

**NORTH NORFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
HOLT ROAD CROMER NORFOLK NR27 9EN



9<sup>th</sup> July 2018

T Williams  
Case Manager  
Norfolk Vanguard Project Team  
The Planning Inspectorate  
3D Eagle  
Temple Quay House  
Temple Quay  
BRISTOL  
BS1 6PN

Dear Sir / Madam

**Planning Act 2008 – Section 55**

**Application by Norfolk Vanguard Ltd for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Norfolk Vanguard Offshore Wind Farm**

**Adequacy of consultation request**

I refer to your letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018 concerning the above.

I confirm that the Norfolk Vanguard Ltd Offshore Wind Project Team has engaged positively with North Norfolk District Council over the past couple of years in the development of their proposals for this major renewable energy scheme, which will achieve landfall on the North Norfolk coast. This has been achieved through the Project Team having regular briefing meetings with officers of the authority outlining both the scope of the project and detailed issues of the proposals as they relate to the North Norfolk area.

The District Council did have some concerns over the approach to public consultation adopted by the Norfolk Vanguard Project Team during the summer of 2017, when the public and local community organisations (parish councils and community groups) within those parts of the District most likely to be affected by the proposals were critical of what they perceived as a lack of openness or willingness on the part of the Project Team to engage or respond in any meaningful way to questions asked by people attending public exhibition and consultation events. The District Council therefore raised these concerns with the Project Team through the regular meetings and in the Council's formal Section 42 consultation response.

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The District Council feels that in more recent times the Norfolk Vanguard Project Team has addressed these concerns through the project website and newsletters which have provided much clearer information and feedback on the issues raised through earlier rounds of consultation, particularly its potential impact upon local communities at the landfall point and along the onshore cable corridor route within North Norfolk. Particular clarity has been provided through the project making a public announcement in February of this year that the scheme would adopt the Direct Current (DC) transmission method for the export of electricity from the offshore wind farm to the connection point into the National Grid. This removed the need for onshore cable relay booster station sites, which were the source of significant public concern in an area of open landscape character and reliance on tourism income.

As you will appreciate, with a project of this scale, the District Council will wish to make comments on the detail of the proposals as the Examination and Consenting process moves forward; but for the time being I confirm on behalf of the authority that we are happy that the Norfolk Vanguard Offshore Wind Farm team has complied with the following duties in relation to the proposed development:-

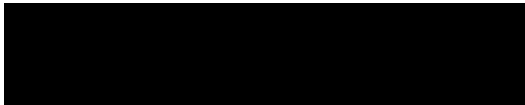
Duty to consult – Planning Act 200 (as amended) (PA2008) – section 42

Duty to consult the local community – PA2008 – section 47

Duty to publicise – PA2008 – section 48

Should you have any questions relating to the above, please do not hesitate to come back to me.

Yours faithfully



Steve Blatch BA (Hons), DipTP, DMS, MRTPI  
**CORPORATE DIRECTOR AND HEAD OF PAID SERVICE**

Tel 01263 516232

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Our ref: SMB/Williams 02 07 18

CC:- Cllr Sue Arnold, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Planning  
Cllr Lee Walker, Local member for the North Norfolk District Council Happisburgh ward  
Cllr Richard Price, Local member for the North Norfolk District Council Waxham ward  
Cllrs Wyndham Northam and Barry Smith, Local members for the North Norfolk District Council Mundesley ward  
Cllrs Nigel Lloyd and Eric Seward, Local members for the North Norfolk District Council North Walsham North ward  
Cllrs Virginia Gay and Ann Moore, Local members for the North Norfolk District Council North Walsham West ward  
Cllr Nicholas Coppack, Local member for the North Norfolk District Council Gaunt ward  
Cllr Norman Smith, Local member for the North Norfolk District Council Erpingham ward

Geoff Lyon, Major Development Manager