

The Great Grid Upgrade

Sea Link

Sea Link

Volume 9: Examination Submissions

Document 9.102: Operational Noise Contour Plan for Minster Converter Station

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN020026

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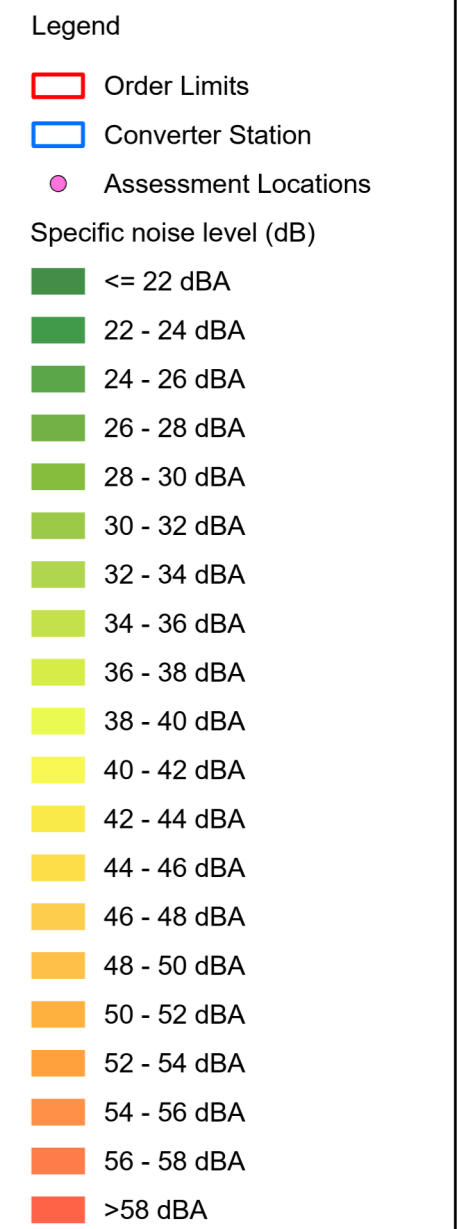
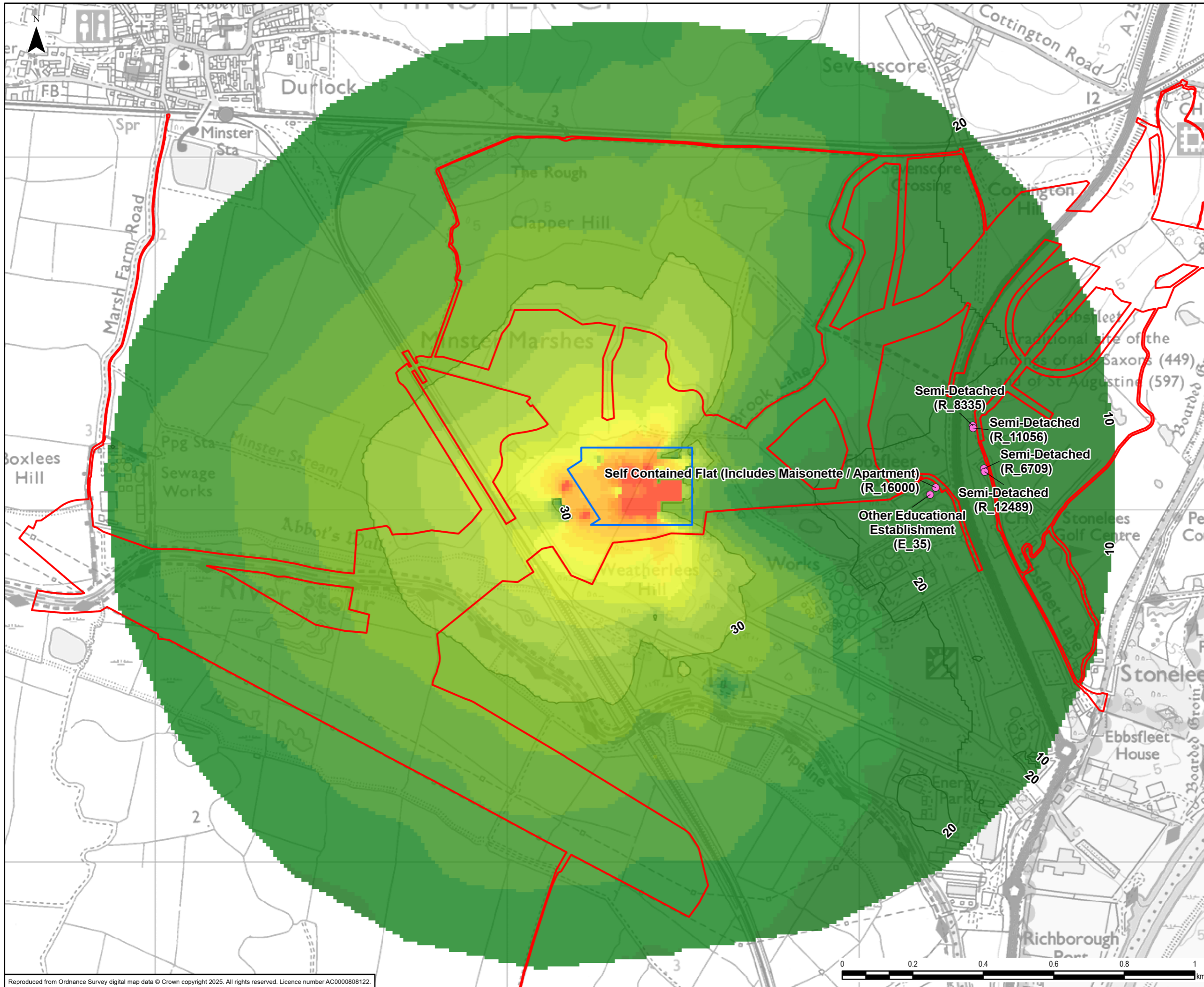
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1. Introduction

- 1.1.1 Within Suffolk Energy Action Solutions Written Representations it was suggested that the Applicant should have published a scaled map of the Saxmundham Converter Station and surrounding area showing the predicted increase in soundscape, shown as noise contours in dB(A).
- 1.1.2 The Applicant responded within **Application Document 9.79 Applicant's Comments on Written Representations [REP2-034]** which stated that further figures would be produced for submission at a later deadline, in addition to the assessment already reported within **Application Document 6.2.2.9 Part 2 Suffolk Chapter 9 Noise and Vibration [AS-109]**.
- 1.1.3 These contours were provided in **Application Document 9.82 Operational Noise Contour Plan for Saxmundham Converter Station [REP3-075]**.
- 1.1.4 A subsequent request was made by the Examining Authority during Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) for equivalent noise contour plots for the proposed Minster Converter Station and Substation, which form part of the Kent Onshore Scheme. This request was subsequently captured in **Application Document Action Points arising from Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) on environmental issues held on Wednesday 28 January to Friday 30 January 2026 [EV6-033]** as point 5 within Action Point (AP) 68.
- 1.1.5 This document contains the following two figures which respond to the request for operational noise contour plans within AP68 (5):
- Figure 1 Indicative Sound Propagation Model Outputs - Specific Noise Level; and
 - Figure 2 Indicative Sound Propagation Model Outputs - Night-time Noise Ambient Noise Level Change.
- 1.1.6 Figure 1 shows the specific sound level of the proposed Minster Converter Station and Substation during normal operation.
- 1.1.7 Figure 2 shows the change in ambient night-time noise level due to the introduction of the proposed Minster Converter Station and Substation. The figure assumes an existing average night-time ambient noise level of 48 dB $L_{Aeq,8h}$ across the Study Area as a worst-case, representative of the quietest measurement location from the noise survey undertaken over an eight day period in June 2023. During daytime periods, the change in ambient sound level would be lower.

Figures



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Scheme: SEA LINK

Document Title: INDICATIVE SOUND PROPAGATION MODEL OUTPUTS – SPECIFIC NOISE LEVEL

Creator: EH	Date: 27/02/2026	Checker: EB	Date: 27/02/2026	Approver: KS	Date: 27/02/2026
Document Ref: FIGURE 1	Scale: 1:10,000	Format: A3	Sheets: 1	Rev: 0	



Legend

- Order Limits
- Converter Station
- Assessment Locations

Noise level change (relative to 38 dB LAeq, 8h average night time ambient noise level)

- <= 0.1 dBA
- 0.1 - 1 dBA
- 1 - 3 dBA
- 3 - 5 dBA
- 5 - 10 dBA
- >10 dBA

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Scheme: SEA LINK

Document Title: INDICATIVE SOUND PROPAGATION MODEL OUTPUTS – NIGHTTIME NOISE AMBIENT NOISE LEVEL CHANGE

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