

**Norfolk Vanguard Offshore Wind Farm**

# **Statement of Common Ground**

**East Anglia THREE Ltd**



Applicant: Norfolk Vanguard Limited  
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*Photo: Kentish Flats Offshore Wind Farm*

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

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1. A Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) with East Anglia THREE Ltd (EATL) and Norfolk Vanguard Limited (hereafter ‘the Applicant’) was requested by the Planning Inspectorate in the Norfolk Vanguard Rule 6 Letter (dated 9 November 2018).

2. The Planning Inspectorate asked that the SoCG include:

*“Methodology for notification and liaison with each other regarding potential construction operations, monitoring information and proposed mitigation measures.”*

3. As part of the UK Offshore Wind Round 3 tender process, Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd (VWPL; parent company of the Applicant) and Scottish Power Renewables (SPR; parent company of EATL) formed a joint venture company (East Anglia Offshore Wind Limited) to develop the former East Anglia Zone (Zone 5). In December 2014, a decision was taken to split the development rights of the zone, with VWPL retaining development rights within the northern half of the former East Anglia Zone, and SPR continuing to develop the southern half. In 2015, in agreement with The Crown Estate, new Agreement for Lease (AfL) areas were separately awarded by The Crown Estate within the former Zone, to VWPL and its affiliate companies, and SPR and its affiliate companies.
4. For VWPL, this was established via two agreements for lease (AfL), each for a development of 1.8GW and resulted in the formation of two offshore wind development projects (Norfolk Vanguard and its sister project, Norfolk Boreas).
5. For SPR, this was also established via agreements for lease (AfL) and resulted in the formation of East Anglia THREE.
6. As part of this process, a Cooperation Agreement was established in 2016 between SPR and VWPL which provides the commitment from both parties to co-ordinate and liaise throughout the development of each of their projects in the former Zone. This includes a commitment for the Parties to keep each other informed as to the progress and status of the respective projects.
7. This SoCG comprises an agreement log which has been structured to reflect key topics where notification and liaison would be required between the Applicant and EATL. Detailed input from EATL on the SoCG is currently outstanding and the Applicant will continue to engage with EATL to progress this SoCG.

## 1.1 East Anglia THREE

8. The East Anglia THREE project will have a capacity of up to 1,200MW. The western boundary of the East Anglia THREE site is approximately 69km from the port of Lowestoft.
9. The East Anglia THREE project will comprise offshore wind turbines and offshore electrical platforms, offshore and onshore export cables, and associated development relating to offshore and onshore electrical transmission works that are deemed necessary for its construction and operation and the transmission of power to the National Grid.
10. The East Anglia THREE project is the second project to be developed within the former East Anglia Zone by SPR. The East Anglia THREE project will utilise the same offshore cable corridor as SPR's first project, East Anglia ONE, as well as the same landfall location and entire length of the onshore cable route to Bramford substation in Suffolk, where the project will connect to the National Grid using onshore cable ducts laid by East Anglia ONE.
11. East Anglia THREE will be constructed using either a "Single Phased" approach or a "Two Phased" approach with each phase comprising up to 600MW.

## 1.2 Norfolk Vanguard

12. The Application is for the development of the Norfolk Vanguard Offshore Wind Farm (OWF) and associated infrastructure. The OWF comprises two distinct areas, Norfolk Vanguard (NV) East and NV West ('the OWF sites'), which are located in the southern North Sea, approximately 70km and 47km from the nearest point of the Norfolk coast respectively. NV East is located directly to the north of East Anglia THREE (Figure 1). The location of the OWF sites is shown in Chapter 5 Project Description Figure 5.1 of the Application. The OWF would be connected to the shore by offshore export cables installed within the offshore cable corridor from the OWF sites to a landfall point at Happisburgh South, Norfolk. From there, onshore cables would transport power over approximately 60km to the onshore project substation and grid connection point near Necton, Norfolk.
13. Once built, Norfolk Vanguard would have an export capacity of up to 1800MW, with the offshore components comprising:
  - Wind turbines;
  - Offshore electrical platforms;
  - Accommodation platforms;
  - Met masts;
  - Measuring equipment (LiDAR and wave buoys);

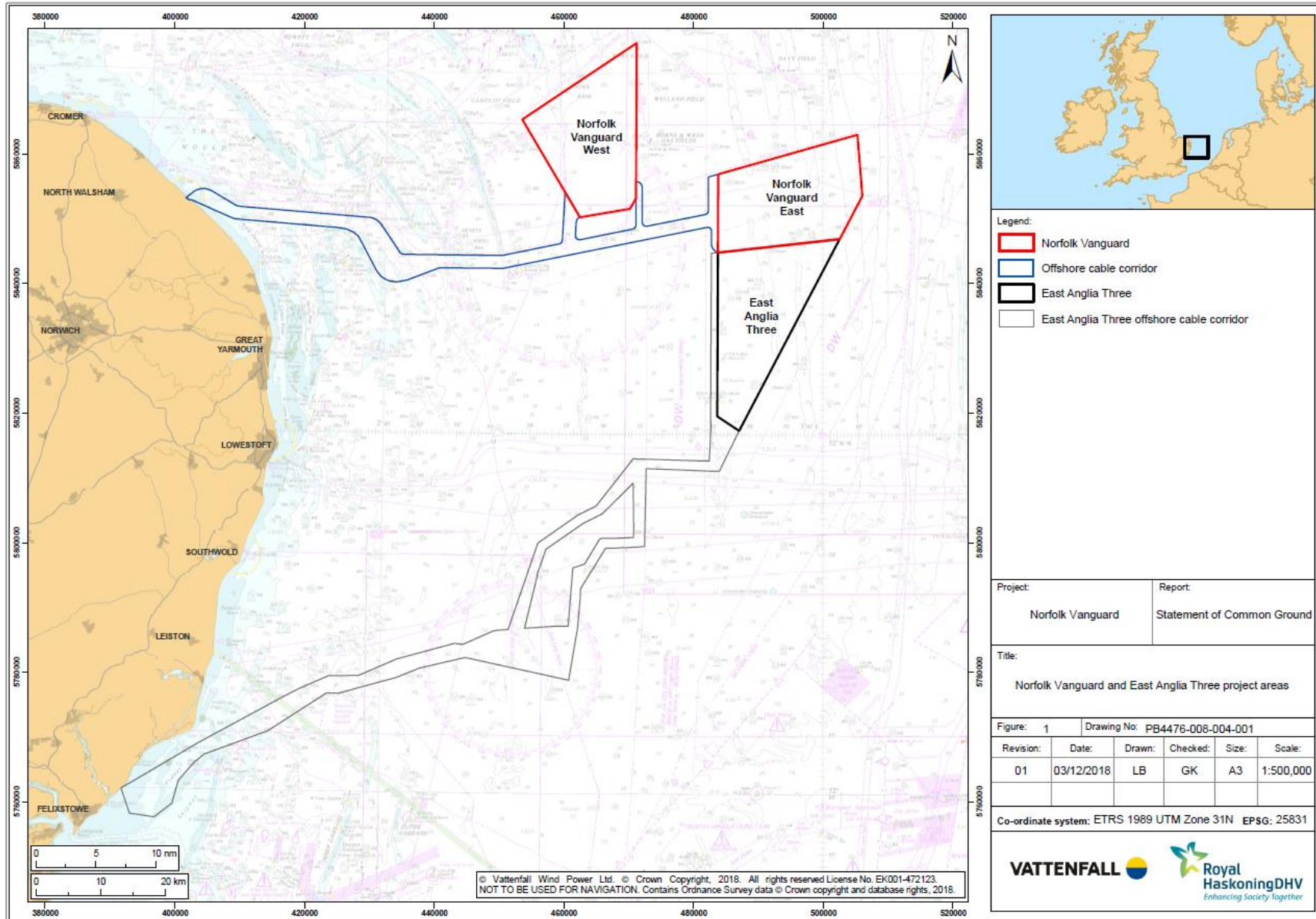
- Array cables;
- Interconnector cables; and
- Export cables.

14. The key onshore components of the project are as follows:

- Landfall;
- Onshore cable route, accesses, trenchless crossing technique (e.g. Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD)) zones and mobilisation areas;
- Onshore project substation; and
- Extension to the existing Necton National Grid substation and overhead line modifications.

15. Norfolk Vanguard Limited is currently considering constructing the project in a single phase or a two phased approach (up to a total export capacity of 1800MW).





### 1.3 Consultation with EATL

16. The Applicant has engaged with EATL regularly since the change in the joint venture arrangements, in accordance with the Cooperation Agreement, and will continue to do so as the projects develop throughout construction and operation. A Development Steering Group (DSG) was established in November 2015 to facilitate co-ordination of development matters, both in the initial transition phase and beyond into an enduring arrangement.
17. Meetings of the DSG are held approximately quarterly with chairmanship alternating between Vattenfall and ScottishPower. The DSG covers all projects within the former East Anglia Zone, including Norfolk Vanguard (NV) and EATL.
18. The Terms of Reference for the DSG has formed the basis of this SoCG.
19. SPR submitted a Relevant Representation regarding Norfolk Vanguard dated 17 August 2018 which has been considered by the Applicant.



## 2 STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

Table 1 SoCG between Norfolk Vanguard Ltd and EATL

Norfolk Vanguard Limited position	EATL position	Final position
<b>Notification and Liaison</b>		
Norfolk Vanguard Ltd and EATL will take a co-ordinated approach to stakeholder consultation where appropriate.	Agreed	The Cooperation Agreement requires both parties to take a co-ordinated approach to stakeholder consultation where appropriate.
Norfolk Vanguard Ltd and EATL will keep each other informed on progress and status of individual project developments including identification of issues potentially impacting on the other's projects. This includes on-going dialogue in relation to layout design in relation to proximity arrangements between NV East and EATL.	Agreed	The Cooperation Agreement requires both parties to undertake on-going dialogue, including that required in relation to the proximity arrangements between NV East and EATHREE.
Norfolk Vanguard Ltd and EATL are each responsible for managing their own agreements and obligations with NGET but have the obligation to keep the other party informed of progress and manage any matters requiring joint co-ordination with NGET.	Agreed	The Cooperation Agreement requires both parties to be responsible for their own grid agreements and each party to keep the other party informed and to take a co-ordinated approach where required.
<b>Cumulative/In-combination Impacts</b>		
<p>Potential cumulative and in-combination impacts include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marine mammals</li> <li>• Offshore ornithology</li> <li>• Commercial fisheries</li> <li>• Shipping and Navigation</li> </ul> <p>These will be considered further as the final designs of the two projects develop.</p>	Agreed	The Cooperation Agreement requires both parties to give further consideration to relevant cumulative impacts as the final designs of the two projects develop.
<b>Monitoring</b>		
Notification of planned monitoring will be provided in advance of commencement.	Agreed	The Cooperation Agreement requires both parties to provide notification of planned monitoring in advance of commencement.

Norfolk Vanguard Limited position	EATL position	Final position
When informed that monitoring is planned by the other party consideration and warning will be given regarding any activities that could influence monitoring results, if applicable.	Agreed	The Cooperation Agreement requires both parties to discuss any activities that could influence monitoring results, if applicable.
Opportunities for shared monitoring will be considered.	Agreed	The Cooperation Agreement requires both parties to identify opportunities for cooperation including shared monitoring.
<b>Mitigation</b>		
Notification of planned mitigation will be provided in advance of commencement.	Agreed	The Cooperation Agreement requires both parties to provide notification of planned mitigation in advance of commencement.
Opportunities for shared mitigation will be considered.	Agreed	The Cooperation Agreement requires both parties to identify opportunities for cooperation including shared mitigation.
Dialogue regarding windfarm layouts, alignment and boundary proximity between Norfolk Vanguard East and East Anglia THREE is ongoing to ensure that mitigation / agreement is in place to manage shipping and navigation issues to the satisfaction of both parties.	EATL agree with Norfolk Vanguard Limited however are unable to share a definitive layout or commit to layout limitations beyond those set out in the project DCO until further project details are known.	The Cooperation Agreement requires both parties to ensure that mitigation is in place to manage alignment or proximity between Norfolk Vanguard East and East Anglia THREE.
A separation of 1nm will be maintained between Norfolk Vanguard East (south) and EA3 (north) boundaries to avoid the layout of one project influencing the other.	Agreed	The Cooperation Agreement requires both parties to ensure that mitigation is in place to manage alignment or proximity between Norfolk Vanguard East and East Anglia THREE.

Norfolk Vanguard Limited position	EATL position	Final position
<b>Construction activities</b>		
As well as through discussion in the DSG, notification of pre-construction works (e.g. UXO clearance) will be provided in advance of commencement through Notice to Mariners and other appropriate media as stated in the Norfolk Vanguard ES Chapter 15 Shipping and Navigation.	Agreed	It is agreed by both parties that, as well as through discussion in the DSG, the Cooperation Agreement requires notification of pre-construction works to be provided in advance of commencement through Notice to Mariners and other appropriate media.
As well as through discussion in the DSG, notification of construction works will be provided in advance of commencement through Notice to Mariners and other appropriate media as stated in the Norfolk Vanguard ES Chapter 15 Shipping and Navigation.	Agreed	It is agreed by both parties that, as well as through discussion in the DSG, The Cooperation Agreement requires notification of construction works to be provided in advance of commencement through Notice to Mariners and other appropriate media.
<b>Operation and Maintenance (O&amp;M) activities</b>		
As well as through discussion in the DSG, notification of O&M activities will be provided in advance of commencement through Notice to Mariners and other appropriate media as stated in the Norfolk Vanguard ES Chapter 15 Shipping and Navigation.	Agreed	It is agreed by both parties that, as well as through discussion in the DSG, the Cooperation Agreement requires notification of O&M works to be provided in advance of commencement through Notice to Mariners and other appropriate media.
<b>DCO – Protective Provisions</b>		
As well as liaison through the DSG, Norfolk Vanguard Ltd and EATL will keep each other informed on the progress and status of individual project developments including identification of issues potentially impacting on the other’s projects. This includes on-going dialogue in relation to layout, design, and proximity arrangements between NV East and EATL.	Agreed	It is agreed by both parties that the Cooperation Agreement provides sufficient detail to govern the proximity of apparatus and interaction between Norfolk Vanguard Ltd and EATL. Accordingly, protective provisions in the DCO are not considered necessary.

The undersigned agree to the provisions within this SOCG

Signed	
Printed Name	
Position	
On behalf of	East Anglia THREE Ltd
Date	

Signed	R Sherwood
Printed Name	Rebecca Sherwood
Position	Norfolk Vanguard Consents Manager
On behalf of	Norfolk Vanguard Ltd (the Applicant)
Date	14 January 2019