Preliminary Environmental Information Report Volume 1

Chapter 25 Other Marine Users

LLK1-CEA-REP-ENV-000008
Revision 0.0
January 2026

LIONLINK

Contents

Glossary of Project Terminology

This Glossary has been provided to define terms used across a number of the LionLink Proposed Scheme documents.

Term	Definition
Applicant, the	National Grid Lion Link Limited (NGLLL)
Co-ordination	The process of people or entities working together.
Co-location	Where different elements of a project, or various projects, are located in one place.
Development Consent Order (DCO)	An order made by the Secretary of State pursuant to the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) granting development consent for a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project. It grants consent to develop the approved project and may include (among other things) powers to compulsorily acquire land and rights where required and deemed marine licences for any offshore works.
Draft Order Limits	The area of land identified as being subject to the DCO application. The Draft Order Limits are made up of the land required both temporarily and permanently to allow for the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of the Proposed Scheme. All onshore parts of the Proposed Onshore Scheme are located within England and offshore parts of the Proposed Offshore Scheme are located within English territorial waters to 12 Nautical Miles and then up to the United Kingdom (UK) Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) boundary at sea.
Dutch Offshore Components	Is the term used when referring to the offshore elements of the Project within Dutch waters.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	The EIA is a systematic regulatory process that assesses the potential likely significant effects of a proposed project or development on the environment.
EIA Scoping Report	An EIA scoping report defines the proposed scope and methodology of the EIA process for a particular project or development. The EIA Scoping Report for the Proposed Scheme was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate with a request for the Secretary of State to adopt a scoping opinion in relation to the Proposed Scheme on 6 March 2024.

Term	Definition
Environmental Statement (ES)	The ES is a document that sets out the likely significant effects of the project on the environment. The ES is the main output from the EIA process. The ES is published as part of the DCO application.
Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)	The zone in which the coastal state exercises the rights under Part V of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. These rights relate principally to the water column and may extend to 200 nautical miles from baselines. This is distinct from territorial waters, which for the UK extend 12 nautical miles from the coast.
Landfall	The proposed Landfall is where the proposed offshore HVDC Submarine Cables are brought ashore and meets with the onshore proposed Underground HVDC Cables. This includes the Transition Joint Bay (TJB). The proposed Landfall will be located at Walberswick, and there will be no permanent above ground infrastructure at the proposed Landfall.
Landfall Site	The area where the Landfall may be located.
Multi-purpose interconnector (MPI)	A project where GB interconnection is combined with transmission of offshore generation within GB (and optionally within a connecting state).
National Grid Lion Link Limited (NGLLL)	The Applicant, a joint venture between National Grid Ventures and TenneT. NGLLL is a business within the wider National Grid Ventures portfolio.
National Grid Ventures (NGV)	Operates and invests in energy projects, technologies and partnerships to accelerate the development of a clean energy future. This includes interconnectors (such as the LionLink Project), allowing trade between energy markets and the efficient use of renewable energy resources.
Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIP)	Major infrastructure developments in England and Wales for which development consent is required, as defined within Section 14 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended). This includes any development which is subject to a direction by the relevant Secretary of State pursuant to Section 35 of the Planning Act 2008.
Offshore Hybrid Asset (OHA)	A project that combines cross-border interconnection with the transmission of offshore generation, this is an overarching term which covers both multi-purpose interconnectors (MPI) and non-standard interconnectors (NSI).
Order Limits	The maximum extent of land within which the Proposed Scheme may take place, as consented.

Term	Definition
Outline Offshore Construction Environmental Management Plan (Outline Offshore CEMP)	Describes the control measures and standards proposed to be implemented to provide a consistent approach to the environmental management of the construction activities of the Proposed Offshore Scheme.
Outline Onshore Code of Construction Practice (Outline Onshore CoCP)	Describes the control measures and standards proposed to be implemented to provide a consistent approach to the environmental management of the construction activities of the Proposed Onshore Scheme.
Planning Act 2008	The Planning Act 2008 being the relevant primary legislation for national infrastructure planning.
Planning Inspectorate (PINS)	The Planning inspectorate review DCO applications and make a recommendation to the Secretary of State, who will then decide whether to approve the DCO.
Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)	The PEIR is a document, compiled by the Applicant, which presents preliminary environmental information, as part of the statutory consultation process. This is defined by the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 as containing information which "is reasonably required for the consultation bodies to develop an informed view of the likely significant environmental effects of the development (and of any associated development)" (Section 12 2. (b)). This PEIR describes the Proposed Scheme, sets out preliminary findings of the EIA undertaken to date, and the mitigation measures proposed to reduce effects. The PEIR is published at Statutory Consultation stage for information and feedback.
Project (the)	The LionLink Project (hereafter referred to as the 'Project') is a proposal by National Grid Lion Link Limited (NGLLL) and TenneT. The Project is a proposed electricity link between Great Britain (GB) and the Netherlands with a capacity of up to 2.0 gigawatts (GW) of electricity and will connect to Dutch offshore wind via an offshore platform in Dutch waters. The Project is the collective term used to refer to the proposal for all aspects (onshore and offshore) of the proposed interconnector between GB and the Netherlands.
Proposed Offshore Scheme	The term used when referring to the offshore elements of the Proposed Scheme, seaward of the

Term	Definition
	mean high-water springs to the EEZ boundary at sea.
Proposed Scheme	Used when referring to the GB scheme components of the Project, not including Dutch components. This includes both the onshore and offshore scheme components which are within UK territorial waters and up to the UK EEZ boundary at sea.
Scoping Opinion	A scoping opinion is requested from the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State, to inform the requirements of EIA process and ultimately the ES which will be submitted as part of the application for development consent. Through the scoping process, the views of the statutory consultees and other relevant organisations on the proposed scope of the EIA are sought. A Scoping Opinion for the Proposed Scheme was issued by the Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) on 16 April 2024. The Applicant received a separate EIA Scoping Opinion from the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) (Reference DCO/2024/00005, dated 04 September 2024) as the MMO were unable to provide opinion to the Planning Inspectorate in time for the April 2024 deadline.
Scottish Power Renewables (SPR) East Anglia One North (EA1N) and East Anglia 2 (EA2) Consents (SPR EA1N and EA2 Consents)	The Orders made following the Scottish Power Renewables applications for development consent for the following projects: The East Anglia ONE North Offshore Wind Farm Order 2022; and East Anglia TWO Offshore Wind Farm Order 2022
Statutory Consultation	Consultation undertaken with the community and stakeholders in advance of the application for development consent being submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, on behalf of the Secretary of state, in accordance with the PA 2008.
TenneT	Operator of the electricity transmission network across the Netherlands.
Transition Joint Bay (TJB)	An underground structure at the Landfall Site that house the joints between the offshore cables and the onshore cables.

Terms and abbreviations specific to this technical chapter contained herein are provided at the end of the document in the **Topic Glossary and Abbreviations.**

25 OTHER MARINE USERS

25.1 Introduction

25.1.1 This chapter provides a preliminary assessment of the potential likely significant effects in relation to other marine users from the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of the Proposed Offshore Scheme.

25.1.2 This chapter outlines legislation, policy and guidance that is relevant to the other marine users assessment, summarises the engagement undertaken to date, sets out the scope and methodology of assessment, and describes the baseline environment. Following this, the likely significant effects of the Proposed Offshore Scheme on other marine users are assessed taking account of control measures within the design. The need for any additional mitigation is then considered along with any proposals for monitoring and/or enhancement. The chapter concludes with a summary of any residual effects.

25.1.3 Aspects considered within this chapter for the Proposed Offshore Scheme relevant to the other marine users assessment are:

a. offshore wind farms;
b. power and telecommunication cables;
c. carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) and natural gas storage sites;
d. disposal sites;
e. aggregate extraction sites;
f. chemical weapon and munitions sites;
g. Ministry of Defence Military Practice and Exercise Areas (MoD PEXA);
h. oil and gas infrastructure;
i. recreational activities (note that recreational boating/watersports are also covered in **Chapter 23 Shipping and Navigation** and **Chapter 16 Socio-Economics, Recreation and Tourism** of this PEIR);
j. angling - including chartered anglers (note that commercial fishing is also covered in **Chapter 24 Commercial Fisheries** of this PEIR) and
k. meteorological masts

25.1.4 This chapter should be read in conjunction with **Chapter 2 Description of the Proposed Scheme** of this Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which describes the development parameters against which the effects considered in this chapter have been assessed, and **Chapter 5 EIA Approach and Methodology** of this PEIR where the project-wide approach to the assessment methodology is set out.

25.1.5 In addition, there may be interrelationships related to the potential effects on other marine users and other disciplines. Therefore, this chapter should be read alongside relevant sections of other chapters; namely:

a. **Chapter 16 Socio-Economics, Recreation and Tourism** of this PEIR - identifies the potential impacts on recreational users;
b. **Chapter 23 Shipping and Navigation** of this PEIR - identifies the potential navigational impacts on other marine users such as risk of collision and disruption; and
c. **Chapter 24 Commercial Fisheries** of this PEIR - identifies the potential impacts on commercial fishing vessels.

25.1.6 This chapter is supported by the following appendices and figures, contained within Volume 2 and Volume 3 of this PEIR, respectively:

a. **Appendix 2.2 Outline Offshore Construction Environmental Management Plan** of this PEIR;
b. **Appendix 29.1 Outline Schedule of Environmental Commitments and Measures** of this PEIR;
c. **Appendix 4.1 Legislation and Policy Register** of this PEIR;
d. **Appendix 4.2 Marine Plan Assessment** of this PEIR;
e. **Appendix 5.3 Transboundary Screening** of this PEIR;
f. **Appendix 25.1 Supporting other marine users information** of this PEIR; and
g. **Figure 25.1** to **Figure 25.7** of this PEIR.

25.1.7 As set out in **Chapter 4 Policy and Legislation** of this PEIR, cable installation and some associated activities beyond 12 nautical miles (NM) are exempt under the Marine and Coastal Access Act (MCAA) as well as repair of the installed cable. This chapter presents a preliminary assessment of the Proposed Offshore Scheme from Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) at the proposed Landfall Site to the boundary between the UK and Netherlands Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). This is to provide a holistic view of the Proposed Offshore Scheme and any associated impacts, however, consent is not being sought for the exempt cable (either installation or repair) and only cable protection and dredging for sandwave levelling will be included in the Deemed Marine Licence (DML) beyond 12NM.

25.2 Legislation and policy framework

25.2.1 This section identifies the legislation, policy and guidance that has informed the assessment of the likely significant effects on other marine users.

25.2.2 **Table 25.1** lists the legislation relevant to the assessment of the likely significant effects on other marine users. The legislation and planning policy which has informed the assessment of effects with respect to other marine users is provided within **Appendix 4.1 Legislation and Policy Register** of this PEIR. A preliminary marine plan assessment is provided as **Appendix 4.2 Marine Plan Assessment** of this PEIR.

Table 25.1: List of relevant legislation for other marine users assessment

Legislation	Relevance to assessment
The Planning Act 2008 (Ref 1)	The statutory framework for deciding applications for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for nationally significant infrastructure is contained in the Planning Act 2008 ("PA2008").
The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (Ref 2)	This Act transposes EU Directive 2011/92/EU (the EIA Directive) into UK law for nationally significant infrastructure projects, ensuring environmental safeguards while potentially streamlining the process.
Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (Ref 3)	Sets out a spatial planning system for the management of the marine environment, which includes a requirement to obtain a marine licence for works at sea from the appropriate marine licensing authority, the Marine Management Organisation (MMO).
Electricity Act 1989 (Section 38 and Schedule 9) (Ref 4)	Section 38 and Schedule 9 of the Electricity Act 1989 impose a duty on electricity licensees to preserve amenity (and fisheries in Scotland) when carrying out certain activities related to electricity generation, transmission, and supply. These activities include constructing or extending generating stations of 10MW or more, installing overhead or underground electricity lines, and other works related to electricity transmission and supply.
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Ref 5)	The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), also known as the Law of the Sea Convention, is a foundational international treaty that establishes a legal framework for all marine and maritime activities. It sets out the rights and obligations of states regarding the use of the oceans and their resources, including navigation, fishing, and the protection of the marine environment. Article 79: Submarine cables and pipelines on the continental shelf sets out provisions for the installation and maintenance of submarine cables and pipelines.
The Submarine Telegraph Act (1885) (Ref 6)	The Submarine Telegraph Act (1885) aimed to protect submarine telegraph cables from damage, ensuring reliable international communication. It made it an offense to intentionally or negligently break or injure a submarine cable, punishable by fines or imprisonment. This Act also allowed for civil actions for damages against those who caused harm to the cables.

National Policy

National Policy Statements

25.2.3 The primary basis for deciding whether to grant a Development Consent Order (DCO) for the Proposed Offshore Scheme is the National Policy Statements (NPS) and of primary relevance the Overarching NPS for Energy (NPS EN-1) (Ref 7), renewable energy infrastructure (NPS EN-3) (Ref 8) and the UK Marine Policy Statement (Ref 9). These set out policies to guide how application for development consent for energy infrastructure should be decided and how the effects of such infrastructure are considered.

25.2.4 **Table 25.2** lists the paragraphs from NPS EN-1 that are relevant to the other marine users assessment. It also sets out where these policy requirements are addressed within this PEIR.

Table 25.2: List of relevant national policy for other marine users assessment

Relevant paragraph reference	Summary of policy requirement	Where addressed in PEIR
Section 4.5	Section 4.5 of NPS EN-1 looks at Marine Considerations establishing that Applicants for a Development Consent Order (DCO) must take account of any relevant 'Marine Plans'.	Marine Plans are developed by the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) to guide the use of certain areas of the marine environment around the UK. The East Inshore and East Offshore Marine Plans (Ref 10) contain policies that a project in development must comply with to ensure co-ordinated development with other marine users. This is assessed as part of **Appendix 4.2 Marine Plan Assessment**.
Section 5.13	Provides guidance on the Applicant's assessment with respect to socio-economic considerations, which for this assessment is of relevance for other marine users.	This section of NPS EN-1 requires the Applicant to have regard to potential impacts on "tourism and other users of the area impacted," as well as considering potential mitigation measures. This chapter assesses the potential impacts which could affect other marine users of the area as a result of the Proposed Offshore Scheme, including recreational users during the construction phase in **Paragraph 25.8.3 – 25.8.13**. Design and embedded mitigation measures are included in **Section 25.78** and additional measures are included in **Section 25.10.**

25.2.5 The local policies listed in **Table 25.3** are considered relevant to the other marine users assessment of the Proposed Offshore Scheme.

Table 25.3: List of relevant local policy for other marine users assessment

Local planning authority	Relevant local policy	Relevance to assessment
MMO	East Inshore and East Offshore Marine Plan (Ref 10)	Marine plans set out the priorities and direction for future planning within the plan area and provide guidance on activities to avoid or promote. **Appendix 4.2 Marine Plan Assessment** of this PEIR outlines how the Proposed Offshore Scheme complies with the policies and objectives for the East Inshore and East Offshore Marine Plan area. Of relevance to this other marine users assessment are Policies FISH1 and FISH2 which require applicants to demonstrate that they will contribute to sustainable growth in the marine sector, and ensure existing activity is considered during licensing or consent for new activities; and SOC1 which require applicants to provide health and social well-being benefits including through maintaining or enhancing access to the coast and marine area should be supported. If necessary. Applicants can implement measures to mitigate adverse impacts. The preliminary assessment of effects is presented in **Section 25.8** and embedded design mitigation and control measures are presented in **Section 25.7** of this chapter.

25.3 Consultation and engagement

25.3.1 This section describes the outcome of, and response to EIA Scoping Report (Ref 11) and the EIA Scoping Opinion (Ref 12) in relation to the other marine users assessment.

25.3.2 It also provides details of the ongoing technical engagement that has been undertaken with key stakeholders and provides a brief overview of the non-statutory public consultation undertaken to date.

25.3.3 Feedback from engagement and consultation are used to define the assessment approach and to ensure that appropriate baseline information is used.

25.3.4 It should be noted that feedback is also used to drive the design of the Proposed Scheme to avoid, prevent and reduce any likely environmental effects. **Chapter 3 Alternatives and Design Evolution** of this PEIR reports how the Proposed Scheme design has evolved in response to feedback and details of proposed embedded design (Primary) mitigation and standard good practice (Tertiary) mitigation measures relevant to the other marine users assessment are provided in **Section 25.7** of this chapter.

Consultation

Non-Statutory Consultation

25.3.5 Feedback received from stakeholders following the close of our 2022 and 2023 consultation is outlined within the **Interim Non-Statutory Consultation Feedback Summary Report 2023** (Ref 13) and **Supplementary Non-Statutory Consultation Summary Report2023** (Ref 14).

25.3.6 **Table 25.4** below includes a summary of key non statutory consultation feedback received to date and how this has been addressed within the PEIR or will be within the ES.

Table 25.4: Key non statutory consultation feedback for other marine users assessment

Stakeholder	Comment	Applicant response
East Suffolk Council Suffolk Coast & Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Walberswick Parish Council	Raised concerns about the impact of the Proposed Scheme on tourism and recreation particularly in relation to ability to enjoy the amenities at the proposed Landfall Site during construction.	**Chapter 16 Socio-Economics, Recreation and Tourism** of this PEIR provides the preliminary assessment of effects on Tourism at the proposed Landfall Site. **Section 25.8** of this chapter provides a preliminary assessment of the effect on water based recreational activities.

EIA Scoping Opinion

25.3.7 An EIA Scoping Opinion was adopted by the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State on 16 April 2024 (Ref 12).

25.3.8 The Applicant received a separate EIA Scoping Opinion from the MMO (Ref 15) as the MMO were unable to provide opinion to the Planning Inspectorate in time for the April 2024 deadline. The MMO deferred to the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) and Trinity House with regards to the safety of other users of the sea.

25.3.9 Comments received from the Planning Inspectorate and MMO in relation to other marine users are provided in **Table 25.5.**

Table 25.5: Preliminary response to Planning Inspectorate and MMO Scoping Opinion for other marine users

Scoping Opinion ID	Scoping Opinion Comment	How this is addressed
Planning Inspectorate ID 3.20.1	(Paragraphs 25.4.3 to 25.4.4) Effects to recreational users: The Scoping Report states that the other marine users'	**Paragraphs 25.6.15 – 25.6.23** establishes the baseline for

Scoping Opinion ID	Scoping Opinion Comment	How this is addressed
	assessment focuses on impacts relating to occupancy of the seabed and that effects to recreational users (diving and water sports) would be captured in the Socio-Economics, Recreation and Tourism ES chapter. The Socio-Economics, Recreation and Tourism section of the Scoping Report (section 16) relates to onshore receptors and does not refer to diving and water sports. The Scoping Report does not provide sufficient justification for the Inspectorate to agree to scope this matter out. The ES should include an assessment of effects to diving and water sports' recreational users, where significant effects are likely to occur. Consideration should be given to impact pathways including increased vessel traffic, increase in suspended sediment and subsea noise.	water based recreational users within the study area. **Section 25.8** provides the preliminary assessment of effects on water based recreational users.
Planning Inspectorate ID 3.20.2	(Table 25-6) Impacts from dumped munitions and UXO. The Scoping Report states that there is potential for dumped munitions within the study area. An UXO survey is proposed to be undertaken prior to construction of the selected offshore cable corridor to ensure that any potential UXO has been identified, investigated and cleared. As noted in ID 2.1.14 of this Opinion, the ES should include a high level assessment of likely significant effects associated with UXO clearance. The Inspectorate does not agree that this matter can be scoped out of the assessment.	This impact has been scoped back 'in' to the assessment, though UXO clearance is not part of the application for development; it would be part of a separate marine licence where significance of effects on water-based recreation would be considered and appropriate mitigation would be put into place, such as Notice to Mariners, and safety exclusion zones. As such, only a high-level assessment of underwater noise has been undertaken, for information only (**Section 25.8**). **Table 25.6** within this chapter has been updated. Activities associated with the lift and shift of any confirmed UXO are to be included in the application for development consent.
Planning Inspectorate ID 3.20.3	(Paragraph 25.3.4). Study area. A 10km buffer around the offshore scoping boundary was used to search for	**Paragraph 25.4.6** of this chapter provides justification for how the extent of the

Scoping Opinion ID	Scoping Opinion Comment	How this is addressed
	relevant other marine users. No justification is provided to explain why this is a suitable study area for the assessment. The ES should clearly justify why the final extent of the study area reflects the potential ZoI of the Proposed Development for the other marine user receptors. Effort should be made to agree the final study area with relevant consultation bodies.	study area has been defined for this assessment.
Planning Inspectorate ID 3.20.4	(Paragraph 25.3.12 and Table 25-6). Effects to existing spoil disposal sites. Paragraph 25.3.12 of the Scoping Report states that 11 spoil disposal sites were identified within the study area; however, Table 25-6 (proposed assessment scope) does not refer to an assessment of spoil disposal sites. The ES should assess the potential impacts on existing spoil disposal sites from the seabed occupancy of the Proposed Development, where significant effects are likely to occur.	**Paragraphs 25.6.5** and **Table 25.12** describe the spoil areas identified within the study area (now nine following design refinement post Scoping). **Section 25.8** provides a preliminary assessment of the effects on other marine users during construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Offshore Scheme.
Planning Inspectorate ID 3.20.5	(Paragraph 25.4.14 and Figure 25-2). Figures. Paragraph 25.3.14 of the Scoping Report states that the 11 dumped munition locations within the study area are illustrated on Figure 25-2 (Offshore Figures). The locations are not clear from Figure 25-2. A figure should also be provided to illustrate the location of recreational diving sites in relation to the offshore scoping boundary. The Applicant should ensure that any ES figures are clear and consistent with the textual descriptions. Figures should be of an appropriate scale and shading to allow each element on the figure to be clearly distinguishable and include clear keys/legends and labels.	**Figure 25-4** of this PEIR takes the Planning Inspectorate comment into consideration and makes it clearer where dumped munition locations are in relation to the Proposed Offshore Scheme.
Planning Inspectorate ID 3.20.6	(Paragraph 25.4.3) Potential impacts. The Scoping Report explains that the potential impacts on other marine users transiting through the study area from licensed areas to ports will be assessed through the Shipping and Navigation ES. The ES should provide clear cross-referencing to where relevant impacts	Impacts upon sailing and cruising receptors are assessed within **Chapter 23 Shipping and Navigation** of this PEIR, which also identifies the potential navigational impacts on other marine users

Scoping Opinion ID	Scoping Opinion Comment	How this is addressed
	on other marine users has been considered.	such as risk of collision and disruption. This chapter has been clearly referenced. **Figure 2.7** of this PEIR illustrates the recreational boating activity in the study area.
Planning Inspectorate ID 3.20.7	Aquaculture. The Scoping Report makes no mention of the aquaculture industry as a potential receptor, and it is not addressed in the Commercial Fisheries section of the Scoping Report (section 24). The ES should assess the impacts from the Proposed Development to the aquaculture sector, where significant effects are likely to occur.	Interrogation of publicly available GIS data confirmed that aquaculture is not present within the study area. **Paragraph 25.6.25** reflects this understanding within the current baseline. The publicly available data would be checked for updates as part of the ES assessment, no project specific surveys would be undertaken.
Planning Inspectorate ID 3.20.8	Impacts to other marine users below Mean High-Water Spring (MHWS). The Applicant's attention is drawn to the consultation response from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (Appendix 2 of this Opinion). The ES should confirm whether any proposed works to facilitate the Proposed Development will be undertaken below the MHWS within the Hundred River, River Minsmere, River Blyth or River Wang. The impact of any potential works on other marine users below the MHWS within any of these rivers should be assessed in the ES. Where significant effects could occur.	River Wang and River Blyth were associated with the Southwold landfall option. Since scoping the decision has been made to proceed with the Walberswick landfall. A trenchless cable installation method (such as horizontal directional drilling) will be used with the exit point seaward of the 0m LAT water depth contour.
MMO Paragraph 3.8.11	As indicated in Table 29-2, the Scoping Report should note the potential for intra project effect of Fish and Shellfish, Commercial Fisheries and on Other Marine Users (namely the recreational fisheries/tourism element in inshore and coastal boundaries). To note the touristic attraction of 'crabbing' for small crab and prawn species at the Southwold/Walberswick harbour area.	**Paragraph 25.6.23** provides an overview of crabbing as a recreational activity at the proposed Landfall Site. **Section 25.8** provides the preliminary assessment of effects on recreational crabbing during the construction phase of the Proposed Offshore Scheme.

Scoping Opinion ID	Scoping Opinion Comment	How this is addressed
		Intra-project effects with fish and shellfish and commercial fisheries receptors will be considered during the cumulative impact assessment as part of the ES.

Engagement

25.3.10 This section provides details of the ongoing technical engagement that has been undertaken with stakeholders in relation to other marine users, and is outlined below.

Key stakeholders

25.3.11 Key stakeholders with views and concerns regarding the other marine users assessment have been identified as including:

a. Marine Management Organisation (MMO);
b. The Crown Estate;
c. Ministry of Defence (MoD);
d. North Sea Transition Authority (NSTA);
e. Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning (OPRED);
f. Offshore Energies UK (OEUK);
g. Perenco Oil and Gas;
h. British Marine Aggregate Producers Association (BMAPA);
i. Dredging, Environmental and Marine Engineering (DEME);
j. Royal Yachting Association (RYA) (Comments are noted in **Chapter 23 Shipping and Navigation** of this PEIR); and
k. Third party asset owners (e.g. pipeline, power and communication cables, offshore windfarm owners)
    - Scottish Power Renewables (East Anglia One North, East Anglia One, East Anglia Two, East Anglia Three Offshore windfarms);
    - Vattenfall Ltd (Norfolk Vanguard East, Norfolk Vanguard West, Norfolk Boreas Offshore windfarms); and
    - ABP and SSE Renewables (Ijmuiden Ver Offshore Wind Farms)

25.3.12 The Applicant is progressing discussions with existing asset owners and will continue to engage with asset owners as relevant. The Applicant will keep a watching brief to ensure any new marine users in the area are engaged with as and when appropriate.

25.4 Assessment methodology

25.4.1 This section outlines the methodology followed to assess the potential likely significant effects of the Proposed Offshore Scheme in relation to other marine users including:

a. effects scoped into the assessment;
b. study area;
c. assessment scenarios;
d. methodology;
e. assessment criteria; and
f. assessment of cumulative effects.

25.4.2 This section provides a description of how receptor sensitivity, magnitude of impact and significance of effects are all described and assigned to the assessment.

25.4.3 The project-wide approach to the assessment methodology is set out in **Chapter 5 EIA Approach and Methodology** of this PEIR.

Scope of the assessment

25.4.4 Potential likely significant effects requiring assessment may be temporary or permanent and may occur during construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning. Potential likely significant effects on other marine users receptors within the scope of the assessment are summarised in **Table 25.6**. The scope of the assessment has responded to feedback received as detailed in **Section 25.3**.

Table 25.6: Summary of the scope for other marine users assessment

Receptor	Construction	Operation and Maintenance	Decommissioning
Infrastructure asset owners	Temporary restriction of access	Temporary restriction of access	Temporary restriction of access
Recreational users	Temporary restriction of access	Temporary restriction of access	Temporary restriction of access
Other marine users – Infrastructure asset owners	n/a	Occupancy of seabed – below seabed.	n/a
Other marine users – Infrastructure asset owners	n/a	Occupancy of seabed – on seabed.	n/a

25.4.5 Impacts on designated bathing waters have been assessed in **Chapter 18 Marine Physical Environment** of this PEIR. Impacts on commercial fisheries have been assessed in **Chapter 24 Commercial Fisheries** and **Chapter 23 Shipping and**

Navigation of this PEIR. Impacts on Sizewell B and Sizewell C nuclear intake pipe from the temporary increase in suspended sediments have been assessed in **Chapter 18 Marine Physical Environment** of this PEIR.

Study area

25.4.6 This section describes the spatial scope (the area which may be impacted) for the assessment as it applies to the other marine users assessment.

25.4.7 The spatial scope of the impact assessment for other marine users covers the area of the Proposed Offshore Scheme contained within the Draft Order Limits (DOL) together with the study area, described as follows:

25.4.8 The Proposed Offshore Scheme routes from Walberswick across the Southern North Sea to the boundary between the English and Dutch Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ). The Draft Order Limits for the Proposed Offshore Scheme is illustrated in **Figure 25.1** of this PEIR.

25.4.9 The study area for the other marine users assessment has been defined as the same extent as the study area used for **Chapter 23 Shipping and Navigation** of this PEIR, which is five nautical miles (approximately 10km). Other marine users will be transiting between their licensed areas and ports and therefore it was considered appropriate to have a corresponding sized study area. The study area for other marine users is therefore the Draft Order Limits plus a 10km buffer as illustrated in **Figure 25.1** of this PEIR. The extent of the study area incorporates the area within which there is potential for direct and indirect impacts.

Assessment scenarios

25.4.10 **Chapter 5 EIA Approach and Methodology** of this PEIR provides an overview of the Project's approach to the temporal scope (the timescales over which impacts may occur) of the EIA. This section describes the temporal scope for the assessment as it applies to the other marine users assessment.

25.4.11 The temporal scope has been informed by **Chapter 2 Description of the Proposed Scheme** of this PEIR. The temporal scope of the assessment of other marine users is consistent with the period over which the Proposed Offshore Scheme would be carried out. It covers the period from award of consent to the anticipated end of the Proposed Offshore Scheme lifespan.

25.4.12 It assumes construction of the Proposed Offshore Scheme would commence at the earliest 2028 and complete by 2032. Operation would commence in 2032 with periodical maintenance required during the operational phase of the Proposed Offshore Scheme. It is assumed that maintenance and repair activities could take place at any time during the life span of the Proposed Offshore Scheme.

25.4.13 It is during the construction phase of the Proposed Offshore Scheme that direct impacts to other marine user receptors are most likely to occur. Indirect impacts may also occur during construction-related activities.

25.4.14 The Proposed Offshore Scheme would be licensed for 40 years. At this point, either an extension to the licence would be requested, supported by the necessary environmental assessment, or decommissioning would take place. If decommissioning is required, then activities and effects associated with the decommissioning phase are expected to be of a similar level to those during the construction phase works, albeit with a lesser duration of two years and, with the removal of visible infrastructure, effects would reduce over the course of that period.

25.4.15 Acknowledging the complexities of completing a detailed assessment for decommissioning works up to 40 years in the future, based on the information available, the Applicant has concluded that impacts from decommissioning would be no greater than those during the construction phase. Furthermore, should decommissioning take place, it is expected that an assessment in accordance with the legislation and guidance at the time of decommissioning would be undertaken. In addition, it expected that the DCO would include a requirement for a written scheme of decommissioning for approval by the MMO and in line with The Crown Estate requirements.

Baseline methodology

Data collection

25.4.16 The following sections describe the approach taken to collect baseline data which has been undertaken to obtain information over the study area.

25.4.17 The following sources of data have been utilised to inform the baseline with respect to other marine users (**Table 25.7**).

Table 25.7: Data sources used to inform the other marine users assessment

Source of data	Baseline data
The Crown Estate Asset Maps/Data (Ref 16)	The offshore windfarms lease agreement areas, wind export cable agreements, marine aggregate sites, carbon capture and storage sites and natural gas storage sites
The Kingfisher Information Service – Offshore Renewable and Cable Awareness (KIS-ORCA) (Ref 17)	Offshore Renewable Cable: Marine cables digital data
European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) (Ref 18)	Digital datasets of offshore marine infrastructure, and digital data for Automatic Identification System (AIS) vessel densities, and other marine users

Source of data	Baseline data
NSTA (Ref 19)	Digital data for historical oil and gas infrastructure and blocks
MMO (Ref 20)	Mapping recreational sea anglers in the UK waters
UK Hydrographic Office (UKHO) (Ref 21)	Military Practice and Exercise Areas
RYA (Ref 22)	UK Coastal Atlas of Recreational Boating
Marine Traffic (Ref 23)	AIS vessel traffic data
European Subsea Cable Association (ESCA) (Ref 24)	GIS Data on offshore renewable and submarine cable infrastructure – KIS-ORCA
British Sub-Aqua Club (BSAC) (Ref 25)	Information on where to dive recreationally in the UK
Visit Suffolk (Ref 26)	Information and locations of water activities around Suffolk

25.4.18 Baseline data collection for the other marine users assessment has been desk based.

Site surveys

25.4.19 No surveys specific to the other marine users assessment have informed this PEIR and none are proposed to inform the final Environmental Statement.

Assessment methodology

25.4.20 The project-wide approach to the assessment methodology is set out in **Chapter 5 EIA Approach and Methodology** of this PEIR.

25.4.21 The criteria for characterising the value and sensitivity and magnitude for other marine users are outlined in **Table 25.8** and **Table 25.9** respectively.

Table 25.8: Definitions of value and sensitivity for other marine users

Receptor Value and Sensitivity	Description
High	Receptor is economically valuable and has low/no capacity to return to pre-impact conditions, e.g., low tolerance to change and low recoverability such as loss of access with no alternatives or the impact will have major financial consequences for the receptor.
Medium	Receptor is of intermediate economic value and/or is tolerable to change e.g., acceptable alternatives with minor financial consequences.
Low	Receptor is of minor value or importance. May affect behaviour but is not a nuisance to user, with acceptable financial consequences.
Negligible	Receptor is very low value or importance or has high recovery with little financial consequences.

Table 25.9: Definitions of impact magnitude criteria for other marine users

Impact Magnitude	Definition
High	Total loss of ability to continue activities. Impact is of medium-term (7-15 years) through to long-term/permanent duration and/or frequency of repetition is continuous and/or effect is not reversible.
Medium	Loss or alteration to significant portion of key components of current activity leading to a reduction in the activity that may be undertaken. Impacts are of medium term (7-15 years) duration and/or on a local level and/or frequency of repetition is medium to continuous.
Low	Minor shift away from baseline, leading to a reduction in the level of activity that may be undertaken. Impacts are temporary (<1 year) or short term (1-7 years) in duration and/or, site specific and/or frequency of repetition is low. Impacts limited to within the project footprint. Negligible contribution to cumulative effects.
Negligible	Very little or no detectable change from baseline conditions. Impacts predicted to be brief (one to two days) or for a short period (up to 3 months). No contribution to cumulative effects.

25.4.22 The significance of an effect, either adverse or beneficial, will be determined using a combination of the magnitude of the impact and the sensitivity of the receptor. A matrix approach is used throughout all topic areas to ensure a consistent approach within the assessment. This is described further in **Chapter 5 EIA Approach and Methodology** of this PEIR and is replicated for ease in **Table 25.10.**

Table 25.10: Significance matrix

Magnitude of impact	Receptor Sensitivity			
	High	Medium	Low	Negligible
High	Major	Moderate	Moderate	Minor
Medium	Moderate	Moderate	Minor	Negligible
Low	Moderate	Minor	Negligible	Negligible
Negligible	Minor	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

Cumulative assessment

25.4.23 **Chapter 28 Cumulative Effects** of this PEIR defines the methodology for the assessment of cumulative effects. The other marine users assessment of intra- and inter-project cumulative effects will be carried out and reported within the ES to be submitted with the application for development consent.

25.4.24 The Zone of Influence for the inter-project cumulative effects assessment of other marine users comprises the Draft Order Limits plus an additional 10km either side, for the same reasons as justified in **paragraph 25.4.9.**

Guidance

25.4.25 In addition, the other marine users assessment has been undertaken in accordance with relevant guidance and has been compiled in accordance with professional standards. The guidance and standards which relate to this assessment are:

a. Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) Marine Guidance Note (MGN) 654 (Ref 27);
b. ESCA Guideline No.6: The Proximity of Offshore Renewable Energy Installations and Submarine Cable Infrastructure in UK waters (Ref 28);
c. International Cable Protection Committee (ICPC) Recommendation No.2. Cable Routing and Reporting Criteria (Ref 29);
d. ICPC Recommendation No.3. Cable and Oil Pipeline/Power Cables Crossing Criteria (Ref 30);
e. ICPC Recommendation No.13. The Proximity of Offshore Renewable Wind Energy Installations and Submarine Cable Infrastructure in National Waters (Ref 31);
f. ESCA guideline No.19. Marine Aggregate Extraction Proximity Guidelines (Ref 32); and
g. Guidance on assessing the socio-economic impacts of offshore windfarms (OWFs), produced by Oxford Brooks and Vattenfall (Ref 33).

25.5 Assessment assumptions and limitations

25.5.1 The information provided in this PEIR is preliminary and the final assessment of significant effects will be reported in the ES. The PEIR has been produced to fulfil the Applicant's consultation duties in accordance with Section 42 of the PA2008 and enable consultees to develop an informed view of the likely significant effects of the Proposed Offshore Scheme.

25.5.2 This PEIR has been collated based on a range of publicly available data and information only. The presented data was collated as of May 2025. The data would be supplemented with new or additional data that becomes available after this date as part of the EIA process. It is assumed that the data available from existing literature and consultation would provide an appropriate evidence base for other marine users.

25.5.3 In the absence of data, a precautionary approach has been taken and professional judgement applied, based on experience of similar linear schemes.

25.5.4 There are no limitations relating to other marine users that affect the robustness of the preliminary assessment of the potential significant effects of the Proposed Offshore Scheme.

25.6 Baseline conditions

25.6.1 To provide an assessment of the likely significance of the Proposed Offshore Scheme (in terms of other marine users), it is necessary to identify and understand the baseline conditions in the study area. This provides a reference point against which potential changes in the use of the study area by other marine users can be assessed.

25.6.2 The baseline section should be read in conjunction with the following supporting Appendices and Figures as found within Volume 2 and Volume 3 of this PEIR respectively:

a. **Appendix 25.1 Supporting Other Marine Users Information** of this PEIR**;**
b. **Figure 25.1 Other marine users' study area;**
c. **Figure 25.2 Offshore Windfarm developments within proximity of the study area;**
d. **Figure 25.3 Interconnector, telecommunications, and offshore wind cables within proximity of the study area;**
e. **Figure 25.4 Dumped munitions and disposal sites within proximity of the study area**;
f. **Figure 25.5 Aggregate extraction sites within proximity of the study area;**
g. **Figure 25.6 Oil and Gas infrastructure;** and
h. **Figure 25.7 Recreational boating activity and bathing waters in the study area.**

Current baseline

Offshore wind farms

25.6.3 There are no existing OWF within the study area.

Power and telecommunications cables

25.6.4 There are 23 existing power or telecommunication cables in the study area as shown in **Figure 25.3** of this PEIR. **Table 25.11** shows the distance from the Draft Order Limits to these cables.

Table 25.11: Distance from the Draft Order Limits to existing power or telecommunication cables within the study area

Cable Name	Owner	Status	Type	Distance to Draft Order Limits
UK-DK 1	Unknown	Out of service	Telecom	Crosses
Rembrant 1	KPNQwest	Out of service	Telecom	Crosses
PANGEA Segment 2	Alcatel Submarine Networks Ltd	In Use	Telecom	Crosses
Circe 1 North	Viatel UK Ltd	In Use	Telecom	Crosses
UK – DK 3	Unknown	Out of service	Telecom	Crosses
UK – Germany 3	Unknown	Out of service	Telecom	Crosses
UK – Germany 4	Unknown	Out of service	Telecom	Crosses
UK – Germany 5	British Telecom	Out of service	Telecom	Crosses
UK – NL 10	Unknown	Out of service	Telecom	Crosses
UK -NL 14	Cable and Wireless	Out of service	Telecom	Crosses
UK-NL 4	Unknown	Out of service	Telecom	Crosses
UK-NL 5	Unknown	Out of service	Telecom	Crosses
UK-NL 6	KPN	Out of service	Telecom	Crosses
UK -NL 7	Unknown	Out of service	Telecom	Crosses
Ulysses2	MCI World Com/ Verizon	In Use	Telecom	Crosses
Winterton – Borkum 1	Unknown	Out of service	Telecom	Crosses
Scylla Telecom Cable	EU Networks	In Use	Telecom	Crosses
Zeus Telecom Cable	Zayo	In Use	Telecom	Crosses
ICENI Telecom Cable	British Telecom	In Use	Telecom	Crosses
Atlantic Crossing 1 Segment B1	Lumen	In Use	Telecom	0.82km
Norsea com 1 Telecom Segment 3	Viatel UK Ltd	Out of service	Telecom	2.3km
Norsea com 1 low-mur Telecom Segment 3	Tampnet	In Use	Telecom	2.3km

Disposal sites

25.6.5 There are nine spoil disposal sites within the study area as shown in **Figure 25.2** of this PEIR. **Table 25.12** shows the distance from the Draft Order Limits to these sites.

Table 25.12: Distance from Draft Order Limits to disposal sites within the study area

Disposal Site Name	Status	Distance to Draft Order Limits
AEA Experimental Site	Closed	Crosses for approx. 12.4km
BBL Pipeline Temporary Pre-Sweep	Closed	Crosses for approx. 0.1km
Norfolk Vanguard ECC2	Open	Crosses for approx. 2.4km
Norfolk Vanguard West	Open	0.12km
Norfolk Boreas Array	Open	0.32km
Warren Spring Exptl Area 1	Closed	0.7km
Southwold Harbour	Closed	1.6km
Galloper OWF	Closed	9.5km
EAOW3	Open	9.9km

Source: EMODnet (2025) (Ref 18)

Aggregate extraction sites

25.6.6 There are four aggregate extraction sites within the study area.

25.6.7 **Figure 25.5** of this PEIR presents the location of the aggregates sites in relation to the Draft Order Limits.

25.6.8 There are no Crown Estate mining site agreements in the study area.

Table 25.13: Distance from Draft Order Limits to aggregate extraction sites within the study area

Site Name	Type	License holder	Distance to Draft Order Limits
Area 2109 Indefatigable East	Exploration and Option Area	Deme Building Materials Ltd	Crosses
Area 2108 Indefatigable West	Exploration and Option Area	Deme Building Materials Ltd	3.9km
Area 401/2A Yarmouth	Production Area	Hanson Aggregates Marine Ltd	3.6km
Area 512 Lowestoft	Production Area	Cemex UK Marine Ltd	8.6km

Dumped chemical and munitions sites

25.6.9 EMODnet (Ref 34) identifies 34 sites where dumped munitions have been located within the study area as shown in **Figure 25.4** of this PEIR, the majority of which are of undetermined type. Nine of the sites are located within the Draft Order Limits which therefore have the potential to interact with the Proposed Offshore Scheme.

Oil and Gas operations

25.6.10 The northern part of the study area lies within an active gas exploitation area, with active offshore gas installations and pipelines. The Proposed Offshore Scheme crosses seven different pipelines.

25.6.11 There are nine offshore surface structures within the study area. Of these, five are operational platforms and four are buoys. **Figure 25.6** of this PEIR presents the locations of oil and gas infrastructure in relation to the Draft Order Limits

25.6.12 **Tables 1.1 to 1.5** within **Appendix 25.1 Supporting Other Marine Users Information** of this PEIR show the distance from the nearest point of the Draft Order Limits to these structures.

25.6.13 Active oil and gas license blocks which the Draft Order Limits intersect are: 49/30, 49/25, 49/20, 49/15 and 49/24.

Other energy and gas storage

25.6.14 There are no current nuclear energy facilities within the 10km study area. The nearest is Sizewell B which lies approximately 500m outside of the study area. There are no CCS or Natural Gas storage/pipeline agreements within the study area. There are no tidal or wave energy site agreements located within the study area.

Recreational activities

25.6.15 Recreational activities in the marine environment, including diving, water sports and sailing/cruising may take place sporadically within the study area. Due to the largely unregulated nature of these activities, it is difficult to predict the exact extent of these receptors. The below sections provide a high-level characterisation of the types of activities taking place within the study area, however, it is not an exhaustive list.

25.6.16 With the exception of the proposed Landfall Site and its approach (the first 35km of the proposed Offshore HVDC Cable Corridor from landfall), the study area lies some distance from the coastline and outside of the 12NM limit (UK territorial seas) and therefore there is limited potential for interaction in the offshore section of the Proposed Offshore Scheme. **Figure 25.7** of this PEIR illustrates the recreational boating activity within the study area which shows the highest activity is closest to the coast within the 6NM limit.

25.6.17 The assessment therefore focusses on where there is the greatest potential for interaction at the proposed Landfall Site and its approach, however measures listed in **Section 25.7** will be applicable to all recreational users wherever they are encountered.

Bathing waters

25.6.18 There are two designated 'bathing waters' within proximity of the proposed Landfall, namely 'Southwold the Denes' (0.8km north of the proposed Landfall) and 'Southwold the Pier (2km north of the proposed Landfall),' both of which were classified as having Excellent bathing water status in 2024. Both bathing waters are inside the study area. The proposed Landfall at Walberswick is not specifically designated as a bathing water, though bathers do use the beach. **Figure 25.7** of this PEIR illustrates the location of bathing water sites within the study area.

SCUBA diving

25.6.19 There is evidence that recreational SCUBA diving takes place along the Suffolk coast, associated with exploration of wrecks but also for marine environmental research (Seasearch, 2023) (Ref 35). The nearest popular coastal dive site to the study area according to Divemap (www.divemap.uk) (Ref 36) is Fishermans' Warf, situated south of Lowestoft harbour, approximately 19km from the study area; no dive sites are recorded at Walberswick itself. Additionally, there is a dive centre inland at Leiston.

Sailing and cruising

25.6.20 The coast of Suffolk is a popular area to sail. The RYAs Coastal Atlas (RYA, 2019) (Ref 22) identifies the area as of medium-use for recreational sailing. Full information with regards to this can be found in **Chapter 23 Shipping and Navigation** of this PEIR. This is also illustrated in **Figure 25.7** of this PEIR**.**

Watersports

25.6.21 A number of seasonal recreational watersports are undertaken along the Suffolk coast, including surfing, paddleboarding, canoeing, kite surfing, sailboarding, foiling and water skiing.

Angling

25.6.22 A number of chartered fishing vessels along the Suffolk coast run fishing trips during the winter months aiming to catch cod, skate and whiting and in the summer months targeting bass, skate and smooth-hounds (Ref 23). More information on fishing can be found in **Chapter 24 Commercial Fisheries** of this PEIR.

Crabbing

25.6.23 The Walberswick harbour is a popular area for recreational crabbing, with the British Open Crabbing Championships held in the village for several years. More information on the fish and shellfish species likely to be present in the area can be found in **Chapter 20 Fish and Shellfish** of this PEIR, and information on fishing can be found in **Chapter 24 Commercial Fisheries** of this PEIR**.**

Meteorological masts

25.6.24 The operational meteorological mast 'East Anglia Offshore' is located approximately 6km east of the Draft Order Limits and is associated with the East Anglia OWF.

Other categories of user

25.6.25 Interrogation of the publicly available GIS data confirmed that the following user categories are not present within the study area and are not considered further in this assessment:

a. MoD PEXA;
b. CCS and natural gas storage; and
c. aquaculture

Future baseline

25.6.26 The future baseline for other marine users is gradually evolving, with a detailed pipeline of UK offshore windfarms already in operation, construction, and planning phases. The renewable energy industry is growing rapidly in the UK, with offshore wind playing a significant role in supplying the demand for clean energy and in achieving the 2030 Climate Target Plan. The Crown Estate released the Offshore Wind Leasing Round 4 in January 2023 which has created opportunity for 8GW of new offshore windfarm projects in English and Welsh waters by 2030.

25.6.27 There are six existing or planned OWF within the study area as shown in **Figure 25.1** of this PEIR. Error! Reference source not found.**Table 25.14** shows the distance between the closest point of the OWFs to the Draft Order Limits.

Table 25.14: Distance from the Draft Order Limits planned OWF within the study area

Offshore Wind Farm Name	Owner	Status	Distance to Draft Order Limits
Norfolk Vanguard West	RWE	Consented	0.1km
Norfolk Boreas	RWE	Consented	0.3km
East Anglia One North	ScottishPower Renewables/ Iberdrola group	Consented	1.5km
East Anglia Two	ScottishPower Renewables/ Iberdrola group	Consented	7.9km
Gebied 1 Noord (1-n)/ Nederwiek	The Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO)	Planned	0.7km
Gebied 1 Zuid (1-z)	The Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO)	Planned	9.0km

Source: EMODnet(2025) (Ref 18) and TCE (2025) (Ref 16)

25.6.28 There are five planned power or telecommunication cables in the study area as shown in **Figure 25.2** of this PEIR. **Table 25.15**Error! Reference source not found. shows the distance from the Draft Order Limits to these cables. The table also includes OWF export cables which are crossed by the Proposed Offshore Scheme.

Table 25.15: Distance from the Draft Order Limits to planned power or telecommunication cables within the study area

Cable Name	Owner	Status	Type	Distance to Draft Order Limits
Norfolk Vanguard East Transmission Asset	RWE	Consented	Wind	Crosses

Cable Name	Owner	Status	Type	Distance to Draft Order Limits
Norfolk Boreas Transmission Asset	RWE	Consented	Wind	Crosses
Norfolk Vanguard West Transmission Asset	RWE	Consented	Wind	0.5km
East Anglia One North Transmission Asset	ScottishPower Renewables/ Iberdrola group	Consented	Wind	1.5km
East Anglia Two Transmission Asset	ScottishPower Renewables/ Iberdrola group	Consented	Wind	3.9km
BT North Sea	British Telecom	Planned	Telecom	Crosses

25.6.29 The future baseline for offshore interconnectors and CCS is likely to change over time as new sites and projects are identified. The NSTA launched the UK's first carbon storage licence round in 2022 and offered 20 carbon storage licences at offshore sites in May 2023. In the North Sea, the licenses awarded were focused off the coasts of Norfolk, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, with none off Suffolk, whilst this does not preclude the development of CCS off Suffolk it suggests it may not be within the timescale of the Proposed Offshore Scheme.

25.6.30 The oil and gas industry is currently in decline as the energy transition progresses into the production of renewable energies. Factors including decommissioning, exploration and development, repurposing of infrastructure and acquisitions will also determine change in oil and gas activities. Although the decline is anticipated to continue, the rate of production of oil and gas is dependent on many fluctuating and unknown variables, including the level of investment, oil and gas reserves and environmental related concerns.

25.6.31 Sizewell C nuclear facility has been consented. The plans include the construction of an intake pipe that will lie within the study area, approximately 9km from the DOL. Based on the available information it would be constructed during the operational phase of the Proposed Offshore Scheme.

25.7 Embedded design mitigation and control measures

Design and embedded mitigation measures

25.7.1 As described in **Chapter 2 Description of the Proposed Scheme** of this PEIR, a range of measures have been embedded into the design of the Proposed Offshore Scheme to avoid or reduce environmental effects. These mitigation measures form part of the design that has been assessed, which for other marine users are listed in **Table 25.16**.

Table 25.16: Design and embedded mitigation measures for other marine users

Commitment Reference Code	Measure	Compliance Mechanism
OD01	All cables will be installed in one trench.	CEMP secured by DML
OD02	HVDC Submarine Cables will be bundled together to minimise the EMF profile.	CEMP secured by DML
OD04	The intention is to bury the HVDC Submarine Cables in the seabed, except in areas where trenching is not possible e.g. where ground conditions do not allow burial or at infrastructure crossings.	CEMP secured by DML
OD07	Design and construction will be carried out in accordance with International Cable Protection Committee (ICPC) Recommendations	CEMP secured by DML
OD12	Routine surveys and inspections of the HVDC Submarine Cables and associated protection measures would be conducted through the lifetime of the Proposed Scheme, to ensure they remain in good condition, and adequately protected.	CEMP secured by DML
OD14	Cable Burial Risk Assessment (CBRA) to be undertaken to identify appropriate target depth of burial based on geology, water depths and AIS data. This will reduce the chance of interaction with other marine users, and as per the CBRA recommendations deeper burial	Design secured by DML

Commitment Reference Code	Measure	Compliance Mechanism
	or cover will be implemented in areas of high shipping activity to further reduce this risk.	

Control measures

25.7.2 Control measures are set out in **Appendix 2.2 Outline Offshore Construction Environmental Management Plan** of this PEIR which will manage the effects of construction. The measures of particular relevance to other marine users are listed in **Table 25.17.**

25.7.3 Several management plans will be provided as Outline Management Plans with the application for development consent to support the Deemed Marine Licence. These will include an Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), Outline Marine Pollution Contingency Plan (MPCP), and Outline Fisheries Liaison and Coexistence Plan (FLCP). These documents would outline measures to be implemented to comply with legislation (e.g., in relation to the prevention of oil and chemical spills) and best industry practice during all phases the Proposed Offshore Scheme. Final management plans will be submitted in accordance with the Deemed Marine Licence to discharge the licence conditions.

25.7.4 The Applicant would ensure that all work that is undertaken during construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning complies with the requirements of relevant national and international legislation.

Table 25.17: Control measures for other marine users

Commitment Reference Code	Measure	Compliance Mechanism
OC01	An offshore Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) including an Emergency Spill Response Plan (ESRP), Waste Management Plan, MPCP, Biosecurity Plan and a dropped objects procedure will be produced prior to installation.	DML secured through DCO
OC02	All project vessels must comply with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (1972) (IMO, 2019a), regulations relating to International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (the MARPOL Convention 73/78) (IMO, 2019e) with the aim of preventing and minimising pollution from ships and the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS, 1974).	CEMP secured by DML
OC04	All oil, fuel and chemical spills will be reported to the MMO Marine Pollution response team	DML secured through DCO

Commitment Reference Code	Measure	Compliance Mechanism
OC06	As-built locations of cables and external protection will be supplied to The Crown Estate, UKHO (Admiralty) and Kingfisher Information Services for inclusion in Admiralty and KIS-ORCA charts.	DML secured through DCO
OC07	External cable protection (excluding crossing locations) shall not reduce chart datum by more than 5%, unless agreed in advance with the MCA and appropriate navigation authorities. If external cable protection at any location including crossings does impact on navigable depth, such locations shall be marked in accordance with Trinity House requirements and suitably marked on navigation charts.	DML secured through DCO
OC10	Existing shipping lanes will be utilised for vessel transiting routes to avoid additional disturbance, where practicable.	CEMP secured by DML
OC21	Guard vessel(s), using RADAR with Automatic RADAR Plotting Aid (ARPA) to monitor vessel activity and predict possible interactions, will be employed to work alongside the installation vessel(s) during cable installation works and to protect any temporary cable exposures during installation.	CEMP secured by DML
OC22	Procedures will be in place to minimise disruption near high density shipping areas. e.g. avoidance of anchoring near busy areas, passage planning of installation vessels, emergency response plan etc.	CEMP secured by DML
OC23	Project vessels will comply with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972 (COLREGs) as amended, particularly with respect to the display of lights, shapes and signals. The masters of other vessels are expected to be familiar with and comply with the COLREGs.	CEMP secured by DML
OC25	Crossing and/or proximity agreements will be agreed with aggregate extraction, cable and pipeline owners. The crossing agreement describes the rights and responsibilities of the parties and also the design of the crossing. Crossing design will be in line with industry standards, using procedures and techniques agreed with the cable and pipeline owners.	Crossing agreements / proximity agreements
OC26	Timely and efficient communication will be given to sea users in the area via Notices to Mariners (NtM), Kingfisher Bulletins, Radio Navigation Warnings Navigational Telex (NAVTEX and Navigational Areas (NAVAREA) warnings and /or broadcast warnings.	DML secured through DCO
OC27	For safety purposes, all vessels will be requested to maintain a minimum distance from construction vessels to prevent interactions.	CEMP secured by DML

Commitment Reference Code	Measure	Compliance Mechanism
OC28	Client Representation onboard Project vessels ensuring compliance with crossing design and communications with Asset Owners.	CEMP secured by DML
OC29	UXO survey and removal and/or charting of confirmed UXO targets highlighting known risks to other marine users.	CEMP secured by DML

25.8 Assessment of effects

25.8.1 This section presents the preliminary assessment of likely significant effects on other marine users resulting from the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the Proposed Offshore Scheme. The likely significant effects of the Proposed Offshore Scheme are identified taking into account the design and embedded mitigation and control measures.

25.8.2 Following assessment further mitigation is proposed as required which is presented in **Section 25.9**.

Construction

25.8.3 It is anticipated that the construction programme for the Proposed Offshore Scheme will be split into multiple campaigns, comprising of route preparation and cable lay and burial campaigns. Pre-construction phase activities, such as surveys, route preparation, boulder clearance, pre-sweeping and infrastructure crossing preparation, are expected to take up to one year to complete. As set out in **Chapter 2 Description of the Proposed Scheme** of this PEIR, installation vessels would install the cables at an indicative speed of between 100m and 500m per hour, depending on seabed conditions and the vessels used.

25.8.4 The HVDC Submarine Cables will be installed in one trench, with installation methodologies including simultaneous cable lay and trenching, and surface cable lay followed by post lay trenching. Cable burial tools which may be used include jet trenching machines, mechanical trenchers, control flow excavators and ploughs. Overall, displacement ploughs/boulder clearance ploughs would result in the greatest seabed disturbance, however this method will only be required within discrete sections (**Chapter 2 Description of the Proposed Scheme** of this PEIR).

25.8.5 Additional information on the construction techniques is provided in **Chapter 2 Description of the Proposed Scheme** of this PEIR.

Temporary restriction of access

25.8.6 During the construction phase of the Proposed Offshore Scheme there will be temporary restrictions of access to the Order Limits to allow marine activities to be undertaken. This would likely take the form of safety zones around vessels

engaged in project activities such as geophysical survey, UXO survey, seabed clearance, cable lay or burial remediation. Other marine users would be notified of marine activities through Notices to Mariners, Kingfisher Bulletins, Radio Navigation Warnings Navigational Telex (NAVTEX and Navigational Areas (NAVAREA) warnings and/or broadcast warnings. Guard vessels would be used in areas where the HVDC Submarine Cables are exposed.

Infrastructure asset owners

25.8.7 There is potential for other marine users such as power and telecoms cables and oil and gas pipelines owners to have access restricted to their assets locations during construction and operation. It is standard industry practice to agree proximity and crossing agreements with third party asset owners ensuring safety of assets. Agreements set out factors such as minimum approach distances, what activities can and can't be undertaken in proximity, communication protocols for notices to asset owners. For marine activities such as installation of infrastructure crossings Client Representatives would be onboard the construction vessel to ensure compliance with crossing design and communications with asset owners.

25.8.8 Although subsea cables and pipelines are considered to be of international importance given they contribute to the UKs security of energy supply, the sensitivity of these receptors has been assessed as low. This is due to the agreements and communication protocols that need to be in place between the Applicant and the asset owner before marine activities can take place within proximity.

25.8.9 The magnitude of impact would be negligible as any restrictions would be highly localised and temporary. The significance of the effect has been assessed as **Negligible** and **Not Significant.**

Recreational users

25.8.10 There is potential for other marine users such as bathers, scuba divers and recreational sailors to be displaced or access restricted to their usual recreational areas during the construction phase. The majority of recreational users are typically located in the nearshore area, and given the distance from shore for the majority of the Proposed Offshore Scheme, interaction during construction activities would be limited to activities within 6NM.

25.8.11 There are two designated bathing waters within proximity to the proposed Landfall: Southwold the Denes and Southwold the Pier. There are multiple designated bathing waters along the East Suffolk coast which were assessed as being of 'Good' or 'Excellent' quality in 2024. An assessment of the impact of construction works on the water quality at the bathing waters is provided in **Chapter 18 Physical Marine Environment** of this PEIR and concluded there would be no significant effect. There would be no access limitations or disruption at designated bathing waters if accessed from the beach. If a frac-out were to

occur during the trenchless construction of the cable ducts, brief clean-up operations and maintenance would be undertaken but access would be maintained if safe to do so or an alternative access route would be defined for the public. Whilst no works are planned on the beach at Walberswick or within the nearby Southwold harbour there would be temporary safety zones established around vessels in the nearshore e.g., at the HDD (trenchless cabling technique) exit point and during cable pull-in, which may require recreational users to adjust their course if accessing the bathing waters from offshore (i.e. through the temporary safety zones). Restrictions will be short term in nature, and given the alternative bathing water locations available, and the fact that access to the harbour would not be impeded the sensitivity of the receptor has been assessed to be medium. The magnitude of the impact has been assessed as low as disruption would be temporary and site specific.

25.8.12 The majority of recreational uses are typically located in the nearshore area and given the distance from shore for the majority of the Proposed Offshore Scheme, interaction during construction works is considered unlikely. Any disruption is anticipated to be temporary and localised. Restrictions will be short term in nature and given the alternative recreational areas available the sensitivity of the receptor has been assessed to be negligible for offshore areas.

25.8.13 Therefore, the significance of effect has been assessed as **Minor** and **Not Significant.**

Operation

25.8.14 The Proposed Offshore Scheme has been designed to minimise any maintenance requirements. However, the following activities may be required during the operational phase:

a. inspection surveys;
b. cable repair (if required); and
c. reburial, remedial protection, or maintenance and reinstatement of external cable protection features.

25.8.15 Additional information on the Offshore Scheme operation and maintenance is provided in **Chapter 2 Description of the Proposed Scheme** of this PEIR.

Temporary restriction of access to recreational areas

25.8.16 During the operation and maintenance phase of the Proposed Offshore Scheme there will be temporary restrictions of access when inspection surveys or maintenance or repair works are required. These activities will be sporadic and short; limited to days/weeks rather than months.

Infrastructure asset owners

25.8.17 There is potential for power and telecoms cables; and oil and gas pipelines owners to have access restricted to their assets locations during any maintenance or repair activities. As described for construction, proximity and

crossing agreements would be in place with asset owners which would set out the notification and communication protocols. Given the embedded measures the sensitivity of these receptors has been assessed as low.

25.8.18 The magnitude of impact would be negligible as any restrictions would be highly localised and temporary. The significance of the effect has been assessed as **Negligible** and **Not Significant**.

Recreational users

25.8.19 Given the length of the Proposed Offshore Scheme there is a higher probability that marine works during operation would be outside of the 6NM limit (the area most used by recreational users). Other marine users would be notified of marine activities through Notices to Mariners, Kingfisher Bulletins, Radio Navigation Warnings Navigational Telex (NAVTEX and Navigational Areas (NAVAREA) warnings and/or broadcast warnings. Guard vessels would be used in areas where the HVDC Submarine Cables are exposed.

25.8.20 All marine users may be affected by temporary restrictions but these would be highly localised and temporary in nature and would be of lesser extent that during construction. As for the reasons given for construction, the sensitivity of the receptor has been assessed as medium.

25.8.21 The magnitude of the impact has been assessed as negligible as disruption would be temporary (durations shorter than during construction) and site specific, with locations significantly smaller and sporadic over the period of operation.

25.8.22 The significance of the effect on recreational users during the operational phase of the Proposed Offshore Scheme has been assessed as **Negligible** and **Not Significant**.

Occupancy of the seabed by cables (below seabed)

25.8.23 During the operational phase of the Proposed Offshore Scheme, the presence of the HVDC Submarine Cables may restrict the future use of the seabed by other marine users, such as power and telecoms cables, oil and gas pipelines, marine aggregate extraction, offshore wind/renewables, CCS and gas storage.

25.8.24 From the early design stage, the Applicant has engaged with other developers, including OWF developers and power cables owners and operators, to ensure, wherever possible, third-party infrastructure has been avoided. However, avoidance is not possible in all instances. In consideration of the future baseline all projects currently in planning have been taken into consideration within the design of the Proposed Offshore Scheme, for the purposes of ensuring cable separation distance maintained and infrastructure crossings are according to guidelines such as those issued by the ICPC, ESCA and The Crown Estate.

25.8.25 It is likely that new projects would arise within the Study Area beyond those which are currently noted. It would be on the onus of the third party developers to take the Proposed Offshore Scheme into consideration with their consideration

of options and design. Engagement would be undertaken with owners and operators of assets to ensure all future developments can coexist.

25.8.26 The Applicant is seeking consent for the minimum area required for the installation of the Proposed Offshore Scheme and would engage with future developers to agree crossing agreements for their assets as appropriate and in line with relevant legislation and guidance.

25.8.27 Subsea cables and pipelines are of international importance, given that they contribute to UK security of energy supply. Damage could have large financial and social implications and cause long term disruption to services and energy supply. The sensitivity of the receptors is therefore considered high.

25.8.28 Several control measures are built into the design of the Proposed Offshore Scheme to manage works to ensure damage to existing infrastructure does not occur. These are included within the CEMP and secured through the DCO. These include:

a. Compliance with the CEMP and SHE plans, which would include detailed mapping of all third party assets, ensuring contractors are aware of potential snagging risks and have procedures in place for working in proximity to third part assets, e.g., no anchoring near third party assets (OC01).
b. Notice to Mariners will also be issued as standard practice, giving details of proposed works, timings and locations (OC26).

25.8.29 Subject to the measures above being implemented it is considered that the magnitude would be negligible and the significance of effect would be **Minor** and **Not Significant.**

Occupancy of the seabed by cable protection (on seabed)

25.8.30 The presence of cable protection may restrict the future use of the seabed by other marine users, such as power and telecoms cables, oil and gas pipelines, marine aggregates, offshore wind/renewables, CCS and gas storage.

25.8.31 The aim is to bury the HVDC Submarine Cables beneath the seabed during installation. However, there may be areas where the HVDC Submarine Cables cannot be buried to target depth due to the type of substrate on the seabed. In these circumstances cable protection would be required to ensure that the asset is protected from accidental or deliberate damage, for example due to anchor snagging. In such circumstances cable protection will be necessary. Information about the potential methods of cable protection can be found in **Chapter 2 Description of the Proposed Scheme** of this PEIR.

25.8.32 The Applicant is seeking consent for the minimum area required for the installation of the Proposed Offshore Scheme and would ensure that cable protection is only placed where necessary.

25.8.33 Any new cables are required to be marked on UKHO Admiralty charts which are then available through different GIS portals so that other marine users are aware of their locations and can plan accordingly.

25.8.34 Engagement would be undertaken by any future developers to agree crossing agreements for their assets over the Proposed Offshore Scheme as appropriate, in line with relevant legislation and guidance.

25.8.35 The sensitivity and magnitude are both considered to be low given that the presence of the Proposed Offshore Scheme and any associated cable protection may restrict the use of the seabed but appropriate agreements can enable future projects to progress with their application(s).

25.8.36 The significance of the effect on other marine users due to restriction of the future use of the seabed is therefore **Negligible** and **Not Significant.**

Decommissioning

25.8.37 The Proposed Scheme is expected to have a life span of 40 years. If decommissioning requires cessation of operation and removal of visible infrastructure at this point, then activities and effects associated with the decommissioning phase are expected to be no worse than during construction; and with the removal of visible infrastructure, effects would reduce over the course of that period. The Proposed Scheme could also remain operational for a period after the 40 years or be taken out of service and left within the Draft Order Limits after 40 years. Acknowledging the complexities of completing a detailed assessment for decommissioning works up to 40 years in the future, based on the information available, the project has concluded that impacts from decommissioning would be no greater than those during the construction phase. The following conclusions reached for construction are therefore applicable.

25.8.38 The environmental impact of decommissioning the Proposed Offshore Scheme would be assessed at the time of decommissioning in line with the legislation at the time. Removal of the HVDC Submarine Cable is a similar process to the installation of the HVDC Submarine Cable but in reverse. The environmental impact can therefore not be fully assessed until the environmental conditions at the time of decommissioning are established.

25.8.39 However, should decommissioning require the removal of the HVDC Submarine Cable the seabed would no longer be occupied by it and any restriction to recreation ground would be similar impact as during construction.

25.8.40 In any event, it is not anticipated that impacts from decommissioning would present any greater environmental risk than any assessed impacts from the construction phase.

25.8.41 No likely significant effects on other marine users were identified during the scoping phase for the Proposed Offshore Scheme.

25.9 Mitigation, monitoring and enhancement

25.9.1 Mitigation measures are defined in **Chapter 5 EIA Approach and Methodology** of this PEIR, with embedded control measures for other marine users being presented in **Section 25.7** of this chapter.

25.9.2 There are no likely significant adverse effects on other marine users identified either during construction, operation or decommissioning stages of the Proposed Offshore Scheme that require additional mitigation or monitoring over and above that outlined in **Section 25.8** of this chapter.

25.10 Summary of residual effects

25.10.1 The preliminary assessment has concluded that no significant effects on other marine users are expected from the Proposed Offshore Scheme alone during construction, operation and decommissioning, provided design and control measures are implemented. No additional mitigation has been proposed at this stage.

Topic Abbreviations

Term	Definition
AIS	Automatic Identification System
ARPA	Automatic RADAR Plotting Aid
BMAPA	British Marine Aggregate Producers Association
BSAC	British Sub-Aqua Club
CBRA	Cable Burial Risk Assessment
CCS	Carbon Capture and Storage
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
CNP	Critical National Priority
COLREGs	International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972
DCO	Development Consent Order
DEME	Dredging, Environmental and Marine Engineering
DESNZ	Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
dML	Deemed Marine Licence
DOL	Draft Order Limits
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMODnet	European Marine Observation and Data Network
ES	Environmental Statement
ESCA	European Subsea Cable Association
ESRP	Emergency Spill Response Plan
EU	European Union
FLCP	Fisheries Liaison and Coexistence Plan
GB	Great Britain
HVDC	High Voltage Direct Current
ICPC	International Cable Protection Committee
KIS-ORCA	Kingfisher Information Service – Offshore Renewable & Cable Awareness
MARPOL	International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea
MCA	Maritime and Coastguard Agency
MCAA	Marine and Coastal Access Act
MPCP	Marine Pollution Contingency Plan
MGN	Marine Guidance Note
MHWS	Mean High Water Springs

Term	Definition
MMO	Marine Management Organisation
MoD	Ministry of Defence
MPCP	Marine Pollution Contingency Plan
MPI	Multi-Purpose Interconnector
MW	Megawatt
NM	Nautical miles
NPS	National Policy Statement
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
NSTA	North Sea Transition Authority
NtM	Notices to Mariners
OEUK	Offshore Energies UK
OPRED	Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning
OREI	Offshore Renewable Energy Installation
OWF	Offshore Windfarm
PA2008	Planning Act 2008
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Impact Report
PEXA	Practice and Exercise Areas
RYA	Royal Yachting Association
SOLAS	International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea
SoS	Secretary of State
UK	United Kingdom
UKHO	UK Hydrographic Office
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance

References

Ref 1 Gov.uk (2008) Planning Act 2008. Available at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/contents (Accessed 17 September 2024)

Ref 2 Gov.UK (2017) The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. Available at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/572/contents https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/572/contents (Accessed 17 September 2024)

Ref 3 Gov.uk (2009) Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. Available at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2009/23/contents (Accessed 17 September 2024)

Ref 4 Legislation.gov.uk (1989) Electricity Act 1989. Available at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/29/section/38 (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 5 UN.org (1994) United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Available at: https://www.un.org/depts/los/convention_agreements/texts/unclos/unclos_e.pdf (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 6 Legislation.gov.uk (1885) Submarine Telegraph Act 1885. Available at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/Vict/48-49/49#:~:text=(1)A%20person%20shall%20not,or%20in%20part%20telegraphic%20communication. (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 7 DESNZ (2013) Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1). Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65bbfbdc709fe1000f637052/overarching-nps-for-energy-en1.pdf (Accessed 17 September 2024

Ref 8 DESNZ (2023) National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3). Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65a7889996a5ec000d731aba/nps-renewable-energy-infrastructure-en3.pdf (Accessed 17 September 2024)

Ref 9 Gov.UK (2011) UK Marine policy Statement. (Online) Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-marine-policy-statement (Accessed 7 January 2025)

Ref 10 DEFRA (2014) East Inshore and East Offshore Marine Plans. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a7ec0eced915d74e33f2342/east-plan.pdf (Accessed 17 September 2024)

Ref 11 National Grid (2024) LionLink Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report Volume 1 Main Text. (Online) Available at: https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN020033/documents (Accessed 28 May 2025)

Ref 12 National Infrastructure consenting planning inspectorate (2024) Scoping Opinion: Proposed LionLink Multi-purpose Interconnector (Online) Available at: https://nsip-documents.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/published-documents/EN020033-000103-LION%20-%20Scoping%20Opinion.pdf (Accessed 11 August 2025)

Ref 13 LionLink Multi-Purpose Interconnector (August 2023) Interim Non-Statutory Consultation Feedback Summary Report. Available at: https://www.nationalgrid.com/national-grid-ventures/lionlink/library#230548828-3684997351

Ref 14 LionLink (March 2024) Supplementary Non-Statutory Consultation Summary Report. Available at: https://www.nationalgrid.com/national-grid-ventures/lionlink/library#230548828-3684997351

Ref 15 National Infrastructure consenting planning inspectorate (2024) LionLink Interconnector Documents. (Online) Available at: https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN020033/documents (Accessed 11 August 2025)

Ref 16 The Crown Estate (2025). Search our assets. Available at: https://www.thecrownestate.co.uk/en-gb/what-we-do/asset-map (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 17 KIS-ORCA (2022) Available at: https://kis-orca.org/map/ (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 18 EMODnet (2025) Map viewer. Available at: https://emodnet.ec.europa.eu/geoviewer/#!/ (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 19 Oil and Gas Interactive (2022). Available at: https://w3.abdn.ac.uk/clsm/OandGInteractive (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 20 MMO (2022) Mapping Sea Angling. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mapping-sea-angling-mmo1163 (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 21 UKHO (2022) Available at: https://www.admiralty.co.uk/defence/additional-military-layers (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 22 RYA (2019) UK Coastal Atlas of Recreational Boating. Available at: https://www.rya.org.uk/knowledge/planning-licensing/uk-coastal-atlas-of-recreational-boating (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 23 Marine Traffic (2022) Available at: https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/ais/home/centerx:-7.0/centery:55.4/zoom:8 (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 24 ESCA (2023) European Subsea Cables Association. Available at: https://www.escaeu.org/ (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 25 BSAC (2023) Available at: https://www.bsac.com/home/?&&type=rfst&set=true#cookie-widget (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 26 Visit Suffolk (2025) Home. Available at: https://www.visitsuffolk.com/ (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 27 MCA, (2021) MGN 654 Safety of Navigation: OREIs – Guidance on UK Navigation practice safety and emergency response. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mgn-654-mf-offshore-renewable-energy-installations-orei-safety-response (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 28 ESCA, (2016) The Proximity of Offshore Renewable Energy Installations & Submarine Cable Infrastructure in UK Waters. Available at: https://www.escaeu.org/guidelines/ (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 29 ICPC.org (2021) Recommendation No.2 Cable Routing and Reporting Criteria. Available at: https://www.iscpc.org/publications/recommendations/ (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 30 ICPC.org (2021) Recommendation No.3 Cable and Oil Pipeline/Power Cables Crossing Criteria. Available at: https://www.iscpc.org/publications/recommendations/ (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 31 ICPC.org (2021) Recommendation No.13 The Proximity of Offshore Renewable Wind Energy Installations and Submarine Cable Infrastructure in National Waters. Available at: https://www.iscpc.org/publications/recommendations/ (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 32 ESCA (2018) Guideline 19 – Marine Aggregate Extraction Proximity. Available at: https://www.escaeu.org/guidelines/ (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 33 Glasson et al., (2020) Guidance on assessing the socio-economic impacts of offshore wind farms (OWFs) Available at: https://radar.brookes.ac.uk/radar/file/6c7548dd-c768-4db8-9dce-7980c426c7a4/1/Best%20Practice%20Guidance%20-%20Final%20Oct%202020.pdf (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 34 Emodnet (2024) EMODnet Map Viewer Dumped Munitions Points. Available at: https://emodnet.ec.europa.eu/geoviewer/ (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 35 Seasearch, (2023). Seasearch Data. Available at: https://www.seasearch.org.uk/data (Accessed 22 April 2025)

Ref 36 DiveMap.uk (2025) Suffolk coast. (Online) Available at: divemap: Charting the best and worst of British diving (Accessed 30 May 2025)

National Grid Lion Link Limited

Company number 14722364

1-3 Strand

London

WG2N-5EH

United Kingdom

nationalgrid.com