



THE PLANNING ACT 2008

THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATION PROCEDURE) RULES

2010

The Sizewell C Project

**Natural England's Comments on the Permanent and Temporary Beach
Landing Facility and SSSI Crossing Plans**

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN010012

24th September 2021

Natural England's comments on the Permanent and Temporary Beach Landing Facility and SSSI Crossing Plans [REP7-004&005]

- 1.1 Natural England has reviewed two submissions at deadline 7 by NNB Generation Company (SZC) Limited and has the following comments based on the two documents below:
- NNB Generation Company (SZC) Limited Deadline 7 Submission - 2.5 Main Development Site - Permanent and Temporary Beach Landing Facility and SSSI Crossing Plans - Plans Not For Approval - Part 1 of 2 - Revision 3.0
 - NNB Generation Company (SZC) Limited Deadline 7 Submission - 2.5 Main Development Site - Permanent and Temporary Beach Landing Facility and SSSI Crossing Plans - Plans Not For Approval - Part 2 of 2 - Revision 3.0
- 1.2 We welcome the continued optimisation of the SSSI crossing design which features a hybrid culvert and free-span bridge. Natural England acknowledges that the Applicant has taken steps to improve the SSSI crossings design to raise soffit height and reduce width post-construction to improve dispersal of invertebrates.
- 1.3 We understand that the preference for this design option by the applicant is based on the construction timetable (a three-span bridge would potentially take longer to build). We believe that the current iteration of the hybrid culvert and free-span bridge design is as optimal as possible within the limits of this design option. Should the examining authority consider this reasoning justifiable we believe that the current hybrid culvert and free-span bridge design represents a best alternative.
- 1.4 This issue will remain as an amber risk rating within our statement of common ground as our advice remains that made within our Relevant [RR-0878] and Written Representations [REP2-153]. We reiterate these comments that our preference remains for a three-span bridge which would provide the least land take and have a smaller impact of invertebrate communities and ultimately have the least impact ecologically on Sizewell Marshes SSSI.