

SEA Link EN020026 Planning Examination –

Deadline 2 submission from East Suffolk Water Management Board:

Comments on REP1-112 Document 9.34.2: Applicant's Response to Relevant Representations from Statutory Consultees and Bodies

IP reference number [REDACTED]

9th December 2025

1.1 This submission is made on behalf of East Suffolk Water Management Board.

1.2 East Suffolk Water Management Board (the Board) is an Internal Drainage Board as defined by the Land Drainage Act 1991. The Board's internal drainage district covers several river catchments in East Suffolk. This district overlaps with a very small part of the proposed Sea Link development at two locations: the landfall area near Thorpeness, and the River Fromus area south of Saxmundham.

1.3 East Suffolk Water Management Board is the potential regulator for certain elements of Sea Link's proposed works – specifically those works within the Board's Internal Drainage District and which require consent as per the Land Drainage Act 1991, and under the Board's Byelaws. These works could include the discharge of water into a watercourse within the internal drainage district, and the alteration of a watercourse within the internal drainage district. The Board is an interested party because of the potential impact of the project on the Board's ability to carry out its statutory functions relating to land drainage and reducing flood risk.

1.4 The Board had highlighted several matters within its relevant representation (June 2025) and written representation (November 2025). These included a request for clarification on watercourse crossing locations and methods; a need for drainage to be attenuated to greenfield runoff rate; concerns relating to the wording of Article 20 within the draft DCO; and comments about protective provisions for drainage authorities. We note that the applicant has provided a response to the Board's comments in *REP1-112 Document 9.43.2: Applicant's Responses to Relevant Representations from Statutory Consultees and Bodies (Version A; November 2025)*. The applicant has directed the Board to relevant information on watercourse crossings and drainage rates. The applicant has welcomed ongoing engagement with the Board in relation to the wording of Article 20 and to discuss protective provisions.

1.5 The Board welcomes further direct engagement with the applicant to discuss these matters.

End.