



## Meeting note

<b>File reference</b>	EN010084
<b>Status</b>	<b>Final</b>
<b>Author</b>	Karl-Jonas Johansson
<b>Date</b>	6 December 2016
<b>Meeting with</b>	Vattenfall
<b>Venue</b>	By telephone
<b>Attendees</b>	<b>The Planning Inspectorate:</b> Tom Carpen (Infrastructure Planning Lead) Stephanie Newman (EIA and Land Rights Advisor) Karl-Jonas Johansson (Case Officer)  <b>Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd:</b> Helen Jameson (Project Manager)
<b>Meeting objectives</b>	Thanet Extension project meeting
<b>Circulation</b>	All attendees

### Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

The Applicant and the Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) case team introduced themselves and their respective roles. The Inspectorate continued by outlining its openness policy and ensured those present understood that any issues discussed and advice given would be recorded and placed on the Inspectorate's website under s.51 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008). Further to this, it was made clear that any advice given did not constitute legal advice upon which the Applicant (or others) can rely.

### Actions from last meeting

The Inspectorate informed the Applicant that the outstanding action from the last meeting will be actioned before the next project meeting.

### Project update

Vattenfall Management as approved Thanet Extension to progress to the formal planning stages, including pre-application consultation and preparation of an NSIP application for submission.

The Inspectorate confirmed it will join the Applicant's meeting with Natural England and the RSPB on 9 December 2016 as an impartial observer to get a better

understanding of parties' views on bird survey data. The Applicant will send the agenda and background material to the Inspectorate before the meeting. The Applicant also advised that it will be meeting with the Marine Management Organisation week commencing 12 December 2016.

The Applicant will notify the Inspectorate about the upcoming consultation events planned for January 2017 at various venues in Kent, local to the development. The Applicant informed that they had met with representatives from local residents groups and parish councils to introduce the plans and encourage them to attend consultation events for more information. discuss the impact the cable route may have on the local communities. The Applicant intends also to issue a project newsletter to households within a defined consultation area early in January 2017. The newsletter will also include details of consultation events.

## **Scoping**

The Applicant confirmed that the scoping request will be submitted to the Inspectorate on 4 January 2017. The Inspectorate clarified that the formal start of the scoping process is when the Inspectorate receives the hard copies of the scoping report. It was further advised that the Inspectorate needs one shapefile that encompasses the entire red line boundary as described in the scoping report. It was agreed that the Applicant would submit a new shapefile by the end of the week commencing 12 December 2016 in order to meet these requirements. It was also confirmed that the co-ordinates needed to launch the project website for scoping were provided in 6 digit British National Grid reference format.

## **Transboundary screening**

The Inspectorate advised that the transboundary screening would take place after the scoping opinion had been issued and that the Inspectorate relied on the information provided by the Applicant in order to undertake this. It was therefore advised that the Applicant provide as much information as possible in their scoping report on transboundary effects on other EEA states in order to support this process. The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that this was their intention. It was clarified that if new information would come to light the Inspectorate would rescreen for the likelihood of transboundary effects.

## **Surveys**

- The shipping surveys are expected to commence in December 2016 or early January 2017;
- The autumn fish studies have been completed;
- Benthic surveys are nearing completion;
- The intertidal surveys are due to commence week commencing 12 December; and
- Onshore and intertidal wintering bird surveys commenced in November 2016.

To minimise the impacts on land owners the Applicant is conducting the intertidal surveys from public land. The Applicant confirmed that their land agent has identified all landowners impacted by the project and the survey area has been amended to remove overlaps with privately owned land.

## **Local Authorities**

The Applicant confirmed that are progressing a Planning Performance Agreement (PPA) with Dover District Council prior to their involvement in consultation activity. The Applicant will discuss with both Kent County Council and Thanet District Council whether similar plans need to be agreed.

The Inspectorate offered to advise any of the councils if they had any queries regarding the Development Consent Order process.

It was confirmed that the applicant had sent the Inspectorate its list of local authority contacts.

**Specific decisions / follow up required?**

- Applicant to send agenda and background material prior to the meeting with the RSPB and Natural England on Friday 9 December 2016