



NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm

Applicant's Cover Letter

Deadline 8

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Contents

1. Applicant's Closing Statement.....	5
2. Applicant's position on matters relating to Natural England.....	5
2.1 Applicant's position on matters relating to Natural England	5
3. Applicant's Comments on the Report on Implications for European Sites (RIES) and comments on Deadline 7 submissions	6
3.1 Applicant's Comments on the ExA's Report on Implications for European Sites (RIES)	6
3.2 Applicant's Comments on Deadline 7 Submissions	6
4. Documents requested in the examination Timetable.....	7
4.1 Documents requested in the Examination Timetable.....	7
4.2 New documents requested in the Examination Timetable	9
4.3 Documents provided in response to other relevant matters and documents that have been updated.....	10
5. Contact details.....	12

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23 July 2025

Dear Ms McKay,

Planning Act 2008

Project Title: North Falls Offshore Wind Farm

Applicant: North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Limited

Application Reference: EN010119

This letter is provided by the Applicant to accompany the Applicant's submissions to the Examining Authority ("ExA") for Deadline 8 of the Examination for the North Falls Offshore Wind Farm. It has been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out by the ExA in the Rule 8 Letter dated 4 February 2025 **[PD-008]**.

This Cover Letter **[9.114 (Rev 0)]** is structured as follows:

- Section 1 – Applicant's Closing Statement
- Section 2 – Applicant's position on matters relating to Natural England
- Section 3 – Applicant's Comments on the RIES and comments on Deadline 7 submissions
- Section 4 - Documents submitted at Deadline 8; and
- Section 4 – Contact Details.

1. APPLICANT'S CLOSING STATEMENT

- 1.1.1 The Applicant's Closing Statement **[9.107 (Rev 0)]** has been prepared and submitted at Deadline 8. This has sought to summarise the salient points raised during the course of the Examination and sets out the Applicant's position on these matters.
- 1.1.2 The Applicant has also provided an updated National Policy Statement Accordance Table **[9.10 (Rev 2)]**. This document demonstrates the Project's compliance against the relevant policies.
- 1.1.3 Taken together, alongside all of the Application documents and commitments contained therein, the Applicant considers it has demonstrated the acceptability of the Project in the context of Section 104 (2) (a) – (d) of the Planning Act 2008.

2. APPLICANT'S POSITION ON MATTERS RELATING TO NATURAL ENGLAND

2.1 Applicant's position on matters relating to Natural England

- 2.1.1 The Applicant has provided a response to Natural England's Deadline 7 submissions within the 'Applicant's Response to Natural England's Deadline 7 submissions **[9.115 (Rev 0)]**'.

3. APPLICANT'S COMMENTS ON THE REPORT ON IMPLICATIONS FOR EUROPEAN SITES (RIES) AND COMMENTS ON DEADLINE 7 SUBMISSIONS

3.1 Applicant's Comments on the ExA's Report on Implications for European Sites (RIES)

- 3.1.1 Please see the Applicant's Response to The ExA's Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES) **[9.105 (Rev 0)]** for responses to the RIES questions and any related comments.

3.2 Applicant's Comments on Deadline 7 Submissions

- 3.2.1 The Applicant's Response to Deadline 7 Submissions and Comments on Responses to ExQ3 **[9.116 (Rev 0)]** includes responses to Deadline 7 submissions and comments on other IPs responses to ExQ3.

4. DOCUMENTS REQUESTED IN THE EXAMINATION TIMETABLE

4.1 Documents requested in the Examination Timetable

4.1.1 The ExA's Rule 8 Letter **[PD-008]** requests the following submissions at Deadline 8:

- Parties closing statements of final position including outstanding matters not resolved by end of examination
- Comments on any submissions received at the previous deadline
- Comments on the RIES
- Final PADSS update from Natural England in clean and tracked versions
- Responses to any further information requested by ExA
- Final Guide to the Application document tracker in clean and tracked versions
- Final updated BoR
- Final BoR and schedule of changes to BoR
- Final Land Rights Tracker
- Final Consents and Licences Statement
- Final SoR
- Final dDCO, in clean and tracked versions in both MS Word and PDF
- Final draft DCO to be submitted in the SI template with the SI template validation report
- Final Schedule of Changes to the dDCO
- Final EM
- Final signed SoCGs including list of any matters not agreed
- Final PSoCG

- Final NPS Accordance Table in clean and tracked versions
- Final signed and dated legal agreements, if any identified

Book of Reference and Schedule of Changes to Book of Reference

- 4.1.2 The Applicant notes the Examining Authority's request for a final updated Book of Reference and accompanying schedule of changes to the Book of Reference. The Applicant updated and submitted these documents at Deadline 7. Given the short interval between Deadlines 7 and 8 and as no further changes have been identified, the Applicant has not submitted further versions at Deadline 8. The previously submitted documents, Book of Reference **[REP7-009]** and Schedule of Changes to the Book of Reference **[REP7-038]** remain accurate and up to date.

Draft Development Consent Order SI Validation

- 4.1.3 At the time of the Applicant's submission for Deadline 8 the following documents were not received. The Applicant will submit these documents into the Examination at the earliest opportunity prior to close of the Examination. They are:
- Draft Development Consent Order SI Validation Report; and
 - Draft Development Consent Order SI Validation Confirmation Email.

Progress with Statements of Common Ground (ProSoCG)

- 4.1.4 The Applicant has identified within the Progress with Statement of Common Ground **[9.11 (Rev 7)]** three stakeholders with which a final statement of common ground has not been submitted at Deadline 8.
- 4.1.5 The stakeholders remain in discussion with the Applicant and it is intended that signed SoCGs are provided as soon as possible to the ExA before the close of Examination.
- 4.1.6 They are:
- Port of London Authority
 - Port of Tilbury Limited
 - London Gateway Port Limited

4.2 New documents requested in the Examination Timetable

4.2.1 Table 2.1 outlines the new documents submitted at Deadline 8 as requested in the Examination Timetable.

Table 2.1 – New documents requested in the Examination Timetable

DOCUMENT TITLE	APPLICANT DOCUMENT REFERENCE	REV	TYPE
New Application Documents as requested in the Examination Timetable			
Applicant's Closing Statement	9.107	0	Clean
Applicant's Response to Natural England's Deadline 7 submissions	9.115	0	Clean
Applicant's Response to Deadline 7 Submissions and Comments on Responses to ExQ3	9.116	0	Clean
Applicant's Response to The ExA's Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES)	9.105	0	Clean
Final Application Documents as requested in the Examination Timetable			
Guide to the Application	1.3	11	Clean & Tracked
draft Development Consent Order (dDCO)	6.1	9	Clean & Tracked (together with tracked version against the submission version for information)
Schedule of Changes to the dDCO	7.30	8	Clean
Explanatory Memorandum	6.2	2	Clean & Tracked
Applicant's Lands Rights Tracker	8.4	5	Clean
Habitats Regulations Assessment Land Rights Tracker	9.75	2	Clean
Progress with Statements of Common Ground	9.11	7	Clean & Tracked

NPS Accordance Table	9.10	2	Clean & Tracked
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4.3 Documents provided in response to other relevant matters and documents that have been updated

4.3.1 Table 2.2 outlines the updated and new application documents provided in response to other relevant matters, and documents provided where updates have been made.

Table 2.2 – Documents provided in response to other relevant matters and documents that have been updated

DOCUMENT TITLE	APPLICANT DOCUMENT REFERENCE	REV	TYPE
Updated Application Documents in response to other relevant matters			
Planning Statement	2.2	3	Clean & Tracked
Appendix 2 Lesser black backed gull Compensation Document	7.2.2	3	Clean & Tracked
Annex 2A Outline Lesser black backed gull Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan	7.2.2.1	3	Clean & Tracked
Annex 1B Compensation Funding Statement	7.2.1.2	1	Clean & Tracked
Outline Offshore Operations and Maintenance Plan	7.20	3	Clean & Tracked
Statement of Common Ground National Highways	10.7	1	Clean & Tracked
Statement of Common Ground Essex County Council and Tendring District Council	10.17	3	Clean & Tracked
Statement of Common Ground Environment Agency	10.4	4	Clean & Tracked
Statement of Common Ground Suffolk County Council	10.23	1	Clean & Tracked
Applicant Response to ExAs Request for Information (Rule 17)- National Landscape	9.89	1	Clean & Tracked
Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy	7.22	2	Clean & Tracked

DOCUMENT TITLE	APPLICANT DOCUMENT REFERENCE	REV	TYPE
Statement of Common Ground - National Trust	10.5	1	Clean & Tracked
Statement of Common Ground - Marine Management Organisation	10.19	1	Clean & Tracked
Statement of Common Ground Harwich Haven Authority	10.12	1	Clean & Tracked
Statement of Common Ground Commercial Fisheries Working Groups CFWG	10.18	1	Clean & Tracked
Statement of Common Ground - National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations	10.20	1	Clean & Tracked
Statement of Common Ground - Corporation of Trinity House	10.9	2	Clean & Tracked
Statement of Common Ground - UK Chamber of Shipping	10.15	1	Clean & Tracked
Statement of Common Ground Maritime and Coastguard Agency	10.16	1	Clean & Tracked
Statement of Common Ground Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)	10.26	1	Clean & Tracked
Statement of Common Ground East Suffolk Council	10.27	1	Clean & Tracked
Outline Navigation and Installation Plan	7.24	4	Clean & Tracked
Outline Sediment Disposal Plan	9.52	3	Clean & Tracked
Outline Cable Specification and Installation Plan (CSIP)	9.53	4	Clean & Tracked
Outline Benthic Compensation/MEEB Implementation and Monitoring Plan (CIMP)	9.109	1	Clean & Tracked
Appendix 1 Compensatory Measures Overview	7.2.1	4	Clean & Tracked
Without prejudice HRA / MCZA DCO Schedules	9.73	3	Clean & Tracked
Offshore In-Principle Monitoring Plan	7.10	3	Clean & Tracked

DOCUMENT TITLE	APPLICANT DOCUMENT REFERENCE	REV	TYPE
Outline Horizontal Directional Drill Method Statement and Contingency Plan	7.15	4	Clean & Tracked
Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (oCTMP)	7.16	5	Clean & Tracked
draft Marine Mammal Mitigation Protocol	7.7	4	Clean & Tracked
New Application Documents in response to other relevant matters			
Applicant's Cover Letter	9.114	0	Clean
Statement of Common Ground Suffolk and Essex Coast and Heaths National Landscape Partnership (SECHNLP)	10.8	0	Clean
Statement of Common Ground - Anglian Water Services	10.28	0	Clean
Statement of Common Ground - Babergh District Council	10.29	0	Clean
MCAA Derogation: Without Prejudice Provision of Evidence	9.110	0	Clean

5. CONTACT DETAILS

- 5.1.1 If we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us using the details provided below:-

Yours Faithfully,

Daniel Harper

Consents Manager

██████████@sse.com

██████████

North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Limited



NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm



HARNESSING THE POWER OF NORTH SEA WIND

North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Ltd

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

To contact please email contact@northfallsoffshore.com

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