

Meeting note

Project name	East Anglia Two and East Anglia One North
File reference	EN010077 and EN010078
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	7 May 2019
Meeting with	ScottishPower Renewables
Venue	Rivergate, Bristol
Meeting objectives	Project / Programme Update
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 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

Consultation Results

The Applicant provided an update on the projects, focusing on the results of the simultaneous statutory consultations which finished on the 26 March 2019. This update is detailed in the presentation that accompanies this meeting note (Annex A).

The Inspectorate advised, in relation to pre-construction trial trenching at key locations, the Applicant would need to consider how the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) is worded so that the Written Scheme of Investigation in relation to archaeological works is potentially triggered prior to commencement. The Applicant explained that the onshore order limits have been kept wider at certain locations, informed by the completed geophysical surveys, to allow micro-siting of the onshore cable route to avoid potential buried archaeology as much as possible.

The Applicant explained that the Environmental Statement (ES) will clearly explain differences in both the Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) and open cut techniques for crossing through the Sandlings Special Protection Area (SPA). Where appropriate, differences in environmental impacts between the two techniques will be clearly presented. The Applicant explained that the HDD technique will require a wider cable route and additional HDD temporary working areas. The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to carefully consider how they will justify any compulsory acquisition in light of the two options proposed.

In response to the Applicant speaking about construction noise, the Inspectorate queried whether the working times set out covered start up and shut down times. The Applicant replied that the times presented in consultation covered the entire working time (including start up and shut down). The Inspectorate reminded the Applicant that the Environmental Statement (ES) must match the dDCO in this regard.

The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to consider how they will secure road signage for offsite highways works, particularly if they are relying on this for mitigation. The Applicant said this will be secured through the construction traffic management plan, which is secured through the relevant DCO Requirement. The Inspectorate queried what was meant by 'no landfall traffic through Thorpeness road'; the Applicant replied that this would mean no Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) but smaller pre-construction traffic could use this road.

The Applicant received responses to the consultation in relation to traffic, including concerns about the cumulative impact with the Sizewell C New Nuclear Power Station, a project also in the pre-application stage of the Planning Act 2008 application process. The Inspectorate asked whether the three projects are using the same baseline data for their cumulative assessments. The Applicant answered that it was using the same strategic traffic models; however, at present it was going to use what is already in the area as the baseline traffic data then assess the impacts of EA1N and EA2, plus Sizewell C.

Joint submission

The Applicant confirmed that it remains its intention to submit both applications simultaneously. The Inspectorate asked for further clarity on the reasons for the two Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) being applied for with separate DCO applications.

The Applicant explained that the projects were separate for commercial reasons.

Additional NSIPs

The Applicant said that due to the extent of the realignment of overhead lines connecting to the National Grid substation as part of these proposals, the proposed electric lines might be considered an NSIP in their own right. The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to consider if their statutory consultation and publicity included sufficient description and information to satisfy the legislative requirements for the potential additional NSIP.

AOB

The Applicant noted that it will provide standalone signed funding statements with the applications and they will retain liability for the substations.

Specific decisions/ follow-up required?

The following actions were agreed:

- A meeting to be arranged to further discuss the Applicant's reasons for submitting two separate DCO applications.



SCOTTISHPOWER
RENEWABLES

7th May 2019

EA1N and EA2 Strategic Meeting with Planning Inspectorate

Agenda

- Introductions
- The Planning Inspectorate's openness policy
- Projects update:
 - General update
 - Findings from pre-application consultation
 - Programme
 - Expert Topic Group Update
- AOB

Project Update - General

- Section 42 and Phase 4 consultation ended on 26th March 2019
- DCO – consulted with key statutory stakeholders
- Other DCO application documents being prepared and reviewed

Section 42 Responses

General

- Natural England
- Historic England
- EDF and EDF Nuclear Generation
- Greater Gabbard
- The Wildlife Trust

Offshore

- MMO
- NATS
- MCA
- MoD
- NFFFO/VisNed
- Trinity House
- Whale and Dolphin Conservation
- Rijkswaterstaat

Onshore

- National Grid
- National Grid Ventures
- Suffolk County Council and SCDC
- Waveney DC
- RSPB
- Environment Agency
- Suffolk Coasts & Heaths AONB
- Aldringham-cum-Thorpe PC
- Leiston-cum-Sizewell PC
- Friston PC/SASES
- Snape PC
- Suffolk Coast DMO
- Norfolk County Council
- Suffolk Preservation Society
- Suffolk Wildlife Trust
- Local Residents
- National Trust
- Public Health England

- EDF
- Royal Mail

Key Offshore Matters Raised

- **SLVIA**
 - Impact of EA2 (lateral extent) on views particularly within the AONB
 - On-going work to review offshore turbine layout
- **Commercial Fishing**
 - Restriction to fishing grounds
 - Consultation managed through CFWG
- **Ornithology**
 - Adverse impacts and HRA
 - Ongoing ETG consultation
 - Additional modelling
- **Aviation**
 - SPR managing ongoing discussion of radar impact mitigation measures with these stakeholders
- **Marine Mammals**
 - In-combination impacts
 - Monitoring through the SIP and Outline In Principle Monitoring Plan
 - On-going liaison with the MMO
 - Monitoring of industry developments

Other Offshore Chapters

No significant or unexpected comments

- Marine Geology and Physical Processes
- Marine Water and Sediment Quality
- Benthic Ecology
- Fish Ecology
- Shipping and Navigation
- Offshore Archaeology
- Infrastructure and Other Users

Key Onshore Matters Raised

- **Site Selection**

- Selection of Friston substation site
- Natural England – “SPR has adopted a good systematic approach that has allowed for a thorough consideration of alternative options”

- **LVIA**

- Visual impact of SPR and NGET substations

- **Onshore Archaeology**

- Pre-consent trial trenching at key locations
- Onshore and offshore heritage setting assessment

- **Onshore Ornithology**

- Working in proximity and crossing SPA
- On-going refinement of order limits to be over 200m from SPA where possible
- ES will present and assess both open cut and HDD methodology for crossing SPA

Key Onshore Matters Raised

- **Traffic**

- Use of Thorpeness Road
- Use of Aldeburgh Roundabout
- Cumulative with SZC

- **Noise**

- SPR substation noise – 35db operational limit
- Construction noise at weekend – review of working hours

- **Water and Flood Risk**

- FRA at Friston
- Detailed development of SUDS for 1 in 200 year – over and above requirement

HRA

- No issues raised are of major concern.
- Positive comments received regarding the volume and level of detail of the work
- Issues raised for the PEIR chapters are relevant to the HRA
- *‘Any risk of a reduction in or loss of a terrestrial or marine European Site should be judged to be a ‘likely significant effect’, and the full significance of its impact on a site’s integrity should be further tested by appropriate assessment’.* This is in line with the approach we are taking

TWT / SWT

“We recognise that the approach to HRA assessment for the Southern North Sea SAC is advancing and we are impressed by the level of assessment undertaken e.g. a spatial and seasonal assessment of all activities rather than just piling and UXO.”

Phase 4 Findings & Responses

- Pre-application onshore archaeology trial trenching and Settings Assessment
- Significant progress on Outline Landscape Masterplan
- Refining onshore order limits
- No landfall traffic access via Thorpeness Road
- CIA with Sizewell C
- Saturday working hours reduced to 7am – 1pm

They Said, We Are doing

- 5 consultation periods
- 42 Public Information Days, events and open parish council meetings
- Over 2,300 consultation responses
- 52,893 mail drops targeting hard to reach communities



Continued Engagement

- End of Phase 4 Thank you email – 14 April
- Spring / Summer The East Angle newsletter – May
- The Suffolk Show – 29 & 30 May
- ‘You said, We did’ video on website – June
- Supply Chain portal launch project website – July
- Planning Aid - August onwards
- Substation master planning briefing to local community (Friston) - September
- Application Submission – end of October 2019

Programme

- Drafts to be issued to PINS on 17th May 2019
 - Draft DCO
 - Draft Explanatory memorandum
 - Sample works plans
 - Sample land plans
 - Draft Consultation Report
 - List of other consents and licences
 - Draft HRA
 - Extract from Book of Reference
 - Draft Statement of Reasons
- Face-to-face meeting on Preparation for DCO application submission – 19th June 2019
- Monthly project update conference calls (31st July, 4th Sept, 24th Sept, 23 Oct)
- Evidence Plan Steering Group meeting – 1st August 2019
- Application submission for both projects – 30th October 2019

Onshore Expert Topic Groups (ETGs)

- Onshore ETGs have been held for the following to discuss comments raised during S42 consultation;
 - Archaeology, Water Resources and Noise
- ETGs have also been arranged for Air Quality, Landscape and Visual/ Seascape, Ecology and Ornithology
- Further ETG meetings will be held at the start of July across all onshore topics to provide an update on the assessments for submission

Offshore Expert Topic Groups (ETGs)

- Three Offshore ETG meetings will be held in June
- These will be held w/c 17th June
- These meetings will be held in relation to the following topics;
 - Marine mammals;
 - Ornithology; and
 - Benthic (including Fish and Physical Processes).

AOB

- Submission of applications for EA1N and EA2 will both occur by 30th October 2019
- Feedback from PINS