

Date: 10 March 2023
Our ref: Boston Alternative Energy Facility
Your ref: EN010095



Secretary of State
Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery
Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street London SW1H 0ET

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BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Sir

NSIP Reference Name: Boston Alternative Energy Facility (BAEF)

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.


Natural England's answers to the Secretary of State's further questions as requested on 10th January have been provided as detailed comments in the accompanying Appendices which provide further explanation for our advice.

Natural England responses are to questions:

7. Natural England is invited to comment on the Applicant's response (paragraph 2.2) to the first consultation regarding the proposed changes to the conservation objectives for the harbour seal features of the Wash and North Norfolk Coast Special Area of Conservation. In particular, Natural England is asked whether it agrees with the Applicant that there would be no adverse effect on integrity of the site if the assessment was made under the proposed "restore" objective, and that no information on how to achieve a restore objective is currently available.

8. Natural England is invited to comment on the information provided by the Applicant to the second consultation in relation to air pollution impacts on habitats and protected sites, in particular whether an adverse effect on integrity of any protected site due to changes in air quality can now be excluded.

Please note, Natural England has provided an additional appendix document which notes our outstanding concerns to be considered in your decision making process.

If you have any queries relating to the advice in this letter, please contact Andy Stubbs at  [@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:andy.stubbs@naturalengland.org.uk)

Yours faithfully

Andy Stubbs
Senior Planning Adviser East Midlands