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**Subject:** NFU/LIG Submission to Second Written Questions  
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**Attachments:** [Vanguard Answers to Written Questions 12.3.2019 final.pdf](#)

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Dear Sirs

Please find attached the NFU and LIG submission to first and second written questions in regard to Norfolk Vanguard.

If any further information is needed please contact me direct.

Yours sincerely

Louise Staples

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**PLANNING ACT 2008**

**INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATION PROCEDURE) RULES 2010**

**WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS OF NFU AND LIG REGARDING THE NORFOLK VANGUARD  
OFFSHORE WIND FARM DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER 201 [...]**

**PLANNING INSPECTORATE REFERENCE NO EN010079**

**SUBMISSIONS OF NATIONAL FARMERS UNION AND THE LAND INTEREST GROUP ON THE –  
EXAMINERS FIRST AND SECOND WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

**DATE 12 MARCH 2019**

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Submissions on behalf of the National Farmers Union (“NFU”) and the Land Interest Group (LIG) in respect of the application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) by Norfolk Vanguard Limited for the Norfolk Vanguard Offshore Wind Farm. The NFU is making a case on behalf of its members and LIG its clients, who are affected by the DCO.
- 1.2 The references contained within the answers given below refers to the revised Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) which includes Applicants responses to the written submission submitted by NFU and LIG following the hearing on the 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019. The Applicant will be submitting a copy of this SoCG.

## 2.0 First Written Questions

- 2.1 **18.1 Land Use and Recreation:** Further to receiving responses from the Applicant to our submission dated 14<sup>th</sup> February in regard to the Hearing on the 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019; the applicant has provided further clarification at 4.1 in regard to how the 150m sections will be reinstated. We understand that this will mean that not all land within the order limits will be permanently out of agricultural operation for the 6 years. But that land around the jointing bays could be out of agricultural operation for 4 years.
- 2.2 **18.2 and 18.3: Construction Timings:** The NFU/LIG has received more information from the Applicant in response to our submission at page 18 highlighting the different phases of construction but further clarification is still sought on timings to cover when and how the Boreas cables will be pulled through the ducts and what this means to the time that land may be out of production.
- 2.3 **18.4 Soil Treatment:** The NFU/LIG provided the details on soil treatment, reinstatement and aftercare in their submission to the hearing on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019. It is essential that this wording is included in a draft Soil Management Plan which is linked to the CoCP within the DCO.
- 2.4 **18.5 Jointing Bays:** The NFU and LIG have received confirmation that all jointing bays will be underground.
- 2.5 **18.6 Link Boxes:** NFU/LIG have received information on link boxes in the Applicants response to the submission 5<sup>th</sup> February at 5.0 but there are still concerns over the configuration of the link boxes and that the cabinet design may be used. A request has already been made to Vattenfall that no cabinets are used for link boxes. All link boxes should be manhole covers. All link boxes will pose a hazard to farm machinery during cultivations and harvest. Therefore it is likely that some type of marker posts will be needed at each link box.
- 2.6 **18.8 and 18.9 Access Routes:** Vattenfall has been in contact with landowner agents and further access routes have been highlighted following locations on plans being highlighted which were physically impossible. We understand that some access routes are still to be confirmed and agreed.
- 2.7 **18.17 Growing Seasons:** The NFU/LIG do agree with the statement that land out of production could result in the loss of one growing season but due to the timings of the construction it is likely that some land will be out of production for more than one growing season and that multiple cropping could also be affected in one growing season.

### 3.0 Second Written Questions

- 3.1 22.47 Construction at Crossing Point:** The NFU/LIG are not satisfied with the information that has been provided on how the construction at the Crossing Point will take place. There is concern that the highest cables to ground level must still be at a minimum depth of 1.2m.
- 3.2 22.48 Funding:** NFU/LIG raised concerns in regard to funding at the hearing on 5<sup>th</sup> February as to how funding the development would take place. In initial discussions with Vattenfall they could fund the development and that it was not subject to CFDs. But further to the hearing we now understand that the applicant will be applying for CFDs and so further clarification is sought on this.