From: <u>Dean Sanders</u>
To: <u>Norfolk Boreas</u>

Subject: REF: Norfolk Vanguard and Boreas consenting timescale

**Date:** 01 May 2020 14:48:43

Attachments: <u>image002.png</u>

Dear Planning Inspectorate,

REF: Norfolk Vanguard and Boreas consenting timescale

I have noticed that a small number of parties are requesting a delay to the Norfolk Boreas NSIP examination process.

I would like to say that from our perspective this would be very unwelcome news.

The planning process has been going on in the public domain for at least 4 years now — Vattenfall have been regularly engaging with people since October 2016, and all parties have had ample time to reflect on the issues and feed into the project design. The NSIP timetable is a statutory one, and the extraordinary measure of extending it now, so very close to the end of the examination process, when all issues have been examined robustly would send all the wrong messages locally and nationally. A delay to the examination process would likely mean Norfolk Boreas will not be ready to bid for the Government's support mechanism in 2021, and would mean an additional two year delay, possibly longer, before the project could proceed. The level of uncertainty that will result will have a negative impact on the region's socio-economic strategy and in turn on employment opportunities, local commerce and local community advantages. Norfolk Vanguard and Norfolk Boreas together represent, over their 25 year plus lifetime, by far the biggest investments currently planned for the area. Vattenfall are a very popular and highly regarded company. We always look forward to working with them.

As we hopefully move into recovery from COVID 19, it is imperative that we pull together and maximise the opportunities – not only for skills, jobs and business, but for the environment. Many of those calling for delays to the project for different reasons say they support renewable energy, but delaying the deployment of renewable energy projects means more CO2 will go into the atmosphere unnecessarily, and could have a severe impact on our security of supply.

The UK is both the market leader in renewable, clean, wind energy and highly committed to maintain this position through enforcing the right for clean energy choice by the consumer and the ability for providers to source ethically, clean generation. The National grid requires additional generation and this cannot come from fossil fuel based plants. Wind is the present and the future. This is a fantastic opportunity for the East Anglia region to develop into a 'centre of excellence' for wind. To become the go to geographical location for wind.

I implore that the consent is granted in order to achieve the already demanding timescales of the project. The benefits are local and national.

The long term socio-economic benefits for the area are profound.

Best Regards,

## **Dean Sanders**

High Voltage Systems Manager



## LE67 1TX, UK

## **TFKable GROUP**

Company Registration Number 02493261, Achilles ID: UVDB (Utilities) 117133, Supply-Line (Ireland) 00013051, FPAL (Oil&Gas) 10052135

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