



Dear Sirs,

Aldeburgh Town Council would like to thank the Department of Energy Security & Net Zero for its Request for Information 28th August 2026 (Your Ref: EN020026). While not addressed directly, ATC would like to make a few short comments as follows:

Marine Physical Environment 8 - ATC is currently reviewing and strengthening the town's emergency plan, working closely with relevant partners, particularly in light of increasing concerns and warnings regarding high tides, severe weather events and the potential wider impacts of flooding.

ATC remains concerned at the potential for flooding west of the (decommissioned) railway line, which currently acts as an informal flood barrier. ATC would like to learn more about what guarantees are in place should this barrier be breached during construction, leading to ingress, and the period covered for observing potential changes in water levels.

These concerns also need to be considered in the wider context of Aldeburgh Town Council's growing concerns regarding flood risk to the town as a whole. The potential consequences extend beyond flooding of the Marshes and include the risk that, should existing barriers or drainage routes be compromised, Aldeburgh could become effectively isolated or an island. ATC therefore considers it essential that the assessment fully addresses the cumulative and longer-term flood risk to Aldeburgh, including the resilience of existing flood barriers, access and egress routes, and the potential implications of increased water levels or altered drainage patterns during and following construction.

Landscape and Visual 11 - ATC is keen to contribute to SCC's response to the UU relating to National Landscapes, if appropriate. If not, will look forward to having sight of this in due course.

Agriculture and Soils 12 – ATC will be viewing with interest the ALC Survey as it pertains to Aldeburgh.

Design 13 - Converter Station design – while outside its area, ATC generally views the existing schematics for these as being both unclear and in cases misleading as they will without doubt be very prominent if they are permitted in any of their current forms. The current blank box is not representative of the final product.



Ecology, Biodiversity and Ornithology 17 & 27 - ATC is glad to see the protected water voles are noted. Should it prove appropriate, the River Alde and its banks are habitats very suited to them, and perhaps they might be relocated. **In light of the numerous important finds associated with the Scottish Power Renewables application, ATC is anxious to ensure that the conditions attached to the Kent ECoW powers are reflected here.**

Traffic and Transport 39 - Re Benhall Bridge, ATC would again like to highlight how crucial access to Saxmundham is to the town of Aldeburgh and surroundings.

Noise and Vibration & Human Health and Wellbeing 41 & 42 - ATC has no expertise in this area, however, welcomes any reduction in over-night operations in particular. ATC would also highlight that residents are already experiencing the impacts of 24/7 works from the neighbouring SPR project and Sizewell C which have affected residents more significantly than anticipated in the DCO. It is important that the cumulative impacts of construction do not adversely affect residents' quality of life, ability to obtain good sleep, or the tourism income on which the local area depends.

Socio-economics and Tourism 43 & 44 - ATC welcomes the request for justification for the lack of detail in the SSCEP and looks forward to National Grid fully surveying and costing this to complete satisfaction. ATC would welcome forming part of this for feedback if appropriate.

Cumulative impacts 52 & 53 - ATC is keen to contribute to SCC's UU, and to ESC comments relating to BNG if appropriate, if not, will look forward to having sight of this in due course. ATC requests that BNG projects remain within the area(s) affected and are not off-sited.

Development Consent Order 54 & 55 – ATC has no expertise in this area and therefore does not seek to comment on the technical justification for the proposed working hours. However, ATC considers that any provision allowing 24-hour working should be subject to a clear need and appropriate controls, particularly in relation to overnight operations. ATC would strongly support measures that minimise, and avoid overnight working in order to reduce disturbance to the local communities and environment.

Kind Regards

Aldeburgh Town Clerk on behalf of Aldeburgh Town Council