



Application by North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Ltd for the proposed North Falls Offshore Windfarm

Case reference: EN010119

Examining Authority's note of Unaccompanied Site Inspection (USI) to which the Application or Specified Matters relates on 22nd and 23rd June 2025

Examining Inspectors Wendy McKay and Jonathan Medlin, Panel members appointed to the Examining Authority (ExA) for the application for the proposed North Falls Offshore Wind Farm (the Proposed Development) undertook the USI firstly in the evening of 22nd June 2025 and the following afternoon: 23rd June 2025 as USI3.

The inspection was undertaken by car and on foot on public roads, public footpaths and publicly accessible land. The route was planned having regard to issues raised in relevant representations and through the Examination, enabling the ExA to familiarise itself with the character of the area of VPs 1 to VP9. The purpose was to obtain views of the proposed offshore wind turbines from identified viewpoints and to view the existing windfarms visible from the area between Covehithe and Shingle Street, having previously visited the southernmost coastal viewpoints during USI1 and USI2. These viewpoints are all within the National Landscape and/or the Heritage Coast.

An evening viewing from VP1 commenced at 6.30pm on 22nd June 2025. The weather was dry and clear with the sun in the west. The ExA looked at views towards existing windfarms during the lead into sunset. The ExA then reconvened on Monday 23rd June at 12.30pm. The weather was clear with good visibility. The ExA walked to VP2 (Southwold Pier) to assess views from the pier and surrounding area, noting the recreational nature of the area, before driving on public highways to VP4 (Sizewell Beach). From VP4, they walked along the coastal path to VP17 (Coastal Path between Thorpeness and Sizewell).

The ExA returned to Sizewell Beach, then drove using the public highways to VP6 (Aldeburgh) to obtain further views of the proposed offshore wind turbines from the selected viewpoint, as well as the existing wind turbine arrays. Visibility remained clear with views towards the operational London Array, Galloper and Greater Gabbard Offshore Wind Farms acting as a reference. The ExA departed Aldeburgh at 3.15pm.

The ExA next visited VP7 (Orford Castle), which is slightly inland, before driving along the public highway towards the conclusion of USI3 at 4.45pm at Shingle Street (VP9), where views towards the proposed development were again assessed from the landscape.