



Application for Development Consent for
Thanet Offshore Wind Farm Extension
Case Ref: EN010084

Examining Authority's Note of Unaccompanied Inspection of Sites

Inspection 3a and 3b: Landfall Location and Surroundings

18 February 2019

Background

The Examining Authority (ExA) undertook its third unaccompanied site inspections to support its examination of an application for development consent for the proposed Thanet Offshore Wind Farm Extension (the application) in two stages on 18 February 2019.

Inspections were undertaken from publicly accessible land including highways and public rights of way. No access was required to private land, so advance permission to enter land was not required and these inspections could be undertaken on an unaccompanied basis.

The third unaccompanied inspections are recorded in this note, the purposes of which are:

- to inform the applicant, interested parties and other persons of actions already taken by the ExA; and
- to enable the applicant, interested parties and other persons to consider which additional sites the ExA might need to inspect.

Further site inspections will be required. The site inspection programme has been discussed at the Preliminary Meeting and in hearings. The applicant, interested parties and other persons have been provided with an opportunity to provide comments to the ExA on the approach that it should take to site inspections and to nominate site inspection locations.

An opportunity has been provided to propose inspections of private land on an accompanied basis. Arrangements for accompanied site inspections have been included in the ExA's examination timetable and procedural decisions issued after the Preliminary Meeting. This separate programme of inspections is also underway

If further unaccompanied site inspections are carried out, further inspection notes will be published.

Particulars of the Inspection

Part A – Pegwell Bay Country Park, Saltmarsh and Landfall

This part of the unaccompanied inspection was undertaken by members of the ExA: Examining Inspectors Rynd Smith (Panel Lead) and Stephen

Bradley. The purpose of the visit was for the ExA to review the landfill location and also to observe Pegwell Bay Country Park in good weather conditions during a school holiday period.

This part of the inspection was undertaken on foot on 18 February 2019 at 11-20am. Weather conditions were dry and sunny. It concluded at 11-50am

Part B – Ebbsfleet Lane, Stonelees Nature Reserve, Pegwell Bay Country Park, Saltmarsh and Landfall

This part of the unaccompanied inspection was undertaken by the ExA: Examining Inspectors Rynd Smith (Panel Lead), Jessica Powis and Stephen Bradley in the company of Mr Dean Alford (Case Officer) from the Planning Inspectorate.

The purpose of the visit was for the ExA to view the location of dwellings on Ebbsfleet Lane and their proximity to the proposed cable alignment works site at the Baypoint Sports Club, to observe the Sustrans cycle route, parts of Stonelees Nature Reserve, proposed construction access and a proposed crossing of the Nemo cable alignment and Pegwell Bay Country Park in good weather conditions during a school holiday period.

This part of the inspection was undertaken by on foot commencing at Ebbsfleet Lane on 18 February at 4-10pm. Weather conditions were dry and sunny. Tide conditions enabled views over Pegwell Bay with large areas of the intertidal area exposed and in use by foraging wading and shorebirds. Evidence of crossings of the existing Nemo cable alignment bund by tracked vehicles was observed. The inspection concluded at 4-50pm.