



# Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm Extension Projects

## Annex 2A - Outline Sandwich Tern Compensation, Implementation and Monitoring Plan

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## Glossary of Acronyms

AEoI	Adverse Effect on Integrity
CIMP	Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan
DCO	Development Consent Order
DEL	Dudgeon Extension Limited
DEP	Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm Extension Project
DOW	Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm
GW	Greater Wash
NNC	North Norfolk Coast
OWF	Offshore Wind Farm
RIAA	Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment
SEL	Scira Extension Limited
SEP	Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm Extension Project
SOW	Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm
SPA	Special Protection Area
STCSG	Sandwich Tern Compensation Steering Group
UK	United Kingdom

## Glossary of Terms

<p>Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm Extension Project (DEP)</p>	<p>The Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm Extension onshore and offshore sites including all onshore and offshore infrastructure.</p>
<p>European site</p>	<p>Sites designated for nature conservation under the Habitats Directive and Birds Directive. This includes candidate Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Community Importance, Special Areas of Conservation, potential Special Protection Areas, Special Protection Areas, Ramsar sites, proposed Ramsar sites and sites compensating for damage to a European site and is defined in regulation 8 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, although some of the sites listed here are afforded equivalent policy protection under the National Planning Policy Framework (2021) (paragraph 176) and joint Defra/Welsh Government/Natural England/NRW Guidance (February 2021).</p>
<p>Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm Extension Project (SEP)</p>	<p>The Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm Extension onshore and offshore sites including all onshore and offshore infrastructure.</p>
<p>The Applicant</p>	<p>Equinor New Energy Limited. As the owners of SEP and DEP, Scira Extension Limited (SEL) and Dudgeon Extension Limited (DEL) are the named undertakers that have the benefit of the Development Consent Order. References in this document to obligations on, or commitments by, 'the Applicant' are given on behalf of SEL and DEL as the undertakers of SEP and DEP.</p>

## OUTLINE SANDWICH TERN COMPENSATION IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING PLAN

### 1 Introduction

#### 1.1 Background

1. The Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm Extension Project (hereafter SEP) and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm Extension Project (hereafter DEP) are proposed extensions to the existing Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farms (SOW and DOW). When operational, SEP and DEP would have the potential to generate renewable power for around 785,000 United Kingdom (UK) homes from up to 23 wind turbines at SEP and up to 30 wind turbines at DEP.
2. Equinor New Energy Limited (the Applicant) is submitting an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) including a **Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment (RIAA)** (document reference 5.4), which provides the information necessary for the competent authority to undertake an Appropriate Assessment to determine if there is any adverse effect on integrity (AEol) on the national site network.
3. With respect to Sandwich tern from the North Norfolk Coast Special Protection Area (NNC SPA) and Greater Wash (GW) SPA, the Applicant's RIAA concludes that AEol cannot be ruled out as a result of predicted Sandwich tern mortality due to collision, and the combined effects of collision and operational phase displacement, when considered in-combination with other offshore wind farms (OWF). As such, the Applicant has presented a suite of documents as part of its consent application relating to the requirement for compensatory measures, including this Outline Sandwich Tern Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan (the outline Sandwich Tern CIMP).

#### 1.2 Purpose of Document

4. The Sandwich Tern CIMP will be produced post-consent, as secured by Schedule 17 of the **Draft DCO** (document reference 3.1), and will set out the detailed delivery proposals for the agreed compensatory measures, based on those set out in **Appendix 2 Sandwich Tern Compensation Document** (document reference 5.5.2). As described in the sections below, for each of the project-led measures to be implemented this will include details of the:
  - Scale and location;
  - Design;
  - Arrangements for monitoring, maintenance and adaptive management;
  - Reporting requirements;
  - Implementation and delivery programme; and
  - How the Sandwich Tern CIMP can be approved.

5. The purpose of this document is therefore to set out the outline of the Sandwich Tern CIMP, which will be developed in consultation with stakeholders through the Sandwich Tern Compensation Steering Group (STCSG) and submitted to the Secretary of State for approval in accordance with the DCO.
6. It should be noted that, as owners of SEP and DEP, Scira Extension Limited (SEL) and Dudgeon Extension Limited (DEL) are the named undertakers that have the benefit of the DCO. References throughout this document and any supporting annexes to obligations on, or commitments by, 'the Applicant' are given on behalf of SEL and DEL as the undertakers of SEP and DEP.

### 1.3 Consultation

7. This section will provide a summary of the consultation that has taken place through the STCSG in the development of the Sandwich Tern CIMP, including key decisions, agreements and outstanding issues under discussion. Where the latter exist, information will be provided on the proposed next steps to resolve any such matters. Proposals for future engagement will also be detailed, including how monitoring outcomes will be shared and actioned accordingly.
8. Specific topics of discussion for inclusion within the STCSG, and therefore the purpose of the group, will be regarding site selection, project / study design, monitoring, adaptive management options and associated triggers. The focus of the STCSG will be specifically to deliver the compensation for SEP and DEP.

## 2 Nesting Habitat Improvements and Restoration of Lost Breeding Range at Scar Point, Loch Ryan

### 2.1 Scale and Location

9. This section will identify the scale of compensation to be provided and how this relates to the consent decision made by the Secretary of State. This section will also detail the specific location(s) at which the compensation will be delivered, the suitability of the sites to deliver the compensation measures, and how the necessary sea bed rights and/or land rights in those locations have been secured. The evidence base included in support of the measures set out in **Appendix 2 Sandwich Tern Compensation Document** (document reference 5.5.2) will help inform these aspects.

### 2.2 Design of the Selected Measure (Inland Pool or Pontoon)

10. This section will identify the design of the selected measure, including the high-level structural design and the ecological design considerations specific to Sandwich tern to ensure the compensation measure has the maximum chance of success. The evidence base provided in support of the Sandwich Tern Compensation Document (**Appendix 2 Sandwich Tern Compensation Document** (document reference 5.5.2)) and engagement with the STCSG will be important in informing the design.

### 2.3 Routine Maintenance and Management

11. This section will describe the routine maintenance and management requirements and responsibilities in relation to the installed structure/s.



## 2.4 Monitoring and Adaptive Management

12. This section will identify the monitoring and adaptive management principles and processes that have been agreed with the STCSG, including the scenarios under which adaptive management measures are required. It will be developed in line with the evidence base that has been provided in support of the Sandwich Tern Compensation Document (**Appendix 2 Sandwich Tern Compensation Document** (document reference 5.5.2)). The STCSG will be engaged following approval of the Sandwich Tern CIMP in relation to implementing an ongoing programme of monitoring and adaptive management.

## 2.5 Reporting

13. This section will set out the reporting requirements associated with the monitoring and adaptive management. In doing so, it will confirm the necessary objectives and timescales for the reporting.

## 2.6 Implementation and Delivery Programme

14. This section will confirm the programme for the implementation and long-term delivery of the compensation. It will also confirm the nature and status of all consents, land or sea bed access agreements, and any other relevant approvals that are necessary to secure the implementation of the compensation measures and will include a programme for delivery of any outstanding consents.

## 2.7 Approval of the Sandwich Tern CIMP

15. This section will confirm how the Secretary of State can approve the Sandwich Tern CIMP, which must then be complied with in the delivery of the agreed compensatory measures.

## 3 Improved Breeding Success at SPA Sites other than at NNC

### 3.1 Scale and Location

16. This section will identify the scale of compensation provided and how this relates to the consent decision made by the Secretary of State. This section will then also detail the specific location(s) at which the compensation will be delivered, the suitability of the sites to deliver the compensation measures, and how the necessary land rights in those location(s) have been secured. The evidence base included in support of the measures set out in **Appendix 2 Sandwich Tern Compensation Document** (document reference 5.5.2) will help inform these aspects. The results of any monitoring of existing Sandwich tern colonies carried out pre-construction will also be detailed here as this may influence the location(s) that are chosen.



### 3.2 Design of Nest Box Terraces and Tern Shelters

17. This section will identify the design of any structures and the details of any equipment to be used as part of the implementation of the measure, including the high-level structural design and the ecological design considerations specific to Sandwich tern to ensure the compensation measure has the maximum chance of success. The evidence base provided in support of the Sandwich Tern Compensation Document (**Appendix 2 Sandwich Tern Compensation Document** (document reference 5.5.2)) and engagement with the STCSG will be important in informing the design.

### 3.3 Routine Maintenance and Management

18. This section will describe the routine maintenance and management requirements and responsibilities in relation to any structures and equipment deployed.

### 3.4 Monitoring and Adaptive Management

19. This section will identify the monitoring and adaptive management principles and processes that have been agreed with the STCSG, including the scenarios under which adaptive management measures are required. It will be developed in line with the evidence base that has been provided in support of the Sandwich Tern Compensation Document (**Appendix 2 Sandwich Tern Compensation Document** (document reference 5.5.2)). The STCSG will be engaged following approval of the Sandwich Tern CIMP in relation to implementing an ongoing programme of monitoring and adaptive management.

### 3.5 Reporting

20. This section will set out the reporting requirements associated with the monitoring and adaptive management. In doing so, it will confirm the necessary objectives and timescales for the reporting.

### 3.6 Implementation and Delivery Programme

21. This section will confirm the programme for the implementation and long-term delivery of the compensation. It will also confirm the nature and status of all consents and land access agreements, and any other relevant approvals that are necessary to secure the implementation of the compensation measures and will include a programme for delivery of any outstanding consents.

### 3.7 Approval of the Sandwich Tern CIMP

22. This section will confirm how the Secretary of State can approve the Sandwich Tern CIMP, which must then be complied with in the delivery of the agreed compensatory measures.

#### 4 Strategic Compensation

23. In the event that a viable strategic compensation funding mechanism becomes available within the necessary timescales for SEP and DEP, this section will, as secured by Schedule 17 of the **Draft DCO** (document reference 3.1), confirm the nature of the contribution to be made to a Strategic Compensation Fund wholly or partly in place of the Applicant's proposed project-led measures or as an adaptive management measure.

#### 5 Summary

24. This section will provide a summary of the detailed delivery proposals for the agreed compensatory measures for Sandwich tern.