

Guide to the Preliminary Environmental Information Report

The Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm Project

The Project is an 'Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)' development, meaning that an EIA must be carried out before it can be given consent. An EIA identifies the potential environmental effects of a development and proposes measures to avoid or reduce significant impacts. This information is presented in an Environmental Statement to assist regulators in the decision-making process. A wide range of receptors, including physical, biological and human, are assessed.

The Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) is the first major output of the EIA process and the largest part of our statutory consultation. The PEIR sets out the current environmental baseline, the Project's potential benefits and impacts, and our initial proposals to mitigate those impacts.

We are consulting on the PEIR to collect feedback on the document so that we can refine our assessment and mitigation proposals before we finalise our Environmental Statement.

Structure of the PEIR

The PEIR contains a lot of information and is split into multiple volumes, each with multiple documents. This guide shows the reports and appendices organised by area of interest:

- Unless you already know which topic you are interested in, we would recommend starting with the **Non-Technical Summary** as it provides an overview of the information in the rest of the PEIR.
- **Volume 1** sets out the background to the Project, its policy context, site selection and our methodology.
- **Volumes 2 and 3** contain detailed assessments for each offshore and onshore environmental topic respectively.
- **Volumes 4 and 5** are the technical annexes that support Volumes 2 and 3.
- **Volume 6** is an annex for the Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment and includes photomontages from key viewpoints.
- **Volume 7** includes other documents relevant to the PEIR that do not fit within the topic chapters.

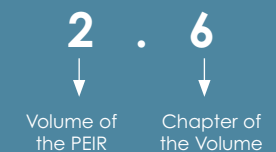
Document numbering

Documents are numbered in relation to their topic area (offshore or onshore).

Volume 4 contains the annexes for Volume 2 (Offshore topics); and Volume 5 contains the annexes for Volume 3 (Onshore topics). Chapter numbers (the second digit) will match across Volumes.

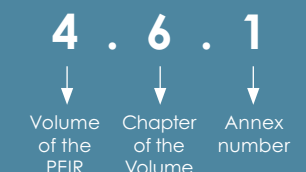
Document numbers

For example, Volume 2 (Offshore topics), Chapter 6 covers Fish and Shellfish.



Volume 4 and 5 annex numbers

Volume 4 (Offshore annexes), Chapter 6 covers the annexes for the Fish and Shellfish Chapter of Volume 2.



Where to find these documents and more information

The PEIR has been published on our Project website: www.fiveestuaries.co.uk

We are holding events in Essex, Suffolk and Kent where the PEIR can be reviewed. We have also placed copies of the Non-Technical Summary (NTS) at information points.

A printed copy of the NTS will be provided on request. Other items can be provided, but due to the size of the PEIR and some of the documents themselves, a charge may be incurred for printing and postage.

To request materials, or find out about our public events and information events, please visit the website or contact us using the details on the back of this guide.

Non-Technical Summary: A standalone document providing an overview of the Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm Project and a summary of the main findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment.

Volume 1: Introductory Chapters

1.1	Introduction	1.3	EIA Methodology
1.2	Policy and Legislation	1.3.1	Cumulative Effects Assessment Methodology
1.4	Site Selection and Alternatives	1.3.2	Transboundary Screening

Volumes 2 and 4: Offshore Reports and Technical Annexes

2.1	Offshore Project Description	2.5	Benthic and Intertidal Ecology
2.1.1	Detailed Offshore Project Design Envelope	4.5.1	Main Array - Benthic Ecology Monitoring Report
2.2	Marine Geology, Oceanography and Physical Processes	4.5.2	Export Cable Route and Intertidal Benthic Ecology Monitoring Report
4.2.1	Physical Processes Baseline Technical Report	2.6	Fish and Shellfish Ecology
4.2.2	Physical Processes Model Design and Validation	4.6.1	Fish and Shellfish Ecology Technical Baseline Report
4.2.3	Physical Processes Technical Assessment	4.6.2	Underwater Noise Technical Report
4.2.4	Main Array and Export Cable Route - Environmental Features Report	4.6.3	Spawning Herring Heatmaps (International Herring Larval Survey Data)
2.3	Marine Water and Sediment Quality	2.7	Marine Mammal Ecology
4.3.1	Water Framework Directive Assessment Note	4.7.1	Marine Mammals Baseline Characterisation
2.4	Offshore Ornithology	2.8	Commercial Fisheries
4.4.1	Offshore Ornithology Technical Report	4.8.1	Commercial Fisheries Technical Baseline Report
4.4.2	Seabird Abundance by Month	2.9	Shipping and Navigation
4.4.3	Seabird Densities by Month	2.10	Seascape, Landscape and Visual
4.4.4	Seabird Abundances by Survey	2.11	Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage
4.4.5	Seabird Densities by Survey	4.11.1	Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Technical Report
4.4.6	Seabird Peak Seasonal Abundances	4.11.2	Outline Marine Written Scheme of Investigation
4.4.7	Seabird Peak Seasonal Densities	2.12	Infrastructure and Other Marine Users
4.4.8	Collision Risk Modelling Inputs and Outputs	2.13	Military and Civil Aviation
4.4.9	Seabird Distributions Recorded in Aerial Surveys	2.14	Inter-Relationships
4.4.10	Digital Video Aerial Surveys of Seabirds and Marine Mammals at Five Estuaries: Annual Report for March 2019 to February 2020		
4.4.11	Digital Video Aerial Surveys of Seabirds and Marine Mammals at Five Estuaries: Two-year Report March 2019 to February 2021		

Volume 6: Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact (Onshore and Offshore) Annexes:

6.10.1	Seascape, Landscape and Visual Methodology	6.2.1	Onshore Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Figures
6.10.2	Seascape, Landscape and Visual Viewpoint Assessment	6.2.2	Onshore Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Photomontages
6.10.3	Seascape, Landscape and Visual Figures and Photomontages		

Scoping Opinion: A document provided by the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State (SoS) in respect of the proposed development, where the SoS writes its opinion on the scope, and level of detail to be provided in an Environmental Statement.

Volumes 3 and 5: Onshore Assessments and Technical Annexes

3.1	Onshore Project Description	3.7	Archaeology and Cultural Heritage
3.2	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment	5.7.1	Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment
3.3	Socio-Economic, Tourism and Recreation	5.7.2	Onshore Geophysics
3.4	Onshore Biodiversity and Nature Conservation	5.7.3	Geoarchaeological Desk Based Assessment
5.4.1	Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (Onshore) Report	5.7.4	Archaeological and Geoarchaeological Monitoring of Ground Investigation works
5.4.2	Habitat and Hedgerow Survey Report: North of A120	5.7.5	Onshore Cultural Heritage: GPA3 Exercise and Technical Note - Offshore Array
5.4.3	Habitat and Hedgerow Survey Report: South of A120	5.7.6	Onshore Cultural Heritage: GPA3 Exercise and Technical Note - Onshore Project Area
5.4.4	Great Crested Newt Survey Report: North of A120	3.8	Traffic and Transport
5.4.5	Great Crested Newt Survey Report: South of A120	5.8.1	Traffic and Transport Baseline Report
5.4.6	Wintering Bird Survey (Landfall Locations)	5.8.2	Traffic and Transport Trip Generation and Distribution
5.4.7	North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Holland Haven Marshes SSSI and Adjacent Land NVC Survey 2021	5.8.3	Traffic and Transport Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan
5.4.8	North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey 2021	5.8.4	Traffic and Transport Outline Public Access Management Plan
5.4.9	North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Holland Haven Marshes SSSI: Survey and Assessment of Aquatic and Terrestrial Invertebrates 2021	5.8.5	Traffic and Transport Outline Workforce Travel Plan
5.4.10	North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Onshore Landfall Area: 2020/21 Non-breeding Bird Surveys	3.9	Airborne Noise and Vibration
5.4.11	North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Onshore Landfall Area: 2021/22 Non-breeding Bird Surveys	5.9.1	Onshore Airborne Noise Baseline Noise Survey
5.4.12	Offshore Wind Farm Onshore Cable Route: Non-breeding Bird Surveys 2021-22	5.9.2	Onshore Airborne Noise Construction Sound Power Details
5.4.13	North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Onshore Landfall Area: Breeding Bird Surveys 2021	3.10	Air Quality
5.4.14	Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm Onshore Biodiversity Net Gain Approach	5.10.1	Construction Dust Assessment Methodology
5.4.15	Statutory Designated Sites Qualifying or Notified Features	5.10.2	Non Road Mobile Machinery Emissions Assessment
3.5	Ground Conditions and Land Use	5.10.3	Offshore Activities Assessment
3.6	Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Flood Risk	5.10.4	Road Traffic Dispersion Modelling Methodology
5.6.1	Onshore Export Cable Corridor Flood Risk Assessment	5.10.5	Air Quality Mitigation Measures
		3.11	Human Health, Major Disasters and Climate Change

Volume 7: Other Documents

7.1	Schedule of Monitoring	7.5	Landscape and Ecology Design Principles
7.2	Schedule of Mitigation	7.6	Navigational Risk Assessment
7.3	Draft Code of Construction Practice	7.7	Marine Conservation Zone Assessment
7.4	Crossings Register	7.8	Outline Marine Mammal Mitigation Protocol

Useful terms

Benthic Ecology: The organisms and habitats which live on the seabed.

Code of Construction Practice: This document will set out the standards and procedures that the Project will follow to manage the environment impacts of construction, including potential impacts on the local community such as working hours, noise and traffic management.

Inter-Relationships: Where a number of separate impacts could combine to affect a single environmental receptor.

Physical Processes: Impacts upon waves, tidal currents, sedimentation and topography of the seabed.

Transboundary Screening: Screening impacts that may arise from an activity within one European Economic Area (EEA) state, that significantly affects the environment or other interest of another.