From: <u>secretary@protectcoastalsussex.org</u>

To: Rampion2

Subject: RWE AG Power Investments in Britain – Transfer of seabed rights

Date: 25 March 2025 21:05:24

Attachments: RWE AG - Power Investment in Britain -Transfer of Seabed Rights (23-3-25).pdf

TO: The UK Planning Inspectorate

Rampion 2 Team: Rampion2@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

For your kind information, please find attached a Protect Coastal Sussex (PCS) Letter to RWE AG Germany on the merits of transferring RWE's seabed rights from the Sussex Bay inshore (for the Rampion 2 Extension) to instead extend RWE's wind development rights on the South Dogger Bank to achieve a far better outcome for UK society and international investors.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary,

Protect Coastal Sussex (PCS)

Rampion 2 DCO, IP Registration # 20044835

https://www.protectcoastalsussex.org/

On behalf of the Co-Chairs and members of PCS

From affiliated Community Organisations all registered as Interested Parties in the Rampion 2 DCO



23 March 2025

Subject: RWE AG Power Investments in Britain – Transfer of seabed rights

Group Communications & Public Affairs Department RWE AG RWE Platz 1 45141 Essen, Germany

TO: communications@rwe.com

CC: <u>imprint@rwe.com</u>

May we respectfully ask that you bring this matter about RWE's power portfolio investment in Britain to the attention of the RWE AG Senior Management

- Office of the Chairman of the Board, Dr. Brandt
- Executive Board Member, Dr. Markus Krebber Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Dear Sirs,

We ask the senior leadership of RWE AG to carefully reconsider your company's proposal for the Rampion 2 Extension windfarm off the south coast of England that would transform the natural Sussex Bay inshore and degrade designated landscapes, including the South Downs National Park.

We reference your recent Annual Press Conference, where RWE AG senior management discussed rationalising investments in renewable energy globally. We believe this licence transfer is a profitable adjustment to your UK offshore wind portfolio.

https://finance.yahoo.com/news/german-energy-company-rwe-slashes-122323077.html

The proposed location for massive wind turbines (up to 90 turbines up to 325 meters tall) in the ecologically sensitive Sussex Bay in close proximity to coastal communities would be unacceptable in Germany under German law. Proceeding with Rampion 2 would not only be a mistake in terms of RWE's stakeholder value but also a disservice to both local and national interests in the UK due to the unique location-specific social, environmental and economic opportunity costs.

The proposal contradicts German Wind Law and violates the European Landscape Convention (ELC), to which the UK is a party. The ELC was established as a legal safeguard to conserve and protect the intrinsic values of designated national landscapes and their connected natural seascapes, ensuring their preservation for the enjoyment and well-being of both current and future generations of UK residents and visitors.

We strongly urge the Company to engage with relevant UK authorities to explore the possibility of negotiating a good-faith transfer of seabed rights. Specifically, we suggest transferring RWE's seabed rights from the Sussex Bay inshore to extend your seabed rights on South Dogger Bank areas (SDB East or SDB West), where your Company has recently secured rights for large offshore wind developments. These areas are genuinely offshore, fully comply with legal safeguards in both Germany and the UK and offer better wind regimes and greater profitability for your Company.

Shifting your focus to South Dogger Bank would not only recover your sunk costs on Rampion 2 but also allow for cost-saving synergies with your existing proposals in the South Dogger Bank that have the same 2030 commissioning target as Rampion 2.

We firmly believe this approach would help restore and build public trust in RWE in the UK and preserve our natural heritage in a way that aligns with German law and values. Your shareholders, as well as the broader UK public, would certainly appreciate your Company's careful consideration of this matter.

As a leading global player in the UK power sector, RWE AG understands the inevitable consequences of Britain attempting to rely on 95% variable wind and solar power in less than five years - decades before essential long-term energy storage is developed and available at scale. As you know Britain will soon face a crisis due to the critical shortage of reliable firm and dependable low-emission generation.

At the very least, this situation demands that industry and government urgently prioritise efficient renewable energy and act responsibly in sequencing new generation.

We very much hope you will give this issue serious attention.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary,
Protect Coastal Sussex (PCS)
https://www.protectcoastalsussex.org/

On behalf of the Co-Chairs and members of PCS From affiliated Community Organisations all registered as Interested Parties in the Rampion 2 DCO, IP Registration # 20044835



PCS website: 'Who we are'

https://www.protectcoastalsussex.org/about

The Littlehampton Society website

https://thelittlehamptonsociety.org.uk/rampion-2

MOSCA website https://mosca.click/

The Cowfold Residents Action Group website

https://www.cowfoldvrampion.co.uk/

CCS BY SEPARATE EMAILS TO:

UK Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ)

Rt Hon Edward Miliband Secretary of State secretary.state@energysecurity.gov.uk

Net Zero Advisor to the Secretary of State @energysecurity.gov.uk
Spads.Office@energysecurity.gov.uk

Jeremy Pocklington, Permanent Secretary at DESNZ: newsdesk@energysecurity.gov.uk

The UK Planning Inspectorate

Rampion 2 Team: Rampion2@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

The Crown Estates, UK

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Area MPs in the UK:

Andrew Griffith, MP Arundel and South Downs

Alison Griffiths, MP Bognor Regis and Littlehampton

<u>@parliament.uk</u>