

DCO DOC 8.1 Outline Code of Construction Practice		
129	Natural England welcomes that oCoCP has been updated to include commitment to a scheme and programme for each watercourse crossing, diversion and reinstatement, and is secured through Requirement 25 of DCO.	
133	We welcome the inclusion of ' <i>The River Wensum Restoration Strategy and River Wensum SAC conservation objectives will be reviewed during the development of the final CoCP</i> '. We also welcome that ' <i>where possible the HDD compound within the River Wensum floodplain will be restored to the current soil/ground moisture conditions so that water levels are similar to those pre-disturbance</i> .' Natural England would welcome enhancement within the River Wensum flood plain, though note that the enhancement document only refers to trenched crossings and culverts and not to HDD compounds within the floodplain and red line boundary.	
145, 149	Natural England is satisfied with the inclusion of details of Drilling Fluid Breakout and Breakout Contingency Plan	
161	The inclusion of environmental incident response reporting to Natural England within 24 hours if any incident occurs within proximity to a designated site is welcomed. We advise the Applicant that they may need to consider SSSI consent for operations under The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. The immediate seeking of consents required for operations within the SSSI from Natural England during an environmental incident should also be included as a stipulation in the oCoCP. Please see our comments regarding 5.4 Consents and licences required Under Other Legislation for further information.	
DCO Document 8.7 Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Strategy (Version 2) (Tracked Changes)		
95	We welcome that planting of more mature hedge plants will also be considered to reduce recovery time.	
141	Natural England welcomes inclusion of text ' <i>The preconstruction survey mitigation will adhere to Natural England's standing advice for ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees</i> '.	
290	The inclusion of preconstruction monitoring or mitigation as outlined in 10.3.2 for Broadland SPA and Ramsar as agreed during the Vanguard Examination is welcomed.	
3.15	We note the OLEMS has been updated to include LONI.	
89	The text in section 89 differs to that entered for Vanguard Deadline 9 OLEMS in that for Boreas a total of up to 22m at each hedgerow will be left to become overgrown, whereas the Vanguard OLEMS specified 25m each side of gap. Please could the Applicant clarify why proposed mitigation is different?	
305	Within OLEMS (Para 12.2.3) we welcome the inclusion of a commitment to post construction monitoring of hedgerows used for commuting and foraging bats, to be undertaken for 7 years or until the original hedgerow has recovered fully.	
163, 306	We welcome the inclusion of a commitment that Post-construction monitoring will be undertaken of any UKHPI and Norfolk LBAP grasslands one year after the completion of construction to identify failure of the grassland to naturally regenerate.	

AS-3.D1.V1	
Clarification Note Trenchless Crossings and Potential Effects of Breakout on the River Wensum	
	Natural England welcomes the Clarification Note, the inclusion of the drilling fluid contingency plan and the inclusion of requirement to notify Natural England within 24 hours of an Environmental Incident within the CoCP. We advise the Applicant to also consider any operations which may require consent with an SSSI under the Wildlife and Countryside Act. Moreover, advise that a stipulation to approach Natural England for consent in the case of an environmental incident within an SSSI is included in the oCoCP.
Appendix 5.3 Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Matrices (Tracked Changes)	
Site 26	We welcome screening in of Broadland SPA and Ramsar features for direct and indirect effects on ex situ habitats for swan, goose and assemblage species during construction and decommissioning, as raised in Natural England's Relevant Representation [099].
Site 156	The updated Screening Matrices do not currently screen in Direct effects on the Wensum SAC and its features, due to trenchless crossing. As discussed in our Relevant Representation [099] we consider the chance of HDD break out likely enough that site and features should be screened in. We note the additional information provided in the Clarification Note [AS-6.D2.V1] and Method Statement for Crossing the River Wensum and adjacent Watercourses [AS-5.D2.V1]. Natural England is content these documents provide sufficient information with regards design, methodology and mitigation to be confident that the proposal will not adversely affect the integrity of the site. However the screening matrices should be updated accordingly to screen in impacts.
Site 26	Broadland SPA onshore. As raised during the Vanguard examination there was insufficient baseline data available which linked onshore ornithology numbers to the type of agricultural farmland and crop rotations.  <i>'The additional years of survey data regarding SPA/Ramsar species may however still not accurately represent cropping rotations and be used to predict likely bird species abundance in the future. Arable rotations may be based on a 5 year rotation system, the location of sugar beet and crop feeds in future years may therefore not be evident from the dataset. The Applicant may therefore be unable to accurately predict whether SPA/Ramsar species may be present in the area during future works'</i> . As it is difficult to determine where SPA/Ramsar species may be feeding we advise, as for Vanguard that the Applicant, in accordance with the precautionary principle, provide food stuffs for SPA/Ramsar species on the area of cable route within 5km which is not being worked, or as suggested in the Vanguard Broadland SPA Ramsar Clarification Note in discussion with landowners outside the red line boundary. Natural England therefore advises the Applicant to remove monitoring as a condition and include wording as in OLEMS.
Information to support HRA Appendix 6.1 Integrity Matrices (Version 3)	
	We note the updated Integrity Matrices for Broadland SPA and Ramsar (onshore). Natural England is content that with the mitigation proposed within the OLEMS [DCO Doc 8.7] that there will not be an adverse effect on integrity of the Broadland SPA features.

AS-6.D2.V1 Clarification Note Ecological Enhancements		
25	We recommend that the study area is clarified as a 5 km zone of influence study area for Paston Great Barn SAC, ZOI based on foraging data for Paston Barbastelle.	
26	During the Vanguard examination 17 hedgerows were identified as being of moderate or high importance, yet the text here states 16, suggest number is amended to ensure it includes all hedgerows of medium to high importance for Barbastelle bats, including those which could not be surveyed previously due to landowner access but will be surveyed post consent.	
26	There appears to be a discrepancy between mitigation for hedgerows as included in Vanguard (25m each side of gap) and Boreas (total of 22m), see above comments.	
	Welcome clarification of potential ecological enhancements that may be undertaken within the order limits. We continue to recommend the Applicant to consider Net Gain. Whilst Net Gain is not compulsory for NSIPs we believe there are opportunities for this development and would welcome its adoption.	
AS-5.D2.V1 Method Statement for the crossing of the River Wensum and adjacent watercourses		
	No comment	
ExA.WQ-1.D2.V1 Applicants response to Examining Authority's Written Questions		
2.2.6	Natural England welcomes that all landowner agreements have been sought, with regards Paston Great Barn SAC.	
6.6 Schedule of Mitigation (Version 2) (Tracked Changes)		
150	We welcome consideration of The River Wensum Restoration Strategy and River Wensum SAC conservation objectives within the site specific water crossing plans.	
243, 244	The inclusion of mitigation in relation to Broadland SPA is welcome.	
215	The inclusion of a commitment to monitor grassland one year after the completion of construction is welcome.	
5.4 Consents and licences required Under Other Legislation		
	<p>The Applicant may need to include SSSI consent under The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended. The Act requires owners or occupiers of SSSIs to apply to Natural England to seek written consent to carry out operations that may damage the special interest of the site. Natural England may grant consent, with or without conditions, or refuse consent on operations, if we consider that the proposal is not compatible with furthering the conservation and enhancement of the special interest of the site. The operations that require Natural England's consent are listed in the notification documents of each SSSI and are relevant to the notified features within the site.</p> <p>We advise the Applicant to be familiar with operations requiring Natural England's consent for each SSSI within the red line boundary. For guidance on how to get consent to carry out operations please see the following <a href="#">(Link)</a>. The seeking of appropriate consents for works within an SSSI should be included in the oCoCP. The immediate seeking of possibly required consents from Natural England during an environmental incident should also be included as a stipulation in the oCoCP.</p>	