

# Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind

## Habitats Regulations Assessment

### Outline Kittiwake Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan

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## Acronyms & Definitions

### Abbreviations / Acronyms

Abbreviation / Acronym	Description
<b>AEoI</b>	Adverse effect on integrity
<b>ANS</b>	Artificial Nesting Structure
<b>Defra</b>	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
<b>ECC</b>	Export Cable Corridor
<b>ES</b>	Environmental Statement
<b>FFC</b>	Flamborough and Filey Coast
<b>KCIMP</b>	Kittiwake Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan
<b>KCSG</b>	Kittiwake Compensation Steering Group
<b>MRF</b>	Marine Recovery Fund
<b>ORCP</b>	Offshore Reactive Compensation Platform
<b>RIAA</b>	Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment
<b>SoS</b>	Secretary of State
<b>SPA</b>	Special Protection Area

### Terminology

Term	Definition
The Applicant	GT R4 Ltd. The Applicant making the application for a DCO. The Applicant is GT R4 Limited (a joint venture between Corio Generation, TotalEnergies and Gulf Energy Development (GULF)), trading as Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind. The project is being developed by Corio Generation (a wholly owned Green Investment Group portfolio company), TotalEnergies and GULF.
Array area	The area offshore within which the generating station (including wind turbine generators (WTG) and inter array cables), offshore accommodation platforms, offshore transformer substations and associated cabling will be positioned.
Baseline	The status of the environment at the time of assessment without the development in place.
Compensatory Measures	Stage 3 of the Habitats Regulations Assessments (see Derogation) involves the development of compensation measures for any features which the report to inform appropriate assessment was unable to conclude no adverse effect on integrity on.
deemed Marine Licence (dML)	A marine licence set out in a Schedule to the Development Consent Order and deemed to have been granted under Part 4 (marine licensing) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.
Derogation	Stage 3 of the Habitats Regulations Assessments which is triggered once it is determined that you cannot avoid adversely affecting the integrity of a designated site. Involves assessing if alternative solutions are available to

Term	Definition
	achieve the same goals as the project, if there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest, and if compensatory measures will be required.
Development Consent Order (DCO)	An order made under the Planning Act 2008 granting development consent for a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) from the Secretary of State (SoS) for Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ).
Effect	Term used to express the consequence of an impact. The significance of an effect is determined by correlating the magnitude of an impact with the sensitivity of a receptor, in accordance with defined significance criteria.
Evidence Plan	A voluntary process of stakeholder consultation with appropriate Expert Topic Groups (ETGs) that discusses and, where possible, agrees the detailed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and information to support Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) for those relevant topics included in the process, undertaken during the pre-application period.
Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)	A process which helps determine likely significant effects and (where appropriate) assesses adverse impacts on the integrity of European conservation sites and Ramsar sites. The process consists of up to four stages of assessment: screening, appropriate assessment, assessment of alternative solutions and assessment of imperative reasons of over-riding public interest (IROPI) and compensatory measures.
Mitigation	Mitigation measures, or commitments, are commitments made by the Project to reduce and/or eliminate the potential for significant effects to arise as a result of the Project. Mitigation measures can be embedded (part of the project design) or secondarily added to reduce impacts in the case of potentially significant effects.
Offshore Reactive Compensation Station (ORCP)	A structure attached to the seabed by means of a foundation, with one or more decks and a helicopter platform (including bird deterrents) housing electrical reactors and switchgear for the purpose of the efficient transfer of power in the course of HVAC transmission by providing reactive compensation
Offshore Substation (OSS)	A structure attached to the seabed by means of a foundation, with one or more decks and a helicopter platform (including bird deterrents), containing— (a) electrical equipment required to switch, transform, convert electricity generated at the wind turbine generators to a higher voltage and provide reactive power compensation; and (b) housing accommodation, storage, workshop auxiliary equipment, radar and facilities for operating, maintaining and controlling the substation or wind turbine generators
Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind (ODOW)	The Project.
Order Limits	The area subject to the application for development consent, the limits shown on the works plans within which the Project may be carried out.
Preliminary Environmental	The PEIR was written in the style of a draft Environmental Statement (ES) and provided information to support and inform the statutory consultation process during the pre-application phase.

Term	Definition
Information Report (PEIR)	
The Project	Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind including proposed onshore and offshore infrastructure.
The Planning Inspectorate	The agency responsible for operating the planning process for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs).
Wind turbine generator (WTG)	A structure comprising a tower, rotor with three blades connected at the hub, nacelle and ancillary electrical and other equipment which may include J-tube(s), transition piece, access and rest platforms, access ladders, boat access systems, corrosion protection systems, fenders and maintenance equipment, helicopter landing facilities and other associated equipment, fixed to a foundation

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Project Background

1. GT R4 Limited (trading as Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind) hereafter referred to as the 'Applicant', is proposing to develop Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind ('the Project'). The Project will be located approximately 54km from the Lincolnshire coastline in the southern North Sea. The Project will include both offshore and onshore infrastructure including an offshore generating station (windfarm), export cables to landfall, Offshore Reactive Compensation Platforms (ORCPs), onshore cables, connection to the electricity transmission network, ancillary and associated development and areas for the delivery of up to two Artificial Nesting Structures (ANS) and the creation and recreation of a biogenic reef (if these compensation measures are deemed to be required by the Secretary of State (SoS) (see Volume 1, Chapter 3: Project Description (Document Reference 6.1.3) for full details).
2. The Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment (RIAA) undertaken for the Project could not rule out the potential for an Adverse Effect on Integrity (AEoI) for the kittiwake feature at Flamborough and Filey Coast (FFC) Special Protection Area (SPA). In the event that the Secretary of State (SoS) concurs with this conclusion, the Applicant has developed potential compensation measures for the SPA in the event that the Project is required to provide compensation for impacts to the kittiwake feature of the SPA by the SoS.

## 1.2 Document Overview and Purpose

3. This document sets out the outline for the Kittiwake Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan (KCIMP) that will be developed by the Applicant, in consultation with the proposed Kittiwake Compensation Steering Group (KCSG), should consent for the Project be granted and compensation for kittiwake be required. The final KCIMP will be developed in accordance with the Kittiwake Compensation Plan (KCP) (document 7.7.1) which provides the detailed delivery strategy supporting the potential compensation measures for kittiwake.
4. The KCIMP will include details, where relevant for each measure to be taken forward, of the:
  - Scale and location;
  - Design;
  - Delivery process;
  - Delivery timeframe;
  - Monitoring and adaptive management; and
  - Reporting.

## 2 Background

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



### 3 Consultation

6. This section will summarise all relevant consultation that has taken place through the KCSG in the development of the KCIMP. 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 KCIMP) will be outlined here.

## **4 Offshore Artificial Nesting Structures**

### **4.1 Scale and Location of Compensation**

7. 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 the suitability of identified sites to deliver the compensation measure.
8. If the Applicant has elected to pay a contribution to the Marine Recovery Fund (“MRF”) or equivalent fund then this section shall include the sum of the contribution as agreed between the Applicant and Defra in consultation with the KCSG.
9. If the Applicant has elected to pay a contribution to an alternative strategic system for the delivery of this measure, then this section shall include the sum of the contribution as agreed between the Applicant and the relevant stakeholder in consultation with the KCSG.

### **4.2 Design of Artificial Nesting Structure**

10. This section will identify the design for each structure provided within the compensation package, including the high-level structural design and the kittiwake ecological design considerations which have been integrated to ensure the compensation measure has the maximum potential for success. The Artificial Nesting Structures Evidence Base and Roadmap (document reference 7.7.4) and engagement with the KCSG will be important in informing the specific design aspects of the structure.

### **4.3 Delivery Process**

11. This section will identify the delivery process, including nature and status of all consents, commercial agreements and other relevant approvals that may be necessary for the compensation measure and a programme for any outstanding consents. The Kittiwake Compensation Plan (KCP) (document reference 7.7.1) will help inform these aspects.

### **4.4 Delivery Timeframe**

12. This section will identify the proposed timeframe for implementation and long-term delivery of the compensation measure.

### **4.5 Monitoring and Adaptive Management**

13. 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 taking into account the evidence base that has been provided in support of the KCP. Following discharge of the KCIMP, the KCSG will be engaged in relation to implementing adaptive management if required as outlined in the Consultation section above.

## 4.6 Reporting

14. 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.

## **5 Onshore Artificial Nesting Structure**

### **5.1 Scale and Location of Compensation**

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### **5.2 Design of Artificial Nesting Structure**

18. This section will identify the design for each structure provided within the compensation package, including the high-level structural design and the kittiwake ecological design considerations which have been integrated to ensure the compensation measure has the maximum potential for success. The Artificial Nesting Structures Evidence Base and Roadmap (document reference 7.7.4) and engagement with the KCSG will be important in informing the specific design aspects of the structure.

### **5.3 Delivery Process**

19. This section will identify the delivery process, including nature and status of all consents, commercial agreements and other relevant approvals that may be necessary for the compensation measure and a programme for any outstanding consents. The KCP (document reference 7.7.1) will help inform these aspects.

### **5.4 Delivery Timeframe**

20. This section will identify the proposed timeframe for implementation and long-term delivery of the compensation measure.

### **5.5 Monitoring and Adaptive Management**

21. 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 taking into account the evidence base that has been provided in support of the KCP. Following discharge of the KCIMP, the KCSG will be engaged in relation to implementing adaptive management if required as outlined in the Consultation section above.

## 5.6 Reporting

22. 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.