



Overview - Transboundary screening undertaken by the Secretary of State	
Project name:	Norfolk Vanguard Offshore Wind Farm
Address/Location:	Two distinct offshore array areas: 'NV East' and 'NV West', located approximately 70km and 47km east from the Norfolk coast respectively; an offshore export cable extending from the arrays to landfall which would be located between Bacton and Eccles on the Norfolk Coast; and an on onshore cable corridor extending from the landfall to the existing National Grid substation at Necton, Norfolk.
Planning Inspectorate Ref:	EN010079
Date(s) screening undertaken:	First screening – 16 February 2017 following the Applicant's request for a scoping opinion
	Second screening – 8 August 2018 after the submission of the application documents on 26 June 2018 and the Secretary of State's decision to accept the Application for examination on 24 July 2018
EEA States identified for notification:	First screening: Belgium, Denmark, France , Germany, Ireland, Netherlands and Norway
	Second screening: No new EEA States identified

FIRST TRANSBOUNDARY SCREENING UNDERTAKEN BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE	
Document(s) used for transboundary Screening:	Norfolk Vanguard Offshore Wind Farm Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report (October 2016) ('the Scoping Report')
Date	16 February 2017
Screening Criteria:	Secretary of State Comments:
Characteristics of the Development	<p>The proposed development is for a 1,800MW offshore wind farm. The key offshore components would be the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between 120-257 wind turbine generators (WTGs), each with a capacity of between 7-15MW, a maximum turbine hub height of 150m, a maximum rotor diameter of 250m and a maximum tip height of 275m (it is possible more than one turbine model would be used across the site); • Up to three Offshore Substation Platforms (OSPs); • Offshore Accommodation Platforms (OAPs) or Offshore Accommodation Vessels (OAV); • Foundations for the WTGs and OSPs – either, or a combination of, monopile, jackets on pin piles, jackets on suction caissons, or gravity base structure; • Up to 650km inter-array 66kV cables; • Up to six offshore export cables and up to six offshore fibre optic cables (from the OSPs to the shore); and • Scour protection, as required for foundations and cables. <p>The key onshore components would be the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landfall site to bring ashore the offshore cables and connect

	<p>to the onshore cables requiring up to six transition pits;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 18 no. onshore underground cables and up to six fibre optic cables; • Link boxes; • Jointing pits at regular intervals along the cable route; • Cable relay station; • Onshore substation in proximity to the grid connection location at the existing Necton 400kV National Grid Substation; • Up to 12 no. 400kV underground interface cables between the new onshore substation and the existing Necton 400kV National Grid Substation; and • Temporary construction areas and access roads. <p>Two different electrical connection options are currently proposed; High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC) or High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC). The HVAC option would require a cable relay station close to the coast and up to 18 onshore cables, in up to six trenches. The HVDC option would require up to 4 onshore cables, in up to two trenches. The decision as to which option would be used for the project would be agreed post consent and would depend on availability, technical considerations and cost.</p> <p>Onshore substation infrastructure and ducting for the onshore cables would be established prior to commissioning the first phase of the offshore works. For a three phase (HVAC) project, onshore construction would start in 2020 and continue until 2026 and offshore construction would start in 2023 and complete in 2027. A construction programme was not provided for the HVDC option.</p>
Geographical area	The extent of the area of a likely impact under the jurisdiction of another EEA State is not provided in the Scoping Report.
Location of Development (including existing use)	<p>Offshore</p> <p>The offshore area would comprise two distinct offshore array areas: 'NV East' and 'NV West', located approximately 70km and 47km east from the Norfolk coast respectively. The offshore export cable would extend in a westerly direction from the arrays to landfall which would be located between Bacton and Eccles on the Norfolk Coast. The locations of the offshore array areas and cable corridor are shown in Figure 1.1 of the Scoping Report.</p> <p>There are numerous human activities and existing infrastructure in the vicinity of the proposed development, including shipping, in particular two Deep Water Routes (DWRs) (located on Figure 2.21 of the Scoping Report); offshore wind developments; oil and gas pipelines and platforms; oil and gas licensed blocks; aggregate dredging; and dumping and disposal. These are detailed in section 2.14 of the Scoping Report.</p>

	<p>The offshore cable corridor is crossed by two pipelines, the United Kingdom (UK)-Netherlands telecommunications cable and a now disused marine disposal site. Figures 2.29 and 2.30 of the Scoping Report depict offshore infrastructure and dredging / disposal areas located in and around the offshore area of the proposed development.</p> <p>The Scoping Report does not state the distance of the proposed development from any other EEA State.</p> <p>Onshore</p> <p>The Scoping Report presents a scoping corridor which incorporates all potential land where onshore infrastructure may be located. The scoping corridor extends westward from the landfall search area which extends from Bacton to Eccles within the county of Norfolk, to the existing National Grid Necton substation 50km west-southwest.</p> <p>The scoping corridor is dominated by arable farming, tourism and the Bacton Gas Terminal in the north. There are several small villages including Happisburgh, Bacton and Walcott within the landfall search area; however, there are no large settlements. The scoping corridor includes a number of roads (notably the A140, the A1067 and the A4); numerous public rights of way (including the Norfolk Coast Path and national cycle routes); and sections of railway.</p>
<p>Cumulative impacts</p>	<p>Offshore</p> <p>Paragraph 280 of the Scoping Report states that offshore cumulative impacts may come from interactions with the following activities and industries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other wind farms; • Aggregate extraction and dredging; • Licensed disposal sites; • Navigation and shipping; • Commercial fisheries; • Sub-sea cables and pipelines; • Potential port/harbour development; and • Oil and gas activities. <p>Section 2.17 of the Scoping Report identifies the following proposed wind farms which are located in the former East Anglia Zone and will also be considered in the cumulative impact assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Anglia ONE (consented); • East Anglia THREE (in determination); • Norfolk Boreas (not yet submitted a request for Scoping

	<p>Opinion);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Anglia ONE North (not yet submitted a request for Scoping Opinion); and • East Anglia TWO (not yet submitted a request for Scoping Opinion). <p>The Scoping Report states that the cumulative impacts assessment will also include wider OWFs, where appropriate; however, these have not been identified.</p> <p>No other offshore plans or projects have been specifically identified within the Scoping Report.</p> <p>Onshore</p> <p>Paragraph 281 of the Scoping Report identifies the following onshore plans or projects that may be considered within the cumulative impact assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • other offshore wind farm infrastructure; • other energy generation infrastructure; • building/housing developments; • installation or upgrade of roads; • installation or upgrade of cables and pipelines; • coastal protection works (location not specified); and • National Grid works at the existing Necton substation. <p>With the exception of the potential works at the existing Necton 400kV National Grid Substation, which would likely include additional switchgear and electrical equipment and would be undertaken by National Grid, no other onshore plans or projects have been specifically identified within the Scoping Report.</p>
<p>Carrier</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts to highly mobile designated/protected species through air or water e.g. disturbance, displacement, loss of habitat, barrier effects, collision mortality and indirect impacts to prey species; • Impacts to foreign commercial fishing fleets and international shipping e.g. displacement and loss of traditional fishing grounds, collision risk and indirect impacts through the displacement of fish species; and • Disturbance impacts to archaeological assets.
<p>Environmental Importance</p>	<p>Offshore</p> <p><i>Designated sites</i></p> <p>The proposed development lies within the Southern North Sea proposed Special Area of Conservation (pSAC).</p> <p>The offshore cable corridor passes through the Haisborough Hammond and Winterton Site of Community Importance (SCI); the Greater Wash Marine proposed Special Protection Area (pSPA); and the Cromer Shoal Chalk Beds Marine Conservation</p>

Zone (MCZ).

Birds

The Scoping report identifies the following birds as being present within the East Anglia Zone: red-throated diver; black throated diver; great northern diver; black-headed gull; common gull; great black-backed gull; herring gull; lesser black-backed gull; kittiwake; little gull; Sabine's gull; guillemot; little auk; puffin; razorbill; 'Commic' tern¹; Arctic skua; common scoter; cormorant; fulmar; gannet; great skua; long-tailed skua; and shag.

Fish and marine mammals

The Scoping Report identifies a number of fish species as being present in or around the site. Site specific surveys of the former East Anglia Zone identified the most abundant species as dab, plaice and witing, solenette, sand goby, lesser weever and scaldfish. Commercial fish and shellfish species found in the area are detailed in Tables 2.12 to 2.14 of the Scoping Report. Diadromous species in the area include European eel, sea trout, salmon, shads, smelt and river and sea lamprey. Fish and shellfish spawning areas are presented in Table 2.15 and Figures 2.8 to 2.13 of the Scoping Report.

A number of elasmobranch species are present in the area, including spotted ray, blonde ray, small-spotted catshark, thornback ray, common stingray, smoothhound and tope.

Harbour porpoise, white-beaked dolphin, bottlenose dolphin, Risso's dolphin, grey seal and harbour seal have all been identified within or around the site.

Commercial fisheries and shipping

The proposed development lies within International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) rectangles 34F1, 34F2, 34F3 and 35F2. The majority of fishing effort is from beam trawlers.

There are two DWRs which pass close to the offshore array areas and a number of traffic separation schemes are present in the vicinity as shown on Figure 2.21 of the Scoping Report.

Offshore archaeology

Within NV East there are six maritime or aviation sites and 27 additional geophysical anomalies of uncertain origin and possible archaeological interest.

Within NV West there are eight maritime or aviation sites and

¹ Commic tern is the term used where an arctic tern and common tern could not be distinguished at distance

	<p>27 additional geophysical anomalies.</p> <p>Within the provisional offshore cable corridor there are five maritime or aviation sites and eight additional geophysical anomalies.</p> <p><i>Air space and radar</i></p> <p>The boundary between the London Flight Information Region (FIR) (regulated by the UK Civil Aviation Authority) and the Amsterdam FIR (regulated by the Dutch Aviation Authority) crosses the eastern edge of NV East. NV West is wholly within the UK FIR.</p> <p>There is one Dutch Helicopter Main Route in the vicinity of Norfolk Vanguard.</p> <p>Onshore</p> <p>There are a number of local, national and internationally designated statutory nature conservation sites within the scoping corridor, as shown on Figure 3.5 of the Scoping Report.</p> <p>The Applicant’s Scoping Report does not anticipate transboundary impacts associated with the onshore development. Onshore impacts have therefore not been considered further within this screening document.</p>
<p>Extent</p>	<p><i>Designated sites</i></p> <p>The Scoping Report does not identify whether designated nature conservation sites within another EEA State would be directly affected by the proposed development.</p> <p><i>Birds</i></p> <p>The Scoping Report acknowledges the potential for impacts on birds from other EEA States due to the wide-ranging nature of some seabird species. However, the Scoping Report has not identified any known migration routes or relevant European sites in other EEA States at this stage.</p> <p><i>Fish and marine mammals</i></p> <p>The Scoping Report acknowledges the potential for transboundary impacts on fish and marine mammals given their highly mobile nature, especially with regard to noise and cumulative impacts.</p> <p>The Scoping Report does not specifically identify populations of fish or marine mammals from other EEA States which could be impacted.</p>

	<p><i>Commercial fisheries and shipping</i></p> <p>The Scoping Report acknowledges the potential for transboundary impacts on vessel routing and international ports, as well as indirect transboundary impacts if commercial fish species are impacted.</p> <p>The majority of commercial fishing effort in the proposed wind farm site is by Dutch registered fishing vessels within a notable presence of French, UK and Belgian vessels. There is limited activity from other countries including Denmark, Germany and Ireland.</p> <p>Vessel tracking shows traffic passing through the proposed wind farm site is primarily trading between UK east coast ports (such as Humber, Tees, Great Yarmouth and Southampton) and continental ports (such as Rotterdam, Ijmuiden, Antwerp and Hamburg). Norway and Russia are also destinations for shipping using the two DWRs.</p> <p>Ferry traffic is between Hull - Rotterdam, Newcastle - Ijmuiden and Hook of Holland - Killingholme.</p> <p><i>Offshore archaeology</i></p> <p>The Scoping Report acknowledges the potential for transboundary impacts should wrecks of non-British, European nationality be subject to impact; however, the Scoping Report does not identify any non-UK features at this stage.</p> <p><i>Air space and radar</i></p> <p>The Netherlands authorities do not have radar coverage over the proposed wind farm site; however, the Scoping Report acknowledges the potential for interference within the Amsterdam FIR from wind turbines.</p>
<p>Magnitude</p>	<p>The magnitude of potential transboundary impacts has not been specifically identified in the Scoping Report at this stage. However, the Scoping Report has identified the potential for transboundary impacts on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • offshore ornithology; • fish and shellfish with regard to noise; • marine mammals with regard to noise; • commercial fisheries; • shipping; • offshore archaeology; and • aviation and radar. <p>These will be assessed further throughout the EIA and mitigation strategies will be considered which may reduce the magnitude of impact.</p>
<p>Probability</p>	<p>The Scoping Report has not identified the probability of impacts occurring. However, should the proposed development proceed, the Secretary of State considers the impacts identified by the</p>

	<p>Applicant would be unavoidable and are therefore highly likely.</p> <p>The Scoping Report does note that for offshore archaeology, a pre-construction geophysical survey would be undertaken. This would ensure that known archaeological assets are avoided as part of the design process, with the potential for Archaeological Exclusions Zones (AEZs) within the development area.</p> <p>The Scoping Report also notes that mitigation strategies would be developed during the EIA; this may reduce the probability of some impacts.</p>
<p>Duration</p>	<p>The Scoping Report does not identify the duration of impacts. However, taking into account the nature of the impacts considered by the Applicant, the Secretary of State considers the likely duration of impact would be as follows.</p> <p><i>Birds</i></p> <p>Displacement and disturbance due to construction activities would be temporary during the construction phase (approximately four years). During operation, impacts of displacement and disturbance, plus collision risk, would last the lifetime of the wind farm (fifty years).</p> <p><i>Direct impacts to fish, shellfish, marine mammals and indirect impacts to commercial fisheries</i></p> <p>The potential impacts on fish, shellfish, marine mammals and commercial fisheries which could result from increased noise levels (particularly from piling) would be temporary during the construction phase (approximately four years). Potential impacts during operation due to underwater noise, impacts upon prey species, vessel interaction, loss of habitat, suspended sediments, EMF and physical disturbance would last the lifetime of the wind farm (fifty years).</p> <p><i>Shipping, offshore archaeology and aviation and radar</i></p> <p>Any impacts would likely be long term during both the construction and the operational phase.</p>
<p>Frequency</p>	<p>The Scoping Report does not identify the frequency of impacts. However, bearing in mind the nature of the impacts considered by the Applicant, the Secretary of State considers the likely frequency of impact would be as follows.</p> <p><i>Designated sites and birds</i></p> <p>Potential impacts are likely to be based on natural patterns of use/migration during construction, operation and decommissioning. Frequency will vary with individual species' seasonal use/migration patterns.</p>

	<p><i>Fish and marine mammals</i></p> <p>Potential impacts from disturbance/displacement are likely to be intermittent during construction and decommissioning, when associated with particular activities. Impacts could be more frequent during operation due to generation of underwater noise, impacts upon prey species, vessel interaction, loss of habitat, suspended sediments, EMF and physical disturbance would last the lifetime of the wind farm (fifty years).</p> <p><i>Commercial fisheries and shipping</i></p> <p>Potential impacts on commercial fisheries and international vessels are likely to be most frequent during construction and decommissioning due to safety exclusion zones around construction vessels and installation activities.</p> <p>Intermittent impacts may be experienced during operation when maintenance is required and safety zones are applied.</p> <p><i>Archaeology</i></p> <p>Potential impacts are likely to be intermittent during construction and operation.</p> <p><i>Aviation and radar</i></p> <p>Potential impacts are likely to be intermittent during construction and frequent during operation due to permanent structures obstructing air space.</p>
<p>Reversibility</p>	<p>The Scoping Report does not identify the reversibility of impacts. However, bearing in mind the nature of the impacts considered by the Applicant, the Secretary of State considers the likely reversibility of impacts would be as follows.</p> <p><i>Designated sites and birds</i></p> <p>Bird fatalities would not be reversible. Disturbance, displacement and barrier effects may be reversible following decommissioning of the wind farm.</p> <p><i>Fish and marine mammals</i></p> <p>Marine mammal fatalities would not be reversible. Displacement and disturbance may be reversible following decommissioning; however, barrier effects may still remain if foundations are not removed and there could be further impacts on colonising species and their predators if they are removed. The populations of some species may take considerable time to recover from certain impacts.</p> <p><i>Commercial fisheries and shipping</i></p> <p>The loss of fishing ground and shipping routes may be regained</p>

	<p>once the windfarm site has been decommissioned and the turbines removed. If the turbine foundations are left in-situ this may result in the loss of the fishing ground and shipping routes being irreversible.</p> <p><i>Archaeology</i></p> <p>Disturbance or destruction of assets as a result of the construction would be irreversible.</p> <p><i>Aviation and radar</i></p> <p>The loss of the airspace within and around the windfarm site may be regained once the windfarm site has been decommissioned and the turbines removed.</p>
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Transboundary screening undertaken by the Secretary of State

Under Regulation 24 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (as amended) (the EIA Regulations) and on the basis of the current information available from the Applicant, the Secretary of State is of the view that the proposed development **is likely** to have a significant effect on the environment in another EEA State.

In reaching this view the Secretary of State has applied the precautionary approach (as explained in the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 12: Transboundary Impacts Consultation); and taken into account the information currently supplied by the Applicant.

Action:

Transboundary issues notification under Regulation 24 of the EIA Regulations is required for the following EEA States:

Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands and Norway - due to potential impacts on commercial fisheries, shipping and navigation, and aviation and radar.

The Scoping Report has identified potential impacts on birds, fish, mammals and archaeological interests but has not at this stage identified European sites in other EEA states to which these could be associated.

Date: 16 February 2017

Note: The Secretary of State's duty under Regulation 24 of the EIA Regulations continues throughout the application process.

Note:

1. The Secretary of State's screening of transboundary issues is based on the relevant considerations specified in Annex 4 to the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 12, available on our website at <http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>

SECOND TRANSBOUNDARY SCREENING

Document(s) used for transboundary Screening:

Environmental Statement dated June 2018 and Habitats Regulations Assessment dated June 2018

Date screening undertaken:

Re-screened on 8 August 2018 after the submission of the application documents on 26 June 2018 and the Secretary of State's decision to accept the Application for examination on 24 July 2018

Transboundary re-screening undertaken by the Inspectorate on behalf of the SoS

Following submission of the DCO application which included the Environmental Statement (ES) and the Applicant's HRA report, the Inspectorate has reconsidered the transboundary screening decision made on 16 February 2017.

The first transboundary screening dated 16 February 2017 was completed under Regulation 24 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (as amended) (the 2009 EIA Regulations).

On 16 May 2017 the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the 2017 EIA Regulations) came into force. Although the Applicant requested the SoS to adopt a scoping opinion in respect of the development to which the screening relates prior to 16 May 2017, it opted to prepare its ES in accordance with the requirements of the 2017 EIA Regulations. The 2017 EIA Regulations are therefore considered to be applicable for the purposes of this transboundary screening.

The Inspectorate notes that changes have been made to the Proposed Development since the previous transboundary screening decision was made and has therefore had regard to the following matters that differ from those considered at the time of that previous decision:

Change in the description of the Proposed Development

The design of the project has evolved during the pre-application process and are included in the application. Alterations to the Proposed Development since the first transboundary screening includes:

- A reduction in the number of wind turbine generators assessed from the figure of 120 – 257 in the Scoping Report to 90 – 200 turbines in the ES ;
- Interconnector cables between the offshore electrical platforms now form part of the description of the Proposed Development in the ES, but were not specifically referenced in the Scoping Report. The location of the new onshore substation has been confirmed and is shown on Figure 4.17 of the ES.
- Extension and modification works at the existing Necton National Grid substation to accommodate the grid connection for the Proposed Development Norfolk Boreas now form part of the description of the Proposed Development (note - the Scoping Report stated these works would be undertaken by National Grid and would not form part of the application).
- The Proposed Development would comprise a HVDC electrical connection and the HVAC option has been discounted. Accordingly, no cable relay station would be required and the proposed onshore cable route width has reduced from the 100m

referenced at scoping, to 45m, and the number of export cable trenches has reduced from six to two.

- The onshore cable route and landfall area have been refined since the publication of the Scoping Opinion, and are shown on Figure 5.4 of the ES.

The ES presents screening information on transboundary impacts in Chapter 32– Offshore Cumulative and Transboundary Assessment. Following the first transboundary screening the EEA States considered by the Applicant in its transboundary assessments include France, Belgium, Netherlands, Norway, Denmark and Germany, as outlined below. The Applicant's conclusions are:

Offshore Chapters:

- **Chapter 8 – Marine Geology, Oceanography, and Physical Processes:** The ES concludes that impacts on marine geology, oceanography, and physical processes are unlikely to occur or are unlikely to be significant and has scoped an assessment of transboundary impacts for this aspect out of the ES.
- **Chapter 9 – Marine Water and Sediment Quality:** The ES concludes that the localised nature on the benthos means that transboundary impacts are unlikely and has scoped an assessment of transboundary impacts for this aspect out of the ES.
- **Chapter 10 – Benthic and Intertidal Ecology:** The ES concludes that the localised nature on the benthos means that transboundary impacts are unlikely and has scoped an assessment of transboundary impacts for this aspect out of the ES.
- **Chapter 11 – Fish and Shellfish Ecology:** The ES identifies that the distribution of fish and shellfish species is independent of national geographical boundaries but considers that a specific assessment of transboundary impacts is unnecessary. The cumulative impact assessment in the ES concludes that effects on fish and shellfish from impacts including habitat loss, disturbance, increases in suspended sediment concentration and sediment re-deposition, noise, loss of seabed habitat, introduction of hard substrate and EMFs were found to be not significant.
- **Chapter 12 – Marine Mammals:** The ES acknowledges the potential for transboundary impacts on marine mammals given their highly mobile nature due to underwater noise, changes to the availability of prey resources and an increase in vessel movements leading to increased collision risk. It identifies Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands and Norway in its transboundary assessment for this aspect chapter but concludes that effects would not be significant for all impacts identified.
- **Chapter 13 – Offshore Ornithology:** The ES concludes no significant effects on offshore ornithology. The fact that non-UK wind farms had not formed part of the cumulative assessment was raised by Rijkswaterstaat in the Netherlands as a potential concern over transboundary impacts on ornithology receptors. However, the ES states that the scale of operational offshore wind farms in Belgium, Netherlands and Germany is such that their inclusion would be very unlikely to alter the conclusions.
- **Chapter 14 – Commercial Fisheries:** The ES identifies that the area is fished to varying degrees by Belgian, Dutch, Danish, French and German fishing vessels. The assessment of potential transboundary impacts is integrated in the commercial fisheries impact assessment. It concludes that on commercially exploited populations, loss or restricted access to fishing grounds, safety issues, increased steaming times, obstacles on the seabed, interference with fishing activities or displacement are not likely to be significant.
- **Chapter 15 – Shipping and Navigation:** The ES notes the potential for transboundary effects with regard to shipping and navigation. The ES notes that the

Proposed Development could have an effect on commercial shipping routes between the UK and other EEA ports, including ports in the Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium and Germany. However, it was concluded that vessel deviation would not be significant.

- **Chapter 16 – Aviation and Radar:** The ES identifies potential transboundary impacts relating to helicopter main routes between the UK and Netherlands, and the charting, lighting and marking of wind turbines and radar operations based in Netherlands and Belgium. These were assessed as being not significant.
- **Chapter 17 – Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage:** With regards to transboundary impacts as a result of changes to marine physical processes, the ES concludes that as tidal ellipses show that all movement is in a north south direction, an assessment of transboundary impacts from such changes has therefore been scoped out of the ES. With regards to transboundary impacts to known and potential heritage assets such as non-British wrecks or aircraft, these were assessed to be not significant.

Onshore Chapters:

- No transboundary impacts were identified for the following onshore environment aspect chapters: Chapter 18 – Infrastructure and Other Users; Chapter 19 – Ground Conditions; Chapter 20: Water Resources and Flood Risk; Chapter 21 – Land Use and Agriculture; Chapter 22 – Onshore Ecology; Chapter 23 – Onshore Ornithology; Chapter 24 – Traffic and Transport; Chapter 25 – Noise and Vibration; Chapter 26 – Air Quality; Chapter 27 – Human Health; Chapter 28 – Onshore Archaeology; Chapter 29 – LVIA; Chapter 30 – Tourism and Recreation; Chapter 31 – Socio-Economics.

Secretary of State's comments

Under Regulation 32 of the 2017 EIA Regulations and on the basis of the current information available from the Applicant, there is a change to the previous conclusion, and the Inspectorate is now of the view that the Proposed Development **is not likely** to have a significant effect on the environment in another EEA State.

In reaching this view the Inspectorate has applied the precautionary approach (as explained in its Advice Note twelve: Transboundary Impacts); and taken into account the information currently supplied by the Applicant.

Action:

Consultation letters will be sent to those EEA States who responded to the previous notification under Regulation 24 of the 2009 EIA Regulations and asked to participate in the procedure.

States to be consulted:

Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Norway and Netherlands.

Date: 8 August 2018

Note: The SoS' duty under Regulation 32 of the 2017 EIA Regulations continues throughout the application process.

Note:

The Inspectorate's screening of transboundary issues is based on the relevant considerations specified in the Annex to its Advice Note Twelve, available on our website at <http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>