



## Meeting note

<b>File reference</b>	EN010079
<b>Status</b>	<b>Final</b>
<b>Author</b>	Siân Evans
<b>Date</b>	17 May 2017
<b>Meeting with</b>	Vattenfall
<b>Venue</b>	Teleconference
<b>Attendees</b>	<b>The Planning Inspectorate</b> Chris White (Infrastructure Planning Lead) Kay Sully (Case Manager) Siân Evans (Case Officer) Hannah Pratt (Senior EIA and Land Rights Advisor)
	<b>Vattenfall</b> Ruari Lean Katherine Wood Catrin Jones John Houghton
<b>Meeting objectives</b>	Norfolk Vanguard project meeting update
<b>Circulation</b>	All attendees

### Introduction

The Applicant and the Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) case team introduced themselves and their respective roles. The Inspectorate continued by outlining its openness policy and ensured those present understood that any issues discussed and advice given would be recorded and placed on the Inspectorate's website under s51 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008). Further to this, it was made clear that any advice given did not constitute legal advice upon which the Applicant (or others) can rely.

### General Project update:

The Applicant held Public Information Days (PID) in October 2016 and following this they produced a report and summary which has been circulated in the locality. Further PIDs were held over 2 weeks in March and April 2017. Many of the comments provided useful information on the local area of which a number were related to local transport matters. The Inspectorate commented that information such as this can feed into development of the Construction Traffic Management Plan. Good local knowledge can also assist with micro-siting certain aspects of the project which are useful to understand now. The Inspectorate encouraged the Applicant to continue engaging with the local community so that they can help shape the project.

The Applicant advised that they are in the process of engaging with all landowners to make clear what the project is as it emerges. They are currently producing a landowners pack, including frequently asked questions to provide information directly to landowners and the wider public. The Inspectorate advised that if anyone is unclear on the process the Applicant can direct them to us, through the project mailbox. The Inspectorate also iterated the need to make diligent enquiries into land ownership and ensure this information is complete within the application.

The Applicant advised that they will be initially consulting the three district councils and the county council on the Statement of Community Consultation within the forthcoming weeks. The Applicant asked whether neighbouring authorities should be consulted. The Inspectorate advised that it is not a statutory requirement however it is a good idea to keep neighbouring authorities informed, particularly in offshore wind projects as the impacts may be wider.

PIDs were held in Great Yarmouth and Norwich, as well as along the cable corridor, cable relay station, landfall and substation locations. Although Great Yarmouth and Norwich are outside the scoping area, the Applicant considered these good locations to include for their statutory consultation events. The Inspectorate stated that the Applicant should get the councils' views on this but considered this to be a sensible approach to catch all those that may have an interest or be affected by the project.

The Applicant confirmed it intends to commence statutory consultation at the end of October/early November 2017 and is planning on giving 28 days for responses. The Inspectorate advised that this is acceptable however warned that as it is the statutory minimum they should ensure that there are no errors with dates which result in fewer than 28 days being allowed. The Applicant stated that they would consider what the local authorities thought about the consultation period and consider whether their timetable allowed for a longer period of time being given.

The Applicant explained it is in frequent contact with Dong Energy regarding the Hornsea 3 Offshore Wind Farm and that it is carefully planning its consultation events to minimise any overlap and confusion between the two projects.

The Inspectorate enquired when the design of the onshore aspect of the project would be fixed. The Applicant stated that by the end of May it hopes to have refined the project to a single landfall option, two or three cable relay station options and a smaller substation zone. However, the finalised design will be dependent on when a clear option comes forward further to EIA assessment work ahead of PEI. The Inspectorate advised that the Applicant needs to be clear what they're consulting on. This should be clearly set out in the Consultation Report and show how both non-statutory and statutory consultation has fed into the design of the project.

The Applicant advised that they are holding Evidence Plan Meetings. The Inspectorate advised that, where issues are outstanding, they could start to develop Statements of Common Ground (SoCG). These can include areas of uncommon ground. The Inspectorate advised that it is useful for the ExA to see whether outstanding issues are being raised by more than one party. It may be logistically difficult to get a signed multi-party SoCG but a document such as a Statement of Commonality for SoCGs can be useful for Examining Authorities.

The Applicant advised that use of either HVAC or HVDC transmission technology will not be decided until a later date. Therefore flexibility will be built into the draft DCO. The Inspectorate advised that draft documents can be submitted for review by the Planning Inspectorate so advice can be given on the Applicant's approach to this.

The Applicant confirmed it intends to submit the application in quarter 2 of 2018.

### **General matters**

The Inspectorate advised that an Advice Note on the Water Framework Directive will be published shortly, likely at the end of June.

The Inspectorate advised that the minimum period for making Relevant Representations is 30 days, rather than 28, for all projects that are scoped after 15 May 2017. As this project has already been scoped it is not affected by this change.

### **AOB**

It was agreed that meeting approximately every three months was sufficient and the next meeting would be set up for August.

### **Specific decisions / follow up required?**

The Inspectorate agreed to send an example of a Statement of Commonality for SoCGs.

The Applicant will consider the timing of the next Evidence Plan Steering Group meeting so that it provides the Inspectorate with as much useful information as possible (likely to be early October following completion of the next set of topic group meetings).