## WELCOME TO OUR STATUTORY CONSULTATION



#### NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm

North Falls Offshore Wind Farm, an extension project to the existing 504 megawatt (MW) Greater Gabbard Offshore Wind Farm, is being developed in the southern North Sea more than 20km off the UK coast. Its site is in two parts which together cover a total area of 150km<sup>2</sup>.

The project has an agreement with National Grid to connect to the national electricity network at a new substation in Tendring, Essex. Onshore electricity cables would be installed underground from landfall near Frinton-on-Sea to this new substation.

North Falls is being developed by North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Limited, a 50/50 joint venture company owned by SSE Renewables and RWE.

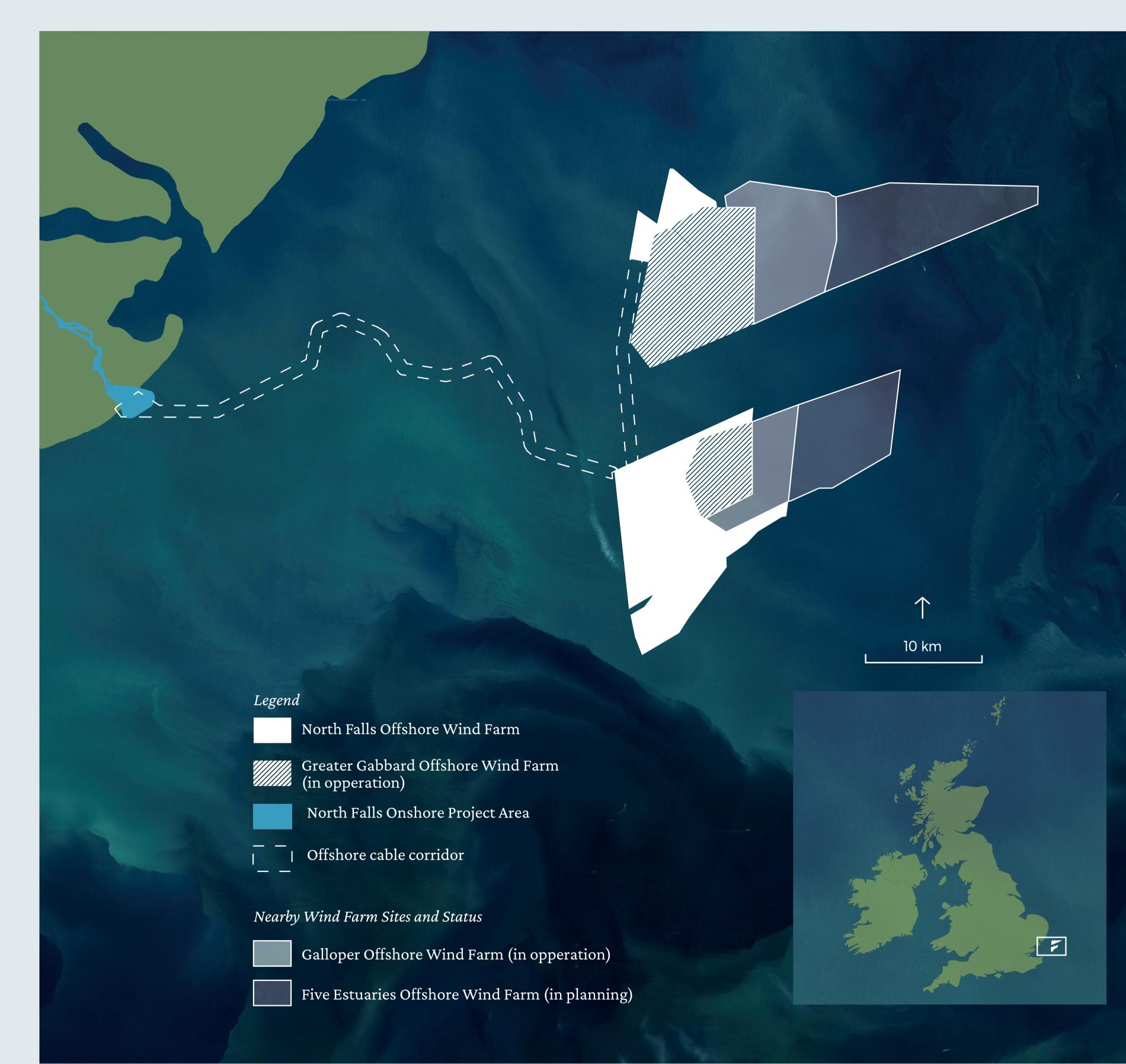
#### **PURPOSE OF THIS CONSULTATION**

This third phase of consultation aims to give people a further chance to review, influence and provide comments on our project proposals, and specifically on our preliminary environmental information report (PEIR). Our PEIR sets out initial findings from the environmental impact assessment (EIA) work completed over the past three years. The work investigated the potentially significant effects that our proposals may have on the environment or on local communities and details how they are to be avoided or how they will be mitigated.

The proposals presented in this consultation are not the final application, rather this is an opportunity for the local community and others with an interest in the project to influence the details of the application before it is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.

#### **NORTH FALLS PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENT INFORMATION REPORT** (PEIR)

Our PEIR is a complex and detailed document comprising three volumes and a non-technical summary. It is recommended you start your review with the North Falls Non-technical Summary (NtS) as it gives a high level overview and can help to signpost you to the PEIR chapters, details and documents that are likely to be of most interest. The full PEIR can be viewed online or here today at our consultation, along with hard copies of the NtS. Brief extracts of the NtS, along with references to the corresponding PEIR chapters can be found on these panels.



As well as the NtS, the PEIR comprises: 33 technical chapters covering every aspect of the project from ecology and ornithology to traffic and shipping; chapter figures, and appendices. The PEIR also includes three additional reports:

- Schedule of Mitigation
- Design Vision
- Habitats Regulations Assessment

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# NORTH FALLS NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY



#### NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm

The North Falls Non-technical Summary (NtS) is a 70-page standalone document providing an overview of the potential environmental effects of North Falls in relatively non-technical terms. The full details for each area presented in the NtS can be found in the North Falls PEIR, however it is useful to start with this summary document to identify key areas of interest.

As well as describing the project, the NtS explains the need case for North Falls, details how its different aspects have been selected and explains the environmental impact assessment work to date. It outlines the role of national policy statements in the decision-making process plus the role of other relevant policies, and covers the project's consultation approach. The NtS structure and content align to the topics which are covered in the PEIR. The North Falls Non-technical Summary includes a number of tables, plates and figures to support the chapters and ends with a conclusion section

#### as well as references.

#### CONCLUSION

For all the offshore topics and for most of the onshore topics, the preliminary project assessments have concluded that, with mitigation, there would be no significant adverse effects in environmental impact assessment terms other than the following where significant residual effects have been identified:

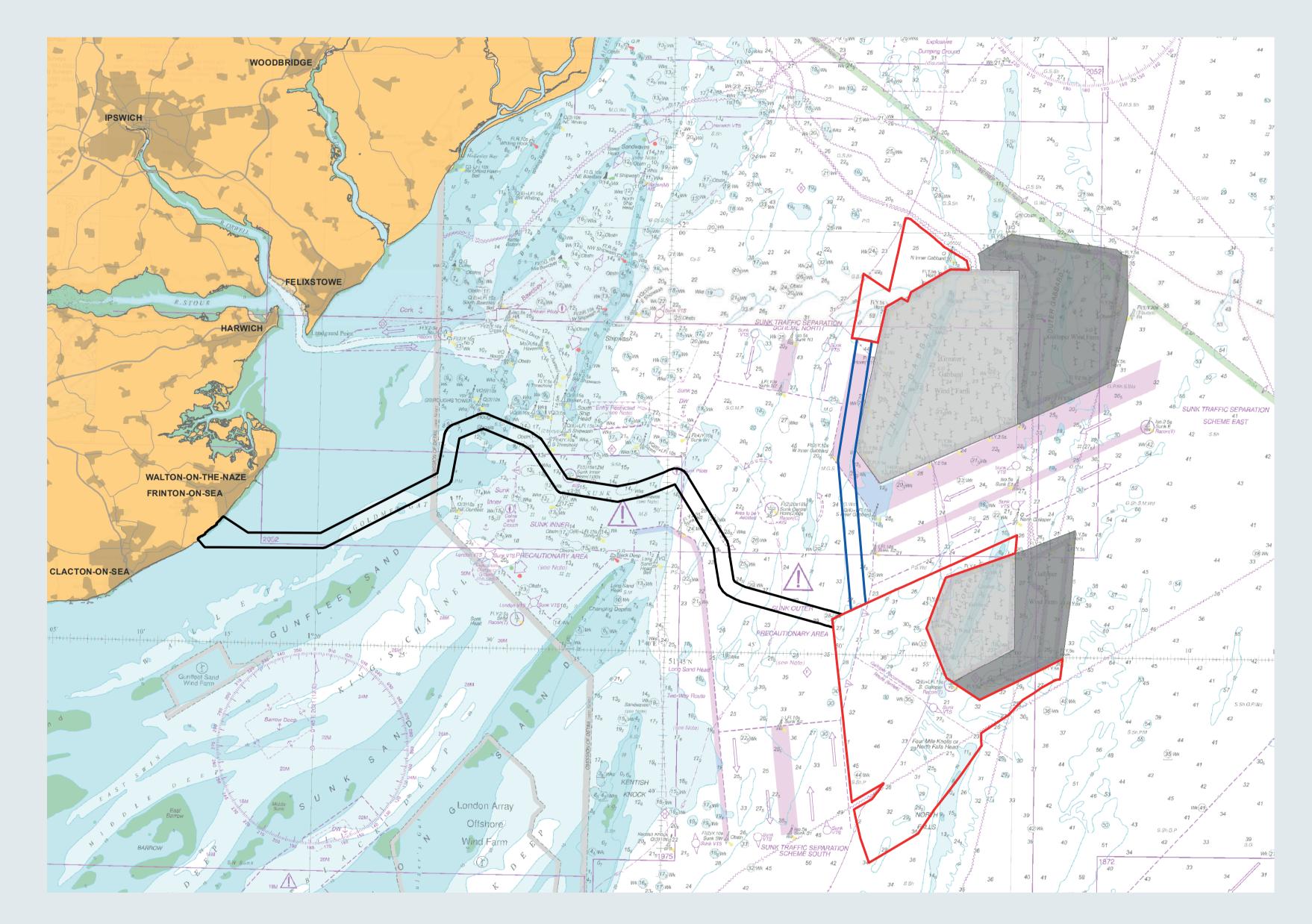
- Land use and agriculture, with permanent loss of agricultural land during operation of the onshore substation; and
- Onshore ecology, with temporary loss of some hedgerows and associated temporary impacts on bats and dormice. Replanting of hedgerows post-construction should lead to moderately beneficial impacts in the longer term.

For project-wide topics, significant effects have been identified in relation to:

- Seascape, landscape and visual, due to the visibility of the wind farm from certain areas of the coast during its operation. This will influence the seascape and landscape character; and
- Landscape and visual with respect to effect on the landscape fabric and visual amenity of the onshore substation zone during the project's construction and operation.

Beneficial effects were identified for a number of topics, including around onshore ecology due primarily to the project's commitment to biodiversity net gain; socio-economics, with skills and supply chain opportunities; and contribution to combatting climate change.

North Falls has committed to implementing mitigation measures to ensure that any potential impacts are minimised as far as reasonable and practicable, and to reduce the potential for significant effects.



North Falls offshore project area



North Falls onshore project area

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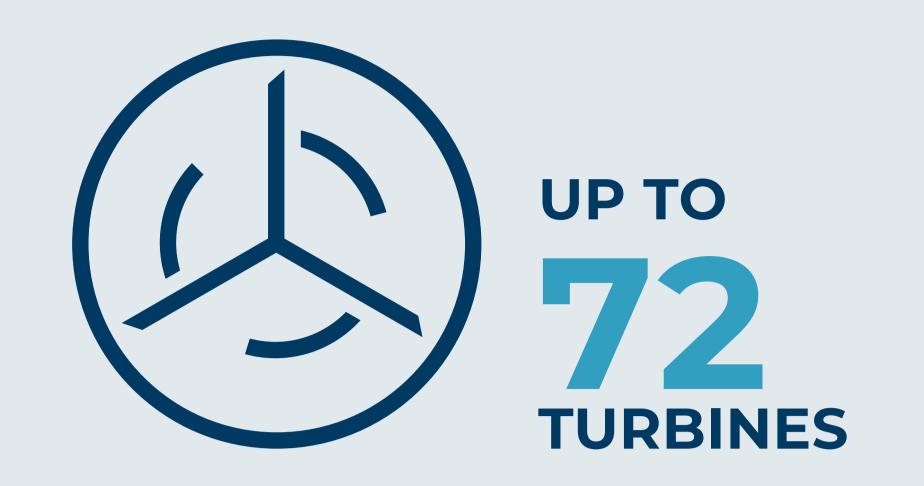
## KEY FACTS AND FIGURES



### NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm



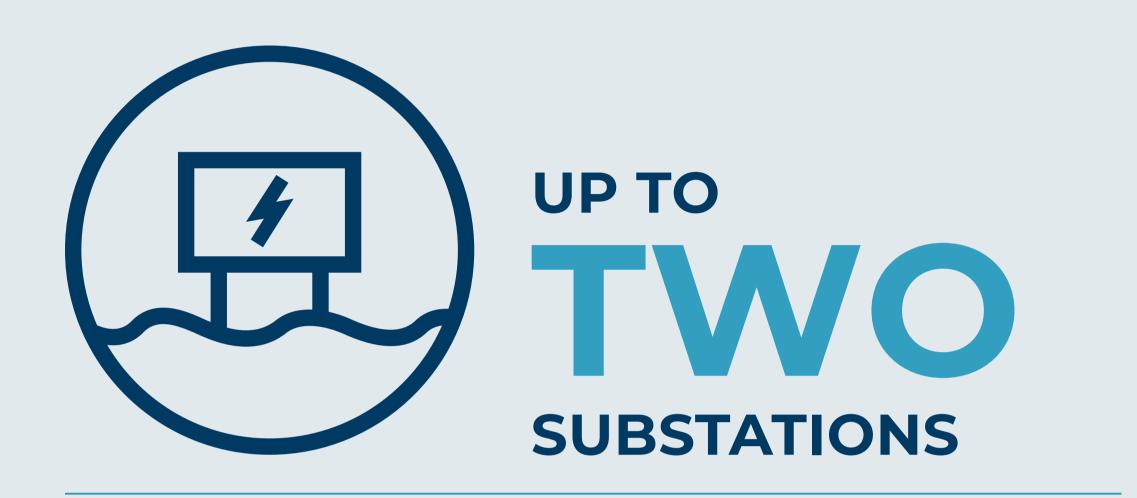




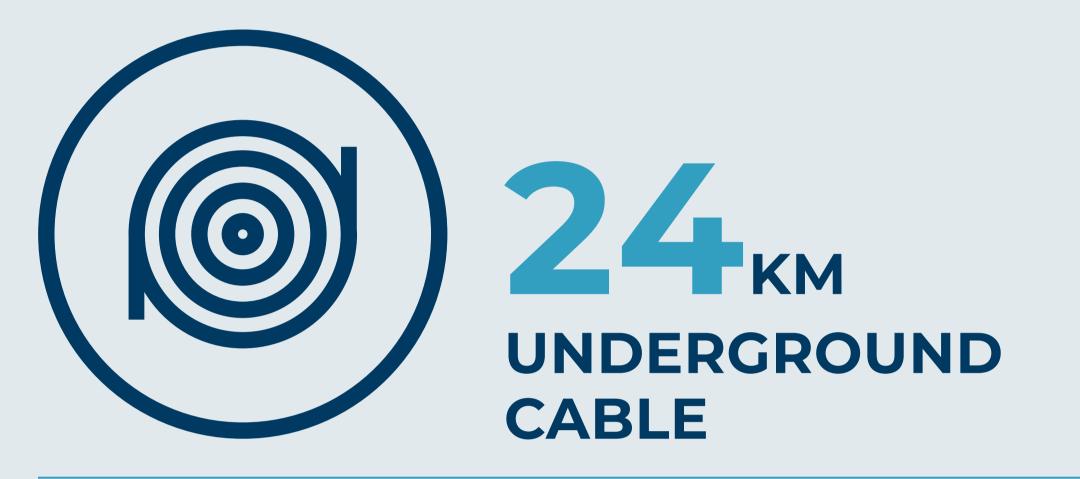
Off the UK coast in the southern North Sea

Depending on the size of turbine selected

Total	area	across	two	sites
			••••	



Offshore substations/platforms to facilitate the export of electricity to an onshore or an offshore connection point



Of underground onshore cable to transport the power from landfall to the new onshore substation (assuming an onshore grid connection)



Size of the onshore substation footprint, with similar surrounding landscaping



Likely investment in UK electricity infrastructure



The potential number of UK homes supplied with their electricity (depending on final installed capacity) 50GW **OF OFFSHORE WIND BY 2030** 

North Falls would support this government target

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SSE Renewables Revealed Revea



## PRE-APPLICATION PHASE - PROGRESS SINCE 2020

### NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm

Since North Falls signed its Agreement for Lease with The Crown Estate, the project team has been in what is called the pre-application stage. As a nationally significant infrastructure project (NSIP), North Falls must be consented under the Planning Act 2008 development consent process, which was introduced to streamline the decision-making for such projects.

Applicants, such as North Falls, must go through this six stage process to gain permission to build and operate their NSIP. The permission is called a development consent order (DCO). The Planning Inspectorate is the government agency responsible for examining and making recommendations on applications for NSIPs with the final decision being made by the Secretary of State for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero.

#### **APPLICATION PROCESS - THE SIX STEPS**

#### Look out for information in the local You can now register as an interested media and in public places near the party; you will be kept informed of location of the project, such as the library. progress and opportunities to put Or you can register to receive updates. your case. Inspectors will hold a North Falls will be developing the project Preliminary Meeting and set the proposals and will consult widely as part timetable for examination. of that development.

3

A recommendation to the relevant Secretary of State will be issued by the Inspectorate within **3 months**. The Secretary of State then has a further **3** months to issue a decision on the proposal.

**Pre-application** 

Acceptance

Pre-examination

Examination

Decision

**Post-decision** 

2

The Planning Inspectorate, on behalf of the Secretary of State, has **28 days** to decide whether the North Falls application meets the required standards to proceed to examination, including whether the consultation has complied with relevant legal requirements.



4

You can send in your comments in writing. You can request to speak at a public hearing. The Inspectorate has 6 months to carry out the examination.

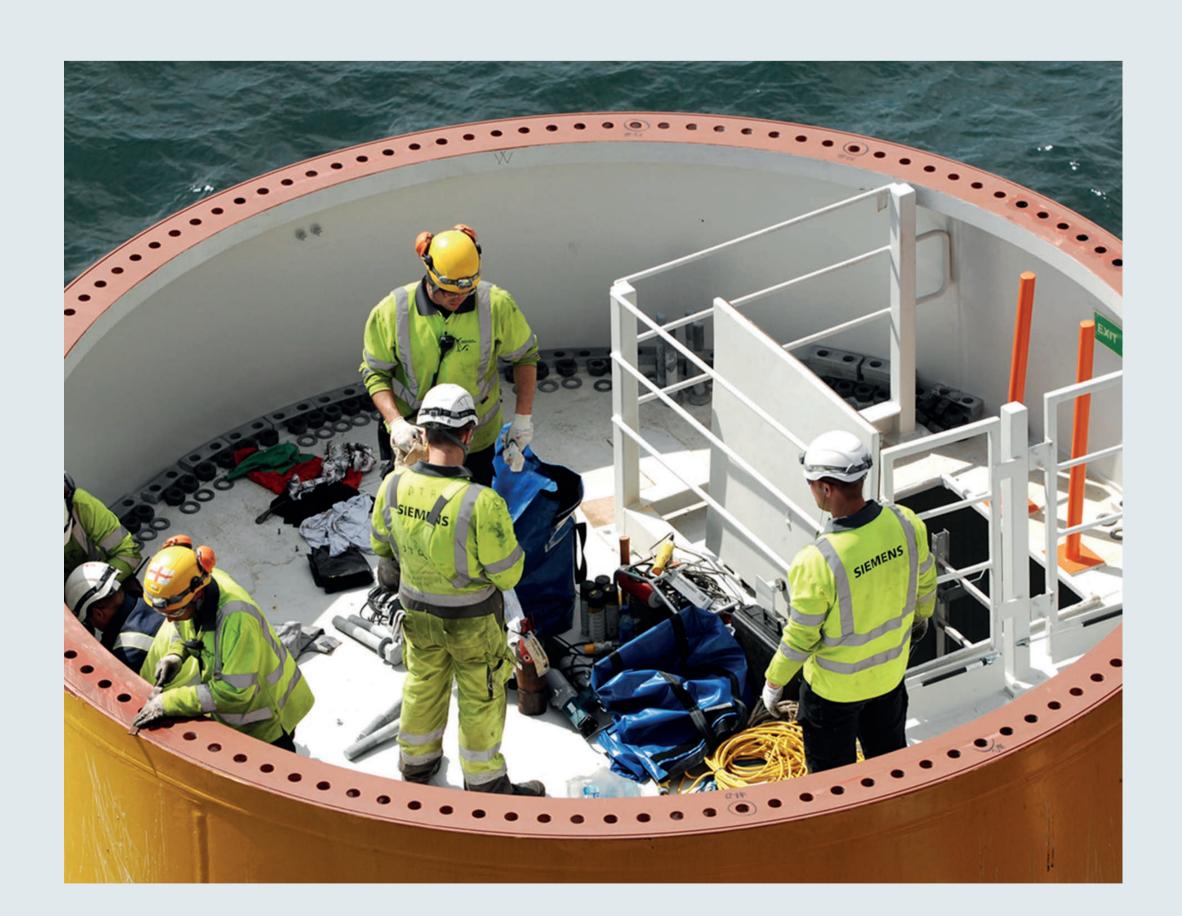
5



There is the opportunity for legal challenge.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL **IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

The pre-application phase for North Falls will run until the DCO application is finalised and submitted to the Planning Inspectorate. The core of this work has been carrying out an environmental impact assessment (EIA), a systematic and iterative approach to assessing the environmental, social and economic effects the project may have.



#### PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION **REPORT (PEIR)**

Since the last phase of consultation the North Falls PEIR has been progressed and is now the subject of this consultation. This is a technical document covering every element that has been considered to date, its potential impacts and proposed mitigations. This consultation is a status update on the project's EIA process and on the progress of the preparation of the application. Feedback given on the PEIR will be

#### **NORTH FALLS** ENVIRONMENTAL **STATEMENT (ES)**

Looking ahead, the North Falls Environmental Statement (ES) will be the final output of the EIA. It will be an evolution of the PEIR presented here and will incorporate the results of the surveys and assessments, project technical details as well as the outcomes of responses from our consultations.

It forms a key part of the submitted DCO application, accompanying the final application for the Planning Inspectorate.

used to produce the final document required for the application, the Environmental Statement.



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## PUBLIC CONSULTATION



#### NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm

Feedback from our consultation so far has influenced a number of key project actions and decisions:

- All the project's onshore cables are to be buried
- Cables will be installed by drilling beneath Holland Haven Marshes Site of Special Scientific Interest, including Holland Haven Local Nature Reserve and Frinton Golf Club to avoid disturbing the surface.
- A temporary haul road within the construction corridor will minimise the amount of traffic on the local road network
- No work will take place in the intertidal zone to limit disruption at the coast
- Offshore cable placement and construction will avoid sensitive areas of the seabed
- A 3D model has been produced to enable people to visualise the wind farm from key coastal viewpoints
- Construction traffic will be routed and timed to avoid school drop off and pick up, and minimise impacts on local community events
- Landscaping will be provided around the onshore substation in consultation with the community
- The project will aim to achieve a biodiversity net gain following construction
- Inclusion of an option to connect to an offshore grid connection (if made available to North Falls by a third party)
- A land drainage consultant will be engaged to develop pre- and post-construction farm drainage plans
- Ongoing close cooperation with Five Estuaries to minimise cumulative impacts where possible

In March 2022, the North Falls Statement of Community Consultation was published, setting out the project's approach to consultation including who will be consulted and how.

This third consultation phase provides the opportunity for the public to give the North Falls team useful information and influence the proposals that will be included in the final application.



#### **PEIR reference Chapter 7.** Technical consultation

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# PROJECT DESCRIPTION COMPONENTS, OPTIONALITY AND CONSTRUCTION



### NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm

North Falls has an offshore array area of 150km<sup>2</sup> split into two sections within the Outer Thames Estuary, in the southern North Sea. Its closest point to land is 22.5km from the coast near Orford, Suffolk.

The current proposals for North Falls include up to 72 wind turbines on fixed foundations. Array cables will connect the turbines in strings to either one or two offshore substation platforms.

A subsea interconnector will join the project's northern and southern sections. In the event of an onshore grid connection, subsea export cables will bring the power to shore at a location known as 'landfall'. From there, underground onshore cables would carry the power to a new onshore substation and then on to the national grid.

At this stage optionality is required to future-proof the project and therefore a 'design envelope' approach has been adopted.

#### **CONNECTION OPTIONS**

One key area of optionality is around connection to the

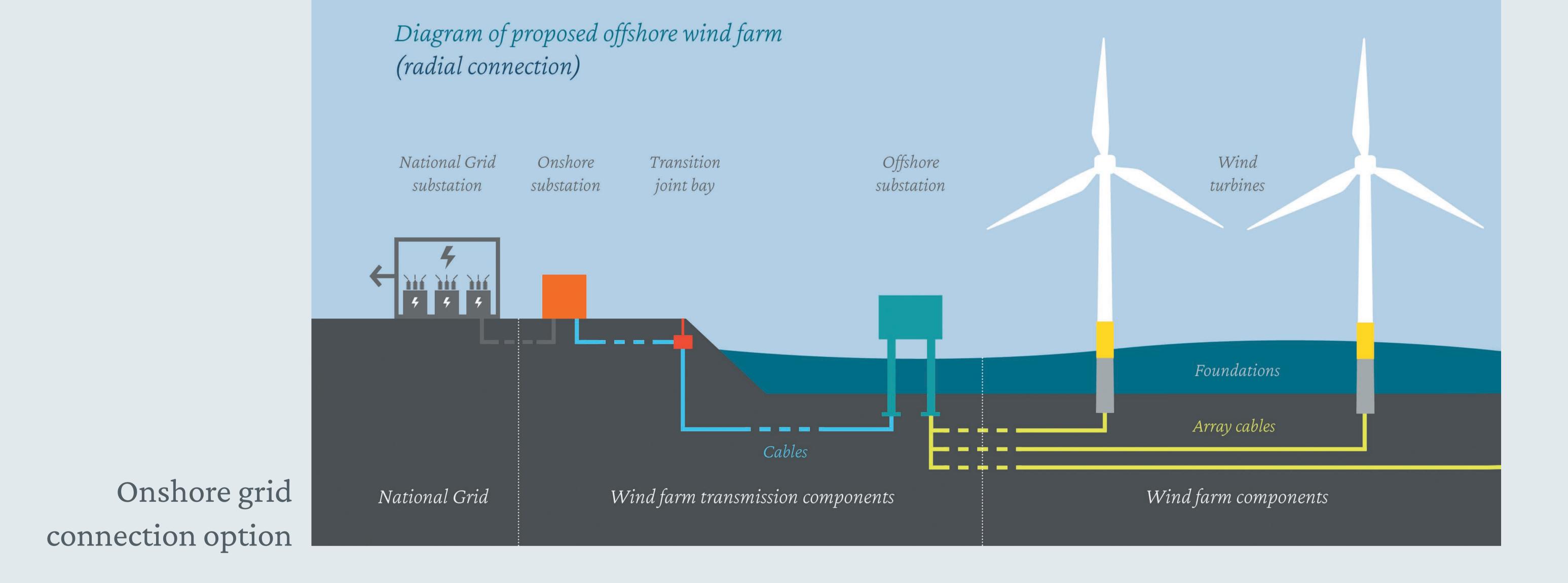
national grid. North Falls is working with Government to explore grid connection options as part of the Offshore Transmission Network Review (OTNR) process and has committed to exploring coordinated network designs, along with four other projects in East Anglia.

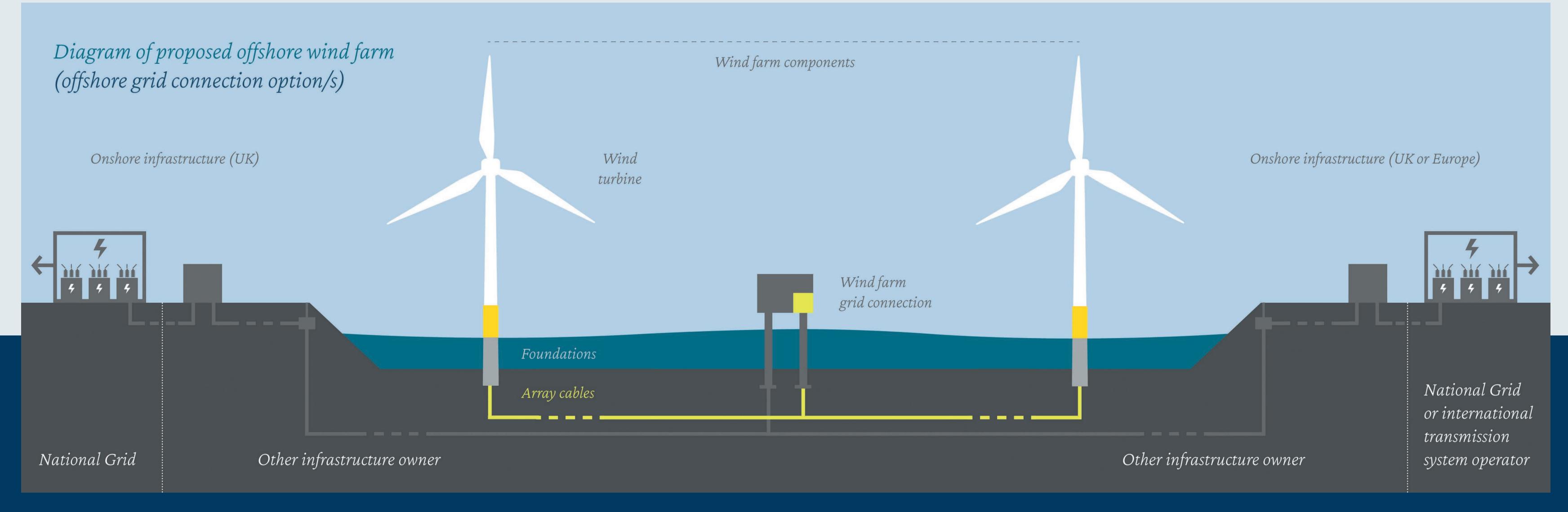
#### This means we are currently reviewing three options for the grid connection point:

**Option 1:** Onshore electrical connection at a National Grid connection point within Tendring, Essex, with a project alone onshore cable route and onshore substation infrastructure;

**Option 2:** Onshore electrical connection at a National Grid connection point within Tendring, Essex, sharing all or part of an onshore cable route with separate onshore export cables with another project (such as Five Estuaries) where practicable; or

**Option 3:** Offshore electrical connection supplied by a third-party electricity network provider. Such a connection will potentially be identified through the OTNR process.





Offshore grid connection option

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# PROJECT DESCRIPTION COMPONENTS, OPTIONALITY AND CONSTRUCTION

# 

## NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm

#### **OFFSHORE WORKS**

The North Falls array area, where the turbines and offshore substation platform(s) will be located, is split into two boundaries separated by a shipping route. The northern and southern array boundaries cover areas of approximately consideration given to consultation feedback and survey data. 21km<sup>2</sup> and 129km<sup>2</sup>, respectively.

#### **ONSHORE WORKS**

North Falls' onshore infrastructure is proposed to be entirely within Tendring, Essex. Its footprint is referred to as the 'onshore project area' with the exact siting of the infrastructure being refined through site selection, with

Offshore construction should take around three years however the programme can be affected by the final design and layout of the components, supply chain and weather conditions during the work.

There are three key areas that make up the onshore project area: landfall, onshore cable corridor and onshore substation

#### 1. LANDFALL

The landfall is where the offshore export cables are brought onshore and connect to the onshore export cables within transition joint bays. It is likely to be located near Frinton-on-Sea with construction work being undertaken from a temporary compound within what we refer to as the landfall compound zone.



Landfall compound zone

#### Feedback question:

Do you have any comments about the landfall compound zone that could help us identify the best location for the temporary construction compound?

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# PROJECT DESCRIPTION COMPONENTS, OPTIONALITY AND CONSTRUCTION



## NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm

#### 2. ONSHORE CABLE CORRIDOR

From the landfall, onshore export cables laid in ducts along the cable route will carry electricity approximately 24 kilometres to the onshore substation. So far North Falls has identified broad onshore cable corridor(s) up to 243m in width, which will be refined to a predominantly 60 metre-wide working width where the construction works for the onshore export cables will take place.

At this stage the current corridor(s) still have a degree of flexibility and optionality. When it comes to construction, the export cables will be installed by open cut trenching, or trenchless techniques where needed, with land reinstated and returned to its former use after the work is completed.

### **3. ONSHORE SUBSTATION**

The precise location of the onshore substation and grid connection is subject to ongoing consultation, however assuming a radial connection, the substation will be located in the onshore substation zone (see map). A maximum area of 0.080km<sup>2</sup> (8ha) would be required for the onshore substation.

North Falls has prepared a Design Vision Statement which sets out the project's design strategy for the onshore substation, identifying the constraints and opportunities relevant for electrical infrastructure situated in the local landscape.



cable corridor and

North Falls substation zone –

Onshore cable corridor -



#### Feedback questions:

Are there any areas of the cable corridor you have specific information or comments about?

Looking at the proposed onshore substation zone, is there anything North Falls should know that could help with the final siting of the electrical infrastructure?

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## OFFSHORE: OFFSHORE TOPICS CONSIDERED IN THE PER



#### NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm

More details of each offshore topic covered in the PEIR can be found in the consultation booklet, the non-technical summary or in the relevant chapter itself (see list below and next panel). For this panel and the one which follows we have summarised the topics which have had the most interest to date.

#### FISH AND SHELLFISH ECOLOGY

Species of commercial importance identified in our studies include sole, whelk, bass, thornback ray, horse mackerel, herring, cod, and plaice.

#### MARINE MAMMALS

North Falls undertook two years of monthly aerial surveys for both marine mammals and seabirds. High resolution digital data was collected providing imagery for marine megafauna over the project's two array areas with a four kilometre buffer.

The studies also covered locations for species of conservation importance at certain times of the year, and spawning and nursery grounds. Impacts reviewed include physical disturbance and habitat loss, underwater noise from construction activities, changes in fishing activity, increased suspended sediments and the potential impact of electromagnetic fields around the cables during operation. Mitigation such as cable burial, cable protection, noiselimiting construction protocols and pollution protection measures, will be implemented where practicable.

As well as use of wider desk-based sources, these surveys provided information on the numbers and density of harbour porpoise, minke whale, grey seal and harbour seal.

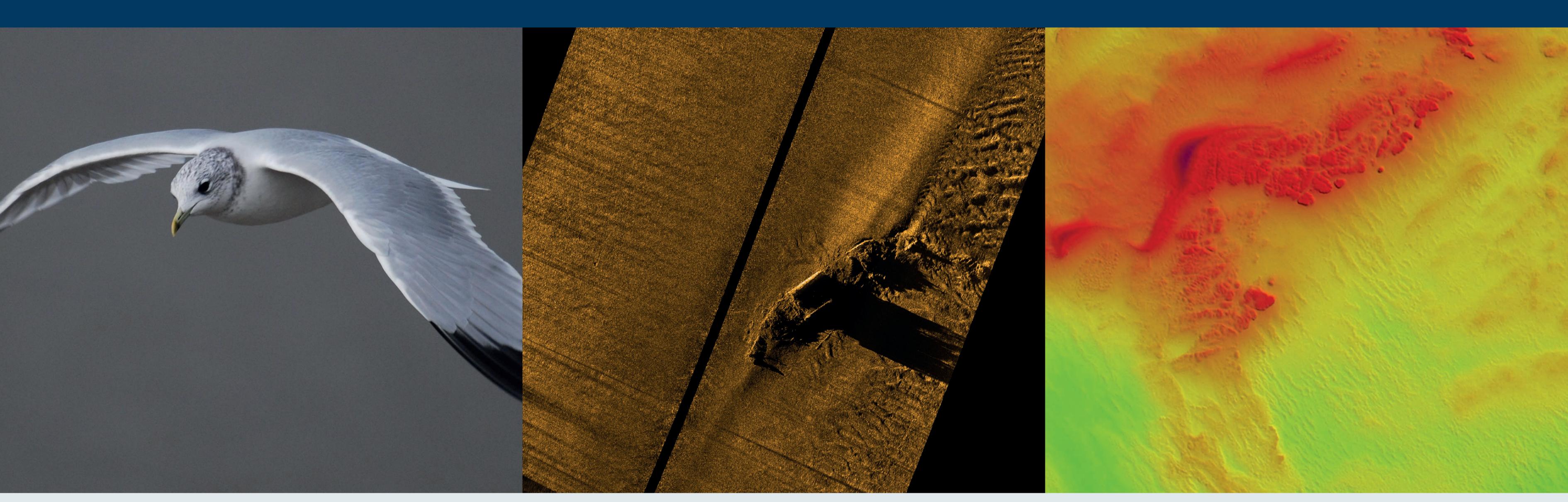
Impacts identified such as potential hearing damage and disturbance/behavioural impacts or barrier effects from underwater noise or an increase in vessel collision risk will be addressed via measures such as: soft-start and ramp-up for piling activities; use of best practice guidance to reduce vessel collision risk and implementation of a project environmental monitoring plan. Additional mitigation will be implemented through a marine mammal mitigation plan, with an outline to be submitted alongside the DCO application.

#### OFFSHORE ORNITHOLOGY

North Falls undertook 24 monthly digital aerial surveys flown along transects across the array site plus buffer zones to record existing bird populations. The impacts assessed for the project include direct disturbance, displacement, collision risk and indirect effects on prey species and habitat.

Mitigation measures include sensitive site selection of the offshore cable corridor to minimise overlap with the Outer Thames Estuary SPA, and a minimum air gap of 27 metres (five metres above the gap proposed in the North Falls Scoping Report) to reduce the risk of collisions, and a best-practice shipping protocol which may include actions such as designing transit routes to minimise disturbance within the SPA, restricting and minimising vessel movements, avoiding over-revving of engines and crew training.

Through the use of mitigation measures, the project should not have significant effects on ornithology, even in cumulation with other projects except for some specific species such as the kittiwake and black-backed gull, where there may be a significant impact in terms of collision risk.



Common seagull

Sunken passenger ship Mecklenburg (archaeology)

Seabed survey (marine geology)

PEIR Reference				
Chapter 8.	Marine Geology	Ch		
	Oceanography and			
	Physical Processes	Ch		
Chapter 9.	Marine Water and	Ch		
	Sediment Quality			
Chapter 10.	Benthic and			
	Intertidal Ecology			

napter 11. Fish and Shellfish Ecology napter 12. Marine Mammals apter 13. Offshore Ornithology

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## OFFSHORE: OFFSHORE TOPICS CONSIDERED IN THE PEIR



#### NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm

#### **COMMERCIAL FISHERIES**

Assessments have identified the project is likely to have a number of potential impacts on commercial fisheries such as loss or restricted access to fishing grounds; displacement of fishing activities into other areas; increased sailing times; interference with fishing activities, and safety issues for fishing. These will be addressed through the appointment of a fisheries liaison officer for the duration of the construction phase, development of a Fisheries Liaison and Coexistence Plan detailing the approach to liaison with fisheries stakeholders, and development of a Code of Good Practice for project vessels. There is a commitment to bury subsea cables, with cable protection to be used where this is not possible. Cable protection will be designed to minimise potential risk of gear snagging and the locations of protected cables will be shared.

However these risks can be largely mitigated by implementation of safety measures, adherence to international regulations and conventions, working with consultees on the turbine layout and with thorough emergency response planning and communication of information to other sea users.



#### Fisheries survey

Fugro Mercator survey vessel



Chapter 14. Commercial Fisheries Chapter 15. Shipping and Navigation **Chapter 16.** Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Chapter 17. Aviation and Radar Chapter 18. Infrastructure and Other Users

#### Feedback question:

Do you have any comments about any of the offshore-related assessments or on the mitigation measures proposed?

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## ONSHORE: ONSHORE TOPICS CONSIDERED IN THE PER



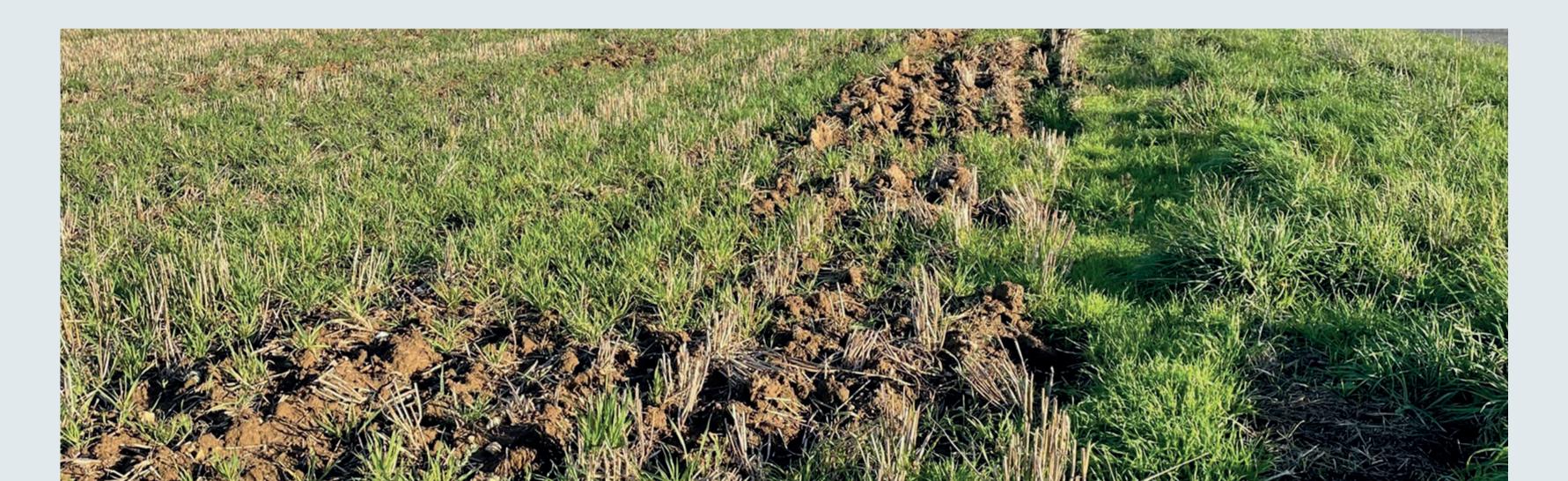
#### NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm

More details of each onshore topic covered in the PEIR can be found in the consultation booklet, the non-technical summary or in the relevant chapter itself (see list below and next panel). For this panel and the one which follows we have summarised the topics which have had the most interest to date.

#### **GROUND CONDITIONS AND CONTAMINATION**

A Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) will be adhered to throughout construction, which will include an assessment of any risks to human health, soils and water, and will outline



how industry best practice measures will be implemented to avoid, minimise and mitigate potential impacts.

#### WATER RESOURCES AND FLOOD RISK

The physical characteristics of the watercourses within the onshore project area were assessed with specific potential impacts such as direct disturbance of surface water bodies, increased sediment supply, contaminants, changes to surface and groundwater flows, and flood risk. Mitigation and soil management measures will be included in the CCoP and also in a Soil Management Plan.

During construction, trenchless methods will be used to install cables at rivers and most ordinary watercourses, temporary Bailey bridges will be used across rivers, and best practice measures will be employed at trenched crossings.

Essex agricultural field

#### LAND USE AND AGRICULTURE

North Falls continues to engage with landowners and occupiers about the project, their land holdings and how the impacts of the project can be mitigated. Factors considered have included: minimising land take; reducing severed land parcels; aligning with field boundaries, and avoiding higher quality agricultural land, land subject to Environmental Stewardship or Countryside Stewardship schemes and land allocated in local plans.

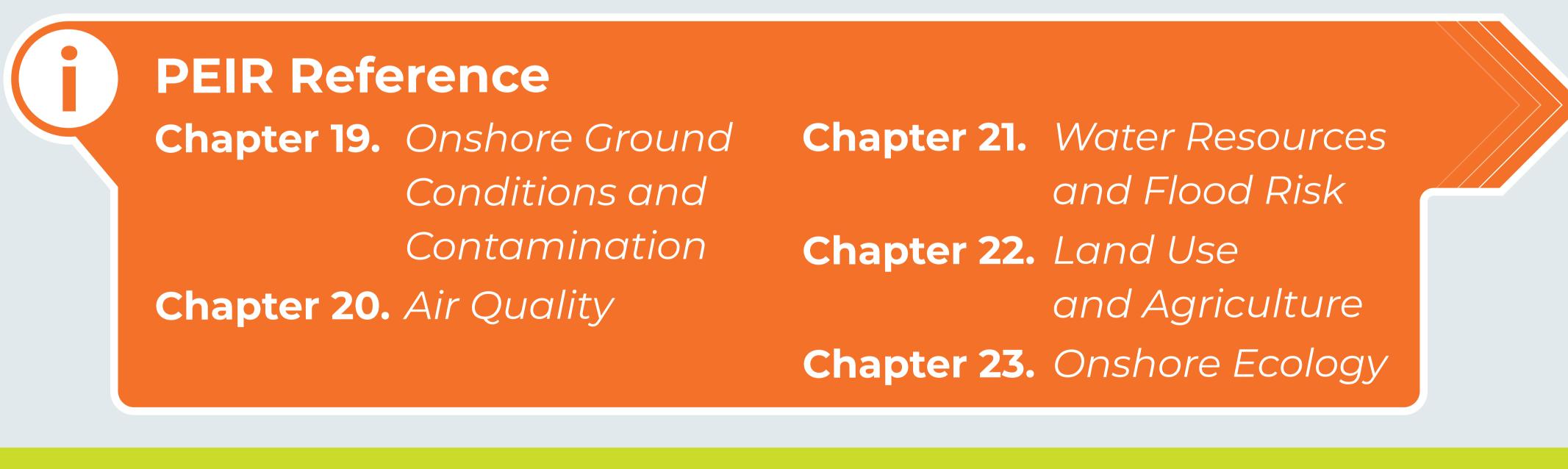
Mitigations to address potential impacts on land use and agriculture will be secured as part of the CoCP and Soil Management Plan, and will include the appointment of a land drainage consultant to develop pre- and post-construction drainage plans, and an agricultural liaison officer to work with landowners/occupiers throughout.

#### **ONSHORE ECOLOGY**

North Falls has undertaken extensive habitat surveys as well as surveys specific to species such as bats, reptiles, water vole and otters, hazel dormice and great crested newts.

The impacts assessed include those on: Holland Haven Marshes Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Holland Haven Local Nature Reserve (LNR); other designated sites; (permanent or temporary) loss of woodland, hedgerows and arable field margins; impacts on specific species, and the spread of invasive non-native species.

To address impacts, the proposed location of the cable route and onshore substation avoids designated sites, ancient woodlands, and specific habitats. Construction methods will be chosen carefully and an Ecological Management Plan (EMP) in line with best practice, will be implemented during construction. All habitats subject to temporary construction impacts will be reinstated. In addition, North Falls has committed to deliver a minimum of 10% biodiversity net gain for the project.



#### Feedback question:

Do you have any comments about any of the onshore-related assessments or on the mitigation measures proposed?

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## ONSHORE: ONSHORE TOPICS CONSIDERED IN THE PEIR

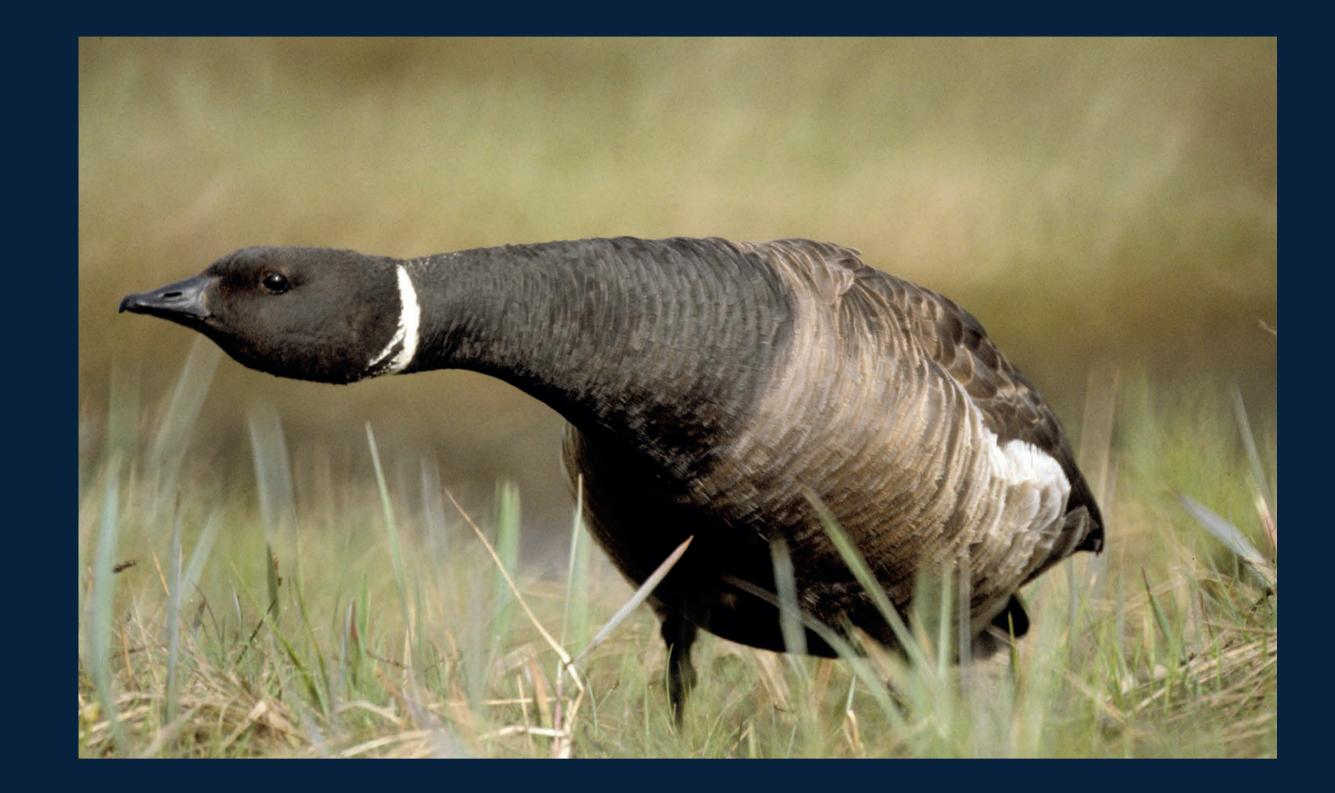


#### NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm

#### ONSHORE ORNITHOLOGY

North Falls has undertaken onshore ornithological surveys during both non-breeding and breeding seasons and considered potential direct impacts such as habitat loss, as well as indirect impacts due to construction disturbance, such as noise and light, and operation and maintenance activities. Mitigation measures will be integral to the EMP mentioned on the previous panel and will include design and construction methodology and habitat reinstatement.



Brent goose

#### **ONSHORE ARCHAEOLOGY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE**

North Falls conducted an historic environment walkover survey, geoarchaeological desk-based assessment, further research and an archaeological geophysical survey, with further trial trenching investigations also taking place throughout 2023.

#### NOISE AND VIBRATION

Baseline surveys near the proposed landfall and onshore substation zones assessed potential noise and vibration impacts. Site selection has considered nearby residential properties, with noise and vibration mitigation to be detailed in the CoCP. This is likely to include: restricted use of plant, speed limits, use of quieter working methods, and phasing of works to avoid sensitive times. During operations certain onshore substation equipment would be enclosed and vibration isolation mounts used.

#### TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT

The impacts assessed in the project's traffic and transport reviews included: traffic-induced community separation, pedestrian and cyclist amenity, highway safety, and traffic delays due to delivery of abnormal loads.

These issues can be reduced by restricting timeframes for heavy goods vehicle (HGV) movements, through the use of temporary haul roads along the onshore cable route, by creating vehicle crossovers and controlling project vehicle routes. HGV movements would be restricted through Thorpe-le-Soken and vehicles routed from certain sensitive roads to the temporary haul road, or along other designated routes. No construction traffic will be permitted to travel via alternative routes.



The full strategy for traffic and transport management during construction will be covered in the Outline CTMP, which will be submitted with the application. This will contain details of how HGV movements would be controlled, monitored and enforced and will provide details of the mechanisms for managing access design and offsite highway works.

#### SEASCAPE, LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL

The study area for seascape, landscape and visual impacts was defined as a 60 kilometre radius around the proposed array areas, including parts of the Thames estuary, Suffolk, Essex, and Kent. The assessment is based on the maximum potential turbine size to ensure it is future-proofed in case of technological advances.

North Falls is predicted to impact views from certain Suffolk coastal areas such as Sizewell Beach, sections of the Suffolk Coast Path and Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB due to visibility of its turbines during operation influencing the seascape and landscape character.

Photomontages are available in Volume 2 (Figures) of Chapter 29 to enable those with an interest to see how the wind farm could look. There is also a 3D computer-generated interactive model with 17 different viewpoints to provide further visual examples in different conditions.

Please use the QR code to view the model.



#### **PEIR Reference**

Chapter 24. Onshore Ornithology Chapter 25. Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Chapter 26. Noise and Vibration Chapter 27. Traffic and Transport

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## PROJECT-WIDE: PROJECT-WIDE TOPICS CONSIDERED IN THE PEIR



#### NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm

More details of each project-wide topic covered in the PEIR can be found in the consultation booklet, the non-technical summary or in the relevant chapter itself (see list below). For this panel we have summarised the topics which have had the most interest to date.

#### LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL

In assessing the landscape and visual impacts of the onshore elements of North Falls, those factors considered included potential changes to landscape elements and fabric; changes to landscape character; changes to landscape designations;

Mitigation measures were incorporated as part of the site selection process, as well as in the choice of construction methods, through proposed habitat reinstatement and within the project design. Additional landscape mitigation and biodiversity enhancement, which includes new hedgerow and woodland planting, will also be undertaken. Further details on these can be read in the project's Design Vision.

and changes to visual amenity.

#### **SOCIO-ECONOMICS**

In terms of socio-economics, the potential direct and indirect benefits have been reviewed as well as adverse effects on: economy, health infrastructure, social and community infrastructure, imports and exports, volume and value of fishing catch and mineral resources.

The benefits predicted for the project include increases in 'gross value added' (GVA) (the value of goods and services of the local and national economy) and jobcreation through use of the local supply chain and direct and indirect employment. The adverse effects relate to pressure on local infrastructure, disturbance (noise, air, visual), plus potential disruption to fishing and minerals. For these adverse effects, a wide range of mitigation measures will be implemented during construction, such as vehicle delivery time and routing restrictions as well as ongoing stakeholder engagement, and during operations through design to reduce visual impact.

#### **TOURISM AND** RECREATION

Marine, coastal and onshore tourism and recreational assets in Essex and Suffolk were reviewed for all project phases. For the project's construction phase impacts assessed were road traffic disruption, a reduction in tourist numbers and spending, and the availability of holiday accommodation due to non-resident workers. During the project's operation, impacts assessed were related to negative perceptions of offshore wind farms.

The project's comprehensive site selection process aimed to minimise impacts on the natural surroundings, on designated areas, ancient monuments or listed buildings,

and tourist destinations. At the start of the project underground cables were specified, and other mitigation measures proposed include a rolling construction programme, implementation of flexible management plans and good communications throughout any works.



#### **PEIR Reference**

Chapter 28. Human Health Chapter 29. Seascape, Landscape and Visual (SLVIA)

Chapter 30. Landscape and Visual (LVIA)

Chapter 31. Socio-economic Chapter 32. Tourism and Recreation

- Schedule of Mitigation
- Design Vision

Feedback questions: Are you supportive of the North Falls Offshore Wind Farm project? Do you have any further comments or feedback on the project?

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## HOW TO RESPOND WAYS TO HAVE YOUR SAY

#### NORTH FALLS

Offshore Wind Farm

We welcome your feedback and have provided a number of ways for you to respond to this consultation.

#### FACE-TO-FACE AND **ONLINE EVENTS**

We are holding five face-to-face events in Essex as well as two webinars at 6pm on Tuesday 13 June and Wednesday 21 June at 6pm. Details of the events and where and how to join are in the North Falls Consultation Booklet.

#### EMAIL **AND TELEPHONE**

We welcome emails to: contact@northfallsoffshore.com, or you can ring us on **0800 254 5340** 

#### WEBSITE

You can also send your comments or feedback to us via the online contact form on our website: www.northfallsoffshore.com

#### POST

To send your response by mail please use: North Falls FREEPOST. No stamp required.

#### FEEDBACK QUESTIONNAIRE

Please fill in the feedback questionnaire at this event and hand it in today or take it home and once completed either scan and email it to: contact@northfallsoffshore.com or post it to North Falls FREEPOST.

#### TO STAY IN TOUCH

Sign up to email updates or let us know if you would prefer a printed version of information to be sent to your home.

#### **ONLINE CONSULTATION**

All information and links to consultation documents,

#### **OTHER CONTACT DETAILS**

For land related queries contact the project's

including the online feedback questionnaire, can be found via the consultation portal: https://stat.northfallsoffshore.com which can also be accessed via our website: www.northfallsoffshore.com.

The consultation portal also includes a consultation map where you can pinpoint specific locations you have questions or comments on and leave them there.

land agent Dalcour Maclaren: Address: Unit 1, Staplehurst Farm, Weston-on-the-Green, Bicester OX25 3QU E: northfalls@dalcourmaclaren.com

T: 01622 623025

For fisheries related queries contact our fisheries consultants Brown & May Marine Ltd: Address: Progress Way, Mid Suffolk Business Park Eye, Suffolk, IP23 7HU

E: northfalls@brownmay.com T: 01379 772871



We thank you for taking the time to participate in this consultation.

## www.NorthFallsOffshore.com

