



NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm

Outline Fisheries Liaison and Coexistence Plan (~~Clean~~Tracked)

Document Reference: 7.9
Volume: 7
Date: ~~April~~July 2025
Revision: ~~1~~2



NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm

Project Reference: EN010119

Project	North Falls Offshore Wind Farm
Document Title	Outline Fisheries Liaison and Coexistence Plan (Tracked)
Document Reference	7.9
Supplier	Royal HaskoningDHV
Supplier Reference No	PB9244-RHD-ZZ-OF-RP-OF-0280

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Revision	Date	Status/Reason for Issue	Originator	Checked	Approved
0	July 2024	Submission	RHDHV	NFOW	NFOW
1	April 2025	Deadline 4	RHDHV	NFOW	NFOW
<u>2</u>	<u>July 2025</u>	<u>Deadline 7</u>	<u>RHDHV</u>	<u>NFOW</u>	<u>NFOW</u>

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Glossary of Acronyms

CBRA	Cable Burial Risk Assessment
CFWG	Commercial Fisheries Working Group
COLREGS	Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea 1972
DCO	Development Consent Order
DML	Deemed Marine Licences
ES	Environmental Statement
ESCA	European Subsea Cable Association
FLCP	Fisheries Liaison and Coexistence Plan
FLO	Fisheries Liaison Officer
FLOWW	Fishing Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group
GW	Gigawatts
HVAC	High Voltage Alternating Current
HVDC	High Voltage Direct Current
IFCA	Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority
km	Kilometre
m	Metre
MF	Medium Frequency
MMO	Marine Management Organisation
MW	megawatts
NFOW	North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Ltd
NtM	Notice to Mariners
OCP	Offshore Converter Platform
OFLO	Offshore Fisheries Liaison Officers
OSP	Offshore Substation Platform
OWF	Offshore Wind Farm
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report
RWE	RWE Renewables UK Swindon Limited
SSER	SSE Renewables Limited
UK	United Kingdom
UKOOA	United Kingdom Offshore Operators Association
VHF	Very High Frequency
WTG	Wind Turbine Generator

Glossary of Terminology

Array Area	The offshore wind farm area, within which the wind turbine generators, array cables, platform interconnector cable, offshore substation platform(s) and/or offshore converter platform will be located.
Array cables	Cables which link the wind turbine generators with each other, the offshore substation platform(s) and/or the offshore converter platform.
Development Consent Order (DCO)	An order made under the Planning Act 2008 granting development consent for one or more Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIP).
Fishing gear	Equipment used for catching commercially targeted fisheries
Fishing ground	An area of water or sea bed targeted by fishing activity.
Fleet	A physical group of vessels sharing similar characteristics (e.g., nationality).
Landfall	The location where the offshore export cables come ashore at Kirby Brook.
Offshore cable corridor	The corridor of seabed from the array area to the landfall within which the offshore export cables will be located.
Offshore converter platform	Should an offshore connection to a third party HVDC cable be selected, an offshore converter platform would be required. This is a fixed structure located within the array area, containing HVAC and HVDC electrical equipment to aggregate the power from the wind turbine generators, increase the voltage to a more suitable level for export and convert the HVAC power generated by the wind turbine generators into HVDC power for export to shore via a third party HVDC cable.
Offshore export cables	The cables which bring electricity from the offshore substation platform(s) to the landfall, as well as auxiliary cables.
Offshore project area	The overall area of the array area and the offshore cable corridor.
Offshore substation platform(s)	Fixed structure(s) located within the array area, containing HVAC electrical equipment to aggregate the power from the wind turbine generators and increase the voltage to a more suitable level for export to shore via offshore export cables.
Platform interconnector cable	Cable connecting the offshore substation platforms (OSP) or the OSP and offshore converter platform (OCP)
Safety zones	A marine zone outlined for the purposes of safety around a possibly hazardous installation or works / construction area.
Scour protection	Protective materials to avoid sediment being eroded away from the base of the wind turbine generator foundations and offshore substation platform/offshore converter platform foundations as a result of the flow of water.
The Applicant	North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Limited (NFOW).
The Project Or 'North Falls'	North Falls Offshore Wind Farm, including all onshore and offshore infrastructure.
Wind turbine generators	Power generating device that is driven by the kinetic energy of the wind.

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

1. North Falls Offshore Wind Farm ('the Project' or 'North Falls') is being developed by North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Ltd (NFOW) (the Applicant). NFOW is a joint venture between SSE Renewables Offshore Windfarm Holdings Limited (SSER) and RWE Renewables UK Swindon Limited (RWE), both of which are highly experienced developers. Both organisations are committed to developing renewable energy in the UK.
2. North Falls is an extension to the existing Greater Gabbard Offshore Wind Farm (OWF), in the outer Thames Estuary. The array area is approximately 95km² and is located approximately 40km (at the closest point) off the East Anglian coastline and is shown in Figure 1.1. An Agreement for Lease for North Falls was signed with The Crown Estate in 2020.
3. The Development Consent Order (DCO) application includes consideration of three grid connection options.
 - Option 1: Onshore electrical connection at a National Grid connection point within the Tendring peninsula of Essex, with a project alone onshore cable route and onshore substation infrastructure.
 - Option 2: Onshore electrical connection at a National Grid connection point within the Tendring peninsula of Essex, sharing an onshore cable route (but with separate onshore export cables) and co-locating separate project onshore substation infrastructure with Five Estuaries; or
 - Option 3: Offshore electrical connection supplied by a third-party.
4. The key offshore components are summarised below:
 - Under Options 1 and 2:
 - Wind turbine generators (WTG) and their associated foundations;
 - Up to two offshore substation platforms (OSP) and their associated foundations to aggregate electricity from the WTGs and facilitate the export of electricity via the Project's offshore export cables;
 - Subsea cables:
 - Array cables between the WTGs and between the WTGs and the OSP(s);
 - Platform interconnector cable between the OSPs, if required.
 - Offshore export cables between the OSP(s) and landfall;
 - Scour protection around foundations, where required; and
 - Surface laid cable protection, where required.
 - Under Option 3:
 - WTG and their associated foundations;
 - One OSP and associated foundation to aggregate electricity from the WTGs;

- One offshore converter platform (OCP) and associated foundation to increase the voltage of electricity for export and convert the High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC) power generated by the WTGs into High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) power for export via an HVDC cable supplied by a third party;
 - Subsea cables:
 - Array cables between the WTGs and between the WTGs and OSP(s)/OCP;
 - Platform interconnector cable between the OSP and OCP;
 - Scour protection around foundations, where required; and
 - Surface laid cable protection, where required.
5. The North Falls project area comprises:
- The offshore project area:
 - OWF area (hereafter the 'array area') - within which the WTGs, OSP(s) and/or OCP and array cables will be located; and
 - Offshore cable corridor - the corridor of seabed from array area to the landfall within which the offshore export cables will be located; and
 - The onshore project area.
6. Main offshore construction works are anticipated to commence around 2029, with some preliminary survey and clearance works potentially taking place around 2028. The wind farm is anticipated to be operational around 2030/31.

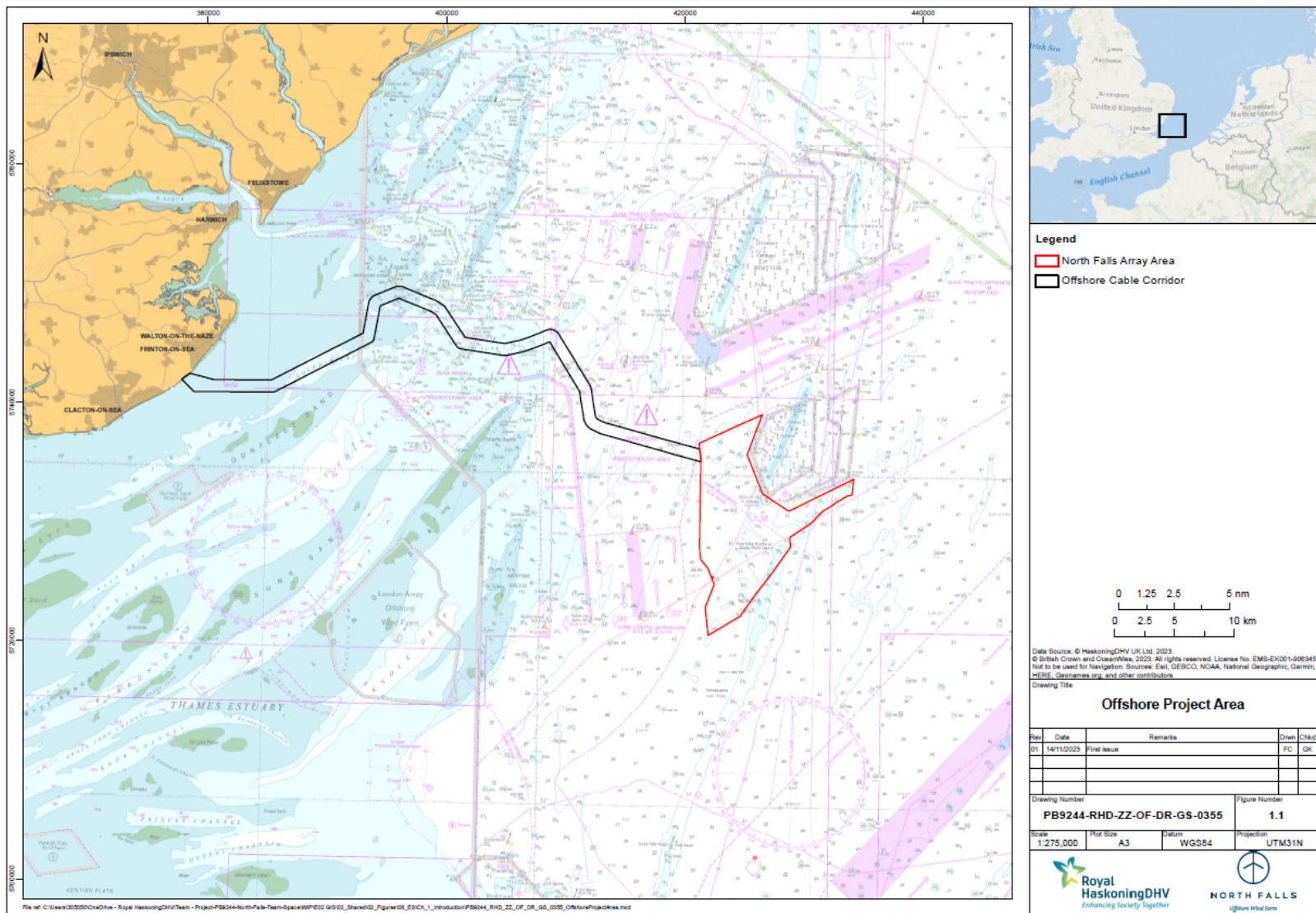


Figure 1.1 North Falls offshore project area

1.2 Document Purpose

7. This document is North Falls' Outline Fisheries Liaison and Co-Existence Plan (FLCP). It sets out the Applicant's strategy to facilitate a positive approach to co-existence between the Project and commercial fishing interests within the offshore project area, and provides an outline of the approach to fisheries liaison during the construction, operational and decommissioning phases. The aim of this outline FLCP is to document and demonstrate how North Falls will liaise and co-exist with commercial fishing.
8. In line with anticipated requirements of the DCO deemed Marine Licences (dMLs), the FLCP will be finalised post-consent and prior to the commencement of construction. The FLCP will be developed in accordance with this outline FLCP to satisfy the relevant conditions included in the DML conditions.
9. The FLCP will be subject to the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) for approval¹, following consultation with relevant stakeholders.
10. The FLCP will be reviewed as appropriate during the lifetime of North Falls, in line with project milestones and will exist alongside the existing Greater Gabbard Fisheries Liaison Plan, approved pursuant to its Marine Licences. Relevant updates to the FLCP may be incorporated during review cycles, as considered necessary to reflect any changes to fisheries liaison requirements at the time, and with the purpose of maintaining effective fisheries liaison. This will also help to form an audit trail documenting the communication and engagement with commercial fishery stakeholders. The MMO will be consulted on any changes to the FLCP.
11. The Applicant recognises the importance of consultation in developing a successful, sustainable, coexistence plan which works for both sectors and, therefore, consultation with the Commercial Fisheries Working Group (CFWG) will be integral to the finalisation of this document.
12. The Applicant has considered learnings from previous periods of offshore activities to inform North Fall's development and application for consent, along with practices of other developers in the southern North Sea and lessons learned by other RWE and SSER offshore wind projects in the UK in order to develop a mitigation and management strategy to minimise disruption on fisheries stakeholders.

1.3 Updates at Deadline 7

13. Following the submission of the DCO application, comments have been provided by stakeholders regarding the content of the FLCP. Table 1.1 provides a summary of the amendments that have been made in response to the feedback received.

¹ Note that the MMO will not act as arbitrator or be involved in any commercial negotiations with any association / organisation, and / or individual fishermen.

Table 1.1 Summary of FLCP Changes

<u>FLCP Revision Number</u>	<u>Summary of Changes</u>	<u>Relevant Section of the FLCP</u>
<u>01</u>	<u>Amended text in reference to when the MMO would be consulted on changes to the FLCP. "Material changes" altered to "changes" in Paragraph 10.</u> <u>Correction of the stated burial depth in Table 4.1, changed from 0.5m to 0.6m.</u>	<u>Section 1.2</u> <u>Section 4.1</u>
<u>02</u>	<u>Additional mitigation measure from the Statement of Common Ground with the CFWG was added to Paragraph 44: "in order to minimise disruption to vessels actively engaged in fishing, survey vessels engaged in North Falls activities will adhere to seafarers' etiquette to avoid being in the path of mobile fisher. Whilst vessels would seek to give way to mobile fishers operating in the area, it would not be possible for vessels engaged in activities such as operating a borehole, to move off".</u>	<u>Section 4.1</u>

1.31.4 Document Structure

12-14. This outline document has been structured to meet the conditions of the dMLs, as included in the draft DCO and outlined in Table 1.1. The FLCP will follow the same format.

Table 1.2 FLCP Document Structure

<u>Section</u>	<u>Summary of Content</u>
1: Introduction	Identifies the scope and structure of this FLCP.
2: The Applicant's approach to fisheries engagement	Provides an overview of North Falls and fishing activity in the area.
3: Roles and Responsibilities	An outline of the possible fishing liaison roles and responsibilities is given in the following sections in line with FLOWW guidance.
4: Fisheries Management and Liaison Strategy	Sets out the Applicant 's approach to ongoing liaison with the fishing industry and other relevant stakeholders.
5: Fisheries Mitigation Strategy	Sets out the Applicant 's approach to mitigation, focused on enabling co-existence.
6: Conclusion	Confirms that the details set out in this FLCP are in accordance with those presented in the Application and assessed in the Environmental Statement (ES).

1.41.5 Guidance and Information

13-15. The FLCP, as outlined in this document, will be prepared having regard to good national and international practice publications and engagement with commercial fishing industry to date including:

- Fishing Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group (FLOWW) Best Practice Guidance for Offshore Renewables Developments. Recommendations for Fisheries Liaison. FLOWW (2014);
- FLOWW Best Practice Guidance for Offshore Renewables Developments: Recommendations for Fisheries Disruption Settlements and Community Funds. FLOWW (2015);

- Code of Practice on Interaction with Static Gear Fisheries, United Kingdom Offshore Operators Association (UKOOA, 2006);
- The European Subsea Cable Association (ESCA) Guideline 01 - Fishing Liaison (ESCA, 2018);
- Information gathered through direct liaison with fishermen organisations (UK and transboundary), individual fishermen and other relevant fisheries stakeholders; and
- Consultation with the MMO and Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities (IFCA).

14.16. It is noted that at the time of this document preparation, the FLOWW Best Practice Guidance is intended to be revised with revision currently ongoing. Updates to the FLCP will take account of any revised guidance as applicable.

15.17. In preparation of this outline FLCP, other relevant guidance has also been considered, including draft Marine Scotland Guidance on preparing a Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy (2020), Seafood/ORE Engagement in Ireland– A Summary Guide published by the Government of Ireland’s Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (2023) and Guidelines for Mitigating Impacts to Commercial and Recreational Fisheries (Draft) prepared by the United States Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (2022).

2 The Applicant’s Approach to Fisheries Engagement

16.18. As discussed in Section 1.1, the Project is being led by NFOW, a consortium between SSER and RWE.

17.19. SSER is a leading developer, owner and operator of renewable energy across the UK and Ireland, with a portfolio of around 4 gigawatts (GW) of onshore wind, offshore wind and hydro. Part of the SSER strategy is to drive the transition to a net zero future through the world class development, construction and operation of renewable energy assets.

18.20. SSER is a partner in the following existing UK OWFs (operational or under construction):

- Beatrice – operational in north Scotland (588 megawatts (MW));
- Greater Gabbard – operational off the coast of Suffolk (504MW);
- Dogger Bank A, B and C OWFs (formerly known as Creyke Beck A and B, and Teesside A) – under construction, off the coast of North East England (3600MW (3.6GW) in total); and
- Seagreen – under construction, off east of Scotland (1,075MW (1.075GW)). Consent for a further 36 turbines has also been granted for Seagreen 1A.

19.21. RWE is one of the world’s leading renewable energy companies. The company has onshore and OWFs, photovoltaic plants and battery storage facilities with a combined pro-rata capacity of approximately 9GW.

20.22. RWE is a partner or full owner in the following existing UK OWFs (operational or under construction):

- Greater Gabbard (as above);
- Galloper – operational off the coast of Suffolk (353MW);
- Gwynt y Môr – operational in North Wales (576MW);
- Humber Gateway - operational off the coast of East Yorkshire (219MW);
- London Array - operational off the coast of Kent/Essex (630MW);
- Rampion - operational off the coast of Sussex (400MW);
- Rhyl Flats – operational in North Wales (90MW);
- Robin Rigg - operational in the Solway Firth (180MW);
- Scroby Sands - operational off the coast of Norfolk (60MW);
- Sofia – under construction, off the coast of North East England (1,400MW); and
- Triton Knoll – operational off the coast of Lincolnshire (857MW).

21-23. This extensive portfolio provides NFOW with valuable lessons learned and experiences from consenting, constructing and operating OWFs, which will be used to inform the design of North Falls.

2.1 Information Exchange

22-24. The early provision of relevant information to all relevant parties and ensuring that effective lines of communication in relation to North Falls are maintained is key to fostering an ongoing productive working relationship with fisheries stakeholders.

23-25. Appropriate communication channels will be established with fisheries stakeholders to ensure they are informed of the location and status of offshore activities and infrastructure. This may include information on the offshore cable routes, areas of cable protection (should these be required) and vessel movements associated with North Falls through construction, operations and maintenance and decommissioning. Communications are anticipated to include:

- Consultation, project updates and regular liaison with individual fishing stakeholders through port visits, meetings, emails, letters and calls; and
- Notice to Mariners (NtM), Kingfisher Bulletins and other navigational warnings of the position and nature of the works that will be issued to the fishing industry.

24-26. North Falls has also set up a CFWG to support consultation and regular engagement with local fisheries stakeholders. The group includes representatives of the following:

- Orford and District Fishermen's Association
- Harwich Haven Fishermen's Association
- Felixstowe Ferry Fisherman's Association
- West Mersea Fishermen's Association

- Southwold Fishermen's Representative (online)
- Thanet Fishermen's Association
- Kent and Essex IFCA
- MMO

25-27. It is intended that the FLCP will be developed in liaison with these local associations and that these stakeholder representatives will remain active throughout the lifetime of North Falls to support ongoing relationships and discussion between North Falls and local fishermen.

26-28. An outline schedule for the distribution of information to fishing stakeholders during the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of North Falls is given in Table 2.1. The schedule will be updated and modified through the Project planning and development phases.

27-29. Consultation and engagement of relevance to commercial fisheries has been undertaken via the FLO to collect baseline information for the Project. Engagement has also been undertaken via the CFWG that has been established by the Project. Further information on the face-to-face consultation undertaken via the FLO and through CFWG meetings to gather baseline information is provided in ES Chapter 14 Commercial Fisheries (Document Reference: 3.1.16).

Table 2.1 Timeframes for the distribution of project information

Parameter	Mitigation measures embedded into North Falls design
Construction Plan	Notices and information distribution not less than 2 weeks prior to the commencement of offshore construction activities.
Pre and post construction surveys	Notices and information distribution not less than 2 weeks prior to the commencement of offshore pre and post construction surveys.
Operation and Maintenance activities	Notices and information distribution not less than 2 weeks prior to the commencement of offshore operation and maintenance activities.
Decommissioning	Notices and information distribution not less than 2 weeks prior to the commencement of offshore decommissioning activities.
Meetings	Consultation meetings as required throughout the project development.
Unscheduled Liaison	Additional unscheduled liaison and consultation will be undertaken by the FLO as required to address issues or fishermen's concerns as they arise.

3 Roles and Responsibilities

28-30. The benefits of early and ongoing consultation between developers and the fishing industry is recognised by both parties. In line with FLOWW guidance (FLOWW, 2014) the FLCP will include details on the fishing liaison roles proposed for the Project and their responsibilities.

29-31. Additional fishing liaison roles may include an Offshore Fisheries Liaison Officer (OFLO). In the appointment of an OFLO it is recognised that local fishermen's knowledge of fishing practices and vessels in the area can reduce interactions between fishing activity and construction works. An outline of the possible fishing liaison roles and responsibilities is given in the following sections.

3.1 The Applicant

~~30-32.~~ The primary responsibilities of the Applicant are:

- To use current good industry practice to construct, operate and decommission the Project in co-existence with fishing activities;
- To maintain employment of an FLO throughout the construction and decommissioning of the Project and as reasonably necessary through its lifetime; and
- To provide information on a reasonable basis to the FLO and fisheries stakeholders to assist with co-existence with North Falls.

3.2 Fisheries Liaison Officer

~~31-33.~~ The primary responsibilities of the FLO are:

- To be the key point of contact for fisheries stakeholders;
- To identify individual commercial vessels and skippers operating in areas relevant to North Falls;
- To establish and maintain a strong working relationship with the fishing industry;
- To have a detailed understanding and awareness of the fishing industry;
- To understand the potential impact of North Falls related activities on fishing; and
- To communicate clearly and accurately with the fishing industry on behalf of the Project.

~~32-34.~~ The key duties of the FLO include:

- To maintain the fisheries stakeholder database;
- To organise and minute meetings with fisheries stakeholders;
- To maintain regular liaison with local fisheries stakeholders as required;
- To prepare and distribute the required information and notices of North Falls related activities that could potentially interact with fisheries stakeholders;
- To inform the Project of the fishing activities, vessels and gear types that could be present within or around North Falls;
- To obtain and transmit to the Project all relevant fishermen's concerns and sensitivities in respect of the various activities associated with North Falls; and
- To monitor fishing activities within and around North Falls.

3.3 Offshore Fisheries Liaison Officer

~~33-35.~~ Where appropriate, an OFLO would be utilised onboard survey and construction vessels for North Falls as required. The primary responsibilities of the OFLO are:

- To regularly broadcast survey and construction vessel locations, operations, schedules, safety zones, advisory safe passing distances and health and safety requirements on relevant Very High Frequency (VHF) and Medium Frequency (MF) radio frequencies during operations;
- To maintain daily contact with fishing vessels observed to be within the vicinity of the work areas of survey and construction vessels and provide sufficient notice to enable the relocation of any static fishing gears present within the project vessels defined safety zones; and
- To keep the masters and watch officers of survey and construction vessels informed of fishing vessels in the vicinity of their vessels working area and the gears and modes of operation of such vessels.

3.4 Guidance for Fishers

34-36. The success of the FLCP in helping to ensure co-existence will require open and transparent communication between the Applicant and the fishing industry and the support and engagement of both parties.

35-37. As North Falls will make every effort to minimise disturbance of fisheries stakeholders and to provide accurate and timely information, it is requested, and expected, that the fishing community will take precautions and make efforts to minimise risks of conflict or interaction with infrastructure and working vessels and provide accurate information on the nature of fishing activity in locations of shared interest.

4 Fisheries Mitigation Strategy

36-38. An approach of avoiding and reducing impacts to both the commercial fishing and OWF industries is considered to be the most sustainable approach to co-existence. It is the intention of the Applicant to facilitate co-existence wherever possible during all phases of the Project, which will include the implementation of mitigation strategies, to minimise the overall impacts of the Project.

37-39. Advice within FLOWW (2014) has been duly considered while identifying suitable coexistence promoting procedures and mitigation measures. Though suitable procedures to facilitate co-existence may evolve through discussions with fisheries stakeholders and as construction plans for North Falls become better defined, the Applicant has identified, and is willing to implement a variety of commitments so that successful coexistence and long-standing good relationships with fisheries stakeholders can be achieved. These are outlined in Section 4.1.

4.1 Embedded mitigation

38-40. As part of the project design process, a number of embedded mitigation measures are provided within ES Chapter 14 Commercial Fisheries (Document Reference: 3.1.16), to which the Project has committed (Table 4.1).

39-41. North Falls does not intend to apply for restrictions on fishing activity within the offshore project area beyond necessary safety zones. Application for safety zones during the construction phase and periods of major maintenance will be

made post consent under 'The Electricity (Offshore Generating Stations) (Safety Zones) (Applications Procedures and Control of Access) Regulations 2007' (S.I. No 2007/1948). It is expected that these will include 500m construction safety zones, 50m pre-commissioning safety zones and 500m major maintenance safety zones. Advisory safe passing distances may also be promulgated around any sensitive operations where a safety zone does not apply (e.g., cable installation).

40.42. In addition to these embedded mitigation measures, significant reductions to the former array areas at Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) have been made to arrive at the array area. This includes the removal of the former northern array area in its entirety, and in excess of a 25% reduction of developable area of the southern array (now the array area).

Table 4.1 Embedded mitigation measures

Parameter	Mitigation measures embedded into North Falls design
Accidental pollution	Committed to the use of best practice techniques and due diligence regarding the potential for pollution throughout all construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning activities. As a result, an outline Project Environmental Management Plan (PEMP) will be developed to accompany the DCO application. The final PEMP would be agreed with the MMO prior to construction and would include, for example, measures to control accidental release of drilling fluids whilst ensuring that any chemicals used are listed on the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR) List of Substances Used and Discharged Offshore which are considered to pose little or no risk to the environment (OSPAR, 2021).
Fisheries Liaison Officer (FLO)	See Section 3.2
Fisheries Liaison and Coexistence Plan (FLCP)	This document.
Notifications	Timely and efficient distribution of Notice(s) to Mariners' (NtMs), Kingfisher notifications and other navigational warnings of the position and nature of works associated with the Project.
Claims for loss of/damage to fishing gears	Development of a standard procedure for the claim of loss of/or damage to fishing gear to facilitate co-existence and minimise potential adverse interactions between Project vessels and fishing activities.
Code of Good Practice	Development of a Code of Good Practice for contracted vessels facilitates co-existence between vessels undertaking works for the Project and fishing vessels and helps minimise potential adverse interactions. This will be in addition to compliance of all Project vessels with international marine regulations as adopted by the Flag State, notably the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREG) and the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS).
Cable burial	The Applicant is committed to burying offshore export cables where practicable to a minimum burial depth of 0.6m. Cable burial minimises potential interactions between fishing gear and cables. In addition, cable burial minimises the amount of hard substrate which may be required.
Cable Burial Risk Assessment (CBRA)	The Applicant will determine suitable cable burial depths and protection measures via a CBRA process. This will consider the vessel densities, types and sizes across and in the vicinity of the offshore cable corridor to ensure protection / burial is sufficient.
Cable protection	Following industry best-practice the Applicant will evaluate appropriate cable protection methods available for cables which cannot be buried to the minimum depth of 0.6m.
Cable protection charting and dissemination of information	Information on the areas where cable protection is installed will be distributed to relevant representative organisations and stakeholders in appropriate formats for inclusion in charts and information bulletins.

Parameter	Mitigation measures embedded into North Falls design
Rock placement	Where rock placement is used for cable protection, designs that minimise potential gear snagging risk (i.e. use of graded rock and 1:3 profile berms) will be used, where practicable. This will facilitate co-existence and minimise potential damage to and from fishing gear and associated safety risks.
Cable exposures	In the event that cable exposures are identified during the operational phase, the location of these will be published via the standard notices with additional liaison to be undertaken with fisheries stakeholders. Where appropriate, additional temporary measures would also be put in place (e.g., surface marker buoys, use of guard vessels, etc).
Post-lay and cable burial inspection	Undertaking of post-lay and burial inspection surveys and, where appropriate and practicable, undertaking of rectification works. This facilitates co-existence and prevents potential damage to and from fishing gear and minimises potential safety risks.

43. These commitments are in line with good practice and industry guidance. Full detail of these measures can be found in ES Chapter 14 Commercial Fisheries (Document Reference: 3.1.16).

41-44. In addition to the embedded mitigation outlined in Table 4.1, during discussions with the CFWG regarding their Statement of Common Ground with the Project, it was agreed that in order to minimise disruption to vessels actively engaged in fishing, survey vessels engaged in North Falls activities will adhere to seafarers' etiquette to avoid being in the path of mobile fishing vessels. Whilst vessels would seek to give way to mobile fishervessels operating in the area, it would not be possible for vessels engaged in activities such as operating a borehole, to move off.

5 Conclusion

42-45. The Applicant believes that the strategies detailed in this Outline FLCP will enable constructive co-existence between the Project and the fishing industry. The Applicant will continue to engage with the local fishing industry throughout the lifetime of the Project and manage any concerns that are raised by fishers.

43-46. The Applicant will prepare the FLCP post-consent based on the content and structure of this document.

6 References

FLOWW (2014) Best Practice Guidance for Offshore Renewable Developments: Recommendations for Fisheries Liaison. Fisheries Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group (FLOWW).

FLOWW (2015) FLOWW Best Practice Guidance for Offshore Renewables Developments: Recommendations for Fisheries Disruption Settlements and Community Funds Fisheries Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group (FLOWW).



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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