

RWE

MASDAR 

**RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank
South (West) Limited**

**RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank
South (East) Limited**

Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms

**Habitats Regulations Derogation: Provision of Evidence
Volume 6**

**Outline Kittiwake Compensation Implementation and
Monitoring Plan**

June 2024

Application Reference: 6.2.1.2

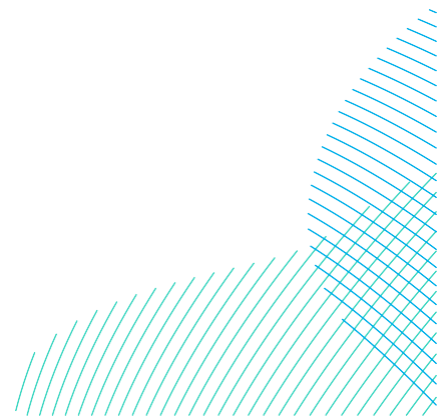
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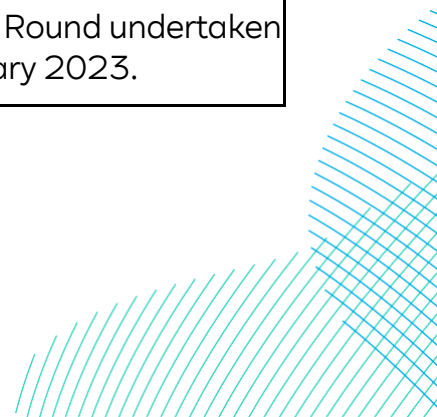
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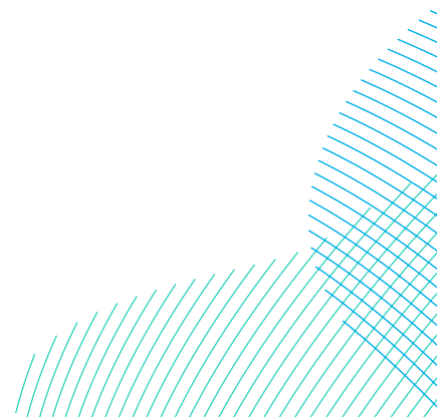


Glossary

Term	Definition
Development Consent Order (DCO)	An order made under the Planning Act 2008 granting development consent for one or more Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).
Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms	The collective name for the two Projects, DBS East and DBS West.
Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)	The process that determines whether or not a plan or project may have an adverse effect on the integrity of a European Site or European Offshore Marine Site.
Kittiwake Strategic Compensation Plan	Document produced as part of The Crown Estates Derogation Case in support of the Round 4 Plan which must be adhered to by Dogger Bank South West, Dogger Bank East and Outer Dowsing through their agreement for lease conditions. The overall objective of the KSCP is <i>“to detail the development and delivery of strategic compensation to ensure the overall coherence of the UK NSN [UK National Site Network] in relation to kittiwake by identifying suitable measures, providing a pathway to those measures and in turn providing assurance that compensation will be delivered for the impact on kittiwake, subject to refinement during the project level HRA [Habitats Regulations Assessment] process which is required as a matter of law”</i> .
Kittiwake Steering Group	A strategic steering group for kittiwake compensation formed by The Crown Estate. This group includes representatives from The Crown Estate and their technical advisor NIRAS Group (UK), Natural England, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Department for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind and RWE Renewables UK.
Round 4 Plan	The Fourth Offshore Wind Seabed Leasing Round undertaken by The Crown Estate and adopted in January 2023.

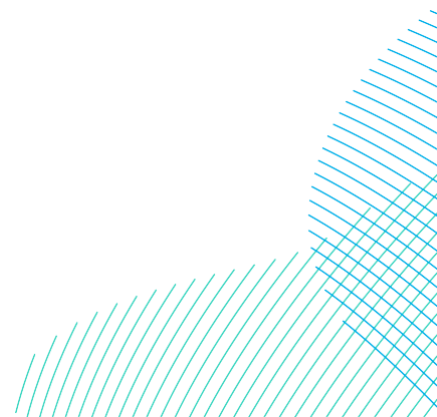


Term	Definition
Special Protection Area (SPA)	Strictly protected sites designated pursuant to Article 4 of the Birds Directive (via the Habitats Regulations) for species listed on Annex I of the Directive and for regularly occurring migratory species
The Applicants	RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Limited and RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Limited. The Applicants are themselves jointly owned by the RWE Group of companies (51% stake) and Masdar (49% stake).
The Projects	DBS East and DBS West (collectively referred to as the Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms).



Acronyms

Term	Definition
ANS	Artificial Nesting Structure
CIMP	Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan
DBS	Dogger Bank South offshore wind farms
DCO	Development Consent Order
DESNZ	Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
FFC SPA	Flamborough and Filey Coast Special Protection Area
KCSG	Kittiwake Compensation Steering Group
KSCP	Kittiwake Strategic Compensation Plan
KSIMP	Kittiwake Strategic Implementation and Monitoring Plan
UK	United Kingdom



1 Introduction

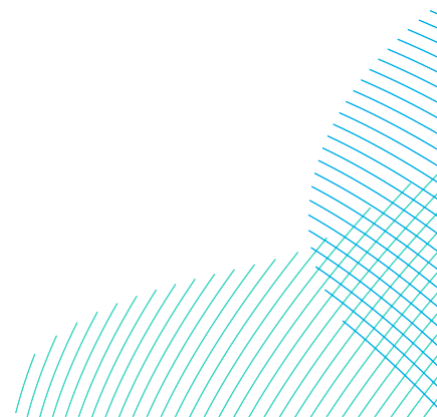
1. RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Limited and RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Limited ('the Applicants') are applying for a single Development Consent Order (DCO) for both the Dogger Bank South (DBS) East and DBS West offshore wind farms (hereafter referred to as 'the Projects'). When fully operational, the Projects would have the potential to generate renewable power for over 3 million homes in the United Kingdom (UK) from up to 200 wind turbines¹.
2. This document provides an outline for the Kittiwake Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan (CIMP) that will be developed by the Applicants, in consultation with the proposed Kittiwake Compensation Steering Group (KCSG), should consent for the Projects be granted and compensation for kittiwake be required.
3. The Kittiwake CIMP will be developed in accordance with the **Volume 6, Appendix 1 - Project Level Kittiwake Compensation Plan (application ref: 6.2.1)** which provides a detailed account of the strategy supporting the potential compensation measures for kittiwake at the project level. The Kittiwake CIMP will be submitted to the Secretary of State for approval post-consent, as secured by Schedule 18 of the **Volume 3, Draft DCO (application ref: 3.1)**.
4. The following sections of this outline plan set out the proposed content of the Kittiwake CIMP. The Kittiwake CIMP will be structured as follows:
 - Section 1: Introduction
 - Section 2: Background
 - Section 3: Consultation
 - Section 4: Offshore Artificial Nesting Structure (ANS)
 - Section 4.1: Scale and Location of compensation
 - Section 4.2: Design of Offshore ANS
 - Section 4.3: Delivery Mechanism
 - Section 4.4: Monitoring and Adaptive Management

¹ Calculation based on 2021 generation, and assuming average (mean) annual household consumption of 3,509 kWh, based on latest statistics from Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (Subnational Electricity and Gas Consumption Statistics Regional and Local Authority, Great Britain, 2021, Mean domestic electricity consumption (kWh per meter) by country/region, Great Britain, 2021.

- Section 4.5: Reporting
- Section 4.6: Programme for Implementation and Delivery
- Section 4.7: Discharge of Consent Condition

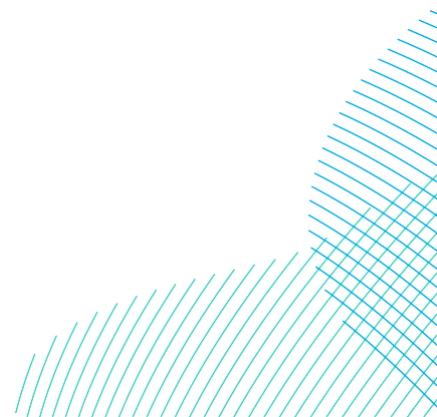
1.1 Implications of The Crown Estate's Round 4 Habitats Regulations Assessment Derogation

5. It should be noted that the Projects are part of the Fourth Offshore Wind Seabed Leasing Round (the 'Round 4 Plan') and are therefore subject to The Crown Estate's Round 4 derogation case. In accordance with this and their Agreement for Lease, the Projects are required to deliver compensation strategically alongside Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind Farm to offset predicted impacts on the Flamborough and Filey Coast Special Protection Area (FFC SPA) breeding kittiwake feature.
6. The Crown Estate has prepared in consultation with a strategic Kittiwake Steering Group, a **Volume 6, Round 4 Kittiwake Strategic Compensation Plan (KSCP) (application ref: 6.2.1.1)** which details the compensatory measures to be delivered under the Round 4 derogation. In accordance with the **Volume 6, KSCP (application ref: 6.2.1.1)**, The Crown Estate is required to submit a Kittiwake Strategic Implementation and Monitoring Plan (KSIMP) to the Secretary of State for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) prior to the operation of any wind turbine generator of Outer Dowsing and the Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms.
7. There is currently some uncertainty as to whether it will be necessary for the Applicants to provide a Kittiwake CIMP and establish a governance process in addition to that which is required at the plan level for The Crown Estate's Round 4 derogation. Subject to clarification from the Secretary of State, the Applicants have assumed that for the purpose of this DCO application, a Kittiwake CIMP and KCSG would be required.



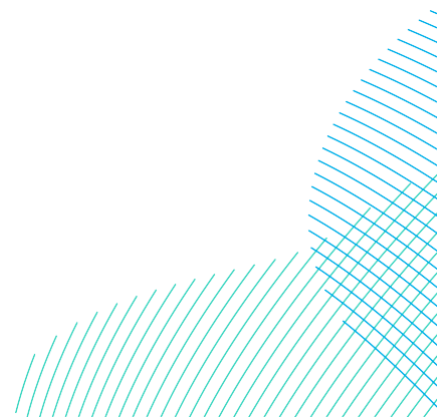
2 Background

8. This section will provide context to the Kittiwake CIMP, confirming the reason for its need, its aims and objectives, and the latest project status.



3 Consultation

9. This section will summarise all relevant consultation that has taken place through the Steering Group process in the development of the Kittiwake CIMP. It will capture any key decisions, agreements, and where relevant any outstanding issues under discussion (with clarity as to the steps necessary to resolve any such matters). Ongoing engagement, for example, to provide updates on monitoring, (post-discharge of the Kittiwake CIMP) will be outlined here.



4 Offshore Artificial Nesting Structure (ANS)

4.1 Scale and Location of Compensation

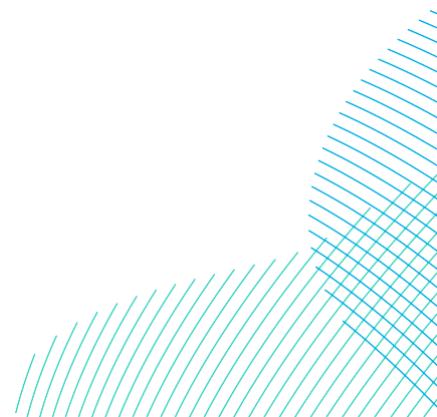
10. This section will identify the scale of compensation proposed to be provided and how this relates to the consent decision made by the Secretary of State. This section will then also detail the specific location(s) at which the compensation will be delivered and how the necessary land / seabed rights in those locations have been / will be secured. The evidence base included in support of the Kittiwake CIMP will help inform these aspects. The results of any monitoring of carried out pre-construction will also be detailed here as this may influence the location(s).

4.2 Design of Offshore ANS

11. This section will identify the design and delivery for the Offshore Artificial Nesting Structure (ANS) programme proposed to be provided, including any updates to the evidence base to demonstrate the confidence that the compensation measure will be able to deliver the required increase in target species productivity. The evidence base provided in support of this measures is set out in the **Volume 6, Appendix 1 - Project Level Kittiwake Compensation Plan (application ref: 6.2.1)** and engagement with the KCSG will be important in informing the specific design aspects of the Offshore ANS programme.

4.3 Delivery Mechanism

12. This section will confirm the nature and status of all consents, access agreements, as well as any other relevant approvals and / or funding arrangements that are necessary to secure the implementation of the compensation measure and include a programme for delivery of any outstanding consents.
13. This section will also outline key members involved in the delivery, their role in the process and responsibilities associated with implementation.



4.4 Monitoring and Adaptive Management

14. This section will identify the monitoring and adaptive management principles and processes that have been agreed with the KCSG, including the scenarios under which adaptive management measures are required. It will be developed in line with the evidence base that has been provided in support of the **Volume 6, Appendix 1 - Project Level Kittiwake Compensation Plan (application ref: 6.2.1)**. Following discharge of the Kittiwake CIMP, the KCSG will be engaged in relation to implementing adaptive management if required as outlined in the Consultation section above. Specific topics of discussion for inclusion within the Steering Group, and therefore the purpose of the group, will be regarding site selection, project / study design, monitoring, adaptive management options and associated triggers. The focus of the KCSG will be specifically to deliver the compensation for DBS East and DBS West and topics beyond this will be out of scope for the Kittiwake CIMP.

4.5 Reporting

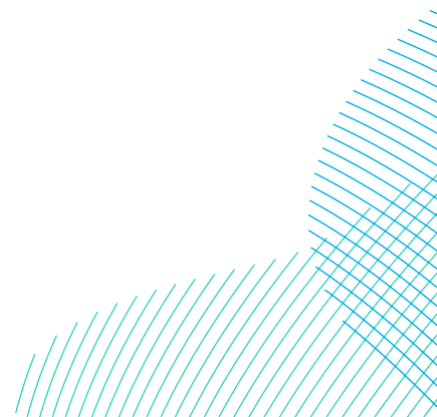
15. This section will set out the reporting requirements associated with the monitoring and adaptive management. In doing so, it will confirm the necessary objectives and timescales for the reporting.

4.6 Programme for Implementation and Delivery

16. This section will confirm the programme for the implementation and long-term delivery of the compensation.

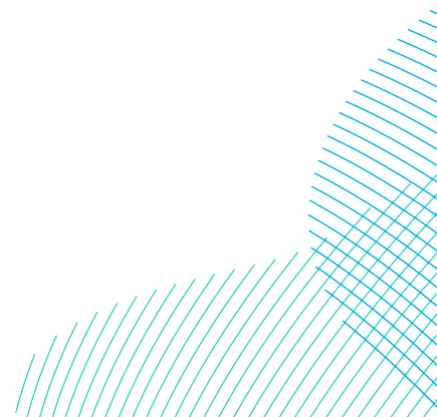
4.7 Discharge of Consent Condition

17. This section will confirm how, based on the content of this report, the Secretary of State can discharge the condition relating to the delivery of the compensation required for the kittiwake feature of the FFC SPA.



5 Collaborative and Strategic Compensation

18. In the event that a viable option for collaborative delivery of compensation becomes available within the necessary timescales for the Projects, this section will, as secured by Schedule 18 of the **Volume 3, Draft DCO (application ref: 3.1)**, confirm the nature of the collaborative compensatory measure/s to be delivered wholly or partly in place of the Applicants' proposed project led measures or as an adaptive management measure.
19. In the event that a viable strategic compensation funding mechanism becomes available within the necessary timescales for the Projects, this section will, as secured by Schedule 18 of the **Volume 3, Draft DCO (application ref: 3.1)**, confirm the nature of the contribution to be made to a Strategic Compensation Fund wholly or partly in place of the Applicants' proposed project-led measures or as an adaptive management measure.



**RWE Renewables UK Dogger
Bank South (West) Limited**

**RWE Renewables UK Dogger
Bank South (East) Limited**

**Windmill Hill Business Park
Whitehill Way
Swindon
Wiltshire, SN5 6PB**

