



THE PLANNING ACT 2008

THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATION PROCEDURE) RULES
2010

Sea Link Energy Cable

Appendix F4 to the Natural England Deadline 4 Submission

Natural England's Additional Comments on Marine Mammals

For:

The construction and operation of the Sea Link Energy Cable.

Planning Inspectorate Reference EN020026

10th February 2026

Appendix F4- Natural England's advice on documentation related to Marine Mammals.

In formulating these comments, the following documents have been considered in relation to the impacts of the Sea Link Energy Cable on Marine Mammals:

The following documents have been reviewed with no comment:

- [CR1-009] 2.5.3 Works Plans - Offshore (Version 2, change request)
- [CR1-014] 2.8.3 Statutory and Non-Statutory Sites of Nature Conservation Geological and Landscape Importance - Offshore (Version 2, change request)
- [CR1-026] 2.14.3 Indicative General Arrangements Plans - Offshore (Version 2, change request)
- [CR1-055] 9.76.5 Change Request: Addendum to Volume 6 Environmental Statement
- [REP1A-012] 6.2.4.11 (B) Part 4 Marine Chapter 11 Inter-Project Cumulative Effects (Tracked Changes). **This document has superseded REP1-056**

Please see below the comments from Natural England in relation to the following documents relating to Marine Mammals:

- [REP2-012] 9.13 (B) Pegwell Bay Construction Method Technical Note (Tracked)
- [REP1-122] EN020026-001440-9.49 Seals and Airborne Sound Disturbance Technical Note (Clean)

1. Summary

Natural England advises that the only comment at this stage is in relation to the assessment of seals in air. The document to review was [REP2-012] *9.13 (B) Pegwell Bay Construction Method Technical Note (Tracked)*, however the document that had an update which could progress R&I issue F17 was [REP1-122] *EN020026-001440-9.49 Seals and Airborne Sound Disturbance Technical Note (Clean)*, issued at Deadline 1.

Natural England are confident that the HRA update planned for Deadline 5 will resolve this issue.

2. Detailed Comments

Table 1. Natural England's detailed comments regarding Marine Mammals

Documents reviewed:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [REP2-012] 9.13 (B) Pegwell Bay Construction Method Technical Note (Tracked) • [REP1-122] EN020026-001440-9.49 Seals and Airborne Sound Disturbance Technical Note (Clean).pdf 			
NE Ref	Section	Key Concern and/or Update	Natural England's Advice to Resolve Issue
1	Whole Document	UPDATE MADE: These documents progress R&I log comment F17, with M-weighted sound levels modelling undertaken and presented in document 9.49 and updated noise information provided in 9.13.	The HRA update planned for Deadline 5 should resolve this issue.