

Date: 31 August 2021
Our ref: 14432/360449
Your ref: EN010119-000019



Tom Crawford
North Falls Offshore Wind Farm
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BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Tom,

Planning Act 2008 (as amended) and The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations) – Regulations 10 and 11

Application by North Falls Offshore Wind Ltd (the Applicant) for an Order granting Development Consent for the North Falls Offshore Wind Farm (the Proposed Development)

Scoping consultation and notification of the Applicant's contact details and duty to make available information to the Applicant if requested


Natural England provided a response to the Planning Inspectorate on the North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report on 16 August 2021. However, due to Covid-related resource implications, we were unable to include comments on the migratory fish aspects of the report. We are now able to provide this advice but appreciate that it does not form part of our formal response as submitted to the Planning Inspectorate on 16 August 2021. A copy of this advice will be sent to the Planning Inspectorate for audit purposes. The following advice is provided without prejudice to any comments we may wish to make in light of further submissions or on the presentation of additional information.



Summary of Main Points on Migratory Fish

- The works are very far offshore and are very unlikely to present a barrier to migration to fish traveling to and from spawning rivers in the south-east (e.g. Medway MCZ).
- The report has noted the presence of protected species such as smelt and shad within the baseline datasets. These species are caught on occasion, so their presence in the dataset in these low numbers is not of particular concern.
- In regard to the migratory fish aspects, we are satisfied with the North Falls Scoping Report.
- We defer to the Environment Agency on Water Framework Directive and European eel matters.

If you have any questions regarding the above comments or want to discuss further any of the issues we have raised please do not hesitate to contact Natural England using the details provided below.

Yours sincerely,



Yolanda Foote
Sussex and Kent Team
E-mail: @naturalengland.org.uk
Telephone: 

cc. North Falls@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

