

Norfolk Boreas Offshore Wind Farm

Consultation Report

Appendix 21.18 Letter to West Suffolk Council

Applicant: Norfolk Boreas Limited
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Photo: Ormonde Offshore Wind Farm

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Norfolk Boreas Limited
PO Box 5689
London W1A 4FG

Date:
13/05/2019

Contact: Graham Davey
E-mail: info@norfolkboreas.co.uk

Phone: 0800 019 3517

West Suffolk Council Planning Department
West Suffolk House
Western Way
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP33 3YU

13 May 2019

Dear Sir/Madam

NORFOLK BOREAS OFFSHORE WIND FARM

We are aware that West Suffolk Council has recently been established following the official merger of Forest Heath District Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council on 1st April 2019. Both Forest Heath District Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council have already been consulted in respect of the Norfolk Boreas project under Section 42 of the Planning Act by way of letters dated 26th October 2018 and we attach copies of these letters for ease of reference. However, following your recent establishment, we are writing to you in order to enclose information regarding the Norfolk Boreas project and to explain the timescales for submission and examination of the application.

Norfolk Boreas Limited (the **Applicant**) intends to develop and construct an offshore wind farm located approximately 73km from the coast of Norfolk (the **Project**). The Project, located in the southern North Sea, would cover an area of approximately 725km². Offshore cables transmitting power from the Project would make landfall south of Happisburgh. From there buried cables would continue approximately 60km underground to an onshore project substation, and connect into the National Grid substation near Necton, Norfolk.

The Project will have an export capacity of around 1,800 MW and therefore falls within the definition of a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (**NSIP**). As a result, the Applicant is required to submit an application for a development consent order (**DCO**) to the Planning Inspectorate, who will examine the application on behalf of the Secretary of State.

The Project is the second offshore wind farm proposal being developed by Vattenfall in this part of the southern North Sea. With the same proposed export capacity of up to 1,800MW, the Norfolk Vanguard Project (also classified as an NSIP), submitted its DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate in June 2018 (**Norfolk Vanguard**). Vattenfall aims to optimise synergies in relation to the development, construction, operation and eventual decommissioning of the two projects, enabling overall impacts to be reduced. If both projects secure consent and progress to construction, these synergies will be realised. However, the Applicant needs to consider the possibility that Norfolk Vanguard may not be built, and therefore proposes to include both scenarios within its Application.

Further information in relation to this can be found in more detail in the Non-Technical Summary of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (**PEIR**).

Consultation on the Project

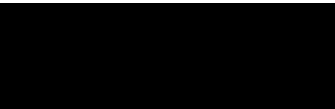
As indicated above, both Forest Heath District Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council have been consulted under Section 42 of the Planning Act. They were issued a letter on 26th October 2018 informing them of the consultation and which afforded them the opportunity to respond. This consultation period ran for 33 days from 7th November 2018 to 9th December 2018.

We note that Forest Heath District Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council did not make any representations at the Section 42 stage.

The Applicant intends to submit its DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate in mid-June 2019. Should the DCO application be accepted by the Planning Inspectorate then you will have a further opportunity to comment on the proposed Project pursuant to Section 56 of the Planning Act 2008, and the Applicant will write to inform you, as a single authority, accordingly at that point.

If you have any queries about the Project please call 0800 019 3517 or write to us by email to: info@norfolkboreas.co.uk.

Yours faithfully



Graham Davey
Project Manager
Norfolk Boreas Limited