

Offshore Wind Farm

# **Statement of Common Ground**

UK Health Security Agency (Clean)

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Revision	Date	Status/Reason for Issue	Originator	Checked	Approved
0	March 2025	Deadline 2	RHDHV	NFOW	NFOW
1	May 2025	Final (Deadline 5)	RHDHV	NFOW	NFOW

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## **Glossary of Acronyms**

EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMF	Electromagnetic Fields
EqIA	Equality Impact Assessment
NFOW	North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Limited
OCoCP	Outline Code of Construction Practice
OCTMP	Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground

## **Glossary of Terminology**

The Applicant	North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Limited (NFOW)
The Project or	North Falls Offshore Wind Farm, including all onshore and
'North Falls'	offshore infrastructure
Onshore cable route	Onshore route within which the onshore export cables and
	associated infrastructure would be located

#### 1 Introduction

#### 1.1 Background

- 1. This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared by North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Limited (NFOW) (the Applicant) and UK Health Security Agency. It identifies areas of North Falls Offshore Wind Farm (hereafter 'the Project' or 'North Falls') where matters are agreed, not agreed or that remain under discussion between the parties.
- 2. The Applicant has had regard to the Planning Inspectorate (2024) guidance regarding Statements of Common/Uncommon Ground for Hearings and Inquiries when compiling the SoCG.
- 3. This SoCG has been structured to reflect topics of the application which are of interest to UK Health Security Agency. The applicable matters considered within the SoCG apply to UK Health Security Agency's statutory and non-statutory remit.
- 4. Table 1.1 presents the topics included in the SoCG with the Applicant and UK Health Security Agency.

Table 1.1 Topics included in the SoCG

Topic/Chapter	DCO Document Reference
Chapter 28 Human Health	APP-042
Equality Impact Assessment	REP1-049

- Topic specific matters agreed, not agreed, and matters that remain under discussion between the Applicant and UK Health Security Agency are included within this SoCG. Matters that are not yet agreed will be the subject of ongoing discussion between the Applicant and UK Health Security Agency to reach agreement on each matter wherever possible or refine the extent of disagreement between parties.
- 6. Throughout the SoCG the phrase "Agreed" identifies any point of agreement between the Applicant and UK Health Security Agency. The phrase "Not Agreed" identifies any point that is not agreed between the Applicant and UK Health Security Agency.

#### 1.2 Consultation with the UK Health Security Agency

- 7. The Applicant has engaged with UK Health Security Agency on the project during the pre-Application process, both in terms of informal non-statutory engagement and formal consultation carried out pursuant Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008.
- 8. During statutory (Section 42) consultation, UK Health Security Agency provided comments on the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) by way of letter dated 14<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

- 9. Further to the statutory Section 42 consultation, a meeting was held with UK Health Security Agency on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2024. The points raised in this meeting are detailed throughout the SoCG, and in the minutes of this meeting.
- 10. During the post-Application process, UK Health Security Agency provided a Relevant Representation on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

#### 1.3 Summary of Agreed, Not Agreed and In Discussion

- 11. In order to easily identify whether a matter is 'agreed', 'not agreed', or 'in discussion' the position status colour coding system set out in Table 1.2 is used in the SoCG.
- 12. Details of specific topics that are 'agreed', 'not agreed', or 'in discussion' between the Applicant and UK Health Security Agency are presented in Table 2.2 and Table 2.4.

Table 1.2 Position status key

Position Status	Position Colour Coding
Agreed	Agreed
The matter is considered to be agreed between the	
parties.	
Not Agreed- no material impact	Not Agreed- no material impact
The matter is not yet agreed between the parties	
however the outcome of the approach taken by	
either the Applicant and UK Health Security Agency	
is not considered to result in a material impact to	
the assessment conclusions and the matter is	
considered to be closed for the purposes of this	
SoCG. Discussion on these matters have	
concluded.	
Not Agreed- material impact	Not Agreed- material impact
The matter is not agreed between the parties and	
the outcome of the approach taken by either the	
Applicant and UK Health Security Agency is	
considered to result in a materially different impact	
to the assessment conclusions. Discussions on	
these matters have concluded.	
In discussion	In discussion
The matter is neither 'agreed' nor 'not agreed' and	
is a matter where further discussion is required	
between the parties (e.g. where the documents are	
yet to be shared with the UK Health Security	
Agency).	

#### 2 Statement of Common Ground

13. A summary of the consultation undertaken to date with UK Health Security Agency and the matters agreed or not agreed between the Applicant and UK Health Security Agency (based on discussions and information exchanged between the Applicant and UK Health Security Agency during the preapplication, pre-Examination and Examination phases of the Application) are set out below for each of the SoCG topic areas.

#### 2.1 Human Health

Table 2.1 Summary of Consultation with UK Health Security Agency regarding Human Health

Date	Contact Type	Topic
Post-Application		
17 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	Relevant Representation	Electromagnetic fields
11 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Consultation Meeting	The following topics were discussed during the meeting:  Project status update; Equality Impact Assessment; UK Health Security Agency Relevant Representation.

Table 2.2 Topics agreed, in discussion or not agreed in relation to Human Health

ID	The Applicants Position	UK Health Security Agency Position	Position Summary
1	The Applicant submitted the Electro-Magnetic	The applicant is still in discussion with the UK	Agreed
	Fields Technical Statement [REP4-024] and the	Health Security Agency regarding calculations	
	Electro-Magnetic Fields Non-technical	for the onshore 275 kV and 400 kV cables. The	
	Statement [REP4-025] at Deadline 4 of the	UK Health Security Agency looks forward to	
	Examination. This provides the calculations	receiving the calculations to agree before the	
	confirming the electromagnetic fields (EMF)	end of the Examination period as outlined in the	
	predicted to occur at ground level during	SoCG.	
	operation of the onshore 275kV and 400kV		
	buried electrical cables, as evidence of	Following publication of the calculations by the	
	compliance with the exposure guidelines cited in	Applicant at Deadline 4, this point is now agreed.	
	Environmental Statement Chapter 28 Human		
	Health [APP-042].		

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### 2.2 Equality Impact Assessment

Table 2.3 Summary of Consultation with UK Health Security Agency regarding the Equality Impact Assessment

Date	Contact Type	Topic
Post-Application		
17 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	Relevant	UK Health Security Agency response to the
	Representation	relevant representation consultation.
11 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Consultation	The following topics were discussed during the
	Meeting	meeting:
		<ul> <li>Project status update;</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Equality Impact Assessment;</li> </ul>
		UK Health Security Agency Relevant
		Representation.

Table 2.4 Topics agreed, in discussion or not agreed in relation to the Equality Impact Assessment

ID	The Applicants Position	UK Health Security Agency Position	Position Summary
1	The approach to the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) methodology as set out in Section 3 of the EqIA [REP1-049] is appropriate for assessing impacts on equality.	The approach to the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) methodology as set out in Section 3 of the EqIA is appropriate for assessing impacts on equality. This has been agreed with OHID.	Agreed
2	The EIA Chapters that have been considered within the EqIA [REP1-049] have assessed the cumulative effects of other developments within their own individual chapters.	The EIA Chapters that have been considered within the EqIA have assessed the cumulative effects of other developments within their own individual chapters. This has been agreed with OHID.	Agreed

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### 3 Signatures

14. The above SoCG is agreed between the Applicant and the UK Health Security Agency on the day specified below.

Signed:[See letter below]	
Print Name:	
Job Title:	
Date:	
Duly authorised for and on behalf of the UK Health Security Agency	
Signed: Cormac Rooney	
Print Name: Cormac Rooney	
Job Title: Consents Manager	
Date: 29/05/25	
Duly authorised for and on behalf of North Falls	







#### 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 <a href="mailto:contact@northfallsoffshore.com">contact@northfallsoffshore.com</a>

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16th May 2025

Dear ,

Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project North Falls Offshore Wind Farm, Draft Statement of Common Ground

Thank you for providing an updated draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) relating to the above development on 06 May 2025. As per our previous letter dated 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025, where possible we prefer to provide comments in the form of a letter rather than a SoCG. *Please note that we request views from the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) and the response provided below is sent on behalf of both UKHSA and OHID* 

UKHSA confirms that we are in agreement with the items set out in the SoCG (document reference 10.3).

Yours sincerely

On behalf of UK Health Security Agency <a href="mailto:nsipconsultations@ukhsa.gov.uk">nsipconsultations@ukhsa.gov.uk</a>

Please mark any correspondence for the attention of National Infrastructure Planning Administration