East Anglia
Offshore Wind

VATTENFALL

SCOTTISHPOWER RENEWABLES

East Anglia THREE

Appendix 24.3

Record of Onshore Ornithology Consultation for East Anglia ONE

Environmental Statement
Volume 3
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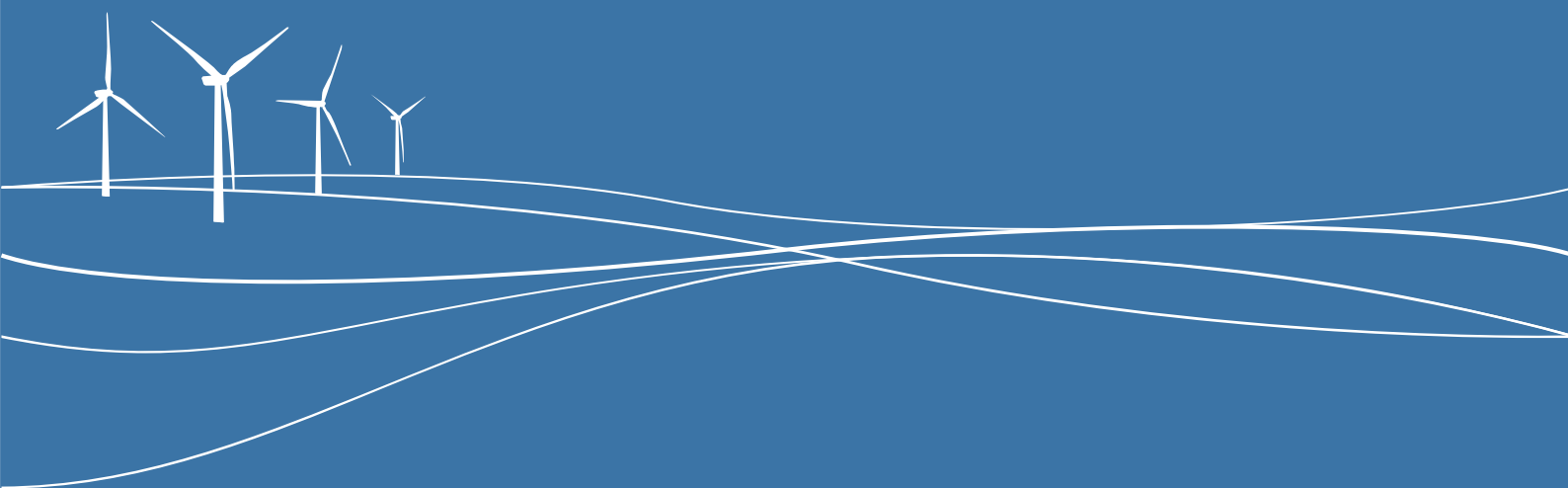

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1 INTRODUCTION

1. This Appendix contains a copy of the record of consultation on onshore ornithology issues submitted in support of the application for the East Anglia ONE offshore windfarm.

2. That record of consultation was Section 24.2 of Volume 1 Chapter 24 Onshore Ecology and Ornithology of the East Anglia ONE Environmental Statement.

2 SECTION 24.2 OF VOLUME 1 CHAPTER 24 ONSHORE ECOLOGY AND ORNITHOLOGY OF THE EAST ANGLIA ONE ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

24.2 Consultation

4 *Table 24-1* presents consultee responses to the East Anglia ONE Offshore Windfarm Scoping Report (June 2011), the East Anglia ONE Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) (February 2012) and Phase 2 Consultation (June 2012).

Consulation Responses		
Consultee	**Comment**	**Response to Consultation**
Scoping Consultation Comments		
Planning Inspectorate	ES must include an assessment of all protected sites which may be affected by the proposed development, not only within the Area of Search. Study area may need to go wider than the cable corridor and buffer area. Requests the study area has a min. 30m buffer around the perimeter, the extent of which should be agreed with relevant bodies. Requests the impacts of any ongoing maintainance are considered.	Where impacts are identifed these are addressed in full in this Chapter in Section 24.6. For the purposes of surveys a survey corridor of 160m was used and all survey locations were provided to consultees. Impacts during the operational lifetime of the Onshore Cable Route are detailed in Section 24.6
Joint Nature Conservation Council (JNCC)/ Natural England (NE)	EIA in relation to the Onshore Cable Route will be based on one wintering season (2011/12). This does not align with standard practice of collecting 2 years of survey data in the context of the offshore EIA. WeBS counts for the survey area may provide sufficient justification in this instance. Welcome the plan to conduct one core (high water) count and one low tide count per sector per month; however the survey period should extend to cover September and October 2011 and March 2012 to align with WeBS core counts. Impacts should include a full assessment of the possible disturbance, change or removal of intertidal and terrestrial habitats along the cable route. Noise disturbance should include noise and visual disturbance to birds, assessed during all phases except operation. Impacts on intertidal habitats, benthic communities and terrestrial habitats along the cable route should be included and fully assessed for all project stages.	The assessment has been based on one seasons survey for the Onshore Cable Route due to the temporary nature of the construction works. This has been supplemented with WeBs data from the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO). The surveys were undertaken from September 2011 to March 2012 for high tide counts and October 2011 to February 2012 for low tide counts. These timings are in line with the BTO WeBs count methods. Where impacts are identifed these are addressed in full in the Chapter in Section 24.6

Consulation Responses		
Consultee	**Comment**	**Response to Consultation**
Suffolk County Council	Need to consider cumulative impacts of the whole East Anglian Array development. Scoping should include a full cumulative assessment taking into account the consequences of overhead transmission line proposals between Bramford and Twinstead.	This Chapter assesses the effects on ecology and ornithology of the installation of cables for East Anglia ONE and ducting for future projects in the East Anglia Zone connecting into Bramford. The cumulative impacts associated with the onshore electrical transmission works are detailed in Section 24.6.5.
Joint Nature Conservation Council (JNCC) / Natural England (NE)	Provided a response with specific guidance on the scope of the assessment, requesting: the boundaries between categories of sensitivity and different magnitudes of effect are clearly defined; and cumulative and in-combination effects be considered. Impacts should include a full assessment of possible disturbance, change or removal of intertidal and terrestrial habitats along the cable route.	The details of assessing the impacts follows guidance by by the institute for Ecology and Environmental Management (IEEM) and is defined in this Chapter in Section 24.4. Where impacts are identifed these are addressed in full in Section 24.6.
Ipswich Borough Council	Request that land based and watercourse ecology are considered.	Impacts on both are discussed in this Chapter in Section 24.6.
Norfolk County Council	ES will need to consider impacts on ecology including cumulative impacts.	Impacts on ecology are discussed in this Chapter in Section 24.6, including discussion on cumulative impacts.

Consulation Responses		
Consultee	**Comment**	**Response to Consultation**
Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) comments		
Suffolk County Council	Noted that monitoring is not emphasised; essential to ensure mitigation measures are effective and the risk or harm to wildlife is minimised.	Post construction monitoring is proposed within this Chapter and is discussed in Section 24.9.
Suffolk Wildlife Trust	Regarding dormouse nest tube surveys, these should conform to the level of effort and duration described in the Dormouse Conservation Handbook (English Nature, 2006). Experience indicates it is necessary to extend surveys beyond September into late autumn to provide robust results.	The survey locations for Dormouse were submitted to Suffolk County Council, Mid Suffolk Council, Natural England and Suffolk Wildlife Trust. The surveys conform to the level of effort detailed under Natural England guidance. *Volume 5, Appendix 24.5* gives full survey details. No responses were received.
Suffolk Wildlife Trust	Seckford Hall Camp Site CWS supports nationally rare lichen heath; would object to any activity detrimental to the CWS and therefore consider the ES must assess potential impacts on this site and identify mitigation.	The Onshore Cable Route was modified in order to avoid Seckford Hall Camp Site CWS.
Suffolk Wildlife Trust	ES should assess likely impacts on Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitats, including damage and destruction during construction and operation. Impacts should be suitably mitigated or compensated for. Loss of BAP habitat, including cumulative impact, on protected and/or BAP species should also be assessed.	The impacts on Biodiversity Action Plan species and habitats are detailed in this Chapter in Section 24.6. This includes potential impacts on bats and Great Crested Newts. Mitigation measures are discussed within this Chapter in Section 24.7.

Consulation Responses		
Consultee	**Comment**	**Response to Consultation**
Suffolk Wildlife Trust	Support reference to including stag beetle mitigation.	Stag Beetles are not considered to be significantly impacted. Impacts are discussed within this Chapter in Section 24.6.2.8.7. A report of terrestrial invertebrate surveys is given in *Volume 5, Appendix 24.9.*
Suffolk Wildlife Trust	Habitats Regulations Assessment; both offshore and onshore elements have potential for significant adverse impacts on sites of European nature conservation importance.	The impacts of the onshore electrical transmissionworks on designated sites are assessed in this Chapter in Section 24.6. Impacts of the East Anglia ONE Windfarm and offshore export cable are assessed within this ES in *Volume 2*.
Suffolk Preservation Society	Seeks assurance where sensitive habitats will be adversely affected, appropriate mitigation will be undertaken in proximity. Also seeking assurance that the final choice of route will avoid such areas of importance.	Where impacts are identifed these are addressed in full in Section 24.6 together with mitigation in Section 24.7. During the routeing process, sensitive areas have been avoided (e.g. Seckford Hall CWS) or embedded mitigation (e.g. HDD crossing of Millers Wood CWS) avoids impacts.
Bawdsey Parish Council	Queried: plans to avoid disturbance to Harriers, other raptors and feeding birds along the Deben and surrounding area(s); which hedgerows and trees would be removed and replaced; and what future site inspection access will be required.	Mitigation measures for avoidance of disturbance to breeding and wintering birds are detailed in this Chapter in Section 24.7. The impact assessment and mitigation measures for trees and hedgerows is provided in Sections 24.6 and 24.7 respectively.
Mid Suffolk District Council	No reference to impacts on badgers; Bramford area has a high badger population and setts.	A detailed Badger survey has been undertaken and is contained within confidential *Volume 5, Appendix 24.13.* Impacts on Badgers are assessed within this Chapter in

Consulation Responses		
Consultee	**Comment**	**Response to Consultation**
		Section 24.6.
Suffolk County Council	Dormice surveys must include linking hedgerows within the cable route.	All survey locations were provided to Suffolk County Council for comment prior to surveys being undertaken, and included connecting hedgerow habitat.
Suffolk County Council	Lack of badger evidence, especially in the Bramford area, is unexpected. The proposed methodology for systematic searching for setts is acceptable.	The initial assessment did not include a detailed survey for Badgers, however a detailed Badger survey has subsequently identified Badgers along the Onshore Cable Route. A report of this Badger survey is contained in confidential *Volume 5, Appendix 24.13.*
Suffolk County Council	Noted that the Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment will be "broadly followed". Important to clarify statement and the extent to which the guidelines will not be followed.	The assessment follows the IEEM guidelines. It is possible that different consultancies may interpret the guidelines in slightly different ways.
Suffolk County Council	Noted further consultation will take place regarding construction and mitigation techniques in relation to Stag Beetles.	Stag Beetles are not considered to be significantly impacted. Impacts are discussed within this Chapter in Section 24.6.2.8.7. Mitigation measures for terrestrial invertebrates are discussed within Section 24.7.1. A report of terrestrial invertebrate surveys is given in *Volume 5, Appendix 24.9.*
Butterfly Conservation	The Wall Brown, *Lasiommata megera* is a butterfly listed within the UK BAP as a study species. The coastal strip at Bawdsey is one of our best	Invertebrate surveys included an assessment of the coastal cliffs. This is provided in *Volume 5, Appendix 24.9*. The

Consulation Responses		
Consultee	**Comment**	**Response to Consultation**
	colonies; construction of the landfall site with onshore transition pits would have a significant mpact on this species. Requested consideration be given to: Identify an alternative location for the landfall site; and to the presence of the butterfly in the planning, execution and restoration of the landfall arrangements. The creation of suitable butterfly habitat to re-colonise will form important mitigation, notwithstanding the risk of the Bawdsey colony being permanently extinguished by the works.	selection of the Landfall Location is a result of a careful site selection exercise which aimed to minimise impacts on a wide range of receptors. This exercise is described in *Volume 1, Chapter 3: Site Selection.*
Butterfly Conservation	Silver-studded Blue butterfly, *Plebejus argus*, is a priority species in the UK BAP. The proposed cable route passes close to one of its fragile colonies on the Site of Special Scientific Interest at Martlesham Heath. Damage can be avoided here by judicious routing.	The site selection exercise ensured that the Onshore Cable Route avoids Martlesham Heath, and therefore avoids potential impacts in the Silver-studded Blue Butterfly.
Butterfly Conservation	The necessity to restore earthworks above the cables from the coast to Bramford presents an opportunity to create a 40km Bee-Line. This would be accepted as mitigation at minimal extra cost. Reference: http://www.buglife.org.uk/conservation/currentprojects/Habitats+Action/B-Lines/The+B-Lines+Project.	All breaches in hedgerows would be reinstated in accordance with an Ecological Management Plan, to be agreed in detail with the relevant Local Planning Authority.
Natural England	Expecting early consultation to agree breeding bird survey location and methodology.	Locations of survey areas were submitted to Suffolk County Council, Mid Suffolk Council, Natural England and Suffolk Wildlife Trust for comment.

Consulation Responses		
Consultee	**Comment**	**Response to Consultation**
Natural England	Welcome the approach to cover areas outside of the designated sites; many act as supporting habitat for bird features and it is important to understand any impacts. Particularly the case around the proposed River Deben crossing - the freshwater grazing marsh behind the river is important for several species.	The detailed breeding bird survey report is provided in *Volume 5, Appendix 24.12*. This highlights the areas covered by the survey.
Natural England	Request that HDD is considered for sites identified as supporting habitats.	As a special engineering measure, HDD techniques have been proposed at designated sites and other sensitive locations where possible. The locations of proposed HDD sites are shown on *Volume 6, Figure 4.10*.
Natural England	Welcomes the need for further grassland surveys, should these remain within the cable corridor.	All species-rich grasslands identifed on the route were subject to detailed botanical surveys. Reports of these surveys are provided in *Volume 5, Appendix 24.3*.
Natural England	Welcome acknowledgment that saltmarsh and mudflats have national and local importance, and will require surveys to asses value.	The Phase 1 Habitat Survey and Phase 2 botanical surveys reports (available in *Volume 5, Appendices 24.2 and 24.3*) fully assess the saltmarsh vegetation value.
RSPB	Pleased to see commitment that hedgerows, ditches and other features providing biodiversity benefits will be replaced following cable laying. Features to reinstate should include field margins (important habitat for wildlife within the farmed environment). Where it is proposed to reinstate hedgerow and trees, these should be in a greater proportion than the	Mitigation and reinstatement measures are discussed within this Chapter at Section Reinstatement measures for hedgerows are also discussed within *Volume 4, Chapter 29 Seascape, Landscape and Visual,* and within an outline Landscape Strategy provided

Consulation Responses		
Consultee	**Comment**	**Response to Consultation**
	length of hedgerow or tree numbers removed.	within *Volume 5, Appendix 29.5*. Mitigation measures for hedgerows and biodiversity features would be detailed within a detailed Ecological Management Plan (EMP), to be agreed with the relevant Local Planning Authorities prior to construction.
RSPB	RSPB recommends that additional consultation on breeding bird locations be carried out asap given surveys should start in April. Happy to provide advice on potential survey locations.	Locations of survey areas were submitted to Suffolk County Council, Mid Suffolk Council, Natural England, and Suffolk Wildlife Trust for comment.
RSPB	Undertaking one year's winter bird survey should be dependent upon: the information collected; additional information available on bird usage of the application site; and if sufficient to draw robust conclusions about the likely impacts. Recommend this must be reviewed.	The winter bird survey was supplemented by BTO WeBS data, and gives a robust assessment. The results of the winter bird survey are detailed in *Volume 5, Appendix 24.11*.
RSPB	No further justification has been given for HDD to lay cables at the Deben and Martlesham Creek crossing points. Recommends further information be provided to support this and enable consultees to fully evaluate.	All early stage engineering advice supports the feasibility of HDD techniques for the crossing of the River Deben and Martlesham Creek by the Onshore Cable Route. The application for a Development Consent Order does not seek permission for open cut methods of crossing these watercourses.
RSPB	Maintenance works around the Deben crossing points - consider the nature of works and measures to minimise impacts including timing of	An assessment of impacts on breeding and wintering birds together with mitigation is provided in this Chapter in Section

Consulation Responses		
Consultee	**Comment**	**Response to Consultation**
	works outside the bird breeding season and avoiding high tides.	24.6 and 24.7 respectively.
Phase 2 Consultation Comments		
Martlesham Parish Council (02 August 2012)	Concerned the planting of trees on the corridor route post cable installation is not permitted; this seems restrictive especially as most tree roots have less than 1m depth. Provided records of some 100 veteran trees in Martlesham which it is hoped will be avoided.	Restrictions on planting of trees over the cables within the Onshore Cable Route are required in order to prevent drying out of the soil and overheating of cables. The impact assessment and mitigation measures for trees and hedgerows are provided within this Chapter in Sections 24.6 and 24.7 respectively.
	Queried why the cable cannot be tunnelled underground for hedges in the same manner for roads and rivers,	The design of the onshore electrical transmission works to be undergrounded, plus a careful route selection exercise has identified an Onshore Cable Route that minimises impacts on trees and hedgerows. HDD techniques are proposed in a number of locations, as shown on *Volume 6, Figure 4-10*. Outwith these locations, the open cut crossing of hedgerows is required for construction and access along the running track. The impact assessment and mitigation measures for hedgerows is provided in this Chapter in Sections 24.6 and 24.7 respectively.

Consulation Responses		
Consultee	**Comment**	**Response to Consultation**
	The veteran oak at 625300/248100 should be avoided. Queried whether tunneling can be done for several veteran trees south of Martlesham Creek. A further veteran oak identified at 626400/246800; south of this track is a wildflower meadow which the proposed route runs through.	As detailed in the Mitigation section of this Chapter at Section 24.7, a detailed arboricultural survey would be undertaken prior to construction in order to identify high value trees and inform the microrouteing options.
Marine Management Organisation (08 August 2012)	If open cut trenching methods are to be used for landfall construction, potential impacts on Bawdsey Cliffs SSSI and possible mitigation must be provided in order for scientists at Cefas to provide a full and informed response.	EAOW do not propose to use open cut trenching methods at the landfall, but HDD techniques instead.
Deben Estuary Partnership (1st August 2012)	The intertidal area and land adjacent to the Deben and Martlesham crossings have significant environmental importance. Construction impacts should be minimised with temporary working areas set back from river walls and work phased to lessen impacts on breeding and overwintering birds. Expect impact assessment of the creation of riverside construction sites, haul roads, and handling of drilling slurry. Queried whether (decontaminated) clay slurry / sediment spoil from drilling could be directed to appropriate saltmarsh regeneration projects.	There will be no direct impacts to the water courses at the River Deben and Martlesham Creek crossings due to the use of HDD methods. The locations of the HDD compounds associated with these compounds are outlined within *Volume 1, Chapter 4* and shown on *Volume 6, Figure 4-10.* Impacts of construction of the Onshore Cable Route on ornithology are discussed in Section 24.6. Detailed method statements for HDD operations would be finalised prior to construction. These and the Code of

Consulation Responses		
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		Construction Practice would consider disposal of arisings. For the purposes of the ES, as a worst case, it has been assumed that arisings from HDD operations would be disposed of at a licenced landfill.
Natural England (02 August 2012)	Focused attention on direct drilling under the Deben and use of the river to transport materials (cable etc) to a compound on the Ramsholt Marshes. Noted this would possibly be in place for up to a year. Have no objection to this idea in principle, but advise that the EIA and Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) examine disturbance to birds, damage to habitats, and pollution effects. Unlikely timing restrictions would be placed on the cable route works; however this would be dependant on the EIA / HRA outcomes and suitable mitigation where needed.	The impact assessment of the onshore electrical transmission works on ecology and ornithology around the Deben Estuary is detailed within this Chapter. A separate report to inform the Habitats Regulations Assessment has been undertaken and is submitted alongside the application for the Development Consent Order. EAOW no longer proposes the use of the River Deben for the transport of construction materials.
	Concerning river based access and the compound on Ramsholt Marshes, the EIA and HRA should consider direct disturbance/damage to SPA/SSSI saltmarsh and mudflat habitat (including mudflat compaction) as a result of construction/mooring/use of structures and possible mitigated. Should also include the post construction and servicing stages.	EAOW no longer proposes the use of the River Deben for the transport of construction materials. Potential impacts on coastal habitats (including the SPA/SSSI saltmarsh and mudflat habitat) are considered in this Chapter in Section 24.6.

Consulation Responses		
Consultee	**Comment**	**Response to Consultation**
	Consider disturbance to wintering and nesting birds during construction, compound operation, servicing and decommissioning. WeBS data indicates the lower reaches of the Deben represent the main Avocet roost area on the Estuary. Surrounding fields may be used by significant numbers of SPA population Brent Geese. Possible sources of disturbance include barge traffic, handling operations on the pontoon, noise/light disturbance from compound operations on Ramsholt marshes, people movements etc.	EAOW no longer proposes the use of the River Deben for the transport of construction materials. Potential impacts from construction works on breeding and wintering birds are considered in this Chapter in Section 24.6.
	The ES and HRA should describe the likely effects on known populations and detail mitigation measures. Possibilities to reduce disturbance impacts by carrying out handling operations from the folding, rather than on top of the sea wall or on the estuary side, to avoid 'sky-lining'.	Potential impacts and mitigation measures on wintering birds are considered in this Chapter at Section 24.6 and 24.7.
	Potential for pollution/contamination of the SSSI/SPA from compound operations, and potential for contaminant leakage and management of drilling fluid should be considered.	Potential impacts and mitigation measures on wintering birds are considered in this Chapter at Section 24.6 and 24.7. Mitigation measures include the commitment to agree with the relevant Local Planning Authorities an Ecological Management Plan and Code of Construction Practice.
	Potential for disturbance at Martlesham Creek; the ES (and HRA if	Mitigation measures for designated sites are discussed in this

Consulation Responses		
Consultee	**Comment**	**Response to Consultation**
	necessary) should detail how disturbance effects will be avoided or mitigated in a similar way to Ramsholt Marshes.	Chapter in Section 24.7.
Butterfly Conservation (02 August 2012)	If the landfall is closer to the coastal strip at Bawdsey then it is likely to have a significant impact on Wall Brown butterfly. Two possible solutions need investigation: 1) identify an alternative landfall site; or 2) give due consideration to the butterfly in the planning, execution and restoration of the landfall arrangements e.g. creation of suitable butterfly habitat to re-colonise as potential mitigation.	Invertebrate surveys included an assessment of the coastal cliffs. This is provided in *Volume 5, Appendix 24.9*. The selection of the Landfall Location is a result of a careful site selection exercise which aimed to minimise impacts on a wide range of receptors. This exercise is described in *Volume 1, Chapter 3: Site Selection* Details of impacts and mitigation regarding the Wall Brown Butterfly is provided in section 24.6 and 24.7. The method of construction (HDD) minimises any potential impact.
Babergh District Council (20 July 2012)	Greater clarity required in relation to the impact upon designated and non designated heritage assets, woodlands, trees and hedgerows and biodiversity interests.	The impacts on ecology and ornithology at designated and non desginated sites is discussed within this Chapter at Section 24.6.
Suffolk Wildlife Trust (03 August 2012)	Recognise consideration has been given to cable routing to limit impacts upon biodiversity, including re-routing to avoid Seckford Hall Camp Site County Wildlife Site (CWS); however several locations still cross both statutory and non-statutory designated sites including: Suffolk Shingle Beaches CWS; River Deben Estuary Special Protection	Sites have been avoided where possible and where crossing is required, mitigation measures are proposed in this Chapter in Section 24.7.

Consulation Responses		
Consultee	**Comment**	**Response to Consultation**
	Area (SPA), Ramsar site and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI); The Mill River CWS; River Gipping CWS; and Miller's Wood CWS. Recommended that suitable methods, such as non open-cut techniques are employed to ensure no adverse impact on these sites. Noted that a temporary access road is proposed through Miller's Wood CWS - an ancient woodland site; recommend only existing tracks are used for access.	
Suffolk County Council (2 August 2012)	Request written commitment to undertaking hedgerow restoration and enhancement beyond the immediate width requiring removal within the cable corridor. Opportunities to strengthen and reinforce affected hedgerows should form part of the strategy to mitigate landscape (and ecological) impacts.	Hedgerow restoration is discussed within *Volume 4, Chapter 29 Seascape, Landscape and Visual Amenity* and within an outline Landscape Strategy within *Volume 5, Appendix 29.5*.
	Assessments of all the consolidation and temporary works areas required.	Impacts associated with construction of the onshore electrical transmission works are discussed within this Chapter at Section 24.6.
	Seek commitment to retain all trees that are proved to be used as bat roosts.	No tree roosts were identified during the detailed tree surveys for bats. The report of the Bat surveys is available within *Volume 5, Appendix 24.4*.
	A draft ecological management plan and draft code of construction practice should be agreed by the time of DCO submission.	An outline Code of Construction Practice and Ecological Management Plan are submitted alongside the application for

Consulation Responses		
Consultee	**Comment**	**Response to Consultation**
		the Development Consent Order. The final versions of these documents would be agreed with the relevant Local Planning Authorities prior to construction.
	Environmental issues raised regarding the primary consolidation area (Site E). The site and its vicinity should be checked for badger interest. The eastern portion of the site, including the pine belt, presents significant environmental constraints.	Areas associated with the onshore electrical transmission works, including the area for Construction Consolidation Site E have been subject to detailed ecological surveys. The results of the Badger survey are provided in the confidential *Volume 5, Appendix 24.13*. The impacts of the onshore electrical transmission works are discussed within this chapter at *Section 24.6*.
Suffolk Preservation Society (29 March 2012)	Seek assurance that where sensitive habitats will be adversely affected e.g. salt marshes, flood plain meadows, calciferous grassland, hedgerows and semi natural woodlands (UK BAP and LBAP priority habitats), appropriate mitigation will be undertaken in proximity. Seek assurance that the final choice of route within the corridor will avoid such areas of importance.	Where possible, sensitive areas have been avoided. The site selection exercise is described within *Volume 1, Chapter 3: Site Selection*. Figure 24.1 shows the Onshore Cable Route in relation to sensitive ecological features. Where avoidance can not be achieved, mitigation measures are proposed to minimise the impacts, and are detailed in Section 24.7 of this Chapter.

Table 24-1 Consultation Responses

Appendix 24.3 Ends Here