



Meeting note

File reference	EN010084
Status	Final
Author	Tom Carpen
Date	4 January 2017
Meeting with	Vattenfall
Venue	By telephone
Attendees	The Planning Inspectorate: Tom Carpen (Infrastructure Planning Lead) Richard Kent (EIA and Land Rights Advisor) Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd: Helen Jameson (Project Manager)
Meeting objectives	Thanet Extension project update meeting
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

The Applicant and the Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) case team introduced themselves and their respective roles. The Inspectorate continued by outlining its openness policy and ensured those present understood that any issues discussed and advice given would be recorded and placed on the Inspectorate's website under s.51 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008). Further to this, it was made clear that any advice given did not constitute legal advice upon which the Applicant (or others) can rely.

Project update

The applicant summarised the follow up work agreed at a recent meeting with Natural England and the RSPB regarding its approach to ornithological survey information. The stakeholders requested further information on the historic data that the applicant intends to use as part of its ornithological assessments. The applicant has appointed its lead Environmental Impact Assessment consultant and is currently analysing the first nine months of survey data.

The applicant advised that it intended to provide the stakeholders with its early analysis in Spring 2017, with a follow up expert topic group meeting as part of its Evidence Plan process, before incorporating the work into its Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) to be provided as part of the formal pre-application consultation process.

The applicant also advised that it is intending to undertake 24 months of survey, regardless of the date it submits the application.

The Inspectorate advised on how the anticipated publication of the Offshore Renewables Joint Industry Programme (ORJIP) Bird Collision Avoidance Study, based on data obtained at the Thanet Offshore Wind Farm would be handled if published during the examination. The ORJIP data is currently anticipated in 2017 but subject to change. It advised that in general, all interested parties including the applicant would be given the opportunity to comment on how they consider the document relates to the proposal. The Examining Authority would then consider how much weight to give the document and representations.

Scoping

The applicant advised that it was on course to submit its scoping request on 4 January 2017 and the Inspectorate clarified some administrative requirements.

The Inspectorate advised that it would issue consultation letters a day or two after the receipt of the scoping request, subject to confirming all information had been received. Consultees would have 28 days to provide a response, and the Scoping Opinion would be issued within 42 days of the date of receipt.

Specific decisions / follow up required?

None