

Offshore Wind Farm

HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT

Annex 5A Outline Guillemot and Razorbill Implementation and Monitoring Plan

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Glossary of Acronyms

| AEol | Adverse Effect on Integrity |
|-------|---|
| AOE | Alde-Ore Estuary |
| CIMP | Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan |
| DCO | Development Consent Order |
| DESNZ | Department of Energy Security and Net Zero |
| GGOW | Greater Gabbard Offshore Wind Farm |
| LA | London Array |
| NFOW | North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Limited |
| OWF | Offshore Wind Farm |
| RIAA | Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment |
| RWE | RWE Renewables UK Swindon Limited |
| SPA | Special Protection Area |
| SSER | SSE Renewables Offshore Windfarm Holdings Limited |
| UK | United Kingdom |

Glossary of Terminology

| The Applicant | North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Limited (NFOW). |
|------------------------------------|--|
| The Project Or 'North Falls' | North Falls Offshore Wind Farm, including all onshore and offshore infrastructure. |

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

- 1. The North Falls Offshore Wind Farm (hereafter 'North Falls' or 'the Project') is an extension to the existing Greater Gabbard Offshore Wind Farm (GGOW), located approximately 40km off the East Anglian coast in England. When operational, North Falls would have the potential to generate renewable power for approximately 400,000 United Kingdom (UK) homes from up to 57 wind turbines.
- 2. The Applicant, North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Ltd (NFOW), is a joint venture between SSE Renewables Offshore Windfarm Holdings Limited (SSER) and RWE Renewables UK Swindon Limited (RWE), both of which are highly experienced developers.
- 3. As part of the Development Consent Order (DCO) application, the Applicant must provide information to support the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) to be completed by the Competent Authority, the Secretary of State for the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ).
- 4. With respect to guillemot and razorbill from the Flamborough and Filey Coast Special Protection Area (FFC SPA), the Applicant's RIAA concludes that there will be no adverse effect on integrity (AEoI) of the guillemot and razorbill features of the FFC SPA from North Falls alone or in-combination with other plans and projects.
- 5. In the event that the Secretary of State (SoS) concludes an AEoI in the Appropriate Assessment, the Applicant has developed a compensatory measure that could be applied to fully compensate for the predicted effects, which are detailed in the Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment (RIAA) (Document Reference: 7.1).

1.2 Purpose of document

- 6. The Guillemot Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan (CIMP) and/or Razorbill CIMP will be produced post-consent and will detail the delivery proposals for the agreed compensatory measure, based on the measure set out in Appendix 5 Guillemot and Razorbill Compensation Document (Document Reference: 7.2.5). As described in the sections below, for the project-led/collaborative measure to be implemented the CIMP(s) will detail the:
 - Scale and location;
 - Design;
 - Arrangements for monitoring, maintenance and adaptive management;
 - Reporting requirements;
 - Implementation and delivery programme; and
 - How the CIMP(s) can be approved.
- 7. The purpose of this document is to outline the contents of the Guillemot CIMP and Razorbill CIMP, which will in due course be developed in consultation with

stakeholders through the Guillemot and Razorbill Compensation Steering Group (GRCSG) or a Guillemot Compensation Steering Group (GCSG)¹ and later submitted to the SoS for approval.

1.3 **Consultation**

- 8. This section will provide a summary of the consultation that has taken place within the GRCSG/GCSG during the creation of the Guillemot CIMP and/or Razorbill CIMP (including any relevant consultation undertaken prior to formal inception of the GRCSG/GCSG), which will include:
 - Key decisions;
 - · Agreements; and
 - Issues that remain under discussion.
- 9. Where any of these outstanding issues occur, information on proposed steps toward resolution will be provided. Additionally, details of proposed future engagements will also be detailed, including the sharing of and further action on monitoring outcomes.
- 10. Matters of discussion for inclusion within the GRCSG/GCSG, and therefore the group's purpose, will be regarding:
 - Project / study design;
 - Monitoring;
 - Adaptive management options; and
 - Associated triggers.
- 11. The specific focus of the GRCSG/GCSG will be to deliver the compensation measures for NFOW.

2 Management measures at south west breeding colonies

2.1 Scale and Location

12. This section will detail the scale of compensation proposed and how this conforms with the consent decision made by the SoS. This section will go on to detail the specific location(s) where compensation will be delivered, the suitability of the site(s) for the delivery of the compensation measures, and how any required land rights at those locations have been secured. The base of evidence included in aid of the measures detailed in Appendix 5 Guillemot and Razorbil Compensation Document (Document Reference 7.2.5) will provide information on these aspects.

¹ should the SoS conclude an AEoI for guillemot only, as per Hornsea Project Four, SEP and DEP

2.2 Delivery details

- 13. This section will detail the plans for delivering small-scale management measures.
- 14. An important part of measure design and planning will include the evidence provided in support of the measures that is set out in Appendix 5 Guillemot and Razorbill Compensation Document (Document Reference 7.2.5).

2.3 Routine Maintenance and Management

15. This section will lay out any routine maintenance and management requirements and responsibilities for the compensation measure.

2.4 Monitoring and Adaptive Management

16. This section will detail the monitoring and adaptive management principles and processes that have been agreed between the Applicant and the GRCSG/GCSG, including under what scenarios adaptive management measures will be required. These measures will be developed in accordance with the evidence provided in Appendix 5 Guillemot and Razorbill Compensation Document (Document Reference 7.2.5). Following the approval of the Guillemot CIMP and/or Razorbill CIMP, the GRCSG/GCSG will be engaged in the context of implementing monitoring and adaptive management in an ongoing programme.

2.5 Reporting

17. This section will set out the necessary reporting points in connection with the monitoring and adaptive management. This will therefore set out the objectives and timescales for the reporting.

2.6 Implementation and Delivery Programme

18. This section will lay out the programme for the application and long-term delivery of the compensation. It will confirm the purpose and stage of all consents, land access agreements, and any other relevant approvals that are necessary to enable the enactment of the compensation measures and will detail how any outstanding consents will be delivered.

2.7 Approval of the Guillemot CIMP and/or Razorbill CIMP

19. This section will detail how the SoS can approve the Guillemot CIMP and/or Razorbill CIMP, to which the delivery of the compensatory measure must be compliant.

3 Collaborative and Strategic Compensation

20. If a feasible opportunity for the collaborative delivery of the compensatory measure arises within the required timescales for North Falls, this section will confirm how the collaborative compensatory measure will be delivered.

21. If a viable strategic compensation funding mechanism were to become available within the required timescales for North Falls, this section will confirm how a contribution will be made to a Strategic Compensation Fund, wholly or partly, replacing the Applicant's initial proposal of project-led/collaborative measures or as part of adaptive management.

4 Summary

22. This section will provide a summary of the delivery proposals detailed above for the agreed compensatory measures for guillemot and razorbill.





HARNESSING THE POWER OF NORTH SEA WIND

North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Limited

A joint venture company owned equally by SSE Renewables and RWE.

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