

Application for Development Consent for the Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Extension Project

Application reference: EN010109

Examining Authority's Note of an Unaccompanied Site Inspection

The Examining Authority's (ExA) notes of Unaccompanied Site Inspections (USI1) through the Pre-examination period and Examination period are recorded here. The list of locations visited will be updated as further visits are undertaken by the ExA. The ExA used a combination of driving and walking routes. All inspections took place from a public highway, public footpath or public place.

Tuesday 1 November 2022

- **1315 – 1340**

The ExA travelled by car south from Norwich along the A140, turned into Mangreen Road, noting several construction traffic routes on the way and stopped at the existing vehicular access into the substation. The ExA walked to the gated crossing on the haul road for the quarry workings.

Weather and visibility: partial sun, good visibility

- **1340 - 1440**

The ExA travelled by car west on Mangreen Road until a prominent right-hand bend. From here the ExA proceeded on foot along public footpaths west and south of the existing substation.

Weather and visibility: overcast and rainy, moderate to poor visibility

- **1440 - 1515**

The ExA travelled by car along Mangreen Road, left onto Main Road, then left again onto Gowthorpe Lane, noting the dwellings along this lane including Swardeston Hall Farm and Gowthorpe Manor. The ExA then walked alongside the wooded eastern edge of Gowthorpe Manor up into the fields, re-joining part of the previous walk detailed above.

Weather and visibility: mildly overcast, good visibility

- **1515 - 1615**

The ExA continued by car along Gowthorpe Lane, then left into Swainsthorpe. The ExA then walked from the level crossing along a bridleway through a field onto Hickley Lane. The ExA observed the A140 and the railway line from several points.

Weather and visibility: sunny, good visibility

- **1615 - 1640**

Travelling by car, the ExA headed into Stoke Holy Cross and stopped on Norwich Road and observed the application site and surrounding areas. The ExA travelled further by car and stopped at the car park for the Venta Icenorum and observed the application site and surrounding areas.

Weather and visibility: moderately clear sky, setting sun, moderate visibility

- **1640 - 1700**

The ExA undertook a car journey towards Norwich and then southwest towards Swardeston on the B1113. Upon exiting Swardeston, the ExA travelled west towards Ketteringham, through this village and over the A11 bridge, noting several construction traffic routes on the way.

Weather and visibility: moderately clear sky, setting sun, moderate visibility

Wednesday 2 November 2022

- **0815 - 0935**

The ExA drove along the Norfolk Coast, commencing at Walcott and travelling to Weybourne via Bacton, Mundelsey, Trimmingham, Overstrand, Cromer and Sheringham. At each of the named locations, the ExA stopped, walked around and viewed the seascape, views to the existing wind farms arrays, and the surrounding area. While driving between Sheringham and Weybourne, the ExA noted several construction traffic routes.

Weather and visibility: sunny, good visibility

- **0935 - 1030**

The ExA parked at Weybourne Beach car park and proceeded on foot across the beach and cliffs at Weybourne, observing the Muckleburgh Military Collection and the location of the landfall site, and surrounding area.

Weather and visibility: sunny, good visibility

- **1030 - 1110**

The ExA travelled by car along The Street in Weybourne up to the Muckleburgh Military Collection entrance. Then ExA then returned through Weybourne up to the edge of Weybourne Woods near the entrance to Sandy Hill House and observed the North Norfolk Railway. The ExA also noted traffic conditions and the nature of the roads/highways during these journeys.

Weather and visibility: sunny, good visibility

- **1120 - 1140**

The ExA continued by car to Bodham, firstly observing the location of the proposed works compound east of the settlement off the A148 and then heading south on The Street crossing Hamer and Avenue Farm.

Weather and visibility: sunny, good visibility

- **1140 - 1205**

Travelling by car, the ExA headed into Little Barningham, observing some construction traffic routes and stopped at the crossroads close to Parva Close. The ExA proceeded on foot westward on the road to Barningham Green.

Weather and visibility: sunny, good visibility

- **1205 - 1245**

The ExA undertook a car journey into Cawston, via Oulton, stopping at the bridge crossing the River Bure to the northwest of Oulton. Here, the ExA walked near the river, along the local highway and the bridge. The ExA drove into Cawston and around a number of the roads into/out of the village. The ExA noted the approximate location of the order limits at these locations.

Weather and visibility: sunny, good visibility

- **1245 - 1350**

Lunch at Reepham

- **1350 – 1400**

The ExA drove along local roadways, several that are relevant construction traffic routes, to Swannington.

Weather and visibility: sunny, good visibility

- **1400 – 1530**

The ExA drove to Attlesbridge, noting traffic conditions on several roads that are relevant construction traffic routes, or fall within the order limits, and then parked in the layby close to the junction of the A1067 and Old Fakenham Road. The ExA then proceeded on foot back through the village before heading southwest across the footbridge over the River Wensum and up to the dwelling identified as The Lodge on the A1067. The ExA then headed up Felthorpe Road, past residential properties.

Weather and visibility: sunny, good visibility

- **1530 – 1630**

The ExA drove by car along local roads, several of which are relevant construction traffic routes or fall within the order limits whilst heading towards Barford and the A47 corridor. Once in Barford, the ExA stopped and walked around and was able to observe a part of the order limits.

Weather and visibility: setting sun, moderate visibility

- **1630 – 1715**

Using local roads, the ExA travelled eastwards towards Norwich.

Weather and visibility: setting sun, moderate visibility

Thursday 3 November 2022

- **0800 - 0845**

The ExA travelled by car on the A47 towards Wymondham, passing through villages of Marlingford, Barford, Great Melton, and Hetherset. The ExA stopped near the houses on Melton Road. The ExA then travelled by car from Hetherset into Ketteringham and east towards Swardeston. While driving through these locations, the ExA noted several construction traffic routes.

Weather and visibility: raining, poor visibility

- **0845 – 0920**

The ExA parked at 'The Common' within Swardeston having passed the local cricket club and the pond which had overtopped in the rain. The ExA proceeded on foot on public footpaths to observe Intwood Stream and surrounding area.

Weather and visibility: raining, poor visibility

- **0920 – 0940**

The ExA travelled by car to the A140 via Intwood, the B1113 and Mangreen Road, observing the existing substation from the roadside.

The inspection ceased upon reaching the A140.

Weather and visibility: raining, poor visibility

Monday 16 January 2023

- **10:00 – 11:00**

The ExA travelled by car to the coast at Weybourne, near the point of the proposed landfall. ExA stopped, walked around and viewed the seascape, views to the existing wind farms arrays, and the surrounding area. The existing wind turbines were visible offshore from the beach.

Weather and visibility: Dry with moderate visibility

- **11:00 – 12:50**

The ExA travelled by car from Weybourne to the lanes adjacent to Norwich Main Substation. From that point the ExA walked from the access gates on Mangreen Road (near the junction with the A140) to the west and then proceeded south on a public right of way to a point west of Norwich Main Substation. This was to have a view of the existing Substation from these directions and within this setting.

Weather and visibility: Showers and overcast, with moderate visibility

The ExA returned to the hotel, at which point the inspection ceased.

Thursday 30 March 2023

- **20:15 – 20:50**

The ExA travelled by car to the coast near Trimingham, near to the location of Viewpoint 6. ExA stopped, walked around and viewed the night time seascape, views to the existing wind farms arrays, and the surrounding area. A number of light sources were visible offshore from the area above the beach.

Weather and visibility: Dry, clear night sky. Bright waxing gibbous moon.
Moderate visibility

- **20:50 – 21:20**

The ExA travelled by car from Trimingham to the outskirts of Cromer, stopping in a parking space off Overstrand Road close to Cromer lighthouse. From this point the ExA then walked on foot to the area near Cromer lighthouse and viewed the seascape. A number of light sources were visible offshore from the area.

Weather and visibility: Dry, clear night sky. Bright waxing gibbous moon.
Moderate visibility

- **21:20 – 21:50**

The ExA travelled by car from Overstrand Road near Cromer lighthouse to Salthouse Beach. Parking close to the beach the ExA walked towards the shoreline over the shingle beach to the top of the shingle ridge and observed views from this point. A number of light sources were visible offshore from the area.

Weather and visibility: Dry, clear night sky. Bright waxing gibbous moon.
Moderate visibility

The ExA returned to the hotel, at which point the inspection ceased.

Tuesday 20 June 2023

- **16:25 – 17.10**

The ExA travelled by car to proposed access ACC60, parking in the layby opposite on the B1172. From here the ExA walked along the footpath/cycleway to view the proposed access and the alternative accesses suggested by the landowner.

Weather and visibility: Dry, sunny with good visibility.

- **17:10 – 17.55**

The ExA travelled by car to proposed access ACC46, parking along Taverham Road. The ExA walked along the A47 to a break in the hedgerow to view the location of the proposed access.

Weather and visibility: Dry, sunny with good visibility.

The ExA returned to their hotel, at which point the inspection ceased.