

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Norfolk Boreas](#)
Cc: [Energy Infrastructure Planning](#); [REDACTED]
Subject: Norfolk Boreas DCO application (Ref: EN010087) - request for information
Date: 18 May 2021 09:13:10

Dear Mr Leigh,

The RSPB has reviewed the request dated 28 April 2021 for additional information on the Norfolk Boreas Offshore Wind Farm project. We note that additional details are being requested of both the Applicant and Natural England regarding the assessment parameters and the proposed compensation measures. Our comments on the currently available information have not changed since our Deadline 17 response to the examination process and we are unable to provide any updates until new information is available to review on the assessments and compensation measures. Once the additional information has been provided by the Applicant and Natural England we look forward to being able to review the additional detail and provide updated comments based on the updated information.

Therefore, we are grateful for your earlier confirmation (email from James Dawkins of 10 May 2021) that there will be a consultation on the additional information provided by the Applicant and Natural England. We have also noted that a new decision date of 10 December 2021 has been set for the Norfolk Boreas project. We would therefore welcome a clear stakeholder engagement plan to allow us and other parties to factor in the capacity to engage with the work over the coming months in the most effective way possible.

For clarity, we are particularly interested in:

- Updated assessment parameters and any changes to predicted impacts that they may generate.
- Updated information on compensation measures for lesser black-backed gulls from the Alde-Ore Estuary SPA, including matters relating to “strategic compensation options”. We continue to be engaged with discussions around compensation for this species at this site for other projects and will be interested and wish to contribute to discussions relating to strategic compensation.
- Updated information on compensation measures for kittiwake from the Flamborough and Filey Coast SPA . We continue to be engaged with discussions around compensation for this species for other projects and will be interested in how in-combination issues will be addressed.
- Proposed compensation measures for guillemot and razorbill. It is our understanding that the Applicant declined to put forward any compensation measures for these species for consideration during the examination and therefore look forward to seeing how the Norfolk Boreas project proposes to address impacts on these species.

In addition, we would be grateful for further information from BEIS on the following matter:

- Clarification as to why the Secretary of State has not sought to obtain from the Applicant details of proposals to further reduce and/or compensate for adverse effects to the Flamborough and Filey Coast SPA gannet population. Gannet was identified, alongside kittiwake, guillemot and razorbill, as an SPA feature for which adverse effects could not be ruled out at the end of the examination period by ourselves and Natural England. We consider that further information should be sought from the Applicant regarding this species.

We trust this is helpful and look forward to seeing the additional information on this project.

Regards,
Phil.

Phil Pearson
Senior Conservation Officer (Norfolk & Lincolnshire)

RSPB Norwich Office, 65 Thorpe Road, Norwich, NR1 1UD – currently working from home

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