

Norfolk Vanguard Offshore Wind Farm

Norfolk Vanguard Limited

The National Trust Land Agreement Position Statement

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Deadline 8

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Photo: Kentish Flats Offshore Wind Farm



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1 NATIONAL TRUST LAND AGREEMENT

1.1 Introduction

1. During the Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH) on the 28 March 2019, the Examining Authority (ExA) requested a position statement with the National Trust regarding the status of negotiations in respect of the land agreement to be entered into between the Applicant and the National Trust (Action Point 3).

1.2 Position as at Deadline 6

2. Prior to Deadline 6, the Applicant has had and continued to have discussions with the National Trust. Following those discussions, there was only one area of concern outstanding which related to Archaeology. However, during the discussions between the Applicant and the National Trust immediately prior to Deadline 6, a solution was proposed by the Applicant which was to include additional commitments in the Outline Onshore Written Scheme of Investigation (document reference 8.05) in order to address the National Trust's concerns. As at Deadline 6, the Applicant understood that the National Trust were discussing this proposal internally before confirming whether it resolved their outstanding concerns. It was intended that, once the outstanding point had been agreed, the Applicant and the National Trust would sign Heads of Terms in respect of the land agreement. Prior to Deadline 6, a draft Option Agreement was also issued to the National Trust's legal advisers and it was agreed that the Applicant would meet with the National Trust during April and May in an attempt to conclude negotiations on the Option Agreement prior to the close of examination.

1.3 Position Statement at Deadline 8

3. Following Deadline 6, the Applicant has continued to engage with the National Trust. The Applicant and the National Trust have now agreed all outstanding matters, and as such, the Heads of Terms were signed in April 2019. A meeting was held between the National Trust and the Applicant in April 2019 to discuss the form of Option Agreement and Deed of Easement. Since this time, comments on the Option Agreement and Deed of Easement have been received from the National Trust, and these are currently being considered by the Applicant. There are still a number of points being discussed on the standard Option Agreement and Deed of Easement with the Land Interest Group and their Legal advisers. Once these outstanding points have been agreed, the Applicant anticipates that the Option Agreement with the National Trust can be completed. It is expected that once the Option Agreement has been completed, the National Trust would withdraw its objection to the Norfolk Vanguard project. Negotiations on the Option Agreement and Deed of Easement are expected to continue after close of Examination, but the Applicant anticipates that negotiations will be concluded and the Option Agreement entered into prior to the Secretary of State's receipt of the Examining

Authority's recommendation. The Applicant will therefore notify the Secretary of State once the Option Agreement has been completed or, in any event, as to progress made in this respect within three months of the close of the Examination.