



THE PLANNING ACT 2008

THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATION PROCEDURE) RULES  
2010

FIVE ESTUARIES OFFSHORE WIND FARM

**Appendix I6 Natural England's Comments on 10.29 Applicant's Comments on  
Deadline 3 Submissions [REP4-040]**

For:

The construction and operation of the Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm, located approximately 37km from the Suffolk Coast in the Southern North Sea.

Planning Inspectorate Reference EN010115

11 February 2025

## **Appendix I6 Natural England's Comments on 10.29 Applicant's Comments on Deadline 3 Submissions [REP4-040]**

In formulating these comments, the following documents have been considered:

- [REP4-040] 10.29 Applicant's Comments on Deadline 3 Submissions

Natural England notes the Applicant's request in [REP4-040] for Natural England to provide an update to Table 1 of Appendix I to the Relevant Representations of Natural England [PD2-011] (showing apparent heights of the closest WTG from selected viewpoints) to reflect the reduced maximum turbine blade tip of 370m LAT.

Please see the revised Table 1 below which provides indicative apparent heights in degrees for the 370m MDS scenario in an additional column, which is shaded orange. We highlight that for five viewpoints the apparent heights remain above 0.4 degrees i.e. above a level that Natural England considered to be potentially significant.

The Natural England's advice on the significance of impacts to the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (now Suffolk Coast and Heaths National Landscape) remains as described within in our Relevant Representations [PD2-011].

**Table 1 (Updated)** Apparent heights of select viewpoints for illustrative purposes given the WTG maximum height parameters presented in the Five Estuaries Preliminary Environmental Information Report and Environmental Statement, in comparison to the apparent heights of Greater Gabbard and Galloper from Orford Ness.

Natural England consider apparent heights of above 0.4 degrees as being potentially significant. Apparent heights which Natural England considers to be significant are shown in **bold**.

In particular, we draw the Examiners' attention to the value for the viewpoint located on Orford Ness, which should be considered in the context of the highly sensitive nature of this location, principally in terms of potential for significant adverse effects to the SCHAONB (now SCHNL) wildness and tranquillity special qualities.

Viewpoint	Apparent height of closest WTG for ~420m scenario (PEIR)	Apparent height of closest WTG for 399m MDS scenario (ES)	Apparent height of closest WTG for 370m further updated MDS scenario (ES)*	Apparent height of closest WTG for ~320m scenario (PEIR)	Apparent height of closest WTG for 324m MDS scenario (ES)	Greater Gabbard consented array	Galloper consented array
Southwold (Gun Hill)	0.398	0.367	0.332	0.271	0.276		
Dunwich Beach	<b>0.404</b>	0.372	0.336	0.273	0.278		
Dunwich Heath	<b>0.487</b>	<b>0.454</b>	<b>0.416</b>	0.351	0.356		
Sizewell Beach	<b>0.493</b>	<b>0.458</b>	<b>0.417</b>	0.347	0.353		
Thorpeness	<b>0.512</b>	<b>0.475</b>	<b>0.433</b>	0.360	0.366		
Aldeburgh	<b>0.515</b>	<b>0.478</b>	<b>0.435</b>	0.362	0.368		
Orford Ness	<b>0.566</b>	<b>0.529</b>	<b>0.485</b>	<b>0.410</b>	<b>0.416</b>	0.268	0.300

\*Note the orange shaded column provides an update to Table 1 as presented in Appendix I to the Natural England [PD2-011] (showing apparent heights of the closest wind turbines from selected viewpoints) to reflect the reduced maximum turbine blade tip of 370m LAT.