

Date: 16 March 2021  
Our ref: 345188  
Your ref: TR030001 NMC



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**BY EMAIL ONLY**

Dear ██████████

**NSIP Reference Name / Code: The Able Marine Energy Park (AMEP) Development Consent Order (DCO) 2014 – S.I. 2014 No. 2935**

**APPLICATION TO MAKE NON-MATERIAL CHANGES TO THE ABLE MARINE ENERGY PARK ORDER 2014 – Test for Likely Significant Effects Report**

Thank you for your consultation which was received by Natural England on 02 March 2021.

Natural England considers the Habitats Regulations Assessment: Test for Likely Significant Effects Report (LSE Report; dated 2 March 2021) as a review of the shadow Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA; dated 12 November 2020), rather than a comprehensive Habitats Regulations Assessment. However, overall Natural England agrees with the conclusions of the report. We assume that the report infers that the provision of the mitigation measures at Halton Marshes will maintain the original HRA conclusion that there will be no adverse effects on integrity of any of the European sites in question, due to the loss of Functionally Linked Land.

We highlight that the updated draft Terrestrial Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan (TEMMP) can be finalised, dependent on if the DCO is amended to allow mitigation measures to be provided at Halton Marshes. The draft TEMMP also includes mitigation measures that fall outside of the Habitats Regulations Assessment, for example, the creation of neutral grassland, breeding bird habitat and foraging habitat for bats, which have been transferred from the original mitigation area A.

As a general comment, we note that at 1.5 of the LSE Report that not all of the compensation measures required are described (i.e. those at Cherry Cobb Sands), however, we assume that it is because the document is only referring to that which is relevant at Halton Marshes.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter please contact Hannah Gooch at ██████████ [@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:██████████@naturalengland.org.uk) on ██████████. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondence to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk).

Yours sincerely

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Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire Area Team  
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