

Rampion 2 Wind Farm Category 8: Examination Documents

Joint Position Statement between the Applicant and South Downs National Park Authority

Date: August 2024

Revision A

Application Reference: 8.109

Pursuant to: The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure)

Rules 2010, Rule 8(1)(c)(i)

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Document revisions

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1. Background

1.1 Following submission of the Landscape Enhancement Principles (South Downs National Park Authority and Horsham District Council) [REP5-132] at Deadline 5 the Applicant and South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) have continued to negotiate as to the terms on which a payment may be made to SDNPA to compensate for the residual effects of the proposed development on the South Downs National Park and to seek to further the statutory purposes of the National Park in accordance with section 11A of the National Parks and Access to Countryside Act 1949 (as amended).

2. Securing Mechanism

- 2.1 Through those negotiations the parties have agreed the settlement of National Park Enhancement and Furtherance Principles as distinct from the landscape enhancement principles which apply to the residual effects of the proposed development on Horsham District Council. The National Park Enhancement and Furtherance Scheme which is to accord with the terms of the National Park Enhancement and Furtherance Principles should be secured through a separate requirement in the draft Development Consent Order submitted at Deadline 6, to the requirement securing the landscape enhancement scheme in respect of residual landscape effects in Horsham District.
- 2.2 The Applicant and SDNPA agree that a requirement should be included in the draft Development Consent Order to secure the National Park Enhancement and Furtherance Scheme as follows:

National Park enhancement and furtherance

- 43—(1) The authorised project must not be commenced, save in respect of onshore site preparation works, until a National Park enhancement and furtherance scheme in accordance with the National Park enhancement and furtherance principles document has been submitted to and approved by South Downs National Park Authority.
- (2) The National Park enhancement and furtherance scheme must set out appropriate measures to compensate for the impact of the authorised development on the South Downs National Park and seek to further the statutory purposes of the South Downs National Park as set out in section 5 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.
- (3) The National Park enhancement and furtherance scheme must be implemented as approved.
- (4) In this requirement "National Park enhancement and furtherance principles document" means the document certified as such by the Secretary of State under article 51.

3. **Key Principles**

- 3.1 The key principles of the National Park Enhancement and Furtherance Scheme as documented in the National Park Enhancement and Furtherance Principles are as follows:
 - 3.1.1 The Compensation Fund, together with the Monitoring Fund, comprise an agreed total sum of £3,512,400 to be paid, in respect to that part due in respect of the Compensation Fund, in 7 instalments with the first due on completion of commissioning and the remaining 6 payments due at five yearly intervals. A 2% uplift is to be applied on each instalment after the initial instalment. A payment profile, which accounts for the 2% uplift, is set out in the principles document together with a payment profile in respect of the fund to be applied towards monitoring of compliance with the obligation to make payments to the Authority
 - 3.1.2 Payment of the Compensation Fund is to be secured through a section 106 agreement which will bind land in the South Downs National Park

- 3.1.3 The section 106 agreement will be required to be entered into prior to the commencement of the authorised development, save for onshore site preparation works.
- 3.1.4 The Compensation Fund is to be applied towards projects identified by the parties as capable of
 - 3.1.4.1 compensating for the residual effects of the authorised development and
 - 3.1.4.2 conserving, enhancing and seeking to further National Park purposes
- 3.1.5 The identification of projects will be based on (but not limited to) a long-list of potential projects provided by the SDNPA (indicatively set out in Section 3 of the the National Park Enhancement and Furtherance Principles document).
- The final project scope and application of the funding is to be determined by the Steering Group to be established by SDNPA pursuant to the section 106 agreement which will be required to comprise:
 - 3.1.6.1 at least two representatives from the Applicant,
 - 3.1.6.2 at least two representatives from the SDNPA and
 - 3.1.6.3 at least one representative from West Sussex County Council.
- 3.1.7 Terms of Reference are to be developed to define how the Steering Committee assigns funds.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 The Applicant and SDNPA agree that
 - 4.1.1 The National Park Enhancement and Furtherance Scheme will enable compensation for the residual harm to be delivered and opportunities for additional benefits to be secured for the South Downs National Park and its statutory purposes to accrue over the long term
 - 4.1.2 The compensation fund, in the sum agreed and to be secured by a section 106 agreement binding land in the South Downs National Park Authority area, pursuant to the National Park enhancement and furtherance scheme, will adequately compensate for the significant adverse effects on the South Downs National Park arising in respect of
 - 4.1.2.1 Landscape, visual, ecological and cultural heritage and effects arising from the construction of the onshore cable corridor forming part of the authorised development
 - 4.1.2.2 long term landscape and visual effects arising from the construction and operation of the wind turbine generators comprising the authorised project and
 - 4.1.2.3 effects on the ability to access and enjoy the National Park through the public rights of way network and South Downs Way National Trail during construction
 - 4.1.3 The compensation fund will be applied towards projects identified by the Steering Committee to be established in order to further the statutory purposes of the South Downs National Park in accordance with section 11A of the National Parks and Access to Countryside Act 1949.

4.1.4 On the basis of the inclusion of the requirement in the draft Development Consent Order and the commitment of the Applicant thereby to enter into a section 106 agreement binding land in the South Downs National Park Area, the parties agree that the proposal accords with the National Parks and Access to Countryside Act 1949 and accords with section 5.10 of EN-1 (2023).

Signed Signed

Rampion Extension Development Limited South Downs National Park Authority