

August 2021 Update for JLAG on Energy Projects

East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two Offshore Wind Projects

The examinations closed on 6 July 2021, the Examining Authorities now have three months to write a report and make a recommendation to the Secretary of State.

Following receipt of the Examining Authorities recommendations, the Secretary of State has three months to make a decision whether to grant Development Consent Orders (DCOs) for the projects. The decisions are expected by 6 January 2022, although recently the Secretary of State's decision making on offshore windfarm projects has taken longer than the three months.

There is a six-week period following the decisions being issued during which a legal challenge can be made.

Pre-consent onshore works in relation to archaeology are continuing around Friston/Knodishall and Aldringham/Sizewell. The ground investigation works are now complete within the Friston/Knodishall area and should be complete in the Aldringham/Sizewell area by the end of August.

Indicative Programme:

- Decision from the Secretary of State expected January 2022
- Onshore pre-enabling works commence August 2022 (if consented)
- Construction begins 2023 (if consented)
- Operational 2026 (if consented)

For further information:

[East Anglia ONE North Offshore Windfarm | National Infrastructure Planning \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](https://planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

[East Anglia TWO Offshore Windfarm | National Infrastructure Planning \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](https://planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

East Anglia Three

East Anglia Three was consented in 2017 and forms part of the East Anglia Hub alongside East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two.

Officers are engaging with ScottishPower Renewables in relation to the numerous requirements on the DCO.

Indicative Programme:

- Construction anticipated to commence in June 2022

- Operational 2026

For further information:

[East Anglia THREE - ScottishPower Renewables](#)

Nautilus Multi-Purpose Interconnector

Nautilus is a Multi-Purpose Interconnector being promoted by National Grid Ventures. The project involves the creation of a 1.4 gigawatt High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) electricity link between the transmission systems of Great Britain and Belgium. At present offshore wind and interconnectors operate alongside each other, Multi-Purpose Interconnectors could enable offshore wind and interconnectors to work together as a combined asset.

A converter station is required to be constructed in each country in addition to the installation of offshore and onshore underground cables. The converter station will occupy approximately a five-hectare area with structures up to 24 metres high.

The project has received a connection offer from National Grid for a connection at a new 400kV substation located close to the Sizewell 400kV network, provisionally referred to as 'Leiston 400kV'. National Grid Ventures has stated that if the National Grid substation proposed under the East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two applications is consented at Friston, this could be the connection point utilised for this project too. An extension to the National Grid substation would be required to connect the project. Alternatively, a new substation would need to be constructed within the locality of the connection offer.

National Grid Ventures has confirmed that they are engaging with the Offshore Transmission Network Review.

Interconnectors would usually fall under the Town and Country Planning Act but National Grid Ventures, at the request of the Councils, applied for the project to be considered under the 2008 Planning Act and National Significant Infrastructure Projects regime. The Secretary of State granted this request in 2019.

Officers are continuing to engage with National Grid Ventures on this project.

Next Steps:

- National Grid Ventures have scheduled briefing sessions for East Suffolk Council on 2 September and Suffolk County Council on 13 September 2021.
- Informal consultation planned for end of summer 2021.
- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report anticipated to be submitted Q1 2022.
- Formal consultation anticipated 2023.
- Submission of DCO application anticipated Q3 2023.

- Construction 2025
- Operational 2028

For further information:

[Nautilus Interconnector | National Grid Group](#)

[Nautilus Interconnector | National Infrastructure Planning \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](#)

Eurolink Multi-Purpose Interconnector

Eurolink is another Multi-Purpose Interconnector being promoted by National Grid Ventures involving the same scale of development as Nautilus (1.4GW) however this project proposes an electricity link between the transmission systems of Great Britain and Netherlands.

This project is not as mature as Nautilus although it shares the same connection agreement granted by National Grid.

There are no further updates known in relation to this project at this time.

Five Estuaries (formerly Galloper Offshore Windfarm extension)

Five Estuaries comprises an approximately 350mw extension to the Galloper Offshore Windfarm being promoted by RWE and partners. The project is in the early stages of the pre-application phase of the DCO process.

A revised connection offer for the scheme has been accepted for a new substation expected to be located within the East Anglia Coastal area. Although the location is unknown it has been confirmed by the developer that the location is not Friston.

Officers are engaging with the developers in relation to offshore and potential cumulative matters.

Next Steps:

- EIA Scoping Report expect to be submitted this year.
- Grid connection location to be identified 2022.

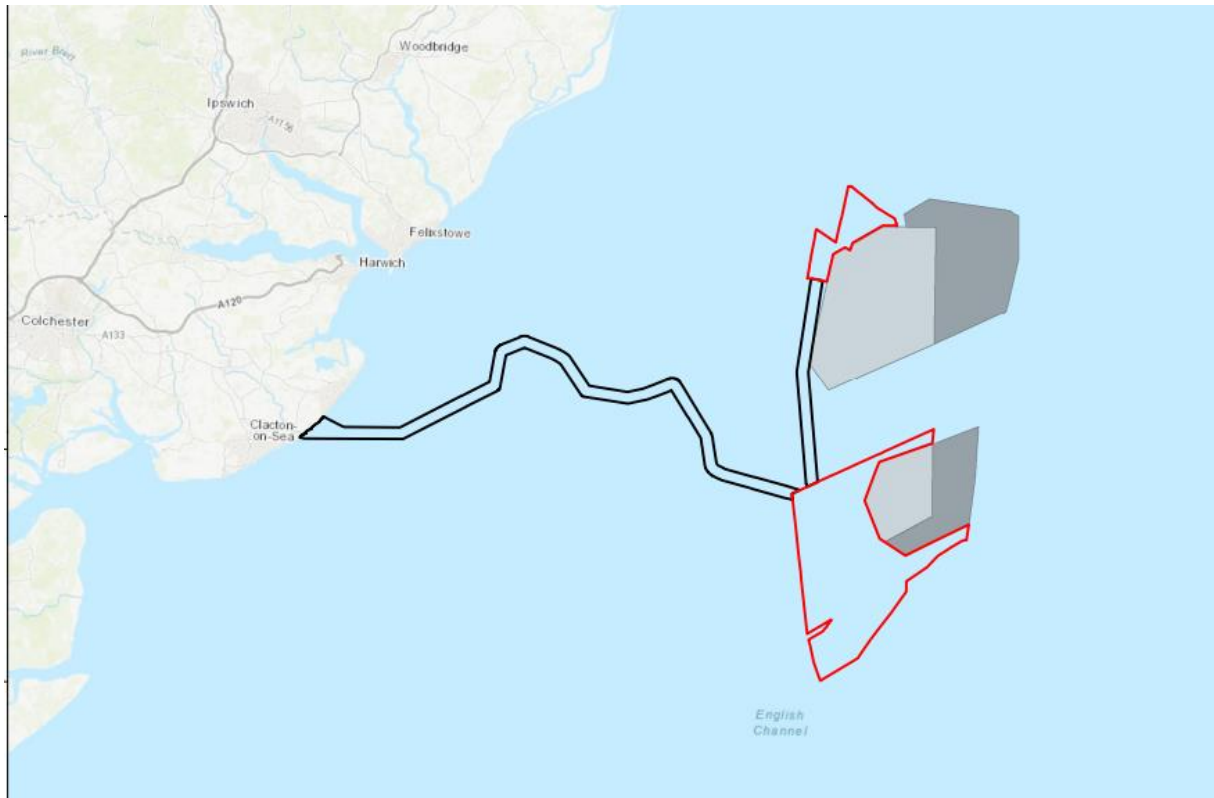
For further information:

[About – Five Estuaries](#)

[Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm | National Infrastructure Planning \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](#)

North Falls (formerly Greater Gabbard Offshore Wind Farm extension)

North Falls comprises an approximately 500mw extension to the Greater Gabbard Offshore Wind Farm being promoted by SSE and RWE. The project is in the pre-application phase of the DCO process. A map to show the offshore project area has been provided below.



Map to show North Falls array areas shown outlined in red.

The project does not have a confirmed grid connection location onshore although the developer has confirmed that they expect the connection to be within Tendring District Council's boundary.

Officers are engaging with the developers in relation to offshore and potential cumulative matters.

Indicative Project Details:

- Up to 71 turbines, maximum height up to 397m, closest distance to shore 22.5km
- Cable route 70m wide
- Maximum substation footprint 200m x 25m, maximum height 18m

Indicative Programme:

- EIA Scoping Report submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in July 2021. Both East Suffolk Council and Suffolk County Council provided comments.
- Informal consultation Autumn 2021
- Pre-application consultation 1 – Spring/Summer 2022

- Pre-application consultation 2/statutory consultation – Autumn/Winter 2022
- DCO application submission Summer 2023
- DCO consent 2024
- Onshore construction 2026, offshore construction 2028
- Operational 2030

Further information:

[North Falls Offshore Wind Farm](#)

[North Falls Offshore Wind Farm | National Infrastructure Planning \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](#)

SCD1/South East Anglia Link

SCD1/South East Anglia Link project involves a HVDC subsea electricity link to increase the capability of the National Grid network between Suffolk and Kent. This link would allow 2GW of power to be transmitted between these regions of the network. This development would involve a converter station in Suffolk and one in Kent, subsea and onshore cabling and onshore connections from the converter station to an existing or new National Grid substation. The grid connection location for the project is not yet known.

Indicative Programme as published on National Grid's website:

- Public consultation – Spring 2021
- Public Information Events – Early 2022
- Construction – 2023
- Operational – 2027

Although this programme has slipped as no consultation has taken place this year, it is anticipated that National Grid will seek to engage with the Councils shortly.

For further information:

[SEA Link | National Grid ET](#)

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