

Norfolk Boreas Offshore Wind Farm

Applicant's Statement of Commonality of Statements of Common Ground

(Version 4)

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Glossary of Acronyms

AEol	Adverse Effects on Integrity
DCO	Development Consent Order
dDCO	Draft Development Consent Order
DML	Deemed Marine Licenses
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EPP	Evidence Plan Process
HP3	Hornsea Project 3
HRA	Habitat Regulations Assessment
IFCA	Inshore Fisheries Conservation Agency
LSE	Likely Significant Affect
MCA	Marine Coast Guard Agency
MMO	Marine Management Organisation
NATS	National Air Traffic Services
NCC	Norfolk County Council
NFFO	National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations
NFU	National Farmers Union
NNDC	North Norfolk District Council
RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
RYA	Royal Yachting Association
SNBCs	Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground
VisNed	National Association of Producer Organisations in Dutch Demersal Fisheries
VWPL	Vattenfall Wind Power Limited
WDC	Whale and Dolphin Conservation

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1. Norfolk Boreas Limited ('the Applicant', an affiliate company of Vattenfall Wind Power Limited (VWPL)) is seeking a Development Consent Order (DCO) for Norfolk Boreas, an offshore wind farm in the southern North Sea.

1.2 Purpose of the Statement of Commonality

2. This document provides the Examining Authority with an overview of the position of each Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) between the Applicant and the interested parties in relation to Norfolk Boreas at Deadline 9.
3. Throughout the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), the Applicant has coordinated an Evidence Plan Process (EPP) which provided a framework for consultation with the relevant stakeholders. Each SoCG reflects discussions which took place throughout the EPP, pre-submission consultation as well as the ongoing post-submission consultation.

1.2.1 Structure

4. This report is structured as follows:
 - Section 2 Summary of commonality of each topic covered – provides an overview of all topics covered and each stakeholder's position. As of Deadline 9, some of these positions are final, some positions are ongoing.
 - Section 3 Tables of commonality – this provides further detail on the aspects of each topic that are covered by the SoCG and each stakeholder's position. As of Deadline 9, some of these positions are final, some positions are ongoing.

1.3 List of Statements of Common Ground

5. Table 1 provides the list of SoCGs that have been prepared by Norfolk Boreas and the respective regulative authority in accordance with the list as requested by the Planning Inspectorate in the Rule 8 letter issued in November 2019.

1.4 Summary of Current Position

6. The SoCGs submitted alongside this document at Deadline 9 reflect the positions of the Applicant and stakeholders, some of which are final, others which are ongoing.
7. Table 1 provides an overview of the status of each SoCG throughout the examination.

Table 1 Status of SoCGs at Deadline 9

Party	Position at Deadline 0	Position at Deadline 2	Position at Deadline 6	Position at Deadline 8	Position at Deadline 9
Anglian Water Service Ltd		SoCG Agreed	Position agreed - No further updates		Final SoCG as submitted at Deadline 2
Breckland Council		SoCG Agreed	Position agreed - No further updates		Final SoCG agreed for Deadline 9 submission
Broadland District Council		Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing
Chamber of Shipping		SoCG Agreed	Position agreed - No further updates		Final SoCG agreed for Deadline 9 submission
Eastern Inshore Fisheries Conservation Agency (IFCA)		Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing.		Final SoCG agreed for Deadline 9 submission
Environment Agency	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing		Final SoCG agreed for Deadline 9 submission
Highways England		SoCG Agreed	Position agreed - No further updates		Final SoCG as submitted at Deadline 2
Historic England		SoCG Agreed	Position agreed - No further updates		Final SoCG agreed for Deadline 9 submission
Marine Management Organisation (MMO)	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Final SoCG agreed for Deadline 9 submission
Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA)		Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing - all awaiting Norfolk Vanguard determination.	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing - all awaiting Norfolk Vanguard determination	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Final SoCG agreed for Deadline 9 submission
National Farmers Union		Draft agreed for	Draft agreed for	Draft agreed for	

Party	Position at Deadline 0	Position at Deadline 2	Position at Deadline 6	Position at Deadline 8	Position at Deadline 9
(NFU)		submission. Discussions ongoing	submission. Discussions ongoing	submission. Discussions ongoing	
National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations (NFFO) and National Association of Producer Organisations in Dutch Demersal Fisheries (VisNed)		Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing.	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing		Final SoCG agreed for Deadline 9 submission
National Air Traffic Services (NATS)		NATS have confirmed that they have no objection to the Application, subject to agreed amendments being included within the DCO. Therefore, a SOCG has not been submitted at D2.	NATS have confirmed that they have no objection to the Application, therefore a SoCG is not required.		NATS have confirmed that they have no objection to the Application, therefore a SoCG is not required.
Natural England	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Draft discussed with Natural England which the Applicant updated for submission, however these have not been signed off by Natural England. Discussions ongoing	Draft discussed with Natural England which the Applicant updated for submission, however these have not been signed off by Natural England. Discussions ongoing.		
Norfolk County Council		Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing		Final SoCG agreed for Deadline 9 submission

Party	Position at Deadline 0	Position at Deadline 2	Position at Deadline 6	Position at Deadline 8	Position at Deadline 9
North Norfolk District Council		Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing		Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing
Ørsted Hornsea Project Three		Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	SoCG Agreed.	Final SoCG agreed for Deadline 9 submission
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing.	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing		
Royal Yachting Association (RYA)		SoCG Agreed	Position agreed - No further updates		Final SoCG as submitted at Deadline 2
Trinity House		Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing - all awaiting Norfolk Vanguard determination.	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing - all awaiting Norfolk Vanguard determination	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Final SoCG agreed for Deadline 9 submission
Whale and Dolphin Conservation (WDC)		Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	No progress made since Deadline 2		Final SoCG agreed for Deadline 9 submission
The Wildlife Trusts and Norfolk Wildlife Trust	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing	Draft agreed for submission. Discussions ongoing		Final SoCG agreed for Deadline 9 submission

2 SUMMARY OF COMMONALITY OF EACH TOPIC COVERED

8. This section provides a summary of the topics covered in each of the SoCG and shows where there is commonality in the topics or matters being discussed with the stakeholders.
9. Table 2 presents a summary of commonality at Deadline 9, on each of the topics discussed between the Applicant and the stakeholder using the following colour code.





	Matter agreed during examination
	Matter to be discussed further
	Matter not agreed during examination
	Topic not relevant to the stakeholder or deferred.

Table 2 Summary of Commonality with each stakeholder in relation to each topic covered

Party	Marine Water and Sediment Quality	Marine Geology, Oceanography and Processes	Benthic and Intertidal ecology	Fish and Shellfish Ecology	Marine Mammals	Offshore Ornithology	Commercial Fisheries	Shipping and Navigation	Aviation and Radar	Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Ground Conditions and Contamination	Onshore Ecology	Onshore Ornithology	Water Resources and Flood Risk	Land Use and Agriculture	Traffic and Transport	Noise and vibration	Air Quality	Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Landscape and Visual Impact	Tourism, recreation and socio-economics	Operations of statutory undertakers	DCO and DML	
Anglian Water														Green										
Breckland Council											Green				Green			Green	Green		Green	Green		
Broadland DC											Green							Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green		
Chamber of Shipping								Green																
Eastern IFCA			Red	Green			Green																	
Environment Agency	Green	Green									Green	Green		Red										
Highways England																Green								
Historic England										Green										Green				
MMO	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green		Green																Red	
MCA								Red																
Natural England		Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow							Yellow	Yellow										Yellow
NCC												Green	Green	Green			Red			Green		Green		
NFFO								Red																
NFU															Yellow									
NNDC		Green									Green	Green	Green		Green			Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Yellow		

Party	Marine Water and Sediment Quality	Marine Geology, Oceanography and Processes	Benthic and Intertidal ecology	Fish and Shellfish Ecology	Marine Mammals	Offshore Ornithology	Commercial Fisheries	Shipping and Navigation	Aviation and Radar	Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Ground Conditions and Contamination	Onshore Ecology	Onshore Ornithology	Water Resources and Flood Risk	Land Use and Agriculture	Traffic and Transport	Noise and vibration	Air Quality	Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Landscape and Visual Impact	Tourism, recreation and socio-economics	Operations of statutory undertakers	DCO and DML
Ørsted HP3										Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green		
RSPB						Yellow																	
RYA								Green															
Trinity House								Red															
The Wildlife Trusts					Red							Green	Green										
WDC					Red																		

3 TABLES OF COMMONALITY

3.1 Structure of SoCGs

10. The SoCGs identify matters on which parties agree and document the position of each party where agreement has not been reached.
11. Where applicable, and to ensure consistency in the approach taken to documenting matters agreed, matters subject to further negotiation or matters not agreed, generally each SoCG follows a standard format in order to provide clarity to other parties and the Examining Authority.
12. Each SoCG with EPP Stakeholders covers the following topics:
 - Environmental Impact Assessment
 - o Existing Environment
 - o Assessment Methodology
 - o Assessment Findings
 - o Cumulative Impact Assessment
 - Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) (where applicable)
 - o Screening of Likely Significant Effect (LSE)
 - o Assessment of Adverse Effect on Integrity (AEoI)
 - Mitigation and Management
 - o Mitigation
 - o Monitoring
13. Further SoCG have been prepared with relevant parties based on information in their relevant representations and/or topics raised during consultation.
14. The following sections provide further detail on the status of agreements in relation to the above items for each topic.

3.2 Marine Geology, Oceanography and Physical Processes

Topic	Environment Agency	MMO	Natural England	North Norfolk District Council
EIA Existing Environment				
EIA Assessment Methodology				
EIA Assessment Findings				
Cumulative Impact Assessment				
HRA Screening of LSE		MMO defers to the opinion of the SNCBs		
Assessment of AEoI		MMO defers to the opinion of the SNCBs		
Mitigation				
Monitoring				

3.3 Marine Water and Sediment Quality

Topic	Environment Agency	MMO
EIA Existing Environment		
EIA Assessment Methodology		
EIA Assessment Findings		
WFD Assessment		
Cumulative Impact Assessment		
Mitigation		
Monitoring		

3.4 Benthic and Intertidal Ecology

Topic	Eastern IFCA	MMO	Natural England
EIA Existing Environment			
EIA Assessment Methodology			
EIA Assessment Findings			
Worst Case Scenario			
Cumulative Impact Assessment			
HRA Screening of LSE		MMO defers to the opinion of the SNCBs	

Topic	Eastern IFCA	MMO	Natural England
Assessment of AEol		MMO defers to the opinion of the SNCBs	
Mitigation	Eastern IFCA defers the opinion to NE and MMO		
Monitoring	Eastern IFCA defers the opinion to NE and MMO		

3.5 Fish and Shellfish Ecology

Topic	Eastern IFCA	MMO	Natural England
EIA Existing Environment			
EIA Assessment Methodology			
EIA Assessment Findings			
Worst Case Scenario			
Cumulative Impact Assessment	Eastern IFCA defers the opinion to NE		
HRA Screening of LSE			
Assessment of AEol			
Mitigation	Eastern IFCA defers the opinion to NE and MMO		
Monitoring			

3.6 Marine Mammals

Topic	MMO	Natural England	The Wildlife Trusts	WDC
EIA Existing Environment				
EIA Assessment Methodology				
EIA Assessment Findings				
Cumulative Impact Assessment				
HRA Screening of LSE	MMO defers to the opinion of the SNCBs			
Assessment of AEol	MMO defers to the opinion of the SNCBs			
Mitigation				
Monitoring				
Wording of Requirement(s) and Conditions				

3.7 Offshore Ornithology

Topic	MMO	Natural England	RSPB
EIA Existing Environment	MMO defers to the opinion of the SNCBs		
EIA Assessment Methodology			
EIA Assessment Findings			
Cumulative Impact Assessment			
HRA Screening of LSE			
Assessment of AEoI			
Mitigation			
Monitoring			
Wording of Conditions (s)			

3.8 Commercial Fisheries

Topic	Eastern IFCA	MMO	NFFO
EIA Existing Environment			
EIA Assessment Methodology			
EIA Assessment Findings			
Worst Case Scenario			
Cumulative Impact Assessment			
Mitigation			
Monitoring			

3.9 Shipping and Navigation

Topic	Chamber of Shipping	MCA	Trinity House	RYA
EIA Existing Environment				
EIA Assessment Methodology				
EIA Assessment Findings				
Cumulative Impact Assessment				
Cable burial and marking				
Safety Zones				

Topic	Chamber of Shipping	MCA	Trinity House	RYA
Accommodation Platform				
Project Interconnector				
Layout design and Use of Design Rules				
Mitigation				
Monitoring				
Draft DCO and DML				

3.10 Offshore and Intertidal Archaeology and Cultural Heritage

Topic	Historic England	MMO
EIA Existing Environment		The MMO defer to Historic England
EIA Assessment Methodology		
EIA Assessment Findings		
Cumulative Impact Assessment		
Mitigation		
Monitoring		
Wording of Requirement(s)		

3.11 Ground Conditions and Contamination

Topic	Breckland Council	Broadland District Council	Environment Agency	North Norfolk District Council	Ørsted
EIA Existing Environment					
EIA Assessment Methodology					
EIA Assessment Findings					
Cumulative Impact Assessment					
Mitigation				NNDC defer to NCC on mineral safeguarding	
Monitoring					
Wording of Requirement(s)					

3.12 Water Resources and Flood Risk

Topic	Anglian Water	Environment Agency	Norfolk County Council	North Norfolk District Council	Ørsted
EIA Existing Environment				NNDC defer to NCC	
EIA Assessment Methodology					
EIA Assessment Findings					
Cumulative Impact Assessment					
Mitigation					
Monitoring					
Wording of Requirements					
Protective Provisions					
Anglia Water Assets					

3.13 Land Use and Agriculture

Topic	Breckland Council	NFU	North Norfolk District Council	Ørsted
EIA Existing Environment				
EIA Assessment Methodology				
EIA Assessment Findings				
Cumulative Impact Assessment				
Mitigation				
Monitoring				
Compulsory Acquisition				

3.14 Onshore Ecology

Topic	Environment Agency	Natural England	Norfolk County Council	North Norfolk District Council	The Wildlife Trusts	Ørsted
Survey Methodology	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey
EIA Existing Environment	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey
EIA Assessment Methodology	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey
EIA Assessment Findings	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey
Cumulative Impact Assessment	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
HRA Screening of LSE	Grey	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Grey
Assessment of AEol	Grey	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Grey
Mitigation	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Grey
Monitoring	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
Wording of Requirement(s)	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Grey

3.15 Onshore Ornithology

Topic	Natural England	Norfolk County Council	North Norfolk District Council	The Wildlife Trusts	Ørsted
Survey Methodology	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey
EIA Existing Environment	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey
EIA Assessment Methodology	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey
EIA Assessment Findings	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey
Cumulative Impact Assessment	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
HRA Screening of LSE	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Grey
Assessment of AEol	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Grey
Mitigation	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Grey
Monitoring	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
Wording of Requirement(s)	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Grey

3.16 Traffic and Transport

Topic	Highways England	Norfolk County Council	North Norfolk District Council	Ørsted
Policy and Legislation			NNDC defer to NCC	
EIA Existing Environment				
EIA Assessment Methodology				
EIA Assessment Findings				
Cumulative Impact Assessment				
Mitigation				
Monitoring				
Wording of Requirement(s)				

3.17 Noise and Vibration

Topic	Breckland Council	Broadland District Council	North Norfolk District Council	Ørsted
EIA Existing Environment				
EIA Assessment Methodology				
EIA Assessment Findings				
Cumulative Impact Assessment				
Mitigation				
Monitoring				
Wording of Requirement				

3.18 Air Quality

Topic	Breckland Council	Broadland District Council	North Norfolk District Council	Ørsted
EIA Existing Environment				
EIA Assessment Methodology				
EIA Assessment Findings				

Topic	Breckland Council	Broadland District Council	North Norfolk District Council	Ørsted
Cumulative Impact Assessment				
Mitigation				
Monitoring				
Wording of Requirement				

3.19 Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage

Topic	Broadland District Council	Historic England	Norfolk County Council	North Norfolk District Council	Ørsted
Policy and Legislation					
EIA Existing Environment					
EIA Assessment Methodology					
EIA Assessment Findings					
Cumulative Impact Assessment					
Mitigation					
Monitoring					
Wording of Requirement(s)				NNDC defer to NCC	

3.20 Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment

Topic	Breckland Council	Broadland District Council	North Norfolk District Council	Ørsted
EIA Existing Environment				
EIA Assessment Methodology				
EIA Assessment Findings				
Cumulative Impact Assessment				
Mitigation				
Monitoring				
Wording of Requirement(s)				

3.21 Tourism, Recreation and Socio-economics

Topic	Breckland Council	Broadland District Council	Norfolk County Council	North Norfolk District Council	Ørsted
EIA Existing Environment	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey
EIA Assessment Methodology	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey
EIA Assessment Findings	Green	Green	Green	Red	Grey
Cumulative Impact Assessment	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Mitigation	Green	Green	Green	Red	Grey
Monitoring	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
Wording of Requirement(s)	Green	Green	Green	Red	Grey

3.22 Methodology for co-operation

Topic	Ørsted
Notification and liaison	Green
Protective provisions	Green

3.23 DCO and Deemed Marine Licence

Topic	MMO	Natural England
DML Structure	Green	Grey
DCO Interpretations, Articles and Requirements	Green	Yellow
General	Red	Yellow