

The Great Grid Upgrade

Eastern Green Link 5 (EGL 5)

Preliminary Environmental Information Report

Volume 2

Part 1

Appendix 2.B Marine Plan Policy Assessment

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nationalgrid

Contents

2.B	Appendix 2.B Marine Plan Policy Assessment	1
2.B.1	Overview	1
2.B.2	East Inshore and East Offshore Marine Plan Policy Assessment	2
2.B.3	North East Offshore Marine Plan Policy Assessment	26

2.B Appendix 2.B Marine Plan Policy Assessment

2.B.1 Overview

2.B.1.1 This appendix presents the preliminary Marine Plan Policy Assessment for Eastern Green Link (EGL) 5 against the East Inshore and East Offshore Marine Plans (2014) and the North East Offshore Marine Plan (2021). This presents the details of the aspects relevant to the chapters in **Volume 1, Part 3** of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR).

2.B.1.2 The following definitions are relevant to this report:

- “English Onshore Scheme” – All components of EGL 5 between the electricity transmission connection point in England and the Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS) in England.
- “English Offshore Scheme” – All components of EGL 5 within the English marine environment up to the Mean High-Water Springs (MHWS) in England.
- “the Project” – is the term used to refer all elements of EGL 5 which are the subject of the Development Consent Order (DCO) Application i.e., the English Onshore Scheme and the English Offshore Scheme. More specifically, the Project comprises the ‘Authorised’ development and ‘Associated’ development for EGL 5 that will be subject to an application for Development Consent.
- “draft Order Limits” - The anticipated maximum area in which the construction and operation of the Project may take place. The draft Order Limits cover the entire area within which development could take place comprised of both temporary and permanent components of the Project.

2.B.2 East Inshore and East Offshore Marine Plan Policy Assessment

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
Economic	EC1	Proposals that provide economic productivity benefits which are additional to Gross Value Added currently generated by existing activities should be supported.	Screened in	The English Offshore Scheme will provide economic productivity benefits where possible.	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
	EC2	Proposals that provide additional employment benefits should be supported, particularly where these benefits have the potential to meet employment needs in localities close to the marine plan areas.	Screened in	The English Offshore Scheme will provide job opportunities to the local area where possible.	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
	EC3	Proposals that will help the East marine plan areas to contribute to offshore wind energy generation should be supported.	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not associated with offshore wind energy generation.	Policy not applicable to application.
Social and Cultural	SOC1	Proposals that provide health and social well-being benefits including through maintaining, or enhancing, access to the	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not associated with the enhancement of health and social well-being benefits.	Policy not applicable to application.

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
		coast and marine area should be supported.			
	SOC2	Proposals that may affect heritage assets should demonstrate, in order of preference:	Screened in	Potential impacts of the English Offshore Scheme on heritage assets are considered by the Applicant, and the Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 25: Marine Archaeology . The potential effects of the English Offshore Scheme such as damage to / loss of archaeological material from direct / indirect impacts have all been found to have a minor or negligible impact. Known receptors would be avoided through the application of Archaeological Exclusion Zones (AEZ), Temporary Archaeological Exclusion Zones (TAEZs) and subsequent micro-siting of infrastructure on the seabed, as necessary. In the case of unknown receptors, the protocol for recording finds of archaeological interest will be followed. This protocol follows the guidance for the Protocol for Archaeological Discoveries (PAD).	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
		a) that they will not compromise or harm elements which contribute to the significance of the heritage asset.			
		b) how, if there is compromise or harm to a heritage asset, this will be minimised.			
		c) how, where compromise or harm to a heritage asset cannot be minimised, it will be mitigated against or			
		d) the public benefits for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate compromise or harm to the heritage asset.			

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
	SOC3	<p>Proposals that may affect the terrestrial and marine character of an area should demonstrate, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) that they will not adversely impact the terrestrial and marine character of an area.</p> <p>b) how, if there are adverse impacts on the terrestrial and marine character of an area, they will minimise them.</p> <p>c) how, where these adverse impacts on the terrestrial and marine character of an area cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated against.</p> <p>d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.</p>	Screened in	<p>The Anderby Creek Landfall will be constructed using a trenchless technique. If required, the only infrastructure visible on the surface would be the cover of the link box pit and marker posts associated with the Transition Joint Bay (TJB).</p> <p>Effects related to terrestrial character of the English Onshore Scheme are assessed in Volume 1, Part 2, Chapter 8: Landscape and Visual Amenity.</p>	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
Ecosystem	ECO1	Cumulative impacts affecting the ecosystem of the East marine plans and adjacent areas (marine, terrestrial) should be addressed in decision-making and plan implementation.	Screened in	Potential cumulative impacts affecting the local ecosystem will be considered in the cumulative effects assessment which will be provided in the Environmental Statement (ES) to inform decision making.	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
	ECO2	The risk of release of hazardous substances as a secondary effect due to any increased collision risk should be taken account of in proposals that require an authorisation.	Screened in	A Navigational Risk Assessment (NRA) has been undertaken, and collision risk has been considered in Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 22: Shipping and Navigation . All impacts that the English Offshore Scheme may have on Shipping and Navigation across all phases was found to be minor or negligible and therefore not a potential significant effect (tolerable). The assessment also concluded that there is no potential for international transboundary impacts. The environmental measures will be implemented to reduce the potential impacts of the English Offshore Scheme on Shipping and Navigation.	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
Biodiversity	BIO1	Appropriate weight should be attached to biodiversity, reflecting the need to protect biodiversity, taking account of the best available evidence including on habitats and	Screened in	Potential impacts to designated sites are considered in the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volume 2, Part 1, Appendix 2.C: Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Stage 1 Screening Report; 	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
		species that are protected or of conservation concern in the East marine plans and adjacent areas (marine, terrestrial).		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volume 2, Part 3, Appendix 18.C: Project Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) Assessment Screening; • Volume 2, Part 3, Appendix 18.D: Marine Conservation Zone Stage 1 Assessment; and • Volume 2, Part 3, Appendix 17.C: Water Framework Directive (WFD) Offshore Assessment. 	
				<p>Habitats and species of conservation concern have been considered as part of the following chapters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volume 1, Part 2, Chapter 6: Biodiversity; • Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 18: Intertidal and Subtidal Benthic Ecology; • Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 19: Fish and Shellfish; • Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 20: Intertidal and Offshore Ornithology; and • Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 21: Marine Mammals and Marine Reptiles. 	

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
				With mitigations in place no significant impacts are anticipated.	
	BIO2	Where appropriate, proposals for development should incorporate features that enhance biodiversity and geological interests.	Screened in	The English Offshore Scheme will seek to incorporate nature inclusive design where appropriate.	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
Marine Protected Areas	MPA1	Any impacts on the overall Marine Protected Area network must be taken account of in strategic level measures and assessments, with due regard given to any current agreed advice on an ecologically coherent network.	Screened in	<p>The English Offshore Scheme does overlap several protected areas, including Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) within the East marine plan areas. Potential impacts to designated sites are considered in the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volume 2, Part 1, Appendix 2.C: Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Stage 1 Screening Report; • Volume 2, Part 3, Appendix 18.C: Project Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) Assessment Screening; and • Volume 2, Part 3, Appendix 18.D: Marine Conservation Zone Stage 1 Assessment. <p>The works are of short duration, and the route was refined to minimise interactions with protected sites as</p>	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
Climate Change	CC1	<p>Proposals should take account of:</p> <p>(a) how they may be impacted upon by, and respond to, climate change over their lifetime.</p> <p>(b) how they may impact upon any climate change adaptation measures elsewhere during their lifetime.</p> <p>Where detrimental impacts on climate change adaptation measures are identified, evidence should be provided as to how the proposal will reduce such impacts.</p>	Screened in	<p>much as possible, so no potential significant effects are predicted.</p> <p>The future baseline including the anticipated changes because of climate change at the Anderby Creek Landfall have been considered within Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 17: Coastal and Marine Physical Processes.</p> <p>The English Offshore Scheme will utilise a trenchless technique to pass beneath existing sea defences. There are annual beach nourishment works undertaken at the Anderby Creek Landfall; however, the Applicant will work with the Environment Agency to ensure the English Offshore Scheme can be coordinated with annual beach nourishment activities.</p> <p>The English Offshore Scheme will not significantly contribute to climate change. The works helps mitigate the impacts of climate change by facilitating the transfer of renewable energy, contributes to Net Zero and is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). Therefore, it is predicted that the English Offshore Scheme will</p>	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
				have a positive impact on climate change.	
	CC2	Proposals for development should minimise emissions of greenhouse gases as far as is appropriate. Mitigation measures will also be encouraged where emissions remain following minimising steps. Consideration should also be given to emissions from other activities or users affected by the proposal.	Screened in	The primary source of greenhouse gas emissions because of the English Offshore Scheme is from construction vessels. Compliance of all project vessels with the regulations relating to International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (the MARPOL Convention 73/78), with the aim of preventing and minimising pollution from ships. It is not expected that the English Offshore Scheme will cause a significant increase in greenhouse gas emissions.	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
Governance	GOV1	Appropriate provision should be made for infrastructure on land which supports activities in the marine area and vice versa.	Screened in	<p>The Anderby Creek Landfall would be constructed using a trenchless technique. Two cable ducts would be installed from the TJB, positioned above the MHWS mark, to a point below 3 m Lowest Astronomical Tide (LAT).</p> <p>The Application includes both marine and land-based infrastructure and will facilitate activity in both marine and terrestrial systems. The cable route extends from the marine environment above MHWS, before continuing onshore to Lincolnshire Connection Substation (LCS).</p>	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
	GOV2	Opportunities for co-existence should be maximised wherever possible.	Screened in	<p>The Applicant continues to engage with other third parties at the Anderby Creek Landfall.</p> <p>The Applicant will also engage with fishermen and other marine users. The Applicant will develop a Fisheries Liaison and Co-existence Plan (an outline of which has been submitted with the Application Volume 2, Part 3, Appendix 23.B: Outline Fisheries Liaison and Coexistence Plan) that sets out measures to promote the co-existence of commercial fishing and Offshore Wind Farm (OWF) development. A NRA will be implemented to minimise all potential impacts to acceptable or tolerable risk levels As Low As Reasonably Practicable (ALARP).</p>	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
	GOV3	Proposals should demonstrate in order of preference: a) that they will avoid displacement of other existing or authorised (but yet to be implemented) activities.	Screened in	<p>The routeing and siting of the English Offshore Scheme has taken into consideration all other existing, planned or proposed schemes or activities. The English Offshore Scheme has sought to avoid where possible other activities and infrastructure. Where avoidance is not possible, displacement will be short term and temporary during the construction phase.</p>	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
		<p>b) how, if there are adverse impacts resulting in displacement by the proposal, they will minimise them.</p> <p>c) how, if the adverse impacts resulting in displacement by the proposal, cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated against or</p> <p>d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts of displacement.</p>			
Defence	DEF1	<p>Proposals in or affecting Ministry of Defence Danger and Exercise Areas should not be authorised without agreement from the Ministry of Defence.</p>	Screened in	<p>The English Offshore Scheme extends through Ministry of Defence (MoD) Practice Exercise Areas (PEXAs). It is not considered possible for the English Offshore Scheme to avoid all of these. However, effects will be temporary and short-term during construction of the English Offshore Scheme and have therefore been assessed as not significant. The Applicant will continue engagement with</p>	<p>This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.</p>

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
				the MoD to ensure that activities can co-exist.	
Oil and Gas	OG1	Proposals within areas with existing oil and gas production should not be authorised except where compatibility with oil and gas production and infrastructure can be satisfactorily demonstrated.	Screened in	<p>There are 65 active pipelines, 40 that are not in use and seven that are considered by the Applicant, and the (OMU) Study Area (9.26 km) within the East Inshore and Offshore marine plan areas. Also, within the OMU Study Area, there are 31 extant licensed oil and gas blocks within the East Inshore and Offshore marine plan areas.</p> <p>Agreements will be made where crossing of oil and gas assets are required, this is standard practice and common place in the marine environment.</p>	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
	OG2	Proposals for new oil and gas activity should be supported over proposals for other development.	Screened out	<p>The English Offshore Scheme is not within an area where a license for new oil and gas infrastructure has been granted or formally applied for.</p> <p>Cable infrastructure and oil and gas activities can co-exist.</p>	Policy not applicable to new application.
Offshore Wind Renewable Energy	WIND1	Developments requiring authorisation, that are in or could affect sites held under a lease or an agreement for lease that has been granted by The Crown Estate for	Screened in	There are three OWFs within the OMU Study Area in the Eastern Inshore and Offshore marine plan areas, all of which are fully operational. In addition, there are several export cables from OWFs	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
		development of an Offshore Wind Farm should not be authorised unless:		that lie adjacent to or are proposed to cross the draft Order Limits.	
		a) they can clearly demonstrate that they will not compromise the construction, operation, maintenance, or decommissioning of the Offshore Wind Farm.		The English Offshore Scheme does not overlap with any OWF Array, either operational or planned. The English Offshore Scheme has been routed to avoid the proposed Outer Dowsing OWF Artificial Nesting Structure (ANS).	
		b) the lease / agreement for lease has been surrendered back to The Crown Estate and not been re-tendered.		Where cable infrastructure is to be crossed, crossing agreements will be made with developers to agree the method and design of the crossing. This is standard practice and common place in the marine environment.	
		c) the lease / agreement for lease has been terminated by the Secretary of State.		Consultation with OWF developers is ongoing and will continue as plans develop.	
		d) in other exceptional circumstances.		The English Offshore Scheme will not compromise the development of operational or planned OWFs.	
	WIND2	Proposals for Offshore Wind Farms inside Round 3 zones, including relevant supporting projects and	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not associated with an OWF.	Policy not applicable to application.

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		infrastructure, should be supported.			
Tidal Stream and Wave	TIDE1	In defined areas of identified tidal stream resource, proposals should demonstrate, in order of preference:	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not located in an area that has tidal or wave energy site agreements.	Policy not applicable to
		a) that they will not compromise potential future development of a tidal stream project.			
		b) how, if there are any adverse impacts on potential tidal stream deployment, they will minimise them.			
		c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated.			
		d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.			

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
Carbon Capture and Storage	CCS1	<p>Within defined areas of potential carbon dioxide storage, proposals should demonstrate in order of preference:</p> <p>a) that they will not prevent carbon dioxide storage.</p> <p>b) how, if there are adverse impacts on carbon dioxide storage, they will minimise them.</p> <p>c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated.</p> <p>d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.</p>	Screened in	<p>The English Offshore Scheme is in an area where a licence for Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) has been granted. There is one CCS project that has been identified within the English Offshore Scheme area in the Eastern Inshore and Offshore marine plan areas, that overlaps the draft Order Limits: Endurance CO2 Storage Facility and Pipelines.</p> <p>As with other pipeline crossings, agreements would be made with owners / operators to agree design and methods of crossings. This is standard practice and common place in the marine environment.</p> <p>The English Offshore Scheme will not prevent or have adverse effects on the CCS operations.</p>	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
	CCS2	Carbon Capture and Storage proposals should demonstrate that consideration has been given to the re-use of existing oil and gas	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not associated with carbon capture and storage.	Policy not applicable to application.

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		infrastructure rather than the installation of new infrastructure (either in depleted fields or in active fields via enhanced hydrocarbon recovery).			
Ports and Shipping	PS1	Proposals that require static sea surface infrastructure or that significantly reduce under-keel clearance should not be authorised in International Maritime Organization designated routes.	Screened in	<p>Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 22: Shipping and Navigation identified the nine pilot boarding stations within the Study Area, and which relate to the Approaches to the River Humber International Maritime Organisation (IMO) routing measure.</p> <p>The English Offshore Scheme is proposing the installation of external cable protection in discrete areas along the cable route. The preliminary assessment of reduction in under-keel clearance concluded residual risks to be 'As Low as Reasonably Practicable' (ALARP).</p>	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
	PS2	Proposals that require static sea surface infrastructure that encroaches upon important navigation routes should not be authorised unless there are exceptional	Screened in	<p>There are nine pilot boarding stations within the Study Area, and which relate to the Approaches to the River Humber IMO routing measure.</p> <p>The English Offshore Scheme is proposing the installation of external cable protection in discrete areas along</p>	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
		<p>circumstances. Proposals should:</p> <p>a) be compatible with the need to maintain space for safe navigation, avoiding adverse economic impact.</p> <p>b) anticipate and provide for future safe navigational requirements where evidence and / or stakeholder input allows and</p> <p>c) account for impacts upon navigation in-combination with other existing and proposed activities.</p>		<p>the cable route. The preliminary assessment of disruption to established routes or areas presented in Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 22: Shipping and Navigation concluded residual risks to be 'As Low as Reasonably Practicable' (ALARP).</p>	
	PS3	<p>Proposals should demonstrate, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) that they will not interfere with current activity and future opportunity for expansion of ports and harbours.</p>	Screened out	<p>The English Offshore Scheme do not lie within the boundary of a statutory harbour authority area.</p>	Policy not applicable to

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
		<p>b) how, if the proposal may interfere with current activity and future opportunities for expansion, they will minimise this.</p> <p>c) how, if the interference cannot be minimised, it will be mitigated d) the case for proceeding if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the interference.</p>			
Dredging and Disposal	DD1	<p>Proposals within or adjacent to licensed dredging and disposal areas should demonstrate, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) that they will not adversely impact dredging and disposal activities.</p> <p>b) how, if there are adverse impacts on dredging and disposal, they will minimise these.</p> <p>c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be</p>	Screened in	<p>The English Offshore Scheme has been designed to avoid as many dredging and disposal sites as possible. There are seven spoil disposal sites within the OMU Study Area in the East Inshore and East Offshore marine plan areas. Likely effects of these sites have been assessed in Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 24: Other Marine Users effects are considered Not Significant.</p>	<p>This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.</p>

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
		<p>minimised, they will be mitigated.</p> <p>d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.</p>			
Aggregates	AGG1	Proposals in areas where a licence for extraction of aggregates has been granted or formally applied for should not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances.	Screened in	Within the Study Area there are eight aggregate extraction sites in the East Inshore and East Offshore marine plan areas. No sites overlap with the draft Order Limits, with Humber Overfalls being the closest, at 1.1 km away. The likely effects on the aggregate extraction sites has been assessed in Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 24: Other Marine Users as not significant as there are no direct effects on the extraction sites.	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
	AGG2	Proposals within an area subject to an Exploration and Option Agreement with The Crown Estate should not be supported unless it is demonstrated that the other development or activity is compatible with aggregate extraction or there are exceptional circumstances.	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not within an Exploration and Option agreement areas within the East Inshore and Offshore marine plan areas.	Policy not applicable to application.

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
	AGG3	<p>Within defined areas of high potential aggregate resource, proposals should demonstrate in order of preference:</p> <p>a) that they will not, prevent aggregate extraction.</p> <p>b) how, if there are adverse impacts on aggregate extraction, they will minimise these.</p> <p>c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated.</p> <p>d) the case for proceeding with the application if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.</p>	Screened out	<p>There are no defined areas of high potential aggregate resource within the OMU Study Area. The proposals will not affect or prevent aggregate extraction.</p>	Policy not applicable to the application.
Cabling	CAB1	<p>Preference should be given to proposals for cable installation where the method of installation is burial. Where burial is not achievable, decisions</p>	Screened in	<p>The preferred method for the English Offshore Scheme is to bury subsea cables to ensure they are adequately protected. Only in areas where depth of burial is not achieved external cable protection (e.g., rock berm, concrete</p>	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
		should take account of protection measures for the cable that may be proposed by the applicant.		mattresses and rock bags) may be used. Cable protection will be minimised as far as reasonably practicable and where required will involve consideration of the most appropriate protection method.	
Fisheries	FISH1	<p>Within areas of fishing activity, proposals should demonstrate in order of preference:</p> <p>a) that they will not prevent fishing activities on, or access to, fishing grounds.</p> <p>b) how, if there are adverse impacts on the ability to undertake fishing activities or access to fishing grounds, they will minimise them.</p> <p>c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated.</p> <p>d) the case for proceeding with their proposal if it is not</p>	Screened in	<p>The English Offshore Scheme is located within areas of fishing activity and temporary and permanent displacement may occur. Displacement may occur as construction progresses along the cable route and through the deployment of external cable protection.</p> <p>The Applicant will develop a Fisheries Liaison and Co-existence Plan (an outline of which has been submitted with the PEIR Volume 2, Part 3, Appendix 23.B: Outline Fisheries Liaison and Coexistence Plan) that sets out measures to promote the co-existence of commercial fishing and construction activities.</p> <p>The cables will be buried wherever possible, to enable fishing to continue post installation.</p>	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
		possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.			
	FISH2	<p>Proposals should demonstrate, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) that they will not have an adverse impact upon spawning and nursery areas and any associated habitat.</p> <p>b) how, if there are adverse impacts upon the spawning and nursery areas and any associated habitat, they will minimise them.</p> <p>c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated.</p> <p>d) the case for proceeding with their proposals if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.</p>	Screened in	<p>The English Offshore Scheme is located within spawning grounds and associated habitats for several pelagic and demersal species. Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 19: Fish and Shellfish concluded that the spatial extent of the English Offshore Scheme is limited, short-term in duration and affects only a small proportion of total area. Therefore, no potential significant effects are predicted.</p>	<p>This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.</p>

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
Aquaculture	AQ1	<p>Within sustainable aquaculture development sites (identified through research), proposals should demonstrate in order of preference:</p>	Screened out	<p>The English Offshore Scheme is not within any existing or potential sustainable aquaculture development sites; therefore, no significant adverse impacts are predicted.</p>	Policy not applicable to application.
		<p>a) that they will avoid adverse impacts on future aquaculture development by altering the seabed or water column in ways which would cause adverse impacts to aquaculture productivity or potential.</p>			
		<p>b) how, if there are adverse impacts on aquaculture development, they can be minimised.</p>			
		<p>c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated.</p>			
		<p>d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or</p>			

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
		mitigate the adverse impacts.			
Tourism and Recreation	TR1	<p>Proposals for development should demonstrate that during construction and operation, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) they will not adversely impact tourism and recreation activities.</p> <p>b) how, if there are adverse impacts on tourism and recreation activities, they will minimise them.</p> <p>c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated.</p> <p>d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.</p>	Screened in	<p>Recreational activities may occur within the OMU Study Area including diving, water sports, sailing and angling as well as bathing. Consultation with the Environmental Agency confirmed that the entire coastline between Theddlethorpe and Anderby Creek is considered a bathing water. The impact the English Offshore Scheme may have on tourism and recreation has been considered within Volume 1, Part 2, Chapter 15: Socio-Economics, Recreation and Tourism and Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 24: Other Marine Users; which concluded effects were Not Significant.</p>	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
	TR2	Proposals that require static objects in the East	Screened in	The English Offshore Scheme is proposing the deployment of external	This policy has been considered by the

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy	Assessment result
		<p>marine plan areas, should demonstrate, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) that they will not adversely impact on recreational boating routes.</p> <p>b) how, if there are adverse impacts on recreational boating routes, they will minimise them.</p> <p>c) how, if the adverse impacts cannot be minimised, they will be mitigated.</p> <p>d) the case for proceeding with the proposal if it is not possible to minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts.</p>		<p>cable protection. The preliminary assessment of disruption to established routes or areas presented in Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 22: Shipping and Navigation concluded residual risks to be 'As Low as Reasonably Practicable' (ALARP).</p> <p>No potential significant effects to recreational boating are anticipated.</p>	<p>Applicant, and the Application is compliant.</p>
	TR3	<p>Proposals that deliver tourism and / or recreation related benefits in communities adjacent to the East marine plan areas should be supported.</p>	Screened out	<p>The English Offshore Scheme does not have the potential to contribute to delivery of tourism and / or recreation related benefits.</p>	<p>Policy not applicable to application.</p>

2.B.3 North East Offshore Marine Plan Policy Assessment

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy plan	Assessment result
Infrastructure	NE-INF-1	Proposals for appropriate marine infrastructure which facilitates land-based activities, or land based infrastructure which facilitates marine activities (including the diversification or regeneration of sustainable marine industries), should be supported.	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme forms part of a 2-Gigawatt transmission reinforcement project that will transmit low carbon electricity from Scotland to England. It will improve the overall grid infrastructure but is not related to regeneration of sustainable marine industries.	Policy not applicable to application.
	NE-INF-2	<p>(1) Proposals for alternative development at existing safeguarded landing facilities will not be supported.</p> <p>(2) Proposals adjacent and opposite existing safeguarded landing facilities must demonstrate that they avoid significant adverse impacts on existing safeguarded landing facilities.</p> <p>(3) Proposals for alternative development at existing landing facilities (excluding safeguarded sites) should not be supported</p>	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not associated with safeguarded landing facilities.	Policy not applicable to application.

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		<p>unless that facility is no longer viable or capable of being made viable for waterborne transport.</p> <p>(4) Proposals adjacent and opposite existing landing facilities (excluding safeguarded sites) that may have significant adverse impacts on the landing facilities should demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate - adverse impacts so they are no longer significant.</p>					
Co-existence	NE-CO-1	<p>Proposals that optimise the use of space and incorporate opportunities for co-existence and co-operation with existing activities will be supported.</p> <p>Proposals that may have significant adverse impacts on, or displace, existing activities must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate</p>	Screened in	<p>The Applicant continues to engage with other third parties at the Anderby Creek Landfall.</p> <p>The Applicant will also engage with fishermen and other marine users. The Applicant will develop a Fisheries Liaison Coexistence Plan (an outline of which has been submitted with the Application Volume 2, Part 3, Appendix 23.B: Outline Fisheries Liaison and Coexistence Plan) that sets out measures to promote the co-existence of commercial</p>	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.		

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		- adverse impacts so they are no longer significant.		fishing and OWF development. A NRA has also been completed to minimise all potential impacts to acceptable or tolerable risk levels ALARP.	
Aggregates	NE-AGG-1	Proposals in areas where a licence for extraction of aggregates has been granted or formally applied for should not be authorised, unless it is demonstrated that the proposal is compatible with aggregate extraction.	Screened out	Within the OMU Study Area there are no aggregate extraction sites in the North East Offshore marine plan area.	Policy not applicable to application.
	NE-AGG-2	Proposals within an area subject to an Exploration and Option Agreement with The Crown Estate should not be supported unless it is demonstrated that the proposal is compatible with aggregate extraction.	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not within an Exploration and Option agreement areas within the North East Offshore marine plan area.	Policy not applicable to application.
	NE-AGG-3	Proposals in areas of high potential aggregate resource that may have significant adverse impacts on future aggregate extraction should demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid	Screened out	Within the English Offshore Scheme there are no defined areas of high potential aggregate resource; therefore, no significant adverse impacts are predicted.	Policy not applicable to application.

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		<p>b) minimise c) mitigate - significant adverse impacts on future aggregate extraction so they are no longer significant. If it is not possible to mitigate significant adverse impacts, proposals should state the case for proceeding.</p>					
Aquaculture	NE-AQ-1	<p>Proposals within existing or potential strategic areas of sustainable aquaculture production must demonstrate consideration of and compatibility with sustainable aquaculture production. Where compatibility is not possible, proposals that may have significant adverse impacts on sustainable aquaculture production must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:</p>	Screened out	<p>The English Offshore Policy not applicable to Scheme is not within any application. existing or potential strategic area of sustainable aquaculture production, therefore no significant adverse impacts are predicted.</p>			Policy not applicable to application.
		<p>a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate - adverse impacts on sustainable aquaculture production so they are no longer significant. If it is not possible to mitigate significant adverse impacts, proposals</p>					

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy plan	Assessment result
		should state the case for proceeding.			
	NE-AQ-2	Proposals enabling the provision of infrastructure for sustainable aquaculture and related industries will be supported.	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not associated with aquaculture.	Policy not applicable to application.
Cables	NE-CAB-1	<p>Preference should be given to proposals for cable installation where the method of protection is burial.</p> <p>Where burial is not achievable, decisions should take account of protection measures for the cable that may be proposed by the applicant. Where burial or protection measures are not appropriate, proposals should state the case for proceeding without those measures.</p>	Screened in	The preferred method for the English Offshore Scheme is to bury cables to ensure they are adequately protected. Only in areas where depth of burial is not achieved external cable protection (e.g., rock berm, concrete mattresses and rock bags) may be used. Cable protection will be minimised as far as reasonably practicable and where required will involve consideration of the most appropriate protection method.	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
	NE-CAB-2	Proposals demonstrating compatibility with existing landfall sites and incorporating measures to enable development of future landfall opportunities should be supported. Where this is not possible proposals will, in order of preference:	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme within the North East Offshore marine plan area is not associated with existing landfall sites, activities are all located solely beyond 12 Nautical Miles (NM).	Policy not applicable to Application.

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		<p>a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate - adverse impacts on existing and potential future landfall sites so they are no longer significant. If it is not possible to mitigate significant adverse impacts, proposals should state the case for proceeding.</p>					
	NE-CAB-3	<p>Where seeking to locate close to existing subsea cables, proposals should demonstrate compatibility with ongoing function, maintenance and decommissioning activities relating to the cable.</p>	Screened in	<p>Within the OMU Study Area This policy has been in the North East Offshore considered by the marine plan area, there are Applicant, and the six active and four Application is compliant. decommissioned subsea cables. Each of these are crossed by the English Offshore Scheme. Potential impacts on these cables have been assessed in Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 24: Other Marine Users and it has been concluded that whilst crossings will be required it is standard practice and common place and significant impacts are not expected. Crossing agreements with third party</p>			

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					owners will be sought and agreed.
Dredging and Disposal	NE-DD-1	In areas of authorised dredging activity, including those subject to navigational dredging, proposals for other activities will not be supported unless they are compatible with the dredging activity.	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme are not associated with any authorised dredging activity and will not hinder any dredging works.	Policy not applicable to application.
	NE-DD-2	Proposals that cause significant adverse impacts on licensed disposal sites should not be supported. Proposals that may have significant adverse impacts on licensed disposal sites must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate - adverse impacts so they are no longer significant. If it is not possible to mitigate the significant adverse impacts, proposals must state the case for proceeding.	Screened out	There is no disposal site within the OMU Study Area within the North East Offshore marine plan.	Policy not applicable to application.
	NE-DD-3	Proposals for the disposal of dredged material must demonstrate that they have been assessed against the waste	Screened in	The pre-sweeping of sandwaves and disposal of material dredged as part of	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy plan	Assessment result
		<p>hierarchy. Where there is the need to identify new dredge disposal sites, including for alternative use sites, proposals should be supported if they conform to best practice and guidance.</p>		<p>this activity is proposed within the draft Order Limits. Consent is being sought through the DCO for this activity, appropriate sampling has been undertaken with agreement and in accordance with Marine Management Organisation (MMO) guidance. The material to be deposited will be the same as the receiving environment and therefore no significant impacts are anticipated.</p>	
Oil and Gas	NE-OG-1	<p>Proposals in areas where a licence for oil and gas has been granted or formally applied for should not be authorised unless it is demonstrated that the other development or activity is compatible with the oil and gas activity.</p>	Screened in	<p>There are 14 active pipelines and two pipelines not in use in the OMU Study Area within the North East Offshore marine plan. There are 11 oil and gas extant licensed blocks that are in the OMU Study Area within the North East Offshore marine plan area.</p> <p>The works are of short duration, so no potential significant effects are predicted. Crossing agreements with third party</p>	<p>This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.</p>

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of policy plan	Assessment result
				owners will be sought and agreed.	
	NE-OG-2	Proposals within areas of geological oil and gas extraction potential demonstrating compatibility with future extraction activity will be supported.	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not within an area where a license for new oil and gas extraction infrastructure has been granted or formally applied for.	Policy not applicable to application.
Ports, Harbour and Shipping	NE-PS-1	<p>In line with the National Policy Statement for Ports, sustainable port and harbour development should be supported.</p> <p>Only proposals demonstrating compatibility with current port and harbour activities will be supported.</p> <p>Proposals within statutory harbour authority areas or their approaches that detrimentally and materially affect safety of navigation, or the compliance by statutory harbour authorities with the Open Port Duty or the Port Marine Safety Code, will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances.</p>	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not associated with the port or harbour development and does not lie within the boundary of a statutory harbour authority area.	Policy not applicable to application.

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment plan	of	policy	Assessment result
		<p>Proposals that may have a significant adverse impact upon future opportunity for sustainable expansion of port and harbour activities, must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate</p> <p>- adverse impacts so they are no longer significant.</p> <p>If it is not possible to mitigate significant adverse impacts, proposals should state the case for proceeding.</p>					
	NE-PS-2	<p>Proposals that require static sea surface infrastructure or that significantly reduce under keel clearance must not be authorised within or encroaching upon International Maritime Organization routing systems unless there are exceptional circumstances.</p>	Screened in	<p>The English Offshore Scheme is proposing the deployment of external cable protection. The preliminary assessment of reduction in under-keel clearance presented in Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 22: Shipping and Navigation concluded residual risks to be 'As Low as Reasonably Practicable' (ALARP).</p>			<p>This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.</p>

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	NE-PS-3	Proposals that require static sea surface infrastructure or that significantly reduce under keel clearance which encroaches upon high density navigation routes, strategically important navigation routes, or that pose a risk to the viability of passenger services, must not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances.	Screened in	The English Offshore Scheme is proposing the deployment of external cable protection. The preliminary assessment of reduction in under-keel clearance presented in Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 22: Shipping and Navigation concluded residual risks to be 'As Low as Reasonably Practicable' (ALARP).	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
	NE-PS-4	Proposals promoting or facilitating sustainable coastal and / or short sea shipping as an alternative to road, rail or air transport will be supported where appropriate.	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not associated with coastal and / or short sea shipping.	Policy not applicable to application.
Renewables	NE-REN-1	Proposals that enable the provision of renewable energy technologies and associated supply chains, will be supported.	Screened in	The English Offshore Scheme supports the transmission of electricity across the UK, which include energy generated from renewable technologies. The links provide electricity to areas of demand.	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
	NE-REN-2	Proposals for new activity within areas held under a lease or an agreement for lease for renewable energy generation	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not within an area for lease for renewable energy generation.	Policy not applicable to application.

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		should not be authorised, unless it is demonstrated that the proposed development or activity will not reduce the ability to construct, operate or decommission the existing or planned energy generation project.				
	NE-REN-3	Proposals for the installation of infrastructure to generate offshore renewable energy, inside areas of identified potential and subject to relevant assessments, will be supported.	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not related to offshore renewable energy.		Policy not applicable to application.
Heritage Assets	NE-HER-1	<p>Proposals that demonstrate they will conserve and enhance the significance of heritage assets will be supported.</p> <p>Where proposals may cause harm to the significance of heritage assets, proponents must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate <p>- any harm to the significance of heritage assets. If it is not possible</p>	Screened in	Potential impacts of the English Offshore Scheme on heritage assets are considered in Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 25: Marine Archaeology . The potential effects that the English Offshore Scheme may have such as damage to / loss of archaeological material from direct / indirect impacts have all been found to have a minor or negligible impact. Known receptors would be avoided through the application of AEZs, TAEZs and subsequent micro-siting of infrastructure on the		This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.

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		to mitigate, then public benefits for proceeding with the proposal must outweigh the harm to the significance of heritage assets.		seabed, as necessary. In the case of unknown receptors, the protocol for recording finds of archaeological interest will be followed. This protocol follows the guidance for the PAD.	
Seascape and Landscape	NE-SCP-1	Proposals should ensure they are compatible with their surroundings and should not have a significant adverse impact on the character and visual resource of the seascape and landscape of the area.	Screened out	Once constructed no above sea surface structures will be visible.	Policy not applicable to application.
		The location, scale and design of proposals should take account of the character, quality and distinctiveness of the seascape and landscape.			
		Proposals that may have a significant adverse impact on the seascape and landscape of the area should demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate - adverse impacts so they are no longer significant.			

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		<p>If it is not possible to mitigate, the public benefits for proceeding with the proposal must outweigh significant adverse impacts to the seascape and landscape of the area.</p> <p>Proposals within or relatively close to nationally designated areas should have regard to the specific statutory purposes of the designated area. Great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.</p>					
Fisheries	NE-FISH-1	<p>Proposals that support a sustainable fishing industry, including the industry's diversification, should be supported.</p>	Screened out	<p>The English Offshore Scheme does not support or hinder the diversification of a sustainable fishing industry.</p>			Policy not applicable to application.
	NE-FISH-2	<p>Proposals that enhance access for fishing activities should be supported.</p> <p>Proposals that may have significant adverse impacts on access for fishing activities must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:</p>	Screened in	<p>The English Offshore Scheme is located within the areas of fishing activity and temporary and permanent displacement may occur. Displacement may occur as construction progresses along the cable route and</p>			This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.

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		<p>a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate - adverse impacts so they are no longer significant.</p> <p>If it is not possible to mitigate significant adverse impacts, proposals should state the case for proceeding.</p>		<p>through the deployment of external cable protection.</p> <p>The Applicant will develop a Fisheries Liaison and Co-existence Plan (an outline of which has been submitted with the PEIR Volume 2, Part 3, Appendix 23.B: Outline Fisheries Liaison and Coexistence Plan) that sets out measures to promote the co-existence of commercial fishing and construction activities.</p> <p>The cables will be buried wherever possible, to enable fishing to continue post installation.</p>	
	NE-FISH-3	<p>Proposals that enhance essential fish habitat, including spawning, nursery and feeding grounds, and migratory routes, should be supported.</p> <p>Proposals that may have significant adverse impacts on essential fish habitat, including spawning, nursery and feeding grounds, and migratory routes, must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:</p>	Screened out	<p>The English Offshore Scheme is located within spawning grounds and associated habitats for several pelagic and demersal species. Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 19: Fish and Shellfish concluded that the spatial extent of the English Offshore Scheme is limited, short-term in duration and affects only a small proportion of total area. Therefore, no potential</p>	Policy not applicable to application.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate - adverse impacts so they are no longer significant.		significant effects are predicted.	
Employment	NE-EMP-1	<p>Proposals that result in a net increase in marine-related employment will be supported, particularly where they meet one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) are aligned with local skills strategies and support the skills available. 2) create a diversity of opportunities. 3) create employment in locations identified as the most deprived. 4) implement new technologies - in, and adjacent to, the North East marine plan area.	Screened in	The English Offshore Scheme will seek to provide job opportunities to the local area where possible.	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
Climate Change	NE-CC-1	<p>Proposals that conserve, restore or enhance habitats that provide flood defence or carbon sequestration will be supported.</p> <p>Proposals that may have significant adverse impacts on</p>	Screened out	The English Offshore Policy is not associated with conservation, restoration or enhancement of habitats that provide flood defence or carbon	Policy not applicable to application.

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		habitats that provide a flood defence or carbon sequestration ecosystem service must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate - adverse impacts so they are no longer significant d) compensate for significant adverse impacts that cannot be mitigated.		sequestration ecosystem services. A trenchless technique is the preferred method at the Anderby Creek Landfall to avoid any interaction with intertidal habitats and flood defences.	
	NE-CC-2	Proposals in the North East marine plan area should demonstrate for the lifetime of the project that they are resilient to the impacts of climate change and coastal change.	Screened in	Studies have been undertaken to ensure suitable burial depth so that the English Offshore Scheme will not be impacted on by mobile sediments and therefore is resilient to the impacts of climate change.	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
	NE-CC-3	Proposals in the North East marine plan area, and adjacent marine plan areas, that are likely to have significant adverse impacts on coastal change, or on climate change adaptation measures inside and outside of the proposed project, should only be supported if they can	Screened out	The future baseline including the anticipated changes because of climate change at the Anderby Creek Landfall have been considered within Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 17: Coastal and Marine Physical Processes.	Policy not applicable to application.

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		<p>demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) avoid</p> <p>b) minimise</p> <p>c) mitigate</p> <p>- adverse impacts so they are no longer significant.</p>		<p>The English Offshore Scheme will utilise a trenchless technique to pass beneath existing sea defences. There are annual beach nourishment works undertaken at the Anderby Creek Landfall; however, the Applicant will work with the Environment Agency to ensure the English Offshore Scheme can be coordinated with annual beach nourishment activities.</p> <p>The English Offshore Scheme will not have a significant adverse impact on coastal change or on climate change adaptation measures.</p>	
Carbon Capture Usage and Storage	NE-CCUS-1	Decommissioning programmes for oil and gas facilities should demonstrate that they have considered the potential for re-use of infrastructure.	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not associated with any CCS.	Policy not applicable to application.
	NE-CCUS-2	Carbon capture, usage and storage proposals incorporating the re-use of existing oil and gas infrastructure will be supported.	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not associated with any CCS.	Policy not applicable to application.

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	NE-CCUS-3	Proposals associated with the deployment of low carbon infrastructure for industrial clusters should be supported.	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not associated with any low carbon infrastructure.	Policy not applicable to application.
Air Quality and Emissions	NE-AIR-1	<p>Proposals must assess their direct and indirect impacts upon local air quality and emissions of greenhouse gases.</p> <p>Proposals that are likely to result in increased air pollution or increased emissions of greenhouse gases must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate</p> <p>- air pollution and / or greenhouse gas emissions in line with current national and local air quality objectives and legal requirements.</p>	Screened in	The primary source of greenhouse gas emissions because of the English Offshore Scheme is from construction vessels. Compliance of all project vessels with the regulations relating to MARPOL Convention 73/78, with the aim of preventing and minimising pollution from ships.	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
Marine Litter	NE-ML-1	Public authorities must make adequate provision for the prevention, re-use, recycling and disposal of waste to reduce and prevent marine litter.	Screened out	A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), which is the Project's commitment and management approach for environmental protection	Policy not applicable to application.

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		Public authorities should aspire to undertake measures to remove marine litter within their jurisdiction.		including waste management will be provided to fulfil a condition of the Deemed Marine Licence (DML).	
	NE-ML-2	Proposals that facilitate waste re-use or recycling to reduce or remove marine litter will be supported. Proposals that could potentially increase the amount of marine litter in the marine plan areas must include measures to, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate - waste entering the marine environment.	Screened in	A CEMP, which is the Project's commitment and management approach for environmental protection including waste management will be provided to fulfil a condition of the DML.	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
Water Quality	NE-WQ-1	Proposals that protect, enhance and restore water quality will be supported. Proposals that cause deterioration of water quality must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:	Screened in	An assessment of water quality has been provided as part of Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 17: Coastal and Marine Physical Processes . Some temporary increases in suspended sediment concentration may be	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.

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		<p>a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate - deterioration of water quality in the marine environment.</p>		<p>anticipated because of construction works. This will be a temporary effect and will have no lasting effect on water quality.</p>	
Access	NEW-ACC-1	<p>Proposals demonstrating appropriate enhanced and inclusive public access to and within the marine area, including the provision of services for tourism and recreation activities, will be supported.</p> <p>Proposals that may have significant adverse impacts on public access should demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate - adverse impacts so they are no longer significant.</p>	Screened in	<p>During the construction phase there is the potential for recreational users to be displaced or access restricted to their usual recreational areas and / or boat and shore-based angling activities. However, given the works in the North East marine plan area are all beyond 12 NM recreational activities are low and therefore no significant impacts to recreational users are anticipated.</p> <p>Any disruption during the construction phase is anticipated to be temporary and localised. Once construction works are completed no restrictions will remain.</p>	<p>This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.</p>

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Tourism and Recreation	NE-TR-1	<p>Proposals that promote or facilitate sustainable tourism and recreation activities, or that create appropriate opportunities to expand or diversify the current use of facilities, should be supported.</p> <p>Proposals that may have significant adverse impacts on tourism and recreation activities must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate - adverse impacts so they are no longer significant.</p>	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not associated with promotion of tourism or recreation.	Policy not applicable to application.
Social Benefits	NE-SOC-1	Those bringing forward proposals should consider and demonstrate how their development shall enhance public knowledge, understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the marine environment as part of (the design of) the proposal.	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not associated with the enhancement of social benefits.	Policy not applicable to application.
Defence	NE-DEF-1	Proposals in or affecting Ministry of Defence areas should only be	Screened in	The English Offshore Scheme extends through MoD PEXAs. It is not	This policy has been considered by the

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		authorised with agreement from the Ministry of Defence.		considered possible for the English Offshore Scheme to avoid all of these. However, effects will be temporary and short-term during construction of the English Offshore Scheme and have therefore been assessed as not significant. The Applicant will continue engagement with the MoD to ensure that activities can co-exist.	Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
Marine Protected Areas	NE-MPA-1	Proposals that support the objectives of marine protected areas and the ecological coherence of the marine protected area network will be supported.	Screened in	Within the North East marine plan area, the English Offshore Scheme overlaps slightly with the Southern North Sea SAC. The Applicant has prepared a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening to consider the potential for Likely Significant Effects (LSE) to the Southern North Sea SAC. A Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment will be provided with the ES which will fully consider potential LSE to the Southern North Sea SAC	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
		Proposals that may have adverse impacts on the objectives of marine protected areas must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate - adverse impacts, with due regard given to statutory advice			

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		on an ecologically coherent network.		and any mitigation measures where required.	
				In addition, the English Offshore Scheme lies adjacent to the North East of Farnes Deep Highly Protected Marine Area (HPMA). The Applicant has undertaken a Marine Conservation Zone Screening and Stage 1 Assessment which concluded that the conservation objectives would not be hindered by the English Offshore Scheme.	
	NE-MPA-2	<p>Proposals that enhance a marine protected area's ability to adapt to climate change, enhancing the resilience of the marine protected area network, will be supported.</p> <p>Proposals that may have adverse impacts on an individual marine protected area's ability to adapt to the effects of climate change, and so reduce the resilience of the marine protected area network, must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:</p>	Screened out	The English Offshore Policy will not hinder any marine protected areas' ability to adapt to climate change.	Policy not applicable to application.

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		<p>a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate - adverse impacts.</p>				
	NE-MPA-3	Where statutory advice states that a marine protected area site condition is deteriorating or that features are moving or changing due to climate change, a suitable boundary change to ensure continued protection of the site and coherence of the overall network should be considered.	Screened out	No such advice exists for the North East of Farnes Deep HPMA or Southern North Sea SAC.		Policy not applicable to application.
	NE-MPA-4	Proposals that may have significant adverse impacts on designated geodiversity must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme will not have significant impacts on designated geodiversity.		Policy not applicable to application.
		<p>a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate - adverse impacts so they are no longer significant.</p>				
Biodiversity	NE-BIO-1	Proposals that enhance the distribution of priority habitats and priority species will be supported.	Screened in	The English Offshore Scheme is not associated with the enhancement of the distribution of priority habitats and priority species.		This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.

Topic	Policy code	Policy text	Screened in / screened out	Assessment of plan	policy Assessment result
		<p>Proposals that may have significant adverse impacts on the distribution of priority habitats and priority species must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate - adverse impacts so they are no longer significant. d) compensate for significant adverse impacts that cannot be mitigated.</p>		<p>Potential impacts of biodiversity are considered within the following:</p>	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volume 1, Part 2, Chapter 6: Biodiversity; 	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 18: Intertidal and Subtidal Benthic Ecology; 	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 19: Fish and Shellfish; 	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 20: Intertidal and Offshore Ornithology; 	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 21: Marine Mammals and Marine Reptiles; 	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volume 2, Part 1, Appendix 2.C: Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Stage 1 Screening Report; 	

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volume 2, Part 3, Appendix 18.C: Project Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) Assessment Screening; and Volume 2, Part 3, Appendix 18.D: Marine Conservation Zone Stage 1 Assessment. 		
	NE-BIO-2	<p>Proposals that enhance or facilitate native species or habitat adaptation or connectivity, or native species migration, will be supported.</p> <p>Proposals that may cause significant adverse impacts on native species or habitat adaptation or connectivity, or native species migration, must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate - adverse impacts so they are no longer significant</p>	Screened in	<p>The potential for the English Offshore Scheme to act as a barrier to species movement has been considered where relevant in the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 18: Intertidal and Subtidal Benthic Ecology; Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 19: Fish and Shellfish; Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 20: Intertidal and Offshore Ornithology; 	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.	has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.

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		d) compensate for significant adverse impacts that cannot be mitigated.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 21: Marine Mammals and Marine Reptiles; • Volume 2, Part 1, Appendix 2.C: Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Stage 1 Screening Report; • Volume 2, Part 3, Appendix 18.C: Project Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) Assessment Screening; and • Volume 2, Part 3, Appendix 18.D: Marine Conservation Zone Stage 1 Assessment. 			
	NE-BIO-3	Proposals that conserve, restore or enhance coastal habitats, where important in their own right and / or for ecosystem functioning and provision of ecosystem services, will be supported.	Screened out	The English Offshore Scheme is not associated with any conservation, restoration or enhancement of coastal habitats.			Policy not applicable to application.

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		<p>Proposals must take account of the space required for coastal habitats, where important in their own right and / or for ecosystem functioning and provision of ecosystem services, and demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate d) compensate for - net habitat loss.</p>					
Invasive Non-native Species	NE-INNS-1	<p>Proposals that reduce the risk of introduction and / or spread of invasive non-native species should be supported.</p> <p>Proposals must put in place appropriate measures to avoid or minimise significant adverse impacts that would arise through the introduction and transport of invasive non-native species, particularly when:</p> <p>1) moving equipment, boats or livestock (for example fish or</p>	Screened in	<p>The English Offshore Scheme vessels, equipment, and external cable protection have the potential to introduce and / or spread invasive non-native species. All relevant guidelines will be followed including vessel cleaning facilities and the use of anti-fouling paint and contractors will comply with the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast water and Sediments. Additionally, a</p>			This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.

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		shellfish) from one water body to another. 2) introducing structures suitable for settlement of invasive non-native species, or the spread of invasive non-native species known to exist in the area.			Biosecurity Plan will be implemented prior to the start of construction.
	NE-INNS-2	Public authorities with functions to manage activities that could potentially introduce, transport or spread invasive non-native species should implement adequate biosecurity measures to avoid or minimise the risk of introducing, transporting or spreading invasive non-native species.	Screened in	The English Offshore Scheme' vessels, equipment, and external cable protection have the potential to introduce and / or spread invasive non-native species. All relevant guidelines will be followed including vessel cleaning facilities and the use of anti-fouling paint and contractors will comply with the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast water and Sediments. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are predicted. Additionally, a Biosecurity Plan will be implemented prior to the start of construction.	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
Disturbance	NE-DIST-1	Proposals that may have significant adverse impacts on highly mobile species through	Screened in	The English Offshore Scheme crosses the Southern North Sea SAC for	This policy has been considered by the

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		<p>disturbance or displacement must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:</p> <p>a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate</p> <p>- adverse impacts so they are no longer significant.</p>		<p>a short distance within the North East Offshore marine plan area. This SAC was designated due to the presence of a <i>Phocoena Phocoena</i> (harbour porpoise) population, which are highly mobile species. The Applicant has undertaken HRA screening and will provide a Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment with the final application. Additionally impacts to marine mammals are considered in Volume 1, Part 3, Chapter 21: Marine Mammals and Marine Reptiles.</p>	<p>Applicant, and the Application is compliant.</p>
Underwater Noise	NE-UWN-1	<p>Proposals that result in the generation of impulsive sound must contribute data to the UK Marine Noise Registry as per any currently agreed requirements. Public authorities must take account of any currently agreed targets under the Marine Strategy Part One Descriptor 11.</p>	Screened in	<p>Impulsive sounds associated with the Offshore Scheme include surveys and UXO clearance. The Applicant to date has provided data to the UK Marine Noise Registry (MNR) and will continue to do as and when further surveys are planned. It should be noted that UXO clearance will be licensed under a separate marine licence and not being</p>	<p>This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.</p>

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				<p>consented within the DCO application. It is anticipated the Applicant will provide data to the MRN as part of the conditions to the marine licence.</p>	
	NE-UWN-2	<p>Proposals that result in the generation of impulsive or non-impulsive noise must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate <p>- adverse impacts on highly mobile species so they are no longer significant.</p> <p>If it is not possible to mitigate significant adverse impacts, proposals must state the case for the proceeding.</p>	Screened in	<p>Construction activities involved in preparation and installation of the subsea cables generate underwater sound. The presence of vessels creates a continuous sound, whereas impulsive sounds are associated with surveys.</p> <p>The Applicant has provided an assessment of underwater noise as part of the PEIR.</p> <p>Only surveys deemed necessary to facilitate the installation of the cables will be undertaken and although subject to separate consent, the Applicant is prioritising low order disposal of UXO over high order. It should be noted that UXO clearance will be licensed under a separate marine licence and not being consented within the DCO application.</p>	<p>This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.</p>

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Cumulative Effects	NE-CE-1	Proposals which may have adverse cumulative effects with other existing, authorised, or reasonably foreseeable proposals must demonstrate that they will, in order of preference: a) avoid b) minimise c) mitigate - adverse cumulative and / or in-combination effects so they are no longer significant.	Screened in	Potential cumulative impacts affecting the local ecosystem will be considered in the cumulative effects assessment which will provided in the ES.	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.
Cross-border Co-operation	NE-CBC-1	Proposals must consider cross-border impacts throughout the lifetime of the proposed activity. Proposals that impact upon one or more marine plan areas or terrestrial environments must show evidence of the relevant public authorities (including other countries) being consulted and responses considered.	Screened in	Potential transboundary impacts are being considered as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), assessments relative to other Marine Plan Areas are provided within this document above. Where appropriate transboundary impacts are also considered and will be presented within the ES.	This policy has been considered by the Applicant, and the Application is compliant.

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