Applicant confirmed that it has made a decision to consult on W1 zone as the selected site for the substation, and identify the area for the preferred landfall. The Applicant will be defining an indicative onshore development area which will then be consulted on. The Applicant is in discussions with the National Grid as some modification to the existing overhead lines is required and regarding further refinement of the search area which might extend as to what was assessed in the Scoping Report. However, the Applicant feels confident that it would not introduce any new receptors and so be aligned with the area assessed in the Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion.

The Applicant also referred to the matter raised at the meeting in January, in relation to some consultees that were missed from the Scoping consultation. The Inspectorate confirmed that the matter has been rectified, and no further responses have been received.

Specific decisions/ follow-up required

The following actions were agreed:

- The parties agreed to arrange the next telecon regarding the parallel submission and joint examination of both projects for mid-June.
- Further update meeting on Evidence Plan Steering Group and section 42 consultation will be arranged in late August.