

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Norfolk Boreas](#)
Subject: Norfolk Boreas Consultation.
Date: 13 November 2019 08:46:54
Attachments: [Bats - Tony.docx](#)

Dear Planning Inspector,

Please find attached a report I compiled regarding Bat Surveys that were carried out for the Norfolk Vanguard application by Vattenfall. This report is for the Necton area only. Would you please take this into account during your onshore environmental meetings.

Regards,
Tony Smedley
For Necton Substation Action Group

Summation of Vattenfall's Bat Survey Activity Report (Appendix 22.4) with respect to Necton only.

Refer to Vattenfall documents Appendix 22.4 Bat Activity Survey Report version 1 June 2018, and Appendix 9.3 Bat Activity Survey version 1 June 2018.

1. The results of the 'Bat Survey' carried out on Vattenfall's behalf were not made public during the consultation period and therefore not open to public scrutiny and/or comment.
2. Appendix 22.4 Bat Survey Activity Report was not published until 31-1-18, and it shows that only ONE survey was carried out at Necton (30-7-17). This is contrary to the method statement detailing how many such surveys would be carried out. At Necton it was programmed that EIGHT (8) surveys would be carried out. Other locations had typically 5,6,7 or 10 surveys done.
3. Two locations were used for the Necton Bat Survey. These were identified as BACT 35 (OS grid ref TF917102 Necton Wood area subject to Vattenfall substation construction) and BACT20 (OS grid ref TF904104 Necton area subject to building the National Grid extension). The results were as follows:
BACT35 showed five (5) different species of bat.
BACT20 showed ten (10) different species of bat. Of these ten the following are described as being 'rare'. These species are the Barbastelle, the Serotine and the Nathusius Pipistrelle. In addition the Myotis SP could be rare.
4. BACT20 is described as being of a 'High Habitat Suitability'.
BACT35 is described as being of a 'Medium Habitat Suitability'.

NSAG Additional Note:

All species of UK bat use hedgerows to navigate between roosts and foraging sites. They rarely cross open areas. Their foraging range varies between one-half and six miles. Vattenfall Peir Documents state that 1km of hedging will need to be removed at the construction site of the Onshore Substation at Necton.

To date, with the information to hand, it has not been possible to determine which hedges will be affected. However the documents show that over 600m of the hedgerows affected are due to National Grid substation extension with the remainder being at Vattenfall's substation site.

Some of the existing hedges date back at least to the 1880's as they are shown on maps of that time. Given that, it is reasonable to assume these hedges are even older, possibly dating back to the time of the Enclosures Act, or even to the strip farming of the medieval period. Asides from hedges being a general visual amenity on the landscape, the loss of these particular hedges could have a devastating effect on the local bat and other wildlife environment. Mitigation planting will not replace the environmental loss of the existing mature hedges and will make a significant impact on the local animal life.