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Date 17th June 2024
Sent via email:
FiveEstuaries@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Tendring District Council (TDC) Five Estuaries (FE) Relevant Representation: PINs registration identification number: 20048276

Application by Five Estuaries Wind Farm Limited for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for the proposed Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm, an extension to the operational Galloper Offshore Wind Farm located off the Tendring Coast, Essex.

Tendring District Council have been working closely with Essex County Council (ECC) to provide input into the planning process for the Five Estuaries (FE) proposal. This response is to be considered in conjunction with representations from ECC. There are no areas of disagreement.

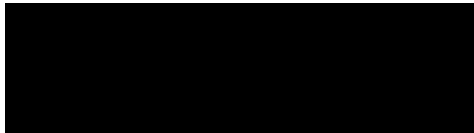
Overview of TDC concerns with the FE DCO that will be expanded on in the Local Impact Report;

- TDC supports the Governments target of net zero by 2050, including the expansion of renewable energy utilizing off-shore wind generation
- The application assumes an underground connection into a proposed substation, East Anglian Connection Node (EACN) east of Ardleigh. This is part of the National Grid Norwich to Tilbury upgrade. The EACN is unconsented and in Statutory Consultation Stage, as such this application is premature.
- TDC believes that an offshore integrated approach to achieving the UKs net zero legislative targets is the most appropriate. As such TDC believes the outcome of Offshore Coordination Support Scheme (OCSS) feasibility study into an offshore connection to Sealink (grant funded from Department of Energy Security and Net Zero) could illustrate how the offshore is achievable. In this respect, the application is premature.
- The Cumulative Impacts of this and three other associated infrastructure projects – North Falls Offshore Windfarm, Tarchon Interconnector and EACN as part of the Norwich to

Tilbury upgrade - have not been fully considered. Greater integration on all these projects (including full consideration of the OCSS outcomes) could negate the need for onshore transmission.

- The location of the connection point for FE is dictated by the N2T project. The landscape in this area is predominantly arable, flat, open and rural. These proposals will introduce an intrusive industrial visual blight changing the landscape forever.
- Tendring, as a host authority will experience a disproportionate level of negative impacts from the construction and operation of onshore transmission networks. Mitigation in the form of Community Benefit, is not accounted for within the planning system. TDC welcomes discussions for a voluntary Community Benefit Contribution package for the lifetime of the project.
- Measures that address social value are important to TDC. Whilst there is ongoing engagement with the applicant, there are no definitive commitments to education, training or employment within the District. We would consider any project of this scale that does not address the economic disparity of those unable to access jobs through the transition to net zero to be unacceptable.
- Impacts on tourism within the District, both highways and visual impact at the coast during the construction phase. Tourism plays a significant role in the Tendring economy, supporting hotels, caravan parks, tourist attractions and indirect spend with shops cafes etc in the local economy are likely to suffer.

Yours Sincerely



Gary Guiver

Director of Planning

Tendring District Council.

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