

Rampion 2 Wind Farm

Category 8:

Examination Progress Tracker

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Revision A



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1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1 This Examination Progress Tracker has been prepared to support an application by Rampion Extension Development Limited (“Rampion Extension Development Limited (hereafter referred to as ‘RED’) (the ‘Applicant’) is developing the Rampion 2 Offshore Wind Farm Project (‘Rampion 2’) located adjacent to the existing Rampion Offshore Wind Farm Project (‘Rampion 1’) in the English Channel.
- 1.1.2 Rampion 2 will be located between 13km and 26km from the Sussex Coast in the English Channel and the offshore array area will occupy an area of approximately 160km. A detailed description of the Proposed Development is set out in Chapter 4: The Proposed Development, Volume 2 of the Environmental Statement (ES), submitted with the DCO Application

1.2 Purpose of this Document

- 1.2.1 This document has been produced in response to the Examining Authority’s Rule 6 letter requesting an Examination Progress Tracker, in the form of a table, reporting on what it considers are the principal, and other notable issues in the Examination.
- 1.2.2 This document is intended to be a live document and the tables will be updated to provide a mid-Examination version at Deadline 4, with a final Tracker submitted at Deadline 7, Thursday 1 August 2024.
- 1.2.3 Table 2.1, below, sets out the principal issues, logs the Interested Parties that have raised them, summarises the concern(s)/objection(s) and the progress being made and sets out any progress to resolution. For ease of reference the table has used a “traffic-lighting” system to guide the reader to the likelihood of resolving the issues as follows:
- **Green:** The issue has been resolved and a mechanism for delivering this solution has been captured in a document submitted to the Examination;
 - **Amber:** The issue is capable of resolution. The Applicant will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution;
 - **Red:** The issue is not capable of resolution.
- 1.2.4 The Applicant has identified the principal and notable issues in the Examination, based on the Relevant Representations and the Examining Authority’s Initial Assessment of Principal Issues contained in the Rule 6 Letter.

2. Examination Progress Tracker

Table 2-1: Examination Progress Tracker

Ref	Topic	Interested Party	Summary of Issue	Likely Progress
1	Alternatives	Several Relevant Representations West Sussex County Council South Downs National Park Authority	Whether alternatives to the Proposed Development were adequately considered including the avoidance of the Climping Beach Site of Scientific Special Interest (SSSI), the route choice including its incursion into the South Downs National Park, and the choice of the onshore substation location.	Amber: This issue is capable of resolution. The Applicant considers that alternatives were adequately considered, which has been evidenced in Chapter 3 Alternatives of the ES and explained in the Planning Statement. The applicant will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties.
2	Aviation	NATS Shoreham Airport Civil Aviation Authority	The potential effect of the wind turbine generators (WTGs) to effect civilian and defence radar systems.	Amber: The issue is capable of resolution. The Applicant will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution;
3	Commitments Register and Plans	West Sussex County Council	The adequacy of the Commitments Register and the degree of uncertainty in the language used in the draft DCO related to proposed mitigation, particularly at sensitive locations.	Amber: The Applicant considers that the mechanisms within the draft Order to secure mitigation are adequate, but will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution;
		Several Relevant Representations	Efficacy of embedded mitigation measures	Amber: The Applicant considers that the embedded mitigation measures will reduce effects to the levels assessed in the ES but will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution.
4	Construction Effects	Several Relevant Representations Arun District Council West Sussex County Council Horsham District Council	The feasibility of horizontal directional drilling/trenchless crossings and open trenching methods at proposed locations along the proposed cable route. The type of contingency measures proposed, and their potential impact, if some trenchless crossings are not feasible. How contingency measures and mitigation plans for trenchless crossings are secured in the draft Development Consent Order.	Amber: The Applicant considers that the proposed trenchless crossings are viable, will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution;
		Arun District Council National Highways Environment Agency Mid Sussex District Council	The locations of and sizes of the construction compounds.	Amber: The Applicant considers that the construction compounds are appropriately sited and sized for delivery of this critical national priority project. The Applicant will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution.
5	Design	Several Relevant Representations Arun District Council	The acceptability of the extent, justification and definition of the design choices, design parameters, height of the turbines and number and size scenarios, the permanent infrastructure corridor, and the onshore substation.	Amber: The Applicant considers that the parameters for the turbines and onshore substation are as required for delivery of this critical national priority project. The Applicant will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution.

Ref	Topic	Interested Party	Summary of Issue	Likely Progress
6	Ecology (Offshore and Onshore)	MMO Natural England Several Relevant Representations Sussex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority Environment Agency South Downs National Park Authority West Sussex County Council Natural England	The potential effects, including cumulative effects, upon benthic ecology, fish, marine mammals and ornithology from construction and operation of the proposed offshore WTGs, substations, and offshore cable routes, and for ongoing management and maintenance. This includes the potential effects on features of the Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) close to the offshore Order Limits.	Amber: The issue is capable of resolution. The Applicant will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution;
		MMO Natural England Several Relevant Representations Arun District Council	The potential effects of the construction of the Proposed Development on the coast, Climping Beach SSSI and sea defences. The potential effects on the Arun Valley Ramsar and Special Protection Area including the potential loss of functionally linked land, water neutrality and the potential effects on the Farne Islands Special Protection Area.	Amber: The issue is capable of resolution. The Applicant will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution;
		MMO	The Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) derogation case (without prejudice) on the Flamborough and Filey Coast Special Protection Area (SPA), including in-combination impacts and any other impacted SPAs.	Amber: The issue is capable of resolution. The Applicant will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution;
		MMO	Potential construction and operational effects on terrestrial species and habitats in the South Downs National Park, particularly at Ramsar sites, SACs, SPAs, SSSIs and local wildlife sites in the vicinity of the proposed development. Annex C C3.	Amber: The issue is capable of resolution. The Applicant will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution;
		Natural England Several Relevant Representations	The scale and significance of potential construction and operational effects of the proposal on priority habitats and species including of the effect of horizontal directional drilling/trenchless crossings on protected sites and important ecologically sensitive areas.	Amber: The issue is capable of resolution. The Applicant will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution;
		Several Relevant Representations Horsham District Council Mid Sussex District Council	Adequacy of the proposed mitigation and enhancements.	Amber: The issue is capable of resolution. The Applicant will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution;

Ref	Topic	Interested Party	Summary of Issue	Likely Progress
7	Historic Environment	Historic England Several Representations Relevant West Sussex County Council Arun District Council South Downs National Park Authority Mid Sussex District Council	The level of effect upon the settings of above-ground heritage assets particularly, but not limited to the setting of Oakendene Manor	Amber: The Applicant considers that the effects upon the settings of above ground heritage assets have been appropriately balanced in accordance with National Policy Statements. The Applicant will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution.
		Historic England Several Representations Relevant	The level of effect to the Scheduled Monument and Martin Down style enclosure at Harrow Hill and previously unrecorded archaeology of potentially national significance.	Amber: The Applicant considers that the proposed process for avoidance and mitigation of impacts is appropriate, but will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution;
8	Landscape, Visual and Seascape Effects	South Downs National Park Authority Several Representations Relevant West Sussex County Council Mid Sussex District Council Arun District Council Natural England Horsham District Council	The level of effect upon landscape character and visual amenity caused by the construction of the cable route and substation, particularly upon but not limited to those associated with the new onshore Substation at Oaken Dene, the extension to the existing Bolney Substation, at Recreation and Tourist Destinations, Recreation Routes including Public Rights of Way and transport routes.	Amber: The Applicant considers that the effects upon the settings of above ground heritage assets have been appropriately balanced in accordance with National Policy Statements. The Applicant will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution.
		South Downs National Park Authority Several Representations Relevant West Sussex County Council	The potential effect upon trees loss including protected and Veteran trees; hedge notching caused by the construction of the cable route; and the adequacy of mitigation.	Amber: The Applicant considers that the proposed process for avoidance and mitigation of impacts is appropriate, but will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution;
		South Downs National Park Authority Several Representations Relevant	The level of effect upon the seascape, landscape character and visual amenity from the construction of the offshore WTGs and substations, and night lighting particularly upon but not limited to The South Downs National Park including Sussex Heritage Coast, West Sussex, East Sussex and City of Brighton and the Isle of Wright and Chichester	Amber: The Applicant considers that the assessed effects on landscape character and visual amenity are proportionate to the scheme benefits, but will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution;

Ref	Topic	Interested Party	Summary of Issue	Likely Progress
		West Sussex County Council	Harbour Historic Landscapes (formerly referred to as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty).	
9	Traffic and Access	National Highways Several Relevant Representations West Sussex County Council Horsham District Council South Downs National Park Authority Mid Sussex District Council	The effects of traffic generated by the construction of the Proposed Development including but not limited to the Cowfold area.	Amber: The Applicant considers that the effects on trees and hedgerows have been reduced through design, mitigated through construction commitments, and compensated for with Biodiversity Net Gain. The Applicant will look to progress this issue with relevant Interested Parties with a view to agreeing a resolution.

