

## Report on the Implications for European Sites

1. The Examining Authority has issued the Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES) in document EN010109-001141 and has addressed the following question to all Interested Parties:

*RIES-Q2: To NE and all IPs - Except for those sites/features listed in Table 2-1 of this RIES, the ExA is not aware of any representations from IPs identifying any additional UK/European sites or qualifying features for inclusion in the Applicant's HRA. IPs are invited to comment.*

This representation proposes the inclusion of sites and features arising from the consideration of an alternative grid connection point at Sutton Bridge, and gives reasons for their inclusion in the HRA.

2. An alternative export cable route, landfall and grid connection point are described in REP3-172, EN010109-001254, pp. 8-12. The two options are compared below. In the case of a grid connection point at Norwich Main, the available onward grid transmission capacity would apparently be fully pre-empted by the existing grid connection agreements of Vanguard, Boreas and Hornsea Three and the derogation case set out by the Applicant necessarily fails. This difficulty does not appear to arise in the case of an alternative grid connection point at either Sutton Bridge or Walpole.

3. From these considerations, it follows that a successful derogation case and Habitats Regulations Assessment can only be put forward on the basis that either (a) the Vanguard, Boreas and Hornsea Three projects do not proceed with their existing grid connection offers at Necton and Norwich Main respectively, or (b) the Proposed Development adopts an alternative grid connection point.

