



## Meeting note

<b>File reference</b>	EN010079
<b>Status</b>	<b>Final</b>
<b>Author</b>	Siân Evans
<b>Date</b>	12 October 2017
<b>Meeting with</b>	Vattenfall
<b>Venue</b>	Teleconference
<b>Attendees</b>	<b>The Planning Inspectorate</b> Chris White (Infrastructure Planning Lead) Siân Evans (Case Officer) Hannah Pratt (Senior EIA and Land Rights Advisor) <b>Vattenfall</b> Ruari Lean (Project Manager) Catrin Ellis Jones (Communications Manager) Ruth Henderson (RHDHV EIA Project Manager) Gemma Keenan (RHDHV) Victoria Redman (Bond Dickinson)
<b>Meeting objectives</b>	Norfolk Vanguard project meeting update
<b>Circulation</b>	All attendees

### Introduction

Vattenfall (the Applicant) and the Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) case team introduced themselves and their respective roles. The Inspectorate outlined 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 advised that their Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) has been drafted and is currently being reviewed ahead of the statutory consultation. The Applicant is continuing to engage with landowners and is seeking access to land for targeted priority onshore geophysical surveys.

The Applicant advised that they propose to publish their Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) on 16 October 2017. The Applicant thanked the Inspectorate for their comments on the SoCC. The Applicant outlined how their consultation strategy has always included opportunities for people who may not immediately self-identify as

having an interest in consultation events, particularly relating to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects, and/ or who may have different and varied needs in terms of accessing information. The SoCC now specifically refers to engagement with hard to reach groups, so their approach is clearer. Alongside publication of the SoCC the Applicant will also be issuing approximately 30,000 newsletters to stakeholders in Norfolk.

The Applicant advised that their statutory consultation will take place between 7 November and 11 December 2017. The PEIR will be available on USB sticks to distribute to consultees. The consultation material will also be available on the Applicant's website. There will be several exhibitions in the community with members of the project team present to answer any queries. Prior to the start of the statutory consultation the Applicant will send a copy of their PEIR to the Inspectorate with the s46 notification. The Applicant confirmed that this would be the same information as that provided to s42 consultees.

The Applicant advised that after the close of the statutory consultation and review of feedback, draft documents will be submitted to the Inspectorate and The Crown Estate. The Inspectorate reminded the Applicant to allow 6 to 8 weeks for the Inspectorate to complete this review.

The Applicant advised that they still intend to submit the application in Q2 2018.

### **Evidence Plan**

The Applicant advised that an offshore ornithology topic group meeting was held last week.

Further topic group meetings will be held early in 2018 and will focus on feedback from the consultation on the PEIR.

The Applicant advised that the Habitats Regulations Assessment will not be available with the PEIR but information on the offshore HRA (e.g. sandbanks/ Sabellaria spinulosa reef) will be produced later this year. This will also be a focus of the topic group meetings early in 2018.

The Applicant asked if the Inspectorate would be able to chair the next steering group meeting. The Inspectorate advised that they can chair the meeting but have found that the Applicant is actually best placed to do this. Due to time and resources the Inspectorate advised they would dial in to this meeting, rather than attend in person.

### **Consultation complaints**

The Inspectorate drew the Applicant's attention to further pre-application consultation correspondence which had been received and published under s51 advice on the Inspectorate's website. One item of correspondence indicated some confusion as to the role of parish councils in the pre-application process. The Applicant advised that they had fully engaged with parish councils throughout non-statutory consultation and would continue to do so. The Inspectorate advised the Applicant that they could direct parish councils to the Inspectorate's Advice Note 8 series on how to engage in the process.

The Applicant queried if there is a process for when it is unclear whether a member of an organisation is speaking on behalf of themselves or that organisation. The Inspectorate advised that during the Examination of an application, the Examining Authority will seek to clarify this if it is unclear.

## **AOB**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held in January 2018 and it may be helpful for this to be face-to-face.

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

The Applicant will circulate dates for the next steering group meeting.

The Applicant will send a copy of the s47 notice and copy of the newsletter to the Inspectorate for information. [This was received by email after the meeting].