

Members of the Panel of Examining Inspectors for Thanet Extension Offshore Wind Farm National Infrastructure Planning Temple Quay House 2 The Square Bristol

Our ref: OWF/Thanet Ext. PINs ref: EN010084

Registration

ID No.: 20012618

05 March 2019

Dear Panel of Examining Inspectors,

Please find below the post-hearing submissions from Historic England, as requested for Examination Deadline 3.

Historic England is the Government's statutory adviser on all matters relating to the historic environment in England. We are a non-departmental public body established under the National Heritage Act 1983 and sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). We champion and protect England's historic places, providing expert advice to local planning authorities, developers, owners and communities to help ensure our historic environment is properly understood, enjoyed and cared for.

<u>Written submission – Actions arising from the Issue Specific Hearing 4 (ISH4)</u> <u>held at Discovery Park, Sandwich on 19 February 2019 (Historic Environment)</u>

1. White Cliffs of Dover: effects of the proposed development on seascape considerations

Historic England is requested to provide confirmation in writing of the tentative position put orally that the seascape effects of the proposal on historically important views to the White Cliffs of Dover from the sea (including views of the existing Thanet Offshore Wind Farm (OWF)) would not be harmful.

Response:

BS1 6PN

Historic England has reviewed figures 12.51b and 12.51c (*Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd, Thanet Extension Offshore Wind Farm Environmental Statement, Volume 6, Annex 12-2-2: SLVIA Photomontage*) in order to answer question 1 about the White Cliffs of Dover. We think this question relates to the white cliffs as they are understood as a component of the South Foreland Heritage Coast (as defined by agreement by





Natural England and the relevant Local Authority) rather than for the way in which they form the setting of designated heritage such as Dover Castle. Although being defined as a Heritage Coast would suggest this issue is specific to the historic environment, we think Natural England are nonetheless best placed to advise on this question. We are able to provide further clarity on our answer if helpful.

5. SLVIA Effects at Reculver Towers and Roman Fort and Richborough Roman Fort and Amphitheatre

- Historic England is to review the extent to which effects of the proposed development on Reculver Towers and Roman Fort and Richborough Roman Fort and Amphitheatre have been considered and advise its position.
- The Applicant to review its approach to assessment of effects on Reculver Towers and Roman Fort.

Response:

Historic England are content that the effect of the proposed development on Reculver Towers and Roman Fort (List Entry Ref: 1018784) and Richborough Roman Fort and Amphitheatre (List Entry Ref: 1014642) have been appropriately and thoroughly assessed. We agree with the conclusions of the assessment, namely that the impact upon the setting of both scheduled monuments would be negligible. We have no concerns with regard to the development's impact upon the heritage significance of these heritage assets.

Comments on revised draft Development Consent Order (as submitted by the Applicant and published: 07/02/2019):

- 1. We note that the draft DCO captures that the "onshore archaeological draft written scheme of investigation (document reference D1.40)" within the list of certified plans (35. (1) Certification of plans etc. page 25 PART 7 Miscellaneous and General). However, no outline onshore Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the Application has yet been submitted and as such there has been no opportunity for either Kent County Council (KCC) or Historic England to approve or comment on the acceptability of this document.
 - As KCC will be your lead advisor for onshore archaeological works (with Historic England becoming further involved should archaeological remains of national significance be revealed) it is important that both parties have the opportunity to comment on and approve this document before it is approved as a certified plan within the DCO. It is also important that any WSIs are submitted with appropriate time in order to enable its effective curatorial review and acceptance, and final delivery.
- 2. We also note that Historic Environment matters have not been addressed within The Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) (Category 8 Other Documents and Reports), although historic environment matters are addressed within the Environmental Statement and any forthcoming onshore WSI. We recommend that you refer to KCC's Heritage Conservation Team





with regard to whether heritage matters should be incorporated within the CoCP.

- 3. PART 3 Requirements (page 39) we would like to see the title 'Archaeological written scheme of investigation' amended to 'Onshore Archaeological written scheme of investigation'. Furthermore could the reference to Historic England in 22.—(1) be replaced with the Historic Building and Monuments Commission for England, and all other references thereafter please, for instance SCHEDULE 11 Article 30, Deemed Licence under the 2009 Act Generation Assets and SCHEDULE 12 Article 30 Deemed Licence under the 2009 Act Export Cable System both PART 1 Interpretation 4. (h).
- 4. With regard to the content of: SCHEDULE 11 (Article 30) Pre-construction plans and documentation PART 4 Conditions, 12.—(1) (h) and SCHEDULE 12 (Article 30) Pre-construction plans and documentation PART 4 Conditions, 12.—(1) (i) we request the following changes are made:

"An offshore written scheme of archaeological investigation in relation to the offshore Order limits seaward of mean *low high* water, which must be submitted *four months* prior to commencement of the licensed activities and must accord with the offshore archaeological draft written scheme of investigation and industry good practice, in consultation with the statutory historic body to include"

In doing so we also consider this will enable the interrelationships between onshore and offshore WSIs to work as clearly and effectively as possible, whereby a strategic overlap is captured, as referred to in Action 4 from the Issue Specific Hearing 4 (ISH4) (Historic Environment).

- 5. In reference to the content of: SCHEDULE 11 and SCHEDULE 12 Preconstruction plans and documentation PART 4 Conditions, Dredge disposal 21.—(2) whereby: "Any man-made material must be separated from the dredged material and disposed of on land, where reasonably practical". We have concerns over the inclusion of this condition and request that it be removed to avoid confusion with the provisions made within the offshore archaeological WSI, specifically in relation to the working mechanisms of the Protocol for Archaeological Discoveries and importantly the requirements under the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 for the reporting of wreck.
- 6. We consider there is a need to amend the definition of 'commence' presented within SCHEDULE 11 and SCHEDULE 12 PART 1 Interpretation, 1. Whereby ""commence" means, in relation to works seaward of MHWS, the first carrying out of any licensed marine activities authorised by the deemed marine licences, save for archaeological investigations and pre-construction surveys and monitoring, and the words "commencement" and "commenced" will be construed accordingly;".





As detailed within our Written Representation at Deadline 1 (15th January 2019, comment 5.3) we disagree with this definition and request that the term commencement includes both pre-construction monitoring surveys and site preparation works, in order to ensure the consistent production, agreement and implementation of the offshore WSI prior to such works. This would not only ensure adequate mitigation measures are developed for site preparation works, but ensure that the survey data are incorporated into the development of mitigation strategies.

Yours sincerely

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CC:

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