

Application by NNB Generation Company (SZC) Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for The Sizewell C Project

Issue Specific Hearing 10 (ISH10) on Biodiversity and Ecology

Regarding **agenda item 5a of ISH10**, held on 27 August 2021 (*The Applicant's HRA screening assessment – to seek clarification on specific European sites and qualifying features, with views also sought from Natural England and IPs to understand any outstanding differences between the Applicant and Natural England/IPs with regards to the conclusions of no likely significant effects (LSE)*):

At the ISH, the ExA noted that throughout the Examination, there have been a number of representations questioning the conclusions of the Applicant's HRA screening assessment and listed the relevant European sites.

The ExA advised that he had produced a table (provided below), listing the relevant European sites, qualifying features and potential impacts under dispute. The ExA requested the Applicant, Natural England, The Environment Agency and other Interested Parties to complete the table, confirming their position.

Responses are requested for **Deadline 7** (3 September 2021).

European site	Qualifying feature	Potential impact	Applicant/IP current position regarding LSE
Alde-Ore and Butley Estuary SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	Recreational pressure	
	Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>)	Recreational pressure	
	All qualifying features	Damage from water use/ abstraction	
Alde-Ore Estuary SPA	Sandwich tern	Water quality impacts from drilling mud and bentonite breakout	
	Little tern		
	Lesser black-backed gull	Damage from water use/ abstraction	
	All qualifying features		
	Not specified*	Collision risk	
Alde-Ore Estuary Ramsar	Little tern	Water quality impacts from drilling mud and	

		bentonite breakout	
	All qualifying features	Damage from water use/ abstraction	
Benacre to Easton Bevants SPA	Bittern	Noise, light and visual disturbance	
	Little tern		
	Marsh harrier		
Humber Estuary SAC	Sea lamprey	Water quality impacts	
	River lamprey	Water quality impacts	
Minsmere to Walberswick Heath and Marshes SAC	All qualifying features	Damage from water use/ abstraction	
	European dry heaths	Alteration of coastal processes/sediment transport	
Minsmere– Walberswick SPA	Little tern	Water quality impacts from drilling mud and bentonite breakout	
	All qualifying features	Damage from water use/ abstraction	
	Not specified*	Collision risk	
Minsmere– Walberswick Ramsar	Little tern	Water quality impacts from drilling mud and bentonite breakout	
	All qualifying features	Damage from water use/ abstraction	
Outer Thames Estuary SPA	Little tern	Recreational disturbance	
	Little tern	Water quality impacts from drilling mud and bentonite breakout	
	Common tern		
	Red-throated diver		
	All qualifying features	Habitat loss and fragmentation	
	Not specified*	Collision risk	
Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC	Allis shad	Impingement	
Staverton Park and the Thicks, Wantisden	Old acidophilous oak woods with <i>Quercus robur</i> on sandy	Airborne pollution	

SAC	plains		
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* Collision risk to birds due to new pylons and overhead power lines has been raised by NE [RR-0878][REP2-153][REP2-071] in relation to Alde-Ore Estuary SPA, Minsmere-Walberswick SPA and Outer Thames Estuary SPA. However it is not clear for which qualifying feature(s) this concern relates. Please can NE clarify.