



The North Wales Wind Farms Connection Project

SP Manweb's Comments on the
Examination Authority's Report on the
Implications for European Sites (RIES)

Application Reference: EN020014

Deadline 10 Submission
21st January 2016



Document reference: SPM NWWFC CEARIES

The Planning Act 2008

The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

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Date	January 2016
Version	V1
Planning Inspectorate Reference No.	EN020014
Document reference	SPM NWWFC CEARIES

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North Wales Wind Farms Connection Project – SP Manweb's Comments on the Examination Authority's Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES)

1 SP MANWEB'S COMMENTS ON THE EXAMINATION AUTHORITY'S REPORT ON THE IMPLICATIONS FOR EUROPEAN SITES (RIES)

1.1 SP Manweb PLC has reviewed the Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES), dated December 2015 and published by the Examining Authority. Comments in response are provided below:

- a) At paragraph 1.11, the RIES states, "They did not submit a revised version of Figure 1.xx." SP Manweb did submit a revised figure as acknowledged in Paragraph 2.6, which states, "the applicant provided an updated figure (SP Manweb's Responses to the ExA's FWQs, Appendix 6.3, [REP1-071]), which shows the location of the European sites identified in the updated Tables 3.1 and 3.2 and additional Table 3.2a".
- b) At paragraph 2.3, the RIES states, "It was considered by the applicant that the proposed development would have no impact on either species and that consultation with NE was not necessary." At the Issue Specific Hearing held on 30 September 2015, Mr Brickland explained that NRW were consulted over these sites as they are responsible for the closest sections of these sites. As no concerns were raised it was not considered necessary to then consult with Natural England.
- c) At paragraph 3.1, the RIES states "The applicant has not described how they have determined what would constitute a 'significant effect' within their NSER". SP Manweb would like to clarify that the definition of what constitutes a significant effect is as follows: "*Significant effect is defined as an adverse effect, caused by the Proposed Development, on the integrity of a European protected site. The site integrity is the coherence of its ecological structure and function which enables it to sustain the habitats and/or population levels of the species for which it was designated*".