

SECTIONS 91, 92, 93 AND 94 PLANNING ACT 2008 RULE 13(6) INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATION PROCEDURE) RULES 2010 NOTIFICATION OF PRELIMINARY MEETING, OPEN FLOOR HEARING AND ISSUE SPECIFIC HEARINGS

THE NORFOLK BOREAS OFFSHORE WIND FARM ORDER (Application Reference: EN010087)

Notice is hereby given that the following Hearings will be held by the Examining Authority for the examination of the application made by Norfolk Boreas Limited (the **Applicant**) of 1st Floor, 1 Tudor Street, London, EC4Y 0AH for a Development Consent Order (**DCO**) under sections 14, 15 and 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (the **Application**). The Application was made on 11 June 2019 and accepted on 4 July 2019 (reference: EN010087). The Preliminary Meeting, Open Floor Hearing and Issue Specific Hearings will be held as indicated below.

Hearing	Date	Time	Venue
Preliminary Meeting	Tuesday 12 November 2019	10:00	The King's Centre, 63-75 King St, Norwich, NR1 1PH
Issue Specific Hearing into the draft Development Consent Order	Wednesday 13 November 2019	10:00	The King's Centre, 63-75 King St, Norwich, NR1 1PH
Open Floor Hearing	Wednesday 13 November 2019	19:00	The King's Centre, 63-75 King St, Norwich, NR1 1PH
Issue Specific Hearing (ISH1) into environmental matters	Thursday 14 November 2019	10:00	The King's Centre, 63-75 King St, Norwich, NR1 1PH

The Application relates to the construction and operation of an offshore wind farm located approximately 73km from the coast of Norfolk (at the closest point) (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 underground cables would continue approximately 60km to an onshore project substation, and connect into the National Grid substation near Necton, Norfolk.

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 1.8GW (1,800MW), the Norfolk Vanguard Project (also classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project), 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 by the Applicant implementing Scenario 1 for the Project (as described in Table 1 below). However, the Applicant needs to consider the possibility that Norfolk Vanguard may not be built, and in this case Scenario 2 would be relevant (as described in Table 1 below).

The proposed DCO would, amongst other things, authorise offshore components including:

- Up to 180 wind turbine generators and associated foundations, with a maximum turbine hub height of 198.5m, a maximum rotor diameter of 303m and a maximum tip height of 350m, to give a combined export capacity of up to 1,800MW;
- Up to two offshore electrical platforms and an offshore service platform, both with associated foundations;
- Scour protection, as required, for foundations and cables;
- The construction of a network of subsea array cables connecting the wind turbines to each other and to the offshore electrical platforms; and interconnector cables connecting the offshore electrical platforms to each other or, in the event of Scenario 1, project interconnector cables connecting an offshore electrical platform in Norfolk Boreas with an offshore electrical platform within Norfolk Vanguard;
- Up to two pairs of export cables from the offshore electrical platforms to the shore; and
- Up to two meteorological masts and their associated foundations, up to two LiDAR buoys, two wave buoys and a number of navigational buoys.

The onshore project area would be from the point at which the offshore cables come ashore (the **Landfall**) at Happisburgh South, Norfolk, to the existing Necton National Grid Substation. The cable route from landfall to the onshore project substation is approximately 60km. The key landfall and onshore components would, amongst other things, comprise the following:

- Up to two pairs of subsea export cables laid in ducts installed under the cliff by long Horizontal Directional Drilling;
- Up to two onshore transition pits to house the connection between the offshore cables and the onshore cables;
- Onshore connection works, subject to different scenarios dependent on whether Norfolk Vanguard proceeds to construction, as described in Table 1:

Table 1: summary of the two scenarios described in the Application:

Scenario 1: <i>Norfolk Vanguard proceeds to construction and installs ducts and carries out other shared enabling works to benefit Norfolk Boreas</i>	Scenario 2: <i>Norfolk Vanguard does not proceed to construction and Norfolk Boreas proceeds alone. Norfolk Boreas undertakes all works required as an independent project</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Pulling up to two pairs of cables and associated communication cables through pre-installed ducts 12km (approx.) running track alongside the cable route 300m extension to the access road installed by Norfolk Vanguard to the onshore project substation. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Cable duct installation and pulling up to two pairs of cables and associated communication cables through ducts Trenchless crossings at various roads, railways and sensitive habitats Mobilisation areas and compounds for trenchless crossings 60km (approx.) running track alongside the cable corridor A47 junction improvement works to install a right turn/filter and new exit at the Spicers Corner junction 1.8km access road to the onshore project substation Modification to the existing overhead line network in the vicinity of the Necton National Grid substation

- Jointing pits and link boxes to facilitate cable pulling, at intervals along the cable route;
- Cable logistics area near Oulton to allow for the storage of cable drums and associated materials close to the cable corridor;
- Construction of an onshore project substation in proximity to the existing Necton National Grid Substation together with associated equipment and a temporary construction compound;
- Extension to the existing Necton National Grid Substation;
- Up to 12 400kV underground cables between the new onshore project substation and the existing Necton National Grid Substation;
- Temporary construction areas and access roads, together with works to secure vehicular and/or pedestrian means of access including the creation of new tracks, footpaths, and/or widening, upgrades, creation of bell mouths, creation of temporary slip roads and improvements to existing tracks, footpaths and roads;
- Planting to provide screening for permanent infrastructure;
- The permanent and/or temporary compulsory acquisition (if required) of land and/or rights for the Project;
- Overriding of easements and other rights over or affecting land for the Project;
- The application and/or disapplication of legislation relevant to the Project including inter alia legislation relating to compulsory purchase; and
- Such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, permits or consents as are necessary and/or convenient.

The proposed works are an environmental impact assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 and accordingly an Environmental Statement accompanied the Application.

A hard copy of the full suite of application documents, including accompanying plans, maps and other documents may be inspected free of charge until the close of Examination at the following location during the hours set out below:

Library	Opening Times ¹
North Walsham Library New Road, North Walsham, NR28 9DE	Mon - Fri: 10:30am - 7:00pm; Sat: 10:30am - 4:00pm.

¹The opening times of the location listed are at the discretion of those in control of the building and could vary to the times set out in this notice. The organisations and locations providing access to documentation are not in any way affiliated with the Project or the Applicant and are an independent and neutral party to the application process.

Copies of the documents will also be available online through the Planning Inspectorate's website at <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/norfolk-boreas/>. Paper copies can be provided on request from <https://group.vattenfall.com/uk/what-we-do/our-projects/vattenfall-norfolk/norfolk-boreas> or from the Applicant at the address above for a charge of £8,896 plus VAT for the full suite of documents. USB device copies will be provided free of charge and are available on request.