

East Anglia THREE
Offshore Windfarm

East Anglia THREE

Other Environmental Information

Volume 1 Introduction

Document Reference – OEI / Volume 1/
Introduction

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Revision History – Revision A

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1 Introduction

1.1 Introduction

1. In November 2015 East Anglia THREE Limited (EATL) submitted an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build the East Anglia THREE offshore windfarm (the Project) approximately 69km off the coast of East Anglia. The application was accepted by the Planning Inspectorate for Examination in December 2015.
2. The Development Consent Order would, inter alia, authorise:
 - Up to 172 offshore wind turbines and associated foundations, with an installed capacity of up to 1,200 MW;
 - Up to two meteorological masts and foundations;
 - Up to twelve buoys;
 - Up to six offshore electrical stations;
 - Up to one offshore platform housing accommodation facilities;
 - Subsea inter-array cables between the wind turbines and offshore electrical stations;
 - Up to four subsea export cables to transmit electricity from the offshore electrical stations to shore;
 - Up to four interconnector cables between the East Anglia ONE and East Anglia THREE Projects;
 - Scour protection around foundations and on inter-array and export cables as required;
 - Landfall at Bawdsey with onshore transition bays to join the offshore and onshore cables;
 - Up to four onshore underground circuits (each containing up to three cables) pulled through existing ducting to be laid by East Anglia ONE or directly laid, running for approximately 37 km from landfall to the connection point at Bramford, Suffolk, with jointing pits, to transmit electricity to up to two new onshore substations;
 - Up to two onshore substations at Bramford, Suffolk, to connect the offshore wind farm to the National Grid;

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- The permanent and / or temporary compulsory acquisition (if required) of land and / or rights for the proposed Project;
 - Overriding of easements and other rights over or affecting land for the proposed Project;
 - The application and / or disapplication of legislation relevant to the proposed Project including inter alia legislation relating to compulsory purchase; and
 - Such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, permits or consents as are necessary and / or convenient.
3. Examination of the DCO application commenced in June 2016.
4. In response to consultation with statutory stakeholders (Natural England and the Local Planning Authorities) EATL wish to submit “Other Environmental Information” (OEI), to supplement the Environmental Statement that accompanied its application for a Development Consent Order. In order for this OEI to be submitted the Planning Inspectorate has requested that it be consulted upon. Following the conclusion of this consultation the OEI will be formally submitted to the Examining Authority for consideration.

1.2 Structure of OEI

5. The OEI is structured as follows:
- Volume 1 – Introduction (this Volume);
 - Volume 2 – Orford Inshore rMCZ Assessment (Document reference : OEI / Volume 2/ rMCZ assessment);
 - Volume 3 Henley Road Assessment (Document reference: OEI / Volume 3 / Henley Road assessment); and
 - Volume 4 – Revised LVIA Assessment (OEI/ Volume 4 / LVIA assessment).
6. Volume 2 Orford Inshore rMCZ Assessment has been developed in response to the Natural England Relevant Representation (submitted on the 4th March)¹. Advice on the content of the report was also provided by Natural England via email on the 21st June. Natural England were provided with the a final report for comment on the 20th July however they were unable to review and provide comment on the document in time for this consultation.
7. Volume 3 Henley Road Assessment was completed in response to Suffolk County Councils request that an alternative access route (to Lower Road Westerfield) be used for vehicles accessing the onshore cable route. This document was originally

¹ <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/east-anglia-three-offshore-wind-farm/?ipcsection=relreps&relrep=14824>

submitted to the Local Planning Authorities in May 2016 and resubmitted in its final form in June 2016 with agreed changes. This document has been submitted for Deadline 2 as part of the Statement of Common Ground between the Local Planning Authorities and the Applicant.

8. Volume 4 Update to the Seascape, Landscape and Visual Amenity Impact Assessment has been completed in response to the non-material change to the DCO for East Anglia ONE² which has resulted in a change to the baseline assumed for assessment purposes at the time of the submission for East Anglia THREE. Chapter 29 Seascape, Landscape and Visual Assessment (DCO document reference 6.1.29) committed EATL to updating the assessment (section 29.3.2, paragraph 33):

It is assumed in the assessment that East Anglia ONE is constructed and is operational and that the proposed East Anglia THREE project would be added to this baseline situation. Note that for the purposes of this assessment, the dimensions of the East Anglia ONE converter station are taken to be those consented in the East Anglia ONE development consent order (DCO). The size of the East Anglia ONE converter station would be smaller than the currently consented position if the current application for a non-material change to the East Anglia ONE DCO is granted. EATL would undertake further assessment if required on the basis of the outcome of the decision upon the non-material change to the East Anglia ONE DCO.

9. The non-material change includes a reduction in height of the East Anglia ONE substation. In addition, East Anglia ONE Ltd are currently undertaking a master planning exercise to develop a coherent design for landscaping mitigation for both the East Anglia ONE and the East Anglia THREE projects. The updated assessment therefore also considers this revised mitigation. The Local Planning Authorities have been consulted on the Masterplan. The Masterplan has been submitted at Deadline 2 (Document reference: Deadline 2/First Written Questions/Landscape Masterplan/PN1,PN3,LH14).

² <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/east-anglia-one-offshore-windfarm/?ipcsection=docs&stage=7&filter1=Non+Material+Change>