



Application by Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm Ltd for the proposed Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm

Case reference: EN010115

Examining Authority's note of Access Required Site Inspection 2 (ARSI2) at Orford Ness Friday 7 March 2025

Examining Inspectors Rebecca Norman, Mark Harrison and Grahame Gould, as part of the Examining Authority (ExA) for the proposed Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm (the Proposed Development) undertook ARSI2 on Friday 7 March 2025. Throughout ARSI2 it was dry and sunny. Visibility onshore was good, while offshore visibility was more limited, with no wind turbine generator arrays being visible.

ARSI2 commenced at 10:00 at Orford Quay where the ExA met Mr Finney, a representative of Cobra Mist Limited. It was explained to Mr Finney that while the inspection was being undertaken the ExA could ask for site features to be pointed out to it but at no time during the course of this inspection would Mr Finney be able to present evidence to the ExA relating to Cobra Mist's case. ARSI2 was conducted on that basis throughout.

The ExA crossed the river Ore from Orford Quay to the jetty forming part of Land Plot 19-001 in a boat piloted by Mr Finney. Thereafter the ExA was driven by Mr Finney to the proposed compensatory habitat site for lesser black backed gulls (LBBG) along the single width track that runs parallel with the Ness' northern boundary with the river Ore and then continues on to skirt the perimeter of the main Cobra Mist building. The ExA saw that the proposed compensatory habitat is an essentially level area of coastal marshland currently inhabited by a variety of birds and some hare and deer.

On route to and from the proposed compensatory habitat site, the ExA observed the location and fencing arrangements for the compensatory habitat site that is in the process of being established in connection with the development of other offshore wind farms.

The ExA was then driven back to the jetty and then made the return crossing of the river to the quay at Orford.

ARSI2 was concluded at around 11:30.

Additional note:

One member of the ExA (Grahame Gould) while driving on the A14 on route to Orford Ness observed an abnormal indivisible load (AIL) convoy travelling westwards. That AIL convoy comprised: two heavy goods vehicle (HGV) low loaders (each appearing to be hauling a cable drum); two police outrider motorcyclists; two other police vehicles; and a

contractor's escort vehicle. The HGVs were straddling both of the A14's westbound lanes and other westbound traffic was building up behind the convoy.

Rebecca Norman, Mark Harrison and Grahame Gould
Members of the Examining Authority