

From: Robin Taylor [mailto:RTaylor@S-NORFOLK.GOV.UK]
Sent: 08 February 2019 16:31
To: Hornsea Project Three
Cc: Sarah Drljaca; Claire Curtis
Subject: Hornsea Project Three Offshore Wind Farm (EN010080) Our Reference 20010599 Deadline 6

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find attached the Draft reworded Outline Landscape Plan as requested by the ExA, for submission by Deadline 6. This document has been agreed by the three relevant planning authorities (North Norfolk, South Norfolk and Broadland as a draft. It is not our final drafting and that we wish to make suggestions for changes to the wording of the two relevant articles and removal of Part 2 of Schedule 10.

The three local authorities have suggested the following wording for Requirement 8:

1. *As is*

2. *As is*

3. The landscape plan must include details of—
 - (a) surveys, assessments and method statements as guided by BS 5837 and the Hedgerows Regulations;
 - (b) location, number, species, size and planting density of any proposed planting;
 - (c) cultivation, importing of materials and other operations to ensure plant establishment;
 - (d) existing trees and hedges to be retained with measures for their protection during the construction period;
 - (e) implementation timetables for all landscaping works.

4. The landscape plan must be carried out as approved.

Yours faithfully

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YOUR

Claire Curtis
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OUTLINE LANDSCAPE ~~MANAGEMENT~~ PLAN

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1.1.1 This Outline Landscape ~~Management~~ Plan (Outline LP) has been prepared on behalf of Ørsted in support of the application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for Hornsea Three.

1.1.1.2 This Outline LMP sets out the framework within which the following information will subsequently be produced as part of a detailed written Landscape Plan to be agreed under Requirement 8 of the DCO. The detailed landscape plan shall comprise the following elements:

- a) detailed hedgerow and tree surveys and assessments within the DCO consent area;
- b) detailed soft landscape design proposals for replacement, mitigation, compensation and enhancement (including heritage, landscape and ecological mitigation),
- c) implementation and establishment details of all planting
- d) future management and monitoring.

This will apply to the following elements of the project:

- a) the onshore HVAC booster station (if required)
- b) the onshore HVDC converter/HVAC substation,
- c) all soft landscape works in association with the onshore cable route.

1.1.1.3 This Outline LMP applies to all land temporarily and permanently impacted or acquired by the Applicant or its agents or contractors.

1.1.1.4 Each detailed LMP will be submitted to and agreed with the relevant planning authorities prior to commencement of a relevant phase or any onshore site preparation works relating to a relevant phase..

1.1.1.6 This Outline LMP should be read in conjunction with the Outline Ecological Management Plan (Outline EMP) (document reference A8.6) and the Outline Code of Construction Practice (Outline CoCP). The Outline EMP accompanies the DCO application, and describes the ecology and nature conservation mitigation measures that will be implemented prior to, during and post construction of the onshore elements of Hornsea Three, and the long-term management measures to be set in place for reinstated and enhanced habitats. The CoCP sets out the management measures that the Applicant and its construction contractors will be required to adopt and implement for all construction activities associated with Hornsea Three.

2. EXISTING LANDSCAPE CONTEXT

2.1.1.1 Onshore export cables will be buried underground in up to 6 trenches, running in a south / south westerly direction from the proposed landfall area at Weybourne in north Norfolk within the Norfolk Coast AONB for approximately 55 km (6km of which is within the AONB), before connecting into the national grid at the Norwich main substation, south of Norwich. The final corridor will be up to 80 m in width, of which up to 20 m will be used for temporary working areas. It runs across a primarily rural landscape incorporating farmland with fields and roads frequently enclosed by hedgerows, areas of woodland, river valleys and frequent small settlements.

2.1.1.2 The site of the onshore HVAC booster station is west of the village of Edgefield, adjacent to an area of woodland to the east and arable fields enclosed by hedgerows to the west. The landscape within 5 km of the onshore HVAC booster station encompasses the village of Edgefield and a largely rural area primarily given over to agriculture with frequent small blocks of woodland and contains a number of small settlements. The landform is undulating with some shallow valleys.

2.1.1.3 The site of the onshore HVDC converter/HVAC substation lies south of Norwich south of the A47 and east of the B1113. Arable fields enclosed by hedgerows lie to the west and south of the site, and a sand and gravel quarry under restoration lies to the east. Two lines of pylons and overhead electricity cables cross the landscape immediately south west of the site. North of the A47 lies the southern edge of Norwich and its suburbs which are cut through by the River Yare valley and surrounded by wetlands and parkland. To the south of the A47 the landscape becomes more rural and primarily in agricultural use. There are numerous settlements within this rural landscape ranging from hamlets to large villages and the area is scattered with small woodlands. Landform within 5 km of the site of the onshore HVDC converter/HVAC substation gently undulates with two distinct river valleys, those of the Yare and the Tas, cutting through it.

2.1.1.4 The purpose of this Outline LP is to minimise impacts to the landscape as a result of and during construction and to provide proportionate mitigation and compensation in the long-term to maintain and reinstate the prevailing landscape character.

3. SURVEY AND ASSESSMENT

3.1.1.1 Each detailed LP shall be informed by a detailed survey of all pre-existing trees and hedges along the onshore cable corridor including trees and hedges affected by the onshore booster station and onshore converter/substation. The surveys shall be carried out in accordance with BS5837:2012 and the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 and shall be undertaken at an early enough stage to inform the detailed design of the onshore cable corridor, onshore booster station and onshore converter/substation

The full survey will identify important hedgerows (to capture all criteria for importance within the definitions of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997) and veteran and ancient trees which are important for ecological or historic reasons or are important features in the landscape.

3.1.1.2 Section 2.2.7 of the Outline EMP describes that approximately 14.35 km of hedgerows occur within the Hornsea Three onshore cable corridor, many of these would be retained by methods including crossing using trenchless techniques such as HDD and, in total, up to approximately 7.39 km of existing hedgerows would be removed to allow construction of Hornsea Three. Some of these hedges contain trees which will also be removed.

3.1.1.3. Where hedgerows and tree lines are crossed using open cut trenching techniques, measures will be taken to minimise vegetation removal and damage. These measures are likely to include reducing the length of hedgerow removed at crossing points, where this is possible. This is particularly relevant should Hornsea Three be delivered in two phases. Under this scenario, the contractor would seek to minimise the area which would be disturbed twice, once during the construction of each phase. In practice, only the area which is required to construct both phases (e.g. the haul road) would be disturbed during the construction of both phases. Thus, the majority of hedgerows across the onshore cable corridor would only be removed and replaced once regardless of whether Hornsea Three is delivered in one or two phases.

3.1.1.4 In association with Article 34 of the Development Consent Order (DCO), the survey findings and assessment of the trees and hedgerows to be removed and retained as part of the onshore works, together with justifications for each hedgerow or tree that is considered to be reasonably necessary to be removed, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the relevant planning authority. Where reasonably practicable, all Category A and Category B trees (as set out in BS5837:2012) and Important Hedgerows shall be retained. Where retention is not possible, removal should be justified in writing to the relevant planning authority. The relevant planning authority will expect the following hierarchy to be used except in exceptional circumstances:

- Tree or hedgerow to be retained by:
 - rerouting of the cable corridor or
 - horizontal directional drilling
- Tree or hedgerow to be removed and the loss mitigated or compensated by replanting (species, location to be agreed by the relevant planning authority).

3.1.1.5 The full survey and assessment will be submitted to the relevant planning authority together with the proposed design for the cable route or Works No 9 or 10 as appropriate.

No phase of the connection works or onsite preparation works will commence until the relevant planning authority has confirmed in writing that the connection works have been designed to protect or mitigate or compensate for loss to affected hedgerows and/or trees as far as is reasonable.

The protection, mitigation or compensation will include horizontal directional drilling or an adjustment to the route of the cable corridor where achievable and where the relevant planning authority has requested it due to the importance of a hedgerow or tree.

3.1.1.6 The approved surveys and assessments shall inform the detailed landscape plan proposals in Section 4.

4. DETAILED SOFT LANDSCAPE DESIGN PROPOSALS

4.1.1.1. The detailed Landscape Plan shall include detailed soft landscape design proposals for replacement, reinstatement, mitigation, compensation and enhancement (including heritage mitigation) that shall be informed by the survey and assessment as detailed in Section 3.

4.1.1.2. The detailed proposals shall include the following elements:

- a) Precise location and canopy spread of all trees, hedgerows and other significant areas of vegetation on or adjoining the site to be removed;
- b) Precise location and canopy spread of all trees, hedgerows and other significant areas of vegetation on or adjoining the site to be retained (including species and canopy spread), together with measures for their protection during the course of the development to BS 5837:2012;
- c) Details of all new planting including (though not necessarily limited to): species, seed mixes, location, size, planting density, number and protection measures during establishment;
- d) Earthworks and ground profiling (including proposed finish levels and contours) if they are to be different to the existing;
- e) Full details of the operations and activities that will be undertaken to ensure successful establishment of the new planting to independence in the landscape including, but not limited to: ground preparation, planting methods, irrigation, weed control, monitoring, replacement, and removal of sundries. The details should include reference to BS8545 in respect of new trees);
- f) Full details of long-term management aims, operations and responsibilities. The details are to include, but are not necessarily limited to: height and width parameters for hedges, thinning and coppicing regimes, timings of operations, removal and appropriate reuse/recycling/disposal of redundant planting sundries;
- g) With regard to Work Areas 9 and 10 only - details of the implementation timetable for all soft landscape works, including any planting that is to be undertaken prior to and/or during the construction works for the booster/converter/sub stations.

5. IMPLEMENTATION AND ESTABLISHMENT

5.1.1.1 Unless otherwise agreed with the relevant planning authority, all approved tree and hedgerow protection measures for pre-existing trees and hedgerows are to be installed prior to the commencement of any on-site preparation and/or construction works within any stage of any phase. Thereafter the tree and hedgerow protection measures are to be maintained in good condition and observed throughout the construction period in that particular Stage/Phase.

5.1.1.2 Unless otherwise agreed in writing with the relevant planning authority, all other soft landscape works are to be implemented within nine months of the completion of construction/installation works within a Stage (as set out under Requirement 6 , except in the case of work areas 9 and 10 which are to be undertaken in accordance with the approved implementation timetable.

5.1.1.3 All planting and soft landscape works are to be established in accordance with the operations and activities agreed under 4.1.1.2

5.1.1.4 Unless otherwise agreed in writing with the relevant planning authority, if within a period of FIVE [or TEN] years from the date of planting, any tree or plant, or any tree or plant planted in replacement for it, is removed, uprooted or is destroyed or dies, [or becomes in the opinion of the relevant planning authority, seriously damaged or defective] another tree or plant of the same species and size as that originally planted shall be planted at the same place, unless the relevant planning authority gives its written consent to any variation.

6. FUTURE MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

6.1.1.1 The landscape scheme is to be managed in accordance with the approved details, with the aims of:

- a) Re-instating removed landscape features to a similar or enhanced condition to those that were removed for the purposes of the development,
- b) Mitigating and compensating for the effects of the development,
- c) Realising the long-term landscape and visual effects as anticipated by the viewpoint visualisations,
- d) Maximising the wildlife benefits and opportunities,
- e) Ensuring the maintenance and longevity of the features provided in association with the development (and for the development within Work Areas 9 and 10, at least until the development is decommissioned).

7. APPENDICES

DRAWINGS

8. REFERENCES