



**National  
Trust**

20<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Online submission: Planning Inspectorate

Your Ref: EN010109

Our Ref: 20033322

Dear Sir/Madam

**Application by Equinor for an Order Granting Development Consent for the  
Sheringham and Dudgeon Extension Project (EN010109)**

**Procedural Deadline 3 Submission: Responses to Second Written Questions (WQ2)**

Please find below responses from the National Trust to the Examiners Second Written Questions.

Yours faithfully

*Nina Crabb*

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<b>WQ1 Question to: Question:</b>		
<b>Q1.8.3 Special Land</b>		
Q2.8.3.2	Applicant National Trust	<b>National Trust Land</b> Provide an update on progress with negotiations and highlight any particular issues which may be an impediment to reaching a voluntary agreement before the close of the Examination.
	<b>Response from National Trust</b>	The Trust has been working with Equinor to agree terms for access that will cause minimal impact and disruption, with a view to securing a signed Option Agreement and Deed of Easement for the requisite cables and access over and under Trust land. Whilst the majority of terms have now been agreed, there is still disagreement over the need for the easement to be in perpetuity, and we await suitable reasoning to be presented by the developer. Therefore, this issue currently remains unresolved.
<b>Q1.15.3 Effects on Designated and Non-designated Heritage Assets</b>		
Q2.15.3.1	National Trust	<b>Archaeological Features at Sheringham Park and Weybourne Woods</b> It is unclear to the ExA whether NT believes further investigative work could be required in this location during the Examination or whether additional mitigation might be necessary after the close of the Examination. Please clarify, giving details of additional information required if relevant.
	<b>Response from National Trust</b>	The National Trust does not consider that further investigative work is required during the examination. The Trust notes that it has been added as a consultee in the Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (Onshore) and accordingly the applicant will consult with the Trust's archaeologist at the post-consent stage as part of the discharge of the relevant DCO requirement to agree the details of the archaeological strategy across land under the ownership of the National Trust.
<b>Q2.14. Habitats Regulation Assessment</b>		
Q2.14.1.19	Applicant	<b>Additionality and Differentially</b>
	Natural England National Trust	It is reported that, despite current management and intervention measures, the sandwich tern population at the Farne Islands is in steep decline. The

		Applicant's compensation proposals include the provision of nest boxes and shelters. Are these measures already being used on the Farne Islands and, if so, would the Applicant's proposal just be perpetuating an already failing measure?
	<b>Response from National Trust</b>	<p>The National Trust does not deploy nest boxes at the Farne Islands. We also note that the RSPB state in their Written Representation <a href="#">REP1-161</a> (para.6.26) that Sandwich terns do not use nest boxes.</p> <p>Although the Trust does use shelters, the main area where the Sandwich terns nest on Inner Farne is very fragile due to puffin burrows, and so shelters are not usually put there. We have tried to increase suitable habitat by creating new patches of gravel and sand next to where they nest, and these patches have both decoys and shelters (by inference these measures are failing). Available and suitable space for interventions on the Farnes is limited, as most of the area is keenly contested by breeding seabirds. Therefore, the significant number of nest boxes and shelters proposed may not be physically possible in the space available.</p>
<b>Q2.17.3 Effectiveness of mitigation proposals</b>		
Q2.17.3.1	Local Authorities Natural England National Trust Woodland Trust	<p><b>Removal of Existing Trees and Hedgerows, Replanting and Management</b></p> <p>a) Are you satisfied that the Applicant's proposals for the removal, replanting and management of existing trees and hedgerows have been set out to a sufficient level of detail at this stage [REP1-036, Q1.17.1.11]?</p> <p>b) In particular, is the Applicant's approach to managing the likelihood of damage occurring to existing trees and hedgerows during the construction period sufficiently clear [REP1-036, Q1.17.1.11]?</p>
	<b>Response from National Trust</b>	The National Trust notes that further detail regarding the removal of existing trees and hedgerows, replanting and management will be set out in the Landscape Management Plan which will be secured by Requirement(s) if consent is granted. The Outline Landscape Management Plan (Rev.B) has been updated to include the National Trust as a named consultee for works effecting Trust owned

		land. The National Trust is satisfied with this approach.
<b>Q2.17.3 Effectiveness of mitigation proposals</b>		
Q2.17.3.4	Local Authorities Natural England National Trust Woodland Trust Interested Parties	<b>Tree and Hedgerow Replacement</b>  Set out whether the Applicant's approach [APP-303] and as further clarified in its response to WQ1 [REP1-036, Q1.17.1.12] is a reasonable one at this stage of the Examination.
	<b>Response from National Trust</b>	The National Trust notes that further detail regarding tree and hedgerow replacement will be set out in the Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy and the Landscape Management Plan which will be secured by Requirement(s) if consent is granted. The Outline Landscape Management Plan (Rev.B) has been updated to include the National Trust as a named consultee for works effecting Trust owned land. The National Trust is satisfied with this approach.