

Hornsea Project Three
Offshore Wind Farm

Applicant's Statement of Commonality of Statements of Common Ground (SoCG)

Date: 14th March 2019







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1. Introduction

Purpose

- 1.1 This document has been prepared in order to provide the Examining Authority (ExA) with the final position on Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) between the Applicant and statutory consultees, statutory undertakers and interested parties in relation to the proposed wind farm project.
- 1.2 This report is a live document during the examination and will provide to ExA with a final position on the commonality on specific points between SoCG at Examination Deadline 98 (26th March 2019).

Structure

- 1.3 The remainder of this report is structured as follows:
 - Section 2 details the structure of each SoCG document and provides an up to date list of SoCGs;
 - Section 3 sets out the status of each SoCG; and
 - **Section 4** sets out the commonality between SoCGs and a summary of the final position as well as the latest position on protective provisions that will be submitted at Deadline 8.





2. Position

Structure of SoCGs

- 2.1 To ensure consistency in the approach taken to documenting matters agreed, matters subject to further negotiation or matters not agreed, each of the SoCGs adopted a standard format in order to provide clarity to other parties and ultimately the ExA.
- 2.2 Each SoCG was broadly structured in the following way:
 - Section 1 provided an introduction to the SoCG its approach and a description of its purpose.
 - Section 2 provided details the consultation undertaken
 - Section 3 set out the agreement log and progress.
 - Section 4 set out a summary of matters which were subject to negotiation or not agreed.

List of SoCGs

- In accordance with guidance published by the Department of Communities and Local Government¹ (DCLG), the Applicant prepared SoCGs with a number of statutory consultees, statutory undertakers and interested parties during the preparation of the DCO and during the Examination stage.
- 2.4 The SoCGs identify matters on which parties agree and to document the position of each party where agreement was not reached. Table 2.1 provides the list of SoCGs that the Applicant prepared with various bodies.

¹ Department for Communities and Local Government. Planning Act 2008: Guidance for the examination of applications for development consent. London: Department for Communities and Local Government, 2015





Table 2.1: List of SoCGs at Deadline 6.

Party	Position			
Local Authorities				
Progress detailed further in Table 3.1				
Norfolk County Council		SoCG in place		
North Norfolk District Council		SoCG in place		
South Norfolk Council		SoCG in place		
Broadland District Council		SoCG in place		
Norwich City Council		SoCG in place		
Great Yarmouth Borough Council		SoCG in place		
Statutory Consultees				
Natural England	Benthic ecology and marine processes matters	SoCG in progress		
Three separate SoCGs are being produced:	Offshore ornithology	SoCG in progress		
	All other matters.	SoCG in place		
Marine Management Organisation		SoCG in place		
The Wildlife Trust and Norfolk Wildlife Trust		SoCG in place		
Whale and Dolphin Conservation		SoCG in place		
Environment Agency		SoCG in place		
Historic England		SoCG in progress		
National Federation of Fishermen's Organisation (and VisNed)	SoCG in place		
Marine and Coastguard Agency		SoCG in place		
Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Author	ority (EIFCA)	SoCG in place		
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds - offshore	and onshore	SoCG in place		
Statutory Undertakers / Interested Parties				
Highways England	SoCG in place			
National Grid Electricity Transmission PLC	Appendix B and C of the Statement of Reasons for the latest position. Not required – see Table 2.2			
National Grid Gas PLC	Not required – see Table 2.2Appendix C of the Statement of Reasons for the latest position.			





Party	Position
Cadent Gas Limited	Not required – see Table 2.2Appendix-G of the Statement of Reasons for the latest position.
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited	Appendix B-and C of the Statement of Reasons See table 2.2 below for the latest position.
Anglian Water Services Limited	Not required – see Table 2.2Appendix-G of the Statement of Reasons for the latest position.
UK Power Networks	Not required – see Table 2.2Appendix-G of the Statement of Reasons for the latest position.
ConocoPhillips (U.K) Limited	Position Statement in progress
Neptune E&P UK Limited	Letter of Comfort in place
Spirit Energy Netherlands B.V, Spirit Energy North Sea Limited and Spirit Energy Resources Limited	SoCG in place
Shell UK Limited	Position Statement in place
NFU and ML-and Interest Groups	Appendix A of the Statement of Reasons within the Acquisition ScheduleSee table 2.2 below for the latest position.
Environment Agency (Asset Owner)	Not required – see Table 2.2Appendix B of the Statement of Reasons for the latest position.
Norfolk Vanguard Limited and Norfolk Boreas Limited	SoCG in place

SoCGs not considered necessary

- 2.5 For those parties where Table 2.1 identifies that a SoCG is not considered to be necessary, a Letter of Comfort (LoC) or Position Statements (PS) were prepared. The matters on which the parties remain in discussion are limited in scope and so the LoCs and PS were considered to be more appropriate than SoCG in order to capture status of discussions. The outline of each LoC / PS is provided below in the Table 2.2:
 - Table 2.2: Status of LoCs and PS at Deadline 6-7 (8th-14th February March 2019).





Party	LoC summary and position
National Grid Electricity Transmission PLC	LoC Position: Final terms of the side agreement between National Grid Electricity Transmission PLC (NGET) and the Applicant are nearly has very recently completed. Heads of Terms regarding the land option agreement are now agreed. The draft option agreement and draft lease have been issued to National Grid and are currently being reviewed. The Applicant expects NGET to conclude negotiations and complete the option agreement withdraw their objection imminently and certainly before the end of the examination.
National Grid Gas PLC	LoC Position: Final terms of T-the side agreement between National Grid Gas PLC (NGG) and the Applicant have is complete been agreed. NGG has withdrawn their objection to the Order. Engrossments will be issued for signing and once complete, the side agreement will remove any further objection on behalf of National Grid Gas.
Cadent Gas Limited	LoC Position: Final terms of the The side agreement between Cadent Gas and the Applicant have been agreed complete. Cadent has confirmed to the EXA that they have withdrawn their objection to the Order. Engressments will be issued for signing and once complete, the side agreement will remove any further objection on behalf of Cadent Gas
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited	LoC Position: Not provided at Deadline 76. SoCG or a position statement LoC to be provided if required at later deadlines as negotiations are ongoing. Please refer to updated Appendix B and C of the Statement of Reasons for the latest position.
Anglian Water Services Limited	LoC Position: The side agreement between Anglian Water and the Applicant is complete. Anglian Water has withdrawn their objection. Net provided at Deadline 6. LoC to be provided if required at later deadlines as negotiations are ongoing. Please refer to updated Appendix C of the Statement of Reasons for the latest position.
UK Power Networks	LoC Position: Final terms of aThe side agreement between Eastern Power Networks (EPN) and the Applicant are now agreed and engressments are being prepared of somplete. The Applicant expects EPN to withdraw their objection imminently and certainly before the end of the examination.
Environment Agency (Asset Owner)	Position: Not provided at Deadline 6-the Environment Agency has not raised an objection to the scheme as an Asset Owner and does not own any land or hold any proprietary rights or other interests in the Order Land. LoC to be provided if required at later deadlines as negotiations are engeing. Please refer to updated Appendix C of the Statement of Reasons for the latest position. Protective provisions for the EA's benefit provide that the EA's approval of works affecting its undertaking is required before the works are undertaken. The Applicant has included draft protective provisions for the benefit of the EA in Part 7 of Schedule 9 of the Order. The Applicant has entered into a Statement of Common Ground with the Environment Agency. This includes agreement on the commitment to producing a cable specification and installation plan as part of the dDCO.





Party	LoC summary and position
ConocoPhillips (U.K) Limited	Position Statement: The Applicant has engaged with ConocoPhillips in order to resolve the issues raised in the ConocoPhillips Relevant Representation (RR-036). During recent consultation, it was suggested by ConocoPhillips that no further action was required by either party.in the context of the examination. ConocoPhillips have raised three main issues in their Relevant Representation (RR-036), crossing and proximity agreements, decommissioning of ConocoPhillips assets and Radar Early Warning Systems (REWS) on ConocoPhillips platforms. Crossing and proximity agreements will be entered into once detailed design of HOW03 project has progressed post consent and closer to time of construction (and not within the timeframe of the examination). Based on ConocoPhillips' current decommissioning schedules Hornsea Project Three construction would not impede decommissioning activities as there is no overlap. Dialogue will continue between the parties to allow for any changes from what is currently planned. In regard to REWS ConocoPhillips informed the Applicant on the 5th November, 2018, that they had concluded a software upgrade to the REWS system is no longer required, and need not be provided by Hornsea Three in connection with the construction/operation of the project.
Neptune E&P UK Limited	Summary: LoC provided at Deadline 1. Neptune operate Cygnus gas field. Helicopters service Cygnus gas field installations from Norwich International Airport. Direct flights will pass over Hornsea Project One and Hornsea Project Two. In cold weather conditions icing on helicopter blades may occur requiring helicopters to drop altitude. In weather with good visibility, a lower flight altitude would require a short deviation through the corridor between Hornsea Project One, Two, and Hornsea Three. In low visibility conditions, a larger deviation around Hornsea Three would be required. Dialogue relating to the implications for carrying out flight deviations, including cost implications and exact routing requirements, are ongoing. Position: LoC signed with outstanding matters on 01 November 2018.
Shell UK Limited	Position Statement: Signed Position Statement provided at Deadline 5.
NFU and Land Interest Groupe	Position: Not provided at Deadline 76 SLoCG to be provided if required at later deadlines as negotiations are ongoing. Please refer to updated Appendix A of the Statement of Reasons for the latest position.

3. Status

Summary of current position

- 3.1 This section provides the ongoing position of each SoCG. Where further progress will be made with a party, the updated version of the SoCG will be submitted alongside this document at each Deadline. Final position of SoCG will be submitted at Deadline 98 on 26th March 2019.
- 3.2 Table 3.1 provides a high-level position and where necessary includes further detail to aid understanding of the ExA. In summary the high-level positions used in Table 3.1 are as follows:





- Final Signed SoCG all matters agreed The final SoCG has been signed by both parties and all matters are agreed.
- Final Signed SoCG with matters outstanding The final SoCG has been signed by both parties, and the remain matters outstanding that Applicant and the other party agree will not be resolved during Examination.
- SoCG in draft The final SoCG was drafted by the Applicant, it has been shared with the other party and comments have been provided.
- 3.3 Draft SoCGs with the following stakeholders have not been provided with the Applicant's response to Deadline 6, although discussions are ongoing and the Applicant is continuing to develop SoCGs with these stakeholders for submission to the Ex.A:
 - The ExA requested submission of SOCGs with Natural England for Ornithological matters and Benthic Ecology and Marine Processes Matters for Deadline 6. In the intervening period since the second set of hearings the Applicant has continued to engage with Natural England. Natural England issued comments on the SoCGs to the Applicant on 07/02/2019. The Applicant has prioritised the review and update of these documents, but it has not been possible to finalise these SoCG ready for submission at Deadline 6 as the proposed drafting amendments included open commentary and adjustment on areas of previous agreement. For Ornithology, the Applicant has now aimed to present the SOCG in a format with final positions to assist the ExA. This version is currently with Natural England to approve and finalise and tThe Applicant hopes to will-submit the updated SoCG into the ExA as soon as feasible following Deadline 76. For Benthic Ecology, Natural England advised that they were working on a summary of their position to submit at Deadline 7 and in view of this the Applicant agreed that further discussions of the SOCG would take place following this submission with the aim of submitting a final SOCG at Deadline 9.
 - Historic England: The Applicant is in ongoing dialogue with Historic England in relation to developing a SoCG. The Applicant has met with Historic England to discuss outstanding concerns as raised in their Relevant Representation and following this meeting, the Applicant provided a draft SoCG to Historic England for input. However, due to Historic England resource constraints, it has not been possible to produce a draft SoCG to meet Deadline 1 and 2. The Applicant and Historic England met on the 12th Dec 2018 to discuss further a SoCG. There were no fundamental disagreement raised in regards to SoCG and the Applicant will provide this to the Ex.A as soon as possible during the Examination Phase.



Table 3.1: Status of SoCGs at Deadline 76 (148th February March 2019).

Party	Position at Deadline 1 (7 th Nov 2018)	Position at Deadline 2 (21st Nov 2018)	Position at Deadline 3 (14thDec 2018)	Position at Deadline 4 (15 th Jan 2019)	Position at Deadline 5 (23 rd Jan 2019)	Position at Deadline 6 (8 th Feb 2019)	Position at Deadline 7 (14 th Mar 2019)	Position at Deadline 8 (22thMar 2019)	Position at Deadline 9 (26thMar 2019)
Norfolk County Council	Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 06 November 2018			Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 15 th January 2019.					
North Norfolk District Council	SoCG in draft. Latest version issued for comment 20 September 2018 and updated following a meeting on 16 October 2018.	Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 20th November 2018.		Updated draft SoCG issued. No updated SoCG submitted at Deadline 4.	Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 23 rd January 2019.		Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 14th Mar 2019		
South Norfolk District Council	Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 02 November 2018			Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 15 th January 2019.			Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 14th Mar 2019		
Broadland District Council	Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 02 November 2018			Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 15 th January 2019.			Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 14th Mar 2019		





Party	Position at Deadline 1 (7 th Nov 2018)	Position at Deadline 2 (21st Nov 2018)	Position at Deadline 3 (14thDec 2018)	Position at Deadline 4 (15 th Jan 2019)	Position at Deadline 5 (23 rd Jan 2019)	Position at Deadline 6 (8 th Feb 2019)	Position at Deadline 7 (14 th Mar 2019)	Position at Deadline 8 (22 th Mar 2019)	Position at Deadline 9 (26thMar 2019)
Norwich City Council	Signed SoCG with all matters agreed. SoCG signed by all parties on 02 November 2018								
Great Yarmouth Borough Council	Signed SoCG with all matters agreed. SoCG signed by all parties on 30 October 2018								
Natural England - Benthic ecology and marine processes matters	Draft SoCG issued. No SoCG submitted at Deadline 1.	Draft SoCG issued. No SoCG submitted at Deadline 2.	Draft SoCG issued. No SoCG submitted at Deadline 3.						
Natural England – Offshore ornithology matters	Draft SoCG issued. No SoCG submitted at Deadline 1.	Draft SoCG issued. No SoCG submitted at Deadline 2.	Draft SoCG issued. No SoCG submitted at Deadline 3.						
Natural England – All other matters	Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 07 November 2018								
Marine Management Organisation	Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 06 November 2018			Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 15 th January 2019.					





Party	Position at Deadline 1 (7 th Nov 2018)	Position at Deadline 2 (21st Nov 2018)	Position at Deadline 3 (14thDec 2018)	Position at Deadline 4 (15 th Jan 2019)	Position at Deadline 5 (23 rd Jan 2019)	Position at Deadline 6 (8th Feb 2019)	Position at Deadline 7 (14 th Mar 2019)	Position at Deadline 8 (22 th Mar 2019)	Position at Deadline 9 (26 th Mar 2019)
The Wildlife Trust (TWT) and Norfolk Wildlife Trust (NWT)	Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by TWT on 05 November 2018 and by NWT on 01 November 2018								
Whale and Dolphin Conservation	Final signed SoCG with matters outstanding on the 24 September 2018								
Environment Agency	Signed SoCG all matters agreed. SoCG signed by all parties on 02 November 2018								
Historic England	Draft SoCG issued. No SoCG submitted at Deadline 1.	Draft SoCG issued. No SoCG submitted at Deadline 2.	Draft SoCG issued. No SoCG submitted at Deadline 3.						
National Federation of Fishermen's Organisation (and VisNed)	Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 05 November 2018					Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 25 th January 2019.			





Party	Position at Deadline 1 (7 th Nov 2018)	Position at Deadline 2 (21st Nov 2018)	Position at Deadline 3 (14thDec 2018)	Position at Deadline 4 (15 th Jan 2019)	Position at Deadline 5 (23 rd Jan 2019)	Position at Deadline 6 (8 th Feb 2019)	Position at Deadline 7 (14 th Mar 2019)	Position at Deadline 8 (22thMar 2019)	Position at Deadline 9 (26thMar 2019)
Marine and Coastguard Agency	Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 05 November 2018.		As the MCA have been able to provide comment on the Updated Principles, it is planned to submit the document at D4. The Applicant continues to liaise with the MCA and has seeking to schedule a meeting with the MCA to place prior to D4 in order to progress those matters remaining under discussion in the SoCG.		Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 23rd January 2019.				
Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (EIFCA)	Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 06 November 2018						Final signed SoCG with two matters not agreed on the 14 March 2019		



Party	Position at Deadline 1 (7 th Nov 2018)	Position at Deadline 2 (21st Nov 2018)	Position at Deadline 3 (14thDec 2018)	Position at Deadline 4 (15 th Jan 2019)	Position at Deadline 5 (23 rd Jan 2019)	Position at Deadline 6 (8 th Feb 2019)	Position at Deadline 7 (14 th Mar 2019)	Position at Deadline 8 (22thMar 2019)	Position at Deadline 9 (26thMar 2019)
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds - offshore and onshore	Draft SoCG issued. No SoCG submitted at Deadline 1.	Not signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG submitted at Deadline 2	Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 14 December 2018						
Highways England	Final signed SoCG with matters outstanding on the 06 November 2018			Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 15th January 2019.			Signed SoCG all matters agreed. SoCG signed by all parties on 14th Mar 2019		
Spirit Energy Netherlands B.V, Spirit Energy North Sea Limited and Spirit Energy Resources Limited	Final signed SoCG with matters outstanding on the 07 November 2018 – submitted to PINS on the 08 November 2018								
Norfolk Vanguard Limited and Norfolk Boreas Limited	Final signed SoCG with matters outstanding on the 05 November 2018			Signed SoCG with matters outstanding. SoCG signed by all parties on 15 th January 2019.					





4. Commonality

Summary

- 4.1 This section of the report provides a summary of principal issues covered in the SoCGs and demonstrates where there is commonality in the topics or matters being discussed with the various parties at Deadline 1.
- 4.2 Table 4.1 presents the summary of commonality on each covered topics within the various SoCGs and their position as follows:

Matter agreed
Matter subject to further discussion
Matter not agreed

- 4.3 Where a matter is not relevant to a party, it was not included within SoCG and it is not covered in the Table 4.1 and shown as blank.
- 4.4 At Deadline 98, following the Table 4.1, this document will include a "Final Position" and "Protective Provisions" sections which will provide a summary of the final position of SoCG.
- 4.5 Table 4.1 in, this document will include a "Final Position" and "Protective Provisions" sections which will provide a summary of the final position of SoCG.

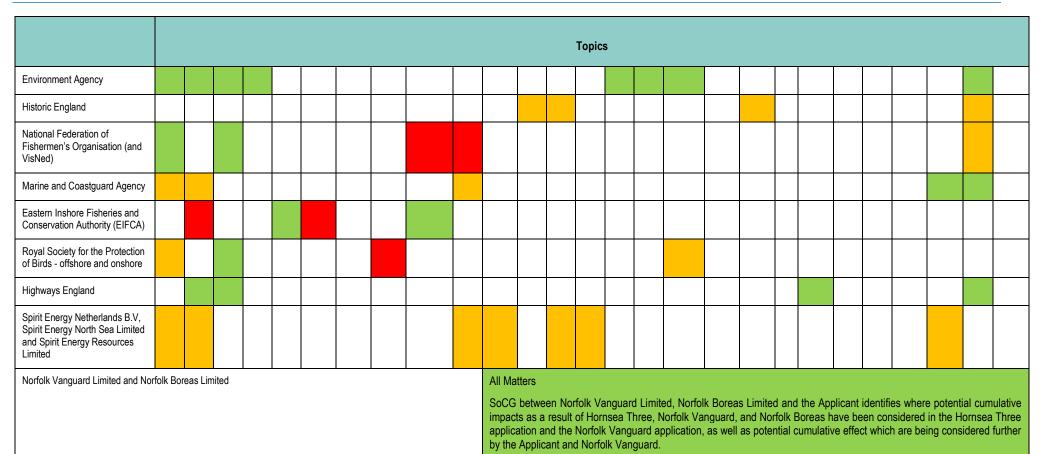


Table 4.1: Table of Commonality at Deadline <a>76.

		Topics																									
Party	Draft DCO	Project Design	Policy and Planning	Marine Processes	Benthic Ecology	Fish and Shellfish Ecology	Marine Mammals	Offshore Omithology	Commercial Fisheries(Inc. Outline Fisheries Coexistence + Liaison Plan)	Shipping and Navigation	Aviation, Military and Communication	Marine Archaeology	Seascape and Visual Resources	Infrastructure and Other Users	Geology and Ground Conditions	Hydrology and Flood Risk	Ecology and Nature Conservation (Incl. Outline EMP)	Landscape and Visual Resources (Incl. Outline LMP)	Historic Environment	Land Use and Recreation	Traffic and Transport (incl. Outline CTMP)	Noise and Vibration	Air Quality	Socio-economics	Safety Zones, Emergency response	Monitoring and Management Plans	Landowners / Compulsory Acquisition
Norfolk County Council																											
North Norfolk District Council																											
South Norfolk District Council																											
Broadland District Council																											
Norwich City Council																											
Great Yarmouth Borough Council																											
Natural England ^a																											
Marine Management Organisation																											
The Wildlife Trust																											
Whale and Dolphin Conservation																											







Applicants position with respective highways authorities.



Traffic and Transport: Subject to ongoing discussion although material progress made between the two parties and the

^a SoCGs for greyed out topics have not been issued for Deadline 5.



Final Position

4.6 This section will be completed and submitted to the ExA at Deadline 98 (26 March 2019)

Protective Provisions

4.7 This section will be completed and submitted to the ExA at Deadline 98 (26 March 2019)

