



## Meeting note

<b>Project name</b>	Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm
<b>File reference</b>	EN010115
<b>Status</b>	<b>Draft</b>
<b>Author</b>	The Planning Inspectorate
<b>Date</b>	17 October 2023
<b>Meeting with</b>	Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm Ltd
<b>Venue</b>	Microsoft Teams
<b>Meeting objectives</b>	Project Update Meeting
<b>Circulation</b>	All attendees

### Summary of key points discussed, and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

### Project Update

The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that it is aiming to complete draft documents by the end of the year. Environmental Statement (ES) chapters are currently under review.

The North Falls Offshore Wind Farm (North Falls) team are regularly met with to progress co-ordination, with discussions ongoing regarding the onshore and offshore corridor cable routes and substation.

Work relating to compensatory measures for impacts on Lesser Black Backed Gull (LBBG) within the Habitats Regulations Assessment is progressing alongside discussions with Natural England.

The Applicant outlined key expected dates of submission for significant milestones within the Development Consent Order (DCO) application process.

### Targeted Consultation

The Applicant is engaging in a land referencing process which has identified additional persons with interest in land (PIL). A consultation period is being planned, lasting six weeks and expected to start at the end of November 2023. The Applicant will offer

individual meeting with the PILs related to the changes to their interests and the red line boundary.

## **Early Adopters Programme**

The Applicant provided an update on discussions with the Harwich Haven Authority (HHA) (with whom the Inspectorate attended a recent multipartite meeting) and other navigation stakeholders. The Inspectorate provided feedback on the multipartite meeting process.

## **Project Coordination**

The Applicant outlined expected interactions with the proposed National Grid Norwich to Tilbury (N-T) East Anglia Connection Node (EACN) substation. Discussions relating to the proposed access route are ongoing, including improvements to the local road network. The Applicant discussed key areas of coordination with North Falls, such as the shared onshore land agent and land strategy, coordinated onshore surveys and data sharing, substation site screening and design, the onshore cable route order limits and drafting of the DCO. It gave an overview of potential delivery scenarios.

## **Preparation of Submission**

The draft documents are expected to be submitted to the Inspectorate in early November for review and will include the DCO, works plans, explanatory memorandum, consultation report, delivery scenarios document, habitats regulations derogation, planning statement and the policy compliance document.

## **Submission update**

The Applicant confirmed the expected DCO submission date with the Inspectorate, as February / March 2024.

The Inspectorate advised that conflicting case timetables may have impacts on venue availability in the surrounding area and The Applicant should consider identifying potential venues in the areas.

## **Any Other Business/Follow ups**

The Applicant to provide the Inspectorate with an update on how many PILs are affected by the project and whether there is any special category land impacted by the project.