



Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd

Thanet Extension Offshore Wind Farm

**Annex 7-2: Criteria for Selection of Onshore
Heritage Assets to be Assessed**

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Technical note:

Thanet Extension Offshore Windfarm Project: Criteria for Selection of Onshore Heritage Assets to be Assessed

1. Introduction

A stakeholder LVIA and Cultural Heritage meeting for the Thanet Extension Offshore Windfarm Project was held on 28th March 2017 at the Vattenfall Offices, Military Road, Ramsgate. Representatives for Dover District Council, Thanet District Council and Kent County Council were in attendance together with representatives from Amec Foster Wheeler who are to undertake the Onshore Heritage Assessment and representatives from Optimised Environments who are to produce the LVIA support for the project.

Discussions held as part of this meeting identified the need to define the scopes of the assessments of adverse effects arising through change to setting of onshore heritage assets and direct effects arising through material change to heritage assets. This document is designed to provide criteria to be used in the selection of assets to be included within these assessments. The selection of heritage assets will consider the three elements of the proposed scheme that have the potential to give rise to adverse effects.

- ▶ **The Offshore Windfarm:** This category will focus on the indirect effects of the development on heritage assets arising from perception of the proposed turbines in views of or from the relevant heritage assets;
- ▶ **The Substation:** This category will focus on the direct and indirect effects of the proposed substation construction; and
- ▶ **The Onshore Cable Route:** This category will focus on the direct and indirect effects of the proposed onshore cable connection.

Heritage assets may be subject to adverse effects arising from a single aspect or multiple elements of the proposed scheme.

2. Methodology

For direct effects, a detailed desk-based assessment will be undertaken to better characterise the potential presence of archaeological remains across the search area and to inform discussion of the assessment of effects, potential mitigation strategies and whether further investigative work is required.

Potential receptors of indirect effects arising through change to setting will be identified through the National Heritage List spatial datasets and through consultation with the prescribed consultees, and will be considered on a criteria-based approach. These criteria identify those assets which are potentially subject to adverse effects arising through change to setting, responding to the requirements in the Infrastructure (Decisions) Regulations 2010 to have regard to the desirability of preserving designated heritage assets in their settings.

2.1 The Offshore Windfarm

As acknowledged in the Scoping Report, no direct effects will arise on onshore heritage assets as a result of the construction of the proposed offshore elements of the wind farm and no further assessment of these effects will be undertaken.

Designated or identified non-designated heritage assets to be assessed as part of the onshore assessment of indirect effects resulting from the turbines due to the potential for adverse effects will:

- ▶ be within 45km of the proposed turbines;
- ▶ have a relationship with the sea which relies on designed visibility towards the proposed wind farm extension (in views either of or from the asset) such as:
 - ▶ coastal defences;
 - ▶ lighthouses, such as South Foreland Lighthouse; and
 - ▶ coastal landmarks, such as the Reculver Towers; and/or
- ▶ have an associative or historic relationship with the sea which could be affected by perceptibility of the proposed wind farm extension, such as:
 - ▶ docks and harbours at Ramsgate and Broadstairs;
 - ▶ seafront properties and facilities at Broadstairs; and
 - ▶ memorials such as the Dover Patrol Monument.
- ▶ If the heritage asset does not have a direct relationship to the sea as outlined above it could be affected where it:
 - ▶ is located within the Zone of Theoretical Visibility;
 - ▶ derives significance from longer views into the landscape in an area where the proposed turbines would be visible;
 - ▶ has, or is within, views of the sea in which the proposed wind farm extension would be visible; and/or
 - ▶ derives significance from the experience of the asset in which the proposed turbines would be readily perceptible.

In addition, any heritage assets which are the subject of a reasonable and specific request for assessment by a prescribed consultee will be assessed in detail in the Environmental Statement.

2.2 The Substation

Potential receptors of direct effects will be identified through a desk-based assessment which will draw on readily available sources for an area of 500m radius from the proposed substation options area to characterise the potential presence, nature and significance of heritage assets that may be affected by the proposed development.

The heritage assets to be included within the assessment of indirect effects will include all designated or identified non-designated heritage assets at risk of adverse indirect effects due to:

- ▶ being within 5km of the substation;
- ▶ deriving significance from longer views into the landscape in an area where the proposed substation would be visible; and/or
- ▶ having, or being located within, views towards the proposed substation.

In addition, any heritage assets which are the subject of a reasonable and specific request for assessment by a prescribed consultee will be assessed in detail in the Environmental Statement.



2.3 The Onshore Cable Route

Potential receptors of direct effects will be identified through a desk-based assessment which will draw on readily available sources for an area of 500m from the cabling route to characterise the potential presence, nature and significance of heritage assets that may be affected by the proposed development.

It is likely that only the most sensitive heritage assets would be at risk of adverse indirect effects as a result of the cable installation as any perceptual change in their setting would be temporary and short term. As such assets included within the assessment of indirect effects will be:

- ▶ Within 1km of the selected cable route;
- ▶ Be sensitive to short-term and temporary change in setting;
- ▶ Deriving significance as part of a wider landscape in which the proposed cabling would be visible; and/or
- ▶ Having or being within designed or fortuitous views towards the proposed cabling.

In addition, any heritage assets which are the subject of a reasonable and specific request for assessment by a prescribed consultee will be assessed in detail in the Environmental Statement.

3. Confirmation of Onshore Heritage Assessment Scope

Once a comprehensive list of heritage assets to be considered within the onshore assessment has been compiled using the criteria outlined above this will be made available to all stakeholders through the PEIR process to allow for any comments on the proposed scope of assessment to be made by prescribed consultees and ensure that all involved are satisfied with the scope of work moving forward.

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