



NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm

HRA Annex 1D Letter of Comfort from Cornwall Wildlife Trust

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1. Introduction

1. This document provides a letter of comfort from Cornwall Wildlife Trust to confirm that, provided the relevant strategic coordination and funding provisions are sufficient, Cornwall Wildlife Trust can provide the necessary services that would be required to deliver the potential measures should they be required.
2. This relates to Section 3.3 of the Guillemot and Razorbill Compensation Document [REP1-027] and Section 4 of the Outline Guillemot and Razorbill Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan [REP1-029] which state:

The Applicant is considering collaboration with other OWF developers which may be delivered in the following ways:

- *Shared monitoring, deployment and maintenance of measures across an appropriate number of shared sites, in an approach similar to that outlined in this document for the project alone measure(s);*
- *Development of separate sites for each project with a shared monitoring programme; or*
- ***A broader, regional, compensation package led by a delivery partner and funded in collaboration with other developers.***

3. The letter from the Cornwall Wildlife Trust relates to the option shown in bold.



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3rd March 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

Potential Compensation Measures: First phase for Recreational disturbance reduction project at auk colonies in Cornwall

Cornwall Wildlife Trust (**CWT**) understand that the Offshore Wind Developers listed below (**the Developers**) either are currently, or will shortly, be promoting Development Consent Orders (DCOs) in relation to the offshore wind projects listed below. CWT understand that in the event that potential Adverse Effects on Integrity (AEoI) are identified by the Secretary of State (SoS) in relation to the guillemot or razorbill features of a site within the National Site Network the Developers will need to demonstrate that appropriate compensatory measures can be secured to ensure that overall network coherence is protected. As a result, the Developers are proposing, within their respective DCO applications¹, to work collaboratively on further research into the reduction of anthropogenic disturbance to auk colonies in southwest England, to improve understanding of the pressures on the relevant colonies and to deliver required compensation measure(s). The first phase would then be reviewed after two years, with the identification and delivery of any required adaptive management measures to ensure the future effectiveness of the compensation measure if necessary.

The developers are:

- GT R4 Limited (trading as Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind)
- Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm Limited
- Rampion 2 Offshore Wind Farm
- North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Ltd
- Doggerbank Offshore Wind Farm Project 4 Projco Limited (Dogger Bank D Wind Farm)

CWT has put forward a range of workstreams designed to understand disturbance at the auk colonies, trial on-water and land-based interventions to reduce disturbance, with the aim of improving colony productivity. These workstreams will be appropriately monitored, and their

¹

success will be measured through collaboration with ornithologists at the University of Exeter overseen by the Developers Guillemot and Razorbill Compensation Steering Group(s).


The measures would be delivered with multiple partner organisations in a phased approach. The Offshore Wind Industry Council (OWIC) has agreed to act as an intermediary between CWT and the Developers and will help coordinate the delivery of the initial two-year project and support the establishment of a mechanism to allow continued strategic delivery of the measures in the longer-term, through the Marine Recovery Fund, or other appropriate mechanisms. The programme of research and delivery of interventions will continue beyond the initial two years, recognising that while useful information to inform measures will be gathered in the first two years, a longer period of research and delivery will yield more robust and reliable results and more effective interventions.

After an initial two-year first phase to gather evidence, test and implement disturbance reduction methods, a review of the recreational activity disturbance and effectiveness of the initial interventions would be undertaken. This would allow consideration of any modification or adaptive management required, as appropriate, to inform and enable the continued progress of the measure and/or consideration of alternative methods. This approach would be subject to the relevant requirements of the draft DCOs of the relevant projects. Whether these measures are considered to be appropriate for the impacts of each project, whether alone or as part of a package of wider measures, is a matter for the Secretary of State to determine. Further detail of the proposal will be provided once available.

CWT, OWIC and the relevant offshore wind developers will seek a further Memorandum of Understanding/contract which will be agreed as soon as possible.

The purpose of this letter is to confirm to the projects listed above, and relevant authorities, that provided the relevant strategic coordination and funding provisions are sufficient, CWT can provide the necessary services that would be required to deliver the potential measures should they be required. CWT are therefore willing to enter into an appropriate commercial agreement with the above projects, subject to adequate resourcing from the Developers, where OWIC acts as an intermediary, should compensation be deemed necessary by the DESNZ SoS.

Yours sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the Director of Nature and People.

Title: Director of Nature and People

A black rectangular redaction box covering the first part of the email address.

@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk



NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm



HARNESSING THE POWER OF NORTH SEA WIND

North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Limited

A joint venture company owned equally by SSE Renewables and RWE.

To contact please email contact@northfallsoffshore.com

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