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Rampion 2 WIND FARM

Volume 2, Chapter 5:

Approach to the EIA

GoBe wood.

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5. Approach to the EIA

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a process for identifying the likely significant environmental effects (positive and negative) of a Proposed Development to inform the decision-making process for development consent to be granted. The EIA process will culminate in the provision of an Environmental Statement (ES) written in accordance with the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the 'EIA Regulations 2017') which will help inform the determination of the application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for Rampion 2. In particular, the ES will provide an assessment of the likely significant effects associated with Rampion 2 during the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning phases which will help to inform decision-making.

5.1.2 This chapter sets out the approach to the EIA for Rampion 2. This represents the approach upon which subsequent aspect assessment chapters are based to support consultation being undertaken under Sections 42 – 47 of the Planning Act 2008. This consultation will inform the evolution of the Proposed Development before a formal application is made for it to be authorised under that Act.

5.1.3 The aspect assessments have been carried out using the general approach and processes set out in this chapter. Where required, aspects have refined the approach set out here in order to properly address their particular requirements. Any changes to the approach set out here are set out in the appropriate aspect chapter (**Chapters 6** to **28**). This enables the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) to provide a preliminary assessment of the 'likely significant environmental effects' of the Proposed Development, using information available at this time. The EIA has been developed to include the information reasonably required to enable an informed response to the consultation. The remainder of this chapter is structured as follows:

- **Section 5.2**: **Progressing Rampion 2 during the COVID-19 pandemic** – sets out the measures that have been taken by the project team to achieve as much as possible with regard to consultation activities and EIA site surveys within the EIA programme to date whilst working fully within the restrictions imposed by the pandemic;
- **Section 5.3**: **The EIA process** – this section sets out an overview of the legislative and guidance background of the EIA process;
- **Section 5.4**: **EIA Scoping** – this section sets out the legislative and guidance background for the scoping process, and a history of the scoping process undertaken for Rampion 2;
- **Section 5.5**: **The PEIR Assessment Boundary** – this section sets out the assessment boundary that the PEIR is based upon and describes how it has evolved since publication of the Scoping Report;

- **Section 5.6**: **Delivering proportionate EIA** – this section describes the considerations and commitments being undertaken to ensure a robust yet focused and proportionate EIA;
- **Section 5.7: Scope of the assessment** – this section describes the scope of the assessment in terms of the technical scope (aspects), the geographical area (spatial scope) and the time periods considered (temporal scope);
- **Section 5.8: Approach to environmental measures** – this section describes the types of mitigation (environmental measures) and how they are considered within this PEIR;
- **Section 5.9: Approach to assessment of significance** – this section outlines the overarching approach to evaluating significance of likely environmental effects of Rampion 2;
- **Section 5.10: Cumulative effects assessment** – this section details the approaches to the cumulative effects assessment for the offshore and onshore elements of the Proposed Development;
- **Section 5.11**: **Transboundary effects assessment** – this section identifies the need for a transboundary effects assessment and how it is addressed in this PEIR;
- **Section 5.12**: **Inter-related effects** – this section sets out how inter-related effects have been identified; and
- **Section 5.13**: **PINS Scoping Opinion responses** – this section documents the PINS Scoping Opinion comments relevant to this chapter and how they have been addressed in this PEIR.

5.1.4 This chapter is also supported by the following appendices:

- **Appendix 5.1: Responses to the Scoping Opinion, Volume 4**;
- **Appendix 5.2: Greenhouse gas assessment, Volume 4**;
- **Appendix 5.3: Cumulative effects assessment detailed onshore search and screening criteria, Volume 4**;
- **Appendix 5.4: Cumulative effects assessment short list, Volume 4**; and
- **Appendix 5.5: Climate vulnerability – policy and baseline, Volume 4**.

5.2 Progressing Rampion 2 during COVID-19

5.2.1 The restrictions imposed during the COVID-19 pandemic have had implications for Rampion 2, in particular with regard to traditional consultation activities and conducting EIA site surveys. The following measures have been taken by the Rampion 2 project team to achieve as much as possible during the EIA programme to date whilst working fully within the restrictions and being mindful of and managing any potential implications.

- The use of remote sensing habitat classification enabled early, rapid and robust information gathering on the habitats present at the Scoping stage. This

has proved valuable where full land access has not been available. Further details regarding this approach and the results can be found in **Chapter 23: Terrestrial ecology and nature conservation**.

- EIA surveys that require land access have proceeded as far as possible within appropriate seasons of the calendar year in 2020 and 2021, whilst applying social distancing measures to keep surveyors and members of the public safe. A watching brief will continue to be maintained on the progress of data collection throughout the EIA, and progress will be shared with appropriate stakeholders.
- Monthly aerial surveys collecting offshore bird and marine mammal data have continued to be undertaken, following the implementation of additional health and safety measures, in line with industry and company guidelines, put in place due to COVID-19.
- EIA surveys that may not require land access but rely on the baseline environment to reflect the normal situation such as noise and onshore and offshore traffic surveys, or that have been significantly hindered this calendar year because of the restrictions imposed by the pandemic, will be planned for a time when survey results will reflect a more normal pattern. Flexibility where needed is being sought from stakeholders regarding the timely completion of surveys and the provision of this information. Limitations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic are set out in **Chapters 6** and **28** along with further details regarding planned surveys.
- In accordance with the PINS Advice Note Seven: EIA: Process, Preliminary Environmental Information and Environmental Statements, version 7 (Planning Inspectorate, 2020a), the Applicant, Rampion Extension Development Limited (RED) conducted early targeted consultation with some stakeholders. The purpose of this engagement was to share and seek agreement on survey and assessment approaches and to obtain as much relevant environmental information as possible in advance of key project milestones such as Scoping, PEIR and ES. In turn, PINS expects consultation bodies to be pragmatic in finding suitable approaches to aid the robust preparation of applications and RED will continue to engage with stakeholders on this basis.
- As a result of guidelines put in place due to COVID-19, the informal consultation period held between 14 January 2021 and 11 February 2021 was held virtually through the Rampion 2 website[1]. This consultation was formed of an online virtual consultation exhibition and used a series of videos, infographics, maps and information sheets allowing visitors to move around the exhibition as they would in a face-to-face setting. Digital communication methods promoted through the website invited feedback through multiple methods.

5.2.2 The Rampion 2 project team is keeping abreast of the advice issued with regard to site surveys and consultation activities such as that issued by the National Infrastructure Planning Association, Natural England, Chartered Institute of

[1] www.rampion2.com

Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) and PINS during this time period. In addition, all activity will follow Government guidance on COVID-19 as updated.

5.3 The EIA Process

5.3.1 EIA is a process for identifying the likely significant environmental effects (positive and negative) of a Proposed Development to inform the decision-making process for development consent to be granted.

5.3.2 The EIA Regulations 2017 set out the procedures to be followed in relation to EIAs undertaken for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) in England and Wales. The EIA for a DCO is reported in two stages:

- the PEIR, prepared in order to inform the consultation with the public and other stakeholders about the Proposed Development and its likely significant environmental effects; and
- the ES, prepared to accompany the DCO Application.

5.3.3 In compliance with the EIA Regulations 2017, an EIA is being undertaken for the Proposed Development and will be reported in an ES. The ES will be submitted in support of the application for development consent. The purpose of the ES is to help the decision maker, statutory consultees, other stakeholders and the public properly understand the predicted likely significant effects (positive and negative) and the scope for avoiding, preventing, reducing, and if possible offsetting them, before a decision is made as to whether to permit development.

5.3.4 In accordance with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's (MHCLG) (previously the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)) EIA Planning Practice Guidance (DCLG, 2017) and PINS Advice Note Seven (Planning Inspectorate, 2020a) the assessment has, and will continue to, focus on aspects and matters where a likely significant effect may occur. This approach ensures that the EIA process is proportionate and focuses effort in those areas where significant effects are likely.

5.3.5 Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations 2017 defines preliminary environmental information as information referred to in Regulation 14(2) which:

'a) has been compiled by the applicant; and

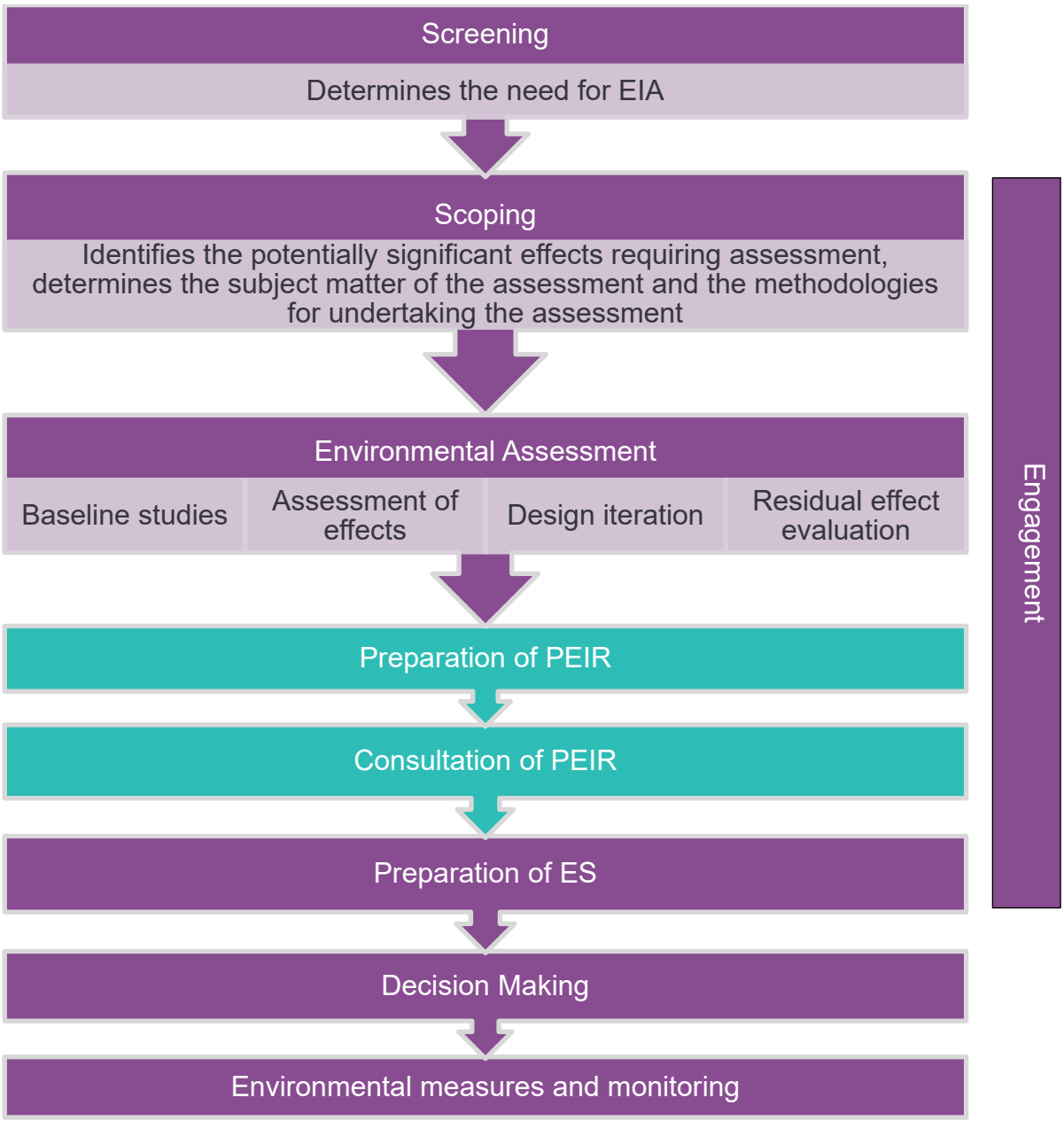
b) is reasonably required for the consultation bodies to develop an informed view of the likely significant environmental effects of the development and any associated development.'

5.3.6 In line with EIA Regulations 2017 and the PINS Advice Note Seven (Planning Inspectorate, 2020a), the PEIR presents a level of preliminary assessment appropriate to enable consultees to develop an informed view of likely environmental effects of the Proposed Development and help inform their consultation responses on Rampion 2 during the pre-application stage. This will then enable both the design of the Proposed Development and the EIA to take into consideration comments received through consultation.

5.3.7 The findings presented in this PEIR are based on a preliminary assessment and reflect the current stage in the design process and understanding of baseline conditions, allowing for conclusions as to the likely significant effects to be drawn. Where the design is still evolving or further information on baseline conditions is still to be obtained, a precautionary approach is applied to ensure a maximum design scenario (MDS) which represents the worst case scenario for each aspect is assessed in the PEIR. In using this precautionary approach to the assessment, the level of effect may be overstated and subsequently reduced at the time of Application. Each individual **Chapters 6** to **28** provides commentary on the appropriate reasonable worst-case scenario adopted for the individual assessments.

5.3.8 The EIA process is summarised in **Graphic 5-1**. The remainder of this chapter provides further detail around the key stages in this process with a focus on those stages most relevant to this preliminary stage of the assessment.

Graphic 5-1 The EIA process



5.3.9 The ES supporting the forthcoming DCO Application will have to comply, as a minimum, with Regulation 14 and Schedule 4 of the EIA Regulations 2017. PINS Advice Note Seven (Planning Inspectorate, 2020a) states that the ES should clearly explain the processes followed, the forecasting methods used and the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and where possible offset any significant negative effects. This PEIR is designed to accord with the requirements of the EIA Regulations 2017 in relation to ESs as far as possible. However, it is important to note that this PEIR represents a preliminary assessment of environmental effects, based on the current stage in the design process. **Table 5-1** signposts to where the information is provided in the PEIR pursuant to Regulation 14 and Schedule 4 of the EIA Regulations 2017.

Table 5-1 Compliance with the EIA Regulations 2017 and location of the information in this PEIR

Text from Schedule 4 requirement[2] and Regulation 14	Location in this PEIR
Text from Regulation 14	
2. An environmental statement is a statement that includes at least: (a) a description of the proposed development comprising information on the site, design, size and other relevant features of the development; (b) a description of the likely significant effects of the proposed development on the environment; (c) a description of any features of the proposed development, or measures envisaged in order to avoid, prevent or reduce and, if possible, offset likely significant adverse effects on the environment; (d) a description of the reasonable alternatives studied by the applicant, which are relevant to the proposed development and its specific characteristics, and an indication of the main reasons for the option chosen, taking into account the effects of the development on the environment; (e) a non-technical summary of the information referred to in subparagraphs (a) to (d); and (f) any additional information specified in Schedule 4 relevant to the specific characteristics of the particular development or type of development and to the environmental features likely to be significantly affected.	**Volume 1: Non-Technical Summary, Volume 2, Chapter 3: Alternatives**, **Chapter 4: The Proposed Development**, aspect assessment chapters (**Chapters 6** to **28**), **Volume 3: Figures** and **Volume 4: Appendices.**
3. The environmental statement referred to in paragraph (1) must – (a) where a scoping opinion has been adopted, be based on the most recent scoping opinion adopted (so far as the proposed development remains materially the same as the proposed development which was subject to that opinion;	**Volume 2, Chapter 1: Introduction**, **Chapter 5: Approach to the EIA,** aspect assessment chapters (**Chapters 6** to **28**), and **Volume 4: Appendices – Appendix 5.1:**

[2] Refer to Schedule 4 of the EIA Regulations 2017 for the full description of the requirements

Text from Schedule 4 requirement[2] and Regulation 14	Location in this PEIR
(b) include the information reasonably required for reaching a reasoned conclusion on the significant effects of the development on the environment, taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment; and (c) be prepared, taking into account the results of any relevant UK environmental assessment, which is reasonably available to the applicant with a view to avoiding duplication of assessment.	**Responses to the Scoping Opinion, Volume 4.**
4. In order to ensure the completeness and quality of the environmental statement – (a) the applicant must ensure that the environmental statement is prepared by competent experts; and (b) the environmental statement must be accompanied by a statement from the applicant outlining the relevant expertise or qualifications of such experts.	**Volume 2, Chapter 1: Introduction** and **Volume 4: Appendices – Appendix 1.1: Competent experts.**
Text from Schedule 4	
1. A description of the development, including in particular: (a) a description of the location of the development; (b) a description of the physical characteristics of the whole development, including, where relevant, requisite demolition works and the land-use requirements during the construction and operational phases; (c) a description of the main characteristics of the operational phase of the development (in particular any production process), for instance, energy demand and energy used, nature and quantity of the materials and natural resources (including water, land, soil and biodiversity) used; and (d) an estimate, by type and quantity, of expected residues and emissions (such as water, air, soil and sub soil pollution, noise, vibration, light, heat, radiation, and quantities and types of waste produced during the construction and operation phases.	**Volume 2, Chapter 4: The Proposed Development** and aspect assessment chapters (**Chapters 6** to **28**).
2. A description of the reasonable alternatives (for example in terms of development design, technology, location, size and scale) studied by the developer which are	**Volume 2, Chapter 3: Alternatives.**

Text from Schedule 4 requirement[2] and Regulation 14	Location in this PEIR
relevant to the proposed project and its specific location in this PEIR characteristics, and an indication of the main reasons for selecting the chosen option, including a comparison of the environmental effects.	
3. A description of the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment (baseline scenario) and an outline of the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the development as far as natural changes from the baseline scenario can be assessed with reasonable effort on the basis of the availability of environmental information and scientific knowledge.	**Volume 2,** aspect assessment chapters (**Chapters 6** to **28**).
4. A description of the factors specified in regulation 5 (2) likely to be significantly affected by the development: population, human health, biodiversity (for example fauna and flora) land (for example land take), soil (for example organic matter, erosion, compaction, sealing), water (for example hydromorphological changes, quantity and quality), air, climate (for example greenhouse gas emissions, impacts relevant to adaptation), material assets, cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological aspects, and landscape.	**Volume 2,** aspect assessment chapters (**Chapters 6** to **28**), **Volume 3: Figures** and **Volume 4: Appendices**. Aspects that need to be assessed under the EIA Regulations 2017 and relevant PEIR Chapters: 1. Population: **Chapter 7: Other marine users, Chapter 10: Commercial fisheries, Chapter 13: Shipping and navigation, Chapter 15: Civil and military aviation, Chapter 16: Seascape, landscape and visual, Chapter 18: Socio-economics, Chapter 19: Landscape and visual amenity, Chapter 20: Air quality, Chapter 22: Noise and vibration (onshore), Chapter 24: Transport, Chapter 28: Major accidents and disasters.**

Text from Schedule 4 requirement[2] and Regulation 14	Location in this PEIR
	2. Human health: **Chapter 20: Air quality, Chapter 22: Noise and vibration (onshore), Chapter 25: Ground conditions.** 3. Biodiversity: **Chapter 8: Fish and shellfish, Chapter 9: Benthic subtidal and intertidal ecology, Chapter 11: Marine mammals, Chapter: 12 Offshore ornithology, Chapter 14: Nature conservation, Chapter 23: Terrestrial ecology and nature conservation, Chapter 27: Water environment.** 4. Land and Soil: **Chapter 21: Agriculture and soils, Chapter 25: Ground conditions.** 5. Water: **Chapter 6: Coastal processes, Chapter 27: Water environment.** 6. Air: **Chapter 20: Air quality**, **Appendix 5.2: Greenhouse gas assessment.** 7. Climate: **Chapter 6: Coastal processes, Chapter 27: Water environment, Appendix 5.2: Greenhouse gas assessment.** 8. Material assets: **Chapter 18: Socioeconomics.**
5. A description of the likely significant effects of the development on the environment resulting from, inter alia:	**Volume 2,** aspect assessment chapters (**Chapters 6** to **28**) and **Appendix 5.2: Greenhouse gas assessment, Volume 4**.

Text from Schedule 4 requirement[2] and Regulation 14	Location in this PEIR
(a) The construction and existence of the development including, where relevant, demolition works; (b) The use of natural resources, in particular, land, soil, water and biodiversity, considering as far as possible the sustainable availability of these resources; (c) the emission of pollutants, noise, vibration, light, heat and radiation, the creation of nuisances and the disposal and recovery of waste; (d) The risks to human health, cultural heritage or the environment (for example due to accidents or disasters); (e) The cumulation of effects with other existing and/or approved projects taking into account any existing environmental problems relating to areas of particular environmental importance likely to be affected or the use of natural resources; (f) The impact of the project on climate (for example the nature and magnitude of greenhouse gas emissions) and the vulnerability of the project to climate change; and (g) The technology and the substances used. The description of the likely significant effects on the factors specified in regulation 5 (2) should cover the direct effects and any indirect, secondary, cumulative, transboundary, short-term, medium-term and long-term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects of the development. This description should take into account the environmental protection objectives established at Union or Member State level which are relevant to the project, including in particular those established under Council Directive 92/43/EEC (a) and Directive 2009/147/EC (b).	
6. A description of the forecasting methods or evidence, used to identify and assess the significant effects on the environment, including details of difficulties (for example technical deficiencies or lack of knowledge) encountered compiling the required information and the main uncertainties involved.	**Volume 2, Chapter 5: Approach to the EIA** and aspect assessment **Chapters 6** to **28.**
7. A description of the measures envisaged to avoid, prevent, reduce or, if possible, offset any identified significant adverse effects on the environment and, where appropriate, of any proposed monitoring arrangements (for example the preparation	**Volume 2, Chapter 5: Approach to the EIA** and aspect assessment **Chapters 6** to **28.**

Text from Schedule 4 requirement[2] and Regulation 14	Location in this PEIR
of a post-project analysis). That description should explain the extent, to which significant adverse effects on the environment are avoided, prevented, reduced or offset, and should cover both the construction and operational phases.	
8. A description of the expected significant adverse effects of the development on the environment deriving from the vulnerability of the development to risks of major accidents and/or disasters which are relevant to the project concerned. Relevant information available and obtained through risk assessments pursuant to Union legislation such as Directive 2012/18/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council (c) or Council Directive 2009/71/Euratom (d) or UK environmental assessments may be used for this purpose provided that the requirements of this Directive are met. Where appropriate, this description should include measures envisaged to prevent or mitigate the significant adverse effects of such events on the environment and details of the preparedness for and proposed response to such emergencies.	**Volume 2, Chapter 28: Major accidents and disasters**
9. A non-technical summary of the information provided under paragraphs 1 to 8.	**Volume 1: Non-Technical Summary**
10. A reference list detailing the sources used for the descriptions and assessments included in the environmental statement.	**Volume 2, Chapter 5: Approach to the EIA** and aspect assessment **Chapters 6** to **28.** Separate references are provided with each **Volume 2** chapter.

5.4 EIA Scoping

5.4.1 A Scoping Report (RED, 2020) was submitted by RED to the Secretary of State (SoS) for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy on 2 July 2020. The Scoping Report presented a Scoping Boundary which combined the search areas for the offshore and onshore infrastructure associated with Rampion 2. It was defined as the area within which the Proposed Development and associated infrastructure would be located, including the temporary and permanent construction and operational work areas.

5.4.2 A Scoping Opinion was adopted by PINS, on behalf of the SoS, on 11 August 2020 (PINS, 2020b). The Scoping Opinion and the statutory consultee responses have subsequently informed the assessment work and further design evolution undertaken to date. Responses to the Scoping Opinion comments, detailing how they have been addressed within this PEIR are provided within each of the aspect chapters, and a full list is presented in **Appendix 5.1: Responses to the Scoping Opinion, Volume 4**. Given the preliminary nature of the PEIR, any comments that are pending a full response are identified, with next steps clarified, and any actions to be concluded within the ES set out. **Appendix 5.1** does not include responses to each of the comments raised in consultation bodies' individual responses to the SoS as part of the scoping exercise (attached to the Scoping Opinion itself), however, regard has been had to those responses in the preparation of the PEIR. A summary of the engagement undertaken to date is set out in **Chapter 1: Introduction**.

5.4.3 Details of ongoing technical engagement with consultees on aspect-specific matters are set out in each of the aspect chapters (**Chapters 6** to **28**).

5.5 The PEIR Assessment Boundary

Design evolution process

5.5.1 The EIA process aims to be systematic, analytical, impartial, consultative and iterative allowing opportunities for environmental concerns to be addressed in the design and evolution of the Proposed Development. Typically, throughout the evolution of the design, a number of design iterations take place in response to environmental constraints identified during the EIA process prior to the final design being submitted for approval. This iterative design process is a fundamental element of the EIA and for Rampion 2 has been developed for this PEIR following feedback via the Scoping Opinion and other engagement with key stakeholders. This iterative design process will continue to develop for the ES and application for development consent. Statutory and non-statutory engagement is ongoing and is integral to the provision of opportunities for stakeholders to provide feedback and to understand and influence the design as it progresses.

5.5.2 From the outset the environment has been central to the design of Rampion 2, and at the PEIR stage this is demonstrated through the further development of the Commitments Register initially presented in the Scoping Report (described in **Section 5.6: Delivering proportionate EIA** and presented in full in **Appendix 4.1: Commitments register, Volume 4**) which identifies commitments that have

been made and embedded into the Rampion 2 design. With this approach to design, RED is seeking to apply the four principles outlined by the National Infrastructure Commission in 'Design Principles for National Infrastructure' (NIC, 2020).

5.5.3 RED is seeking to achieve a sustainable and good design for Rampion 2 as referred to in the Planning Act 2008, which complies with relevant British and international Codes and Standards. A design will be selected that meets operational requirements at the same time as limiting and mitigating the environmental effects of the Proposed Development as far a practical.

5.5.4 The Rampion 2 design evolution process and activities undertaken to date are described in **Chapter 3: Alternatives**. This process has included a combination of engagement, EIA surveys and other technical studies to further refine the Scoping Boundary to the PEIR Assessment Boundary which is illustrated in **Figure 1.1, Volume 3**. The characteristics of the PEIR Assessment Boundary are described in **Chapter 4: The Proposed Development**.

Extensions to the Scoping Boundary

5.5.5 The design evolution process has resulted in the consideration of numerous onshore cable corridor options to avoid as many environmental sensitivities as possible. The cable corridor options are within the PEIR Assessment Boundary and are described in **Chapter 4**. The onshore elements of the PEIR Assessment Boundary and length of the onshore cable corridor will be further refined as ongoing engineering and environmental information is gathered and considering feedback during consultation.

5.5.6 Two of the route options which emerged from the design evolution process and are both described in **Chapter 3**, extend marginally outside of the Scoping Boundary presented in the Scoping Report. These are namely as follows.

- The cable corridor adopted in the PEIR Assessment Boundary at Washington, West Sussex extends approximately 350m outside of the Scoping Boundary to the north. In this area constraints included engineering challenges, environmental sensitivities such as Chanctonbury Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) to the east, extensive areas of ancient woodland, and nearby dwellings in Storrington, Sullington, Washington and Steyning which after site visits and technical studies rendered the original route unviable. The cable corridor option provided in the PEIR Assessment Boundary was adopted as the only workable solution that does not see significant prohibitive re-routing outside of the Scoping Boundary in this area. The evolution of this option is set out in **Graphic 3-14** in **Chapter 3**.
- Warningcamp C remains a route corridor option within the PEIR Assessment Boundary and extends approximately 100m outside of the Scoping Boundary to the south. This option has been identified as one of two current options in this area which is constrained by engineering challenges and environmental sensitivities such as floodplain, a Local Wildlife Site, ancient woodland and a Scheduled Monument. The evolution of this option is set out in **Graphic 3-11** in **Chapter 3**.

5.5.7 Neither of these extensions outside of the Scoping Boundary are anticipated to have implications on the scope of the EIA as set out in the Scoping Report (RED, 2020). The Scoping Boundary included a significant number of stakeholders and environmental sensitivities, and no new stakeholders or classes of environmental sensitivities are generated by either of these extensions. The study area for EIA survey work has been expanded to include these extensions and indeed all current options being considered.

Application of the PEIR Assessment Boundary onshore

Introduction

5.5.8 The PEIR Assessment Boundary is defined as the area within which the Proposed Development and associated infrastructure will be located, including the temporary and permanent construction and operational work areas. As explained in **Chapter 3**, at this stage of the design, this boundary allows for flexibility to refine the design further leading to DCO Application whilst providing a boundary upon which a meaningful preliminary assessment can be based.

5.5.9 The onshore element of the PEIR Assessment Boundary is for the most part 100m wide (mostly 50m either side of an indicative centreline) which is applied to the onshore cable route and any options included. It is widened in some areas to accommodate temporary construction working areas and compounds, locations proposed for horizontal directional drilling (HDD) and likely temporary access points. The onshore element of the PEIR Assessment Boundary will be further refined as ongoing engineering and environmental information is gathered and incorporated into the design of the Proposed Development for ES.

Spatial application of PEIR Assessment Boundary onshore

5.5.10 For onshore aspects that focus on spatial effects, the level of land take and its location is not as certain at this stage of the Proposed Development. There is therefore a potential for the preliminary assessment to under or overstate potential impacts and assess effects that will not occur. For example, the inclusion of a range of temporary compounds, not all of which may be required.

5.5.11 The most simplistic way to approach this would be to assume that construction works will take place within the entirety of the PEIR Assessment Boundary. However, this would inflate the levels of effect to more than double of those that may be reasonably expected to occur. However, taking a more measured approach has the potential to accumulate errors in the assessment (although it is noted that these will likely be over-estimation of effects).

5.5.12 Each of the relevant onshore aspect assessments (**Chapters 19** to **28**) therefore describe where there is uncertainty in the potential effects and provide a precautionary reasonable worst-case assessment of the extent of the temporary land-take involved.

Assessment of cable corridor options within the PEIR Assessment Boundary onshore

5.5.13 There are several onshore cable route options which are assessed as part of the PEIR Assessment Boundary. Some onshore aspect assessments focus on spatial

effects such as **Chapter 23** which considers habitat loss and connectivity for legally protected and notable species. It has been necessary for onshore aspects in this case to adopt an approach which presents a reasonable worst-case scenario and therefore communicate the likely significant environmental effects, although the level of effect may be overstated and subsequently reduced at the time of application. Specific approaches adopted are set out within onshore aspect assessment **Chapters 19** to **28**.

Application of the PEIR Assessment Boundary offshore

5.5.14 The offshore elements of the Proposed Development are situated within an Area of Search adjacent to the south east and west of the existing Rampion 1 project site (as shown on **Figure 1.1, Volume 3**), comprising a seabed area approximately 13km to 25km offshore. The offshore area for the PEIR Assessment Boundary consists of the following:

- a wind farm array Area of Search, approximately 270km^2;
- a small marine cable link area to adjoin the south east area and the west area wind farm array zones, which is located at the south west corner of the Rampion 1 site. This area has been included in the Area of Search to enable cabling requirements across the full area. For clarity, no wind turbine generators (WTGs) or substations will be located in the marine cable link area; and
- the offshore export cable Area of Search which will connect the offshore wind farm area to the shore, with an approximate area of 59km^2.

5.6 Delivering proportionate EIA

Overview

5.6.1 To ensure that the EIA and resultant ES are robust and focused to help inform the decision-making process, the EIA will be carried out taking into consideration the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA)'s guidance document Delivering Proportionate EIA: A Collaborative Strategy for Enhancing UK Environmental Impact Assessment Practice (IEMA, 2017) which aims to help ensure that 'proportionate' EIA is delivered in support of projects in the UK. IEMA guidance specifically highlights industry-wide concerns relating to "*…individual EIAs being too broadly scoped and their related Environmental Statement (ES) to be overly long and cumbersome*" (IEMA, 2017).

5.6.2 The following key tools/approaches have been adopted from the scoping stage for Rampion 2, to assist in the delivery of proportionate EIA:

- use of existing evidence base;
- Commitments Register (informed by the site selection exercise, the existing Rampion 1 project, the ongoing design evolution process, good and standard practices); and
- approach to appropriate level of assessment.

5.6.3 A proactive, early stage scoping process was undertaken in 2020 to ensure that the EIA and ES will be robust whilst suitably focused on aspects of the environment likely to be subject to significant effects. Responses to the Scoping Opinion comments, detailing how they have been addressed within this PEIR are provided within each of the chapters, and a full list is presented in **Appendix 5.1.**

Existing evidence base

5.6.4 There is a considerable existing evidence base for Rampion 2 in the form of data and information relating to baseline conditions and previous environmental assessments. Much of this data and information has been collated as part of the ongoing design refinement process (outlined in **Chapter 3**), ongoing environmental surveys and the previous EIA for carried out for Rampion 1. This existing evidence base has been collated, supplemented and drawn upon to help develop the scope of the environmental assessments and establish the robustness of survey data collected during the COVID-19 pandemic period.

5.6.5 The existing evidence base will continue to be expanded as the EIA progresses as further data collection and environmental survey and modelling work is carried out. The evidence base has and will continue to be regularly discussed with relevant stakeholders to ensure that it is appropriate. Further details are provided in **Chapters 6** to **28** for each of the relevant individual environmental aspects.

Commitments Register

5.6.6 As part of the ongoing EIA process, RED has built on the Commitments Register which was established at the Scoping and HRA Screening stage. The register identifies environmental measures that RED will implement as part of the Proposed Development and that will be embedded into design, also referred to as 'embedded environmental measures' and /or 'primary mitigation' (please also refer to **Section 5.7: Approach to environmental measures**).

5.6.7 This Commitments Register has been populated with a range of embedded environmental measures including proposed avoidance measures which have been informed by the ongoing design evolution process (see **Chapter 3**), best practice commitments which were adopted as part of the existing Rampion 1, and/or are considered to be sectoral practices and procedures for NSIPs and in particular offshore wind farm development. An example is at sensitive crossing locations the construction working width will be reduced as far as practicable.

5.6.8 Additionally, the Commitments Register identifies how each embedded environmental measure will be secured i.e. through provisions in the DCO, deemed Marine Licence or other documents such as management plans. Commitments have been established in collaboration with key stakeholders.

5.6.9 The commitments where relevant to individual aspect assessments are outlined in **Chapters 6** to **28**. The Commitments Register is presented in full in **Appendix 4.1, Volume 4** and will be regularly updated and maintained throughout the EIA, forming an intrinsic part of the design evolution narrative.

Appropriate level of assessment

5.6.10 The assessment of whether an effect has the potential to be of likely significance has been based upon:

- review of existing evidence base;
- consideration of commitments made (embedded measures);
- professional judgement; and
- where relevant, recommended aspect specific methodologies and established practice.

5.6.11 In applying this judgement, use has been made of a simple test that to be significant an effect must be of sufficient importance that it should be taken into consideration when making a development control decision.

5.6.12 For those matters 'scoped in' for assessment, the approach to level of assessment is tiered. For each matter it was identified at the Scoping stage whether this would be a 'simple' or 'detailed' assessment within each environmental aspect as follows:

- the 'simple assessment' approach for an environmental aspect/effect which may include secondary baseline data collection (for example desk-based information) and qualitative assessment methodologies; and
- the 'detailed assessment' approach for an environmental aspect/effect which may include primary baseline data collection (for example through site surveys) and quantitative assessment methodologies (for example modelling).

5.6.13 The judgement of whether to adopt a 'simple' or 'detailed' assessment took into account the potential for both standalone and cumulative effects. The level of assessment has been adjusted where appropriate to take onboard Scoping Opinion comments. Responses to the Scoping Opinion comments, detailing how they have been addressed within this PEIR are provided within each of the chapters, and a full list is presented in **Appendix 5.1, Volume 4**.

5.6.14 Effects that are considered to not be significant were scoped out of further assessment in the EIA in the relevant environmental aspect. Full justification for scoping out of effects and any amendments made since receipt of the Scoping Opinion is provided for each relevant environmental aspect chapter in **Chapters 6** to **28**.

5.7 Scope of the assessment

Baseline

5.7.1 Determining the existing environmental conditions is an important part of the EIA process. This is established through desk-based study and/or surveys of the study area and provides a 'baseline' against which changes potentially caused by the Proposed Development can be compared. This is explained within the individual aspect chapters (**Chapters 6** to **28**).

5.7.2 It is also considered whether in the absence of Rampion 2, there is likely to be a change in the baseline conditions (relating to particular aspects or receptors), over

the lifetime of the project (future baseline). For some aspects such as transport, there will be traffic growth based on regional or national trends, and this would normally be applied consistently across all road transport-related receptors. However, for other aspects, it is possible that a specific part of a study area is predicted to change, by virtue of other potential development being likely to take place therefore introducing new future receptors.

5.7.3 All obtained data is reviewed to ensure it is robust and allows the required level of assessment in order to determine the significance of any potential effect with sufficient confidence. Detailed methodology for baseline data gathering specific to each aspect assessment can be found in **Chapters 6** to **28**.

Technical scope

5.7.4 The technical scope of the EIA has been set as part of the EIA process and has been informed by the Scoping Opinion and subsequent consultation. This has determined the extent to which aspects are likely to give rise to significant effects. The aspects that are addressed in this ES as giving rise to likely significant effects are presented in the aspect chapters (**Chapters 6** to **28**):

- coastal processes;
- other marine users;
- fish and shellfish ecology;
- benthic subtidal and intertidal ecology;
- commercial fisheries;
- marine mammals;
- offshore ornithology;
- shipping and navigation;
- nature conservation;
- civil and military aviation;
- seascape, landscape and visual;
- marine archaeology;
- socio-economics;
- landscape and visual impact;
- air quality;
- soils and agriculture;
- noise and vibration (onshore);
- terrestrial ecology and nature conservation;
- transport;
- ground conditions;

- historic environment;
- water environment; and
- major accidents and disasters.

5.7.5 The Scoping Opinion identified the requirement to consider climate and vulnerability to climate change in the ES. As a result of this, a preliminary assessment of greenhouse gases is provided in **Appendix 5.2: Greenhouse gas assessment, Volume 4.** Consideration of vulnerability to climate change, for example where climate change may exacerbate any potential environmental effects, is incorporated into all relevant chapters within this PEIR and **Appendix 5.5: Vulnerability to climate change – policy and baseline, Volume 4**.

Spatial scope

5.7.6 The geographical context within which Rampion 2 is located (the PEIR Assessment Boundary) is shown in **Figure 1.1, Volume 3**. This PEIR Assessment Boundary has developed as a result of the iterative project design process, Scoping Opinion feedback and ongoing consultation and is described further in **Section 5.5**.

5.7.7 The PEIR Assessment Boundary includes areas both offshore and onshore. The term 'offshore' refers to the receptors on the seaward side of Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) and 'onshore' refers to the receptors on the landward side of MHWS. The offshore assessment covers impacts from the offshore project elements up to MHWS and is included in **Chapters 6** to **17**. The onshore assessment covers impacts from the onshore project elements on receptors and resources that are landward of MHWS and is included in **Chapters 19** to **27**. The assessments for socioeconomics (**Chapter 18**) and major accidents and disasters (**Chapter 28**) cover both intertidal and offshore impacts as well as onshore impacts.

5.7.8 The spatial scope for each aspect assessment will depend on the nature of the potential effects and the location of receptors that could be affected. Relevant aspect study areas are described for each of the environmental aspects in **Chapters 6** to **28**. The spatial scope of the technical assessments will therefore take account of:

- physical area of the Proposed Development;
- nature of the baseline environment; and
- manner and extent to which environmental effects may occur.

Temporal scope

5.7.9 The temporal scope refers to the time periods over which impacts and effects may be experienced by sensitive receptors which may be permanent, temporary, long term or short term. This has been established for each aspect in discussion with relevant consultees. The EIA will assess effects during the construction, operation and maintenance and where appropriate, decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development.

Design envelope

5.7.10 In order to establish the scope of environmental assessment, the PEIR adopts what is termed a 'Rochdale Envelope' or parameter-based design envelope approach. The ES will do the same. PINS has produced Advice Note Nine: Using the Rochdale Envelope (Planning Inspectorate, 2018a), which outlines the approach that can be taken, in accordance with the requirements of the EIA Regulations 2017, where some details of the Proposed Development have not yet been confirmed when the Application is submitted and where flexibility is sought to address this uncertainty.

5.7.11 Assessing using a parameter-based design envelope approach means that the assessment will consider a maximum design scenario (MDS) which represents the worst case scenario for each aspect whilst allowing the flexibility to make improvements in the future in ways that cannot be predicted at the time of submission of the DCO Application. Development permitted by the DCO will not extend beyond the clearly defined parameters assessed in the ES. Further details of this approach are provided in **Chapter 2: Policy and legislative context** and the maximum assessment assumptions for Rampion 2 are defined in **Chapter 4**.

5.8 Approach to environmental measures

Embedded environmental measures

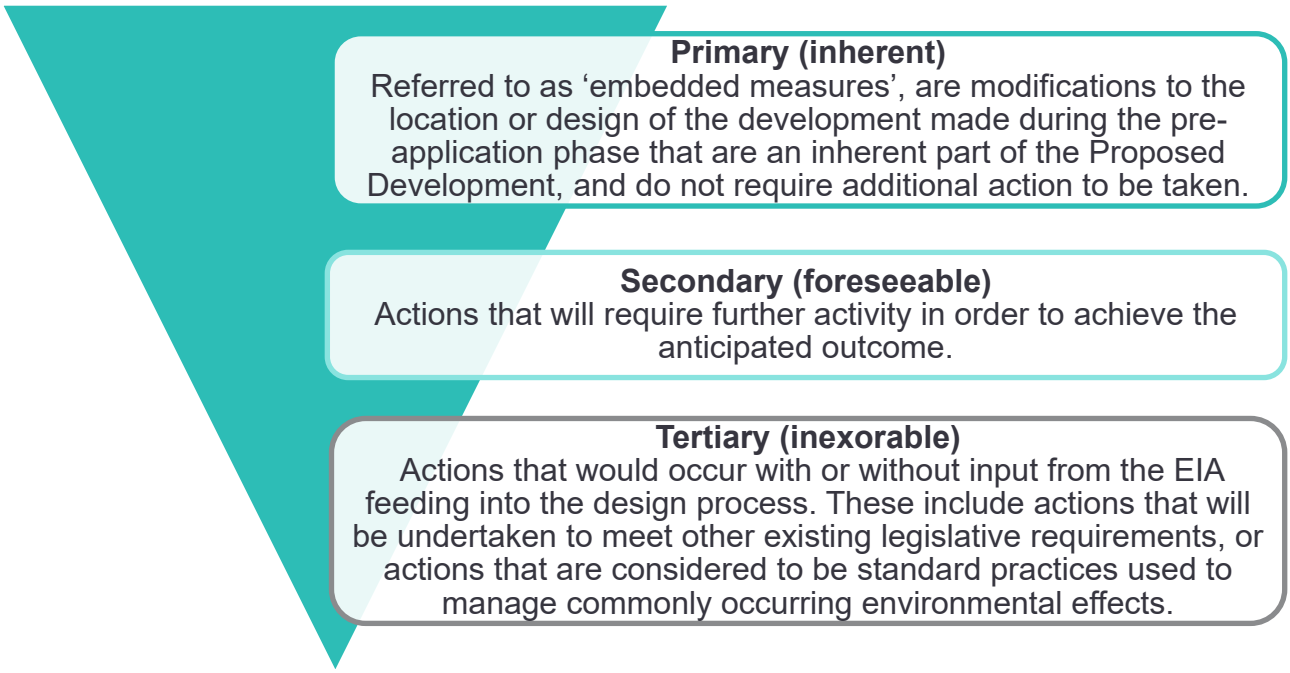
5.8.1 EIA is an iterative process and opportunities for mitigation, referred to as 'embedded environmental measures' have been considered throughout the design development of Rampion 2 and in the assessment undertaken for the PEIR where likely significant effects have been identified. Where possible, these measures have been developed with input from key stakeholders together with appropriate technical standards, policies and guidance.

5.8.2 These embedded environmental measures include both avoidance, best practice and design commitments, which are classified into primary or tertiary measures in accordance with the IEMA 'Delivering Quality Development' (2016) definitions and set out in **Graphic 5-2**. Good practice consideration and application of environmental measures involves a hierarchal approach, considering avoidance of negative effects as the primary objective.

5.8.3 In the context of this PEIR and the ES that will follow, embedded environmental measures incorporate all of the types of measure as set out in **Graphic 5-2.** The iterative design evolution process followed has been driven by collaborative working between the design, environment and landowner teams, and in consultation with key stakeholders. This may have been through the consideration and adoption of alternatives or through measures incorporated within the design itself.

5.8.4 The Commitments Register described in **Section 5.6: Delivering proportionate EIA** (presented in full in **Appendix 4.1, Volume 4**) has been used as the primary tool to capture and agree all embedded environmental measures and the mechanism of securing them. As the intention is to implement all measures as part of Rampion 2 design, the preliminary assessment of likely significant effects is based on this assumption.

Graphic 5-2 Embedded environmental measures



Monitoring measures

5.8.5 Monitoring measures may be required in relation to any significant negative effects on the environment caused by Rampion 2, including any environmental measures that are committed to and imposed as a requirement. Whilst the need for and type of monitoring is still evolving, any monitoring proposed at this stage with respect to significant negative effects will be identified in the aspect chapters (**Chapters 6** to **28**).

5.9 Approach to assessment of significance

5.9.1 **Graphic 5-3** sets out the approach to the evaluation of significance of likely environmental effects that may arise from Rampion 2. The graphic sets out the general process of evaluating significance incorporating the consideration of magnitude of impact, value or sensitivity of receptor and any environmental measures that are embedded into the design of the project to reduce likely effects. This approach, informed by the EIA Regulations 2017, and the MHCLG's EIA Planning Practice Guidance (DCLG, 2017) has been applied in undertaking the EIA, as part of the PEIR and will also be applied for the ES.

5.9.2 Variations to the approach, which may be applicable to specific environmental aspects, are detailed in each environmental aspect chapter (**Chapters 6** to **28**).

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Graphic 5-3 Approach to assessment of significance

Process

Increasing interaction with baseline studies, project design and stakeholders

Describe Baseline
Baseline data are collected to better understand the potentially most important impacts and effects identified in scoping. Baseline data may quantify existing exposure levels (e.g. for noise, air and water pollution), identify potentially vulnerable / sensitive habitats, species or human populations/groups of people, more clearly delineate valued cultural property and ecosystem services, etc.

Where a baseline aspect cannot be quantified then nominal levels of importance, quality or value (low, medium, high) are assigned based on widely accepted criteria in fields such as ecology, cultural heritage, landscape and socioeconomic assessment. Inter-relationships between elements of the baseline will be identified.

Interact with Project Design
The EIA process interacts with the project design team to develop a basis for the assessment (for example, quantities of emissions, noise levels of equipment, sizes of structures). The EIA process also interacts with design to assess 'best available technique' and options for environmental measures, especially when after initial assessment some impacts and effects may need to be further reduced.

Consult Stakeholders
Ongoing stakeholder consultation, post-scoping, is good practice in EIA and is undertaken to refine the assessment and present preliminary findings to stakeholders to elicit early responses and help make the Environmental Statement as fit for purpose as possible.

Identify Impacts

Informed by high level baseline, project information and consultation with key stakeholders.

The scoping process identifies the potentially most important/significant impacts and effects (including secondary, indirect and cumulative) for the assessment to address. This is done through a combination of:

- looking at the nature of the project activities and the impacts they will give rise to;
- looking at the project's environmental and social setting and its aspects that are likely to be most sensitive/ vulnerable to impacts from the project;
- applying professional understanding gained from the evidence base; and
- considering inputs from stakeholders through consultation.

Decisions are then made on which impacts and effects to assess or to prioritise in the assessment (scoping in and scoping out) and how to assess them (proposed methodology).

Predict Magnitude

Project as currently planned with environmental measures incorporated.

The project's impacts are quantified in terms of e.g.:

- areas of land required for construction or habitat loss;
- proportion of an ecological population exposed to impact;
- change in noise levels at a receptor;
- pollutant exposure at a receptor; and
- numbers of jobs generated in the local economy.

In predicting magnitude the effect of all the project mitigation in place is taken into account (the residual effects).

For some effects, especially noise, air and water pollution, significance can be assessed directly against numerical criteria and standards. For exceedances of standards, further mitigation must be incorporated by the Project to reduce the magnitude of the impact and the significance of its effect.

For other impacts nominal levels of magnitude (e.g. small, medium, large) may be adopted based on widely recognised factors such as: the nature of a change (what is affected and how); its size, scale or intensity; its geographical extent and distribution; its duration, frequency, reversibility and, for unplanned events, likelihood of occurrence.

Some activities will result in changes to the environment that may be immeasurable or undetectable or within the range of normal natural variation. Such changes will be assessed as having no impact or to be of negligible magnitude and will not lead to significant effects.

Evaluate Significance

Compared against standards or looking at magnitude in combination with affected resource/receptor.

In evaluating significance, the EIA process is seeking to inform regulators and stakeholders about the likely significant effects of the project. In a way that helps them make decisions on whether to approve and allows them to develop suitable conditions to attach to an approval. The evaluation of significance should ideally demonstrate legal compliance at least (e.g. compliance with quantified standards, avoidance of effects on legally protected resources).

In the absence of quantified standards, significance can be evaluated through considering the magnitude of an impact in combination with the importance/quality/value (and sometimes sensitivity) of the receptor or resource that is affected. The matrix shows the resultant effect from combining the sensitivity of the receptor with the magnitude of the impact. Effects that are moderate and major in magnitude would be deemed significant. The identified effects may warrant re-examination to see if the magnitude of either the impact or effect can be reduced further. It may also be possible to apply environmental measures that make the receptor less sensitive. Different options for environmental measures may be examined and the reasons for selecting one and rejecting others explained. Some effects that cannot be adequately mitigated may need to be addressed through the consideration of offsets or compensation.
The evaluation process may go through more than one iteration of working with project design to develop suitable environmental measures and re-evaluating impacts and effects.

Sensitivity/ Importance / value	Magnitude of change: Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible
Very High	Major (Significant)	Major (Significant)	Moderate (Potentially significant	Minor (Not significant)
High	Major (Significant)	Moderate (Potentially significant	Minor (Not significant)	Negligible (Not significant)
Medium	Moderate (Potentially significant)	Minor (Not significant)	Minor (Not significant)	Negligible (Not significant)
Low	Minor (Not significant)	Minor (Not significant)	Negligible (Not significant)	Negligible (Not significant)

Report Effects

For some impacts and effects further or different environmental measures may need to be considered and the effect re-evaluated.

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5.10 Cumulative effects assessment

Overview

5.10.1 A cumulative effects assessment (CEA) is being carried out in accordance with the EIA Regulations 2017 and PINS Advice Note Seventeen: Cumulative effects assessment relevant to nationally significant infrastructure projects (Planning Inspectorate, 2019) and for the offshore elements especially, be consistent with the guidance provided by RenewableUK and the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) published guidelines (RenewableUK, 2013) on the undertaking of the cumulative impact assessment. In particular, in relation to Rampion 2, the Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1) (Department for Energy and Climate Change, 2011) also states at paragraph 4.2.5:

'When considering cumulative effects, the ES should provide information on how the effects of the applicant's proposal would combine and interact with the effects of other development (including projects for which consent has been sought or granted, as well as those already in existence).'

5.10.2 The PINS and RenewableUK guidance suggests that other developments that are deemed likely to go ahead, or are going ahead (reasonably foreseeable) and for which sufficient information is available, should be taken forward for consideration. For the purposes of the CEA, the types of 'other developments' include:

- projects that are under construction;
- projects that have planning permission or marine licences;
- projects for which planning or marine licence applications have been submitted to the relevant authority;
- projects which are on the PINS's Programme of Projects whether a scoping report has been submitted or not; and
- projects that are identified in development plans and in other plans and programmes as may be relevant.

5.10.3 The CEA focuses on other developments in proximity to Rampion 2 which may have effects on the same resources and receptors. Generally, only other developments where an EIA is required are considered appropriate for inclusion in the CEA. The CEA includes other developments that may begin construction, operation or be decommissioned within the same period as Rampion 2 construction or operation. Decommissioning of Rampion 2 is considered to be too far into the future for any meaningful consideration of cumulative effects with other developments and is therefore not addressed.

5.10.4 As part of the screening of the long list of other developments, timescales will be reviewed periodically up until a point prior to the submission of the DCO Application to determine whether the other developments should fall within the CEA. In line with PINS Advice Note Seventeen, where other developments are expected to be completed before construction of Rampion 2, and the effects of those other developments are fully determined, effects arising from them will be

considered as part of the current baseline and will therefore be included as part of both the construction and operational assessment.

5.10.5 Where there may be changes caused by other developments that will occur over time and will be representative of the anticipated baseline at the start of each assessment phase (construction, operation and decommissioning), these changes will be considered in the future baseline.

5.10.6 The Rampion 2 CEA will consider impacts upon receptors during each project phase arising from Rampion 2 alongside all past (unless incorporated within the baseline), present or reasonably foreseeable projects, programmes or plans that result in an additive effect with any element (on- or offshore) of Rampion 2. The assessment will also consider the contribution of Rampion 2 to those impacts.

5.10.7 The other developments identified by each technical aspect as having a potential cumulative effect are detailed and assessed in **Chapters 6** to **28**. The list of developments will be reviewed periodically as the EIA progresses to ensure that new developments which arise up until submission of the DCO Application for development consent are included in the ES.

5.10.8 The CEA methodology is generally divided into screening and assessment stages with the offshore and onshore assessment requiring slightly different approaches. The offshore screening approach will follow PINS Advice Note Seventeen which is an accepted process for NSIPs, with additional relevant aspects from the RenewableUK (RenewableUK, 2013) accepted guidance, which is specific to the marine elements of an offshore wind farm in consideration of mobile wide-ranging species (foraging species, migratory routes etc). The onshore screening approach will follow PINS Advice Note Seventeen and is based upon the four-stage approach set out in the guidance.

5.10.9 The CEA for each aspect is detailed in **Chapters 6** to **28**. Further details on the criteria used to identify other developments are included in **Appendix 5.3: Cumulative effects assessment detailed onshore search and screening criteria, Volume 4**, and the short list of other developments considered in the assessment set out in **Appendix 5.4: Cumulative effects assessment short list, Volume 4**. The CEA will be reviewed as the EIA progresses and will be updated in the ES.

Offshore CEA approach

Offshore CEA methodology

5.10.10 The CEA for the offshore element of Rampion 2 is being conducted in four stages and corresponds to PINS Advice Note Seventeen, also taking into account the Cumulative Impacts Assessment Guidelines issued by RenewableUK and the PINS Advice Note Nine (Planning Inspectorate, 2018a).

Graphic 5-4 Offshore CEA process

- Stage 1: Define the project's Zone of Influence (ZOI) and identify a long list of 'other development':
  - A desk study will be undertaken to identify the ZOI for the development for the topics that are proposed to be scoped into the EIA. The ZOI analysis will be documented (i.e. table of topics and ZOI), with supporting GIS;
  - Prepare a long list of other plans and projects/activities through a desk study of planning applications, development plan documents, relevant development frameworks and any other available sources to identify 'other developments' within the ZOI;
  - Collation of information on each other development (location, development type and timing, etc.), and the certainty or tier assigned to the 'other development' (i.e. confidence it will take place in the current form and when it will take place in relation to the project); and
  - Consultation will be undertaken with the relevant planning authority/authorities and statutory consultees regarding the long list.
- Stage 2: Identify shortlist of 'other development' for the CEA:
  - Screening of CEA long list to establish their potential for acting cumulatively on resources and receptors with potential impacts, focusing on identifying a potential source-pathway-receptor.
  - From this assessment, a shortlist of 'other developments' to be included in the CEA will be produced..
- Stage 3: Information gathering:
  - All available information on the 'other developments' within the shortlist generated at Stage 2 will be collated to inform the CEA.
- Stage 4: Assessment:
  - The project will review each of the 'other developments' in turn to assess whether cumulative effects may arise. This will also include, where relevant, any mitigation measures where adverse cumulative effects are identified and will clearly signpost to the relevant means of securing mitigation (e.g. DCO requirements and associated mitigation plans).
  - Consideration of the contribution of each development to the cumulative effect will be undertaken (using professional judgement). Any mitigation measures likely to be implemented by the proponents of other developments to address effects arising from those developments will be evaluated and where possible consultation conducted to determine potential for jointly addressing mitigation of significance adverse cumulative effects and means to ensure delivery is appropriately secured..

Stage 1: Offshore ZOI development and 'long list' identification

Approach to the long list

5.10.11 The first stage of the offshore CEA produces a 'long list' of other relevant projects, plans and activities ('other developments') happening within a large study area around the Rampion 2 site. The long list includes the those in the UK and adjoining international jurisdictions and is based on publicly available information available at the time of preparation. It considers the scale of the other developments, and the potential for these to produce cumulative effects with Rampion 2.

5.10.12 The search area defined in **Table 5-2** has been applied in developing the long list of other developments. It should be noted that these initial screening ranges are based on what are considered to be the maximum extents of potential impacts from those activities and are therefore considered to be highly precautionary. Impact-specific screening ranges used for individual topics may use reduced ranges depending on topic-specific criteria. The offshore search area is shown in **Figure 5.1, Volume 3**.

Table 5-2 Search area extents for the offshore elements of the CEA

Offshore elements	Search area extent
Aggregate, dredging and disposal	Up to 50km from the Rampion 2 array area and offshore export cable corridor
Offshore energy	Up to 500km from the Rampion 2 array area and offshore export cable corridor
Commercial fisheries	Up to 200km from the Rampion 2 array area and offshore export cable corridor
Oil and gas	Up to 200km from the Rampion 2 array area and offshore export cable corridor
Cables and pipelines	Up to 50km from the Rampion 2 array area and offshore export cable corridor
Shipping	Up to 200km from the Rampion 2 array area and offshore export cable corridor
Military, aviation and radar	Up to 200km from the Rampion 2 array area and offshore export cable corridor

Offshore elements	Search area extent
Coastal	Up to 200km from the Rampion 2 array area and offshore export cable corridor
Socio-economics	UK wide (which therefore excludes the Irish Republic land mass).

5.10.13 All other developments located within the search area as defined in **Table 5-2** have been identified through a desktop study using the following data sources:

- PINS website including applications and the scoping stage (https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/);
- The Crown Estate website (https://www.thecrownestate.co.uk/en-gb/what-we-do/on-the-seabed/marine-planning/);
- European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) data (http://www.emodnet-humanactivities.eu/view-data.php);
- Oil and Gas UK website (https://www.ogauthority.co.uk/data-centre/interactive-maps-and-tools/);
- The Marine Management Organisation; and
- Developers and project proponents' websites where available.

5.10.14 Any additional sources specific to an individual aspect are outlined in the offshore CEA in **Chapters 6** to **18.**

Tiered approach

5.10.15 The tiering structure used for screening and assessment of other developments is in accordance with PINS Advice Note Seventeen (**Table 5-3**). The Tiers are listed in descending order of level of detail likely to be available (and certainty of effects arising). Appropriate weight may therefore be given to each scenario (Tier) in the decision-making process when considering the potential cumulative impacts associated with Rampion 2. For example, it may be considered that greater weight be attributed to Tier 1 than Tier 2. It is noted in PINS Advice Note Seventeen that where other developments are expected to be completed before the construction of the proposed NSIP and the effects of those projects are fully determined, effects arising from them should be considered as part of the baseline and may be considered as part of assessment in the construction and operational phase (noting that the assessment should clearly distinguish between other developments forming part of the baseline and those in the CEA).

Table 5-3 Tiers used for screening and assessment of other developments offshore (from PINS Advice Note Seventeen)

Tier	Criteria
Tier 1	• other developments under construction; • permitted application(s), whether under the Planning Act 2008 or other regimes, but not yet implemented; and • submitted application(s), whether under the Planning Act 2008 or other regimes, but not yet determined.
Tier 2:	• other developments on the PINS Programme of Projects where a Scoping Report has been submitted.
Tier 3:	• other developments on the Planning Inspectorate's Programme of Projects where a scoping report has not been submitted; • other developments identified in the relevant Development Plan (and emerging Development Plans - with appropriate weight being given as they move closer to adoption) recognising that there will be limited information available on the relevant proposals; and • identified in other plans and programmes (as appropriate) which set the framework for future development consents/approvals, where such development is reasonably likely to come forward.

5.10.16 In assessing the potential for cumulative effects from Rampion 2, it is important to bear in mind that other developments, predominantly those 'proposed', may or may not be taken forward for development. Therefore, there is a need to build in a consideration of certainty (or uncertainty) with respect to the potential impacts which might arise from such proposals, in line with the approach set out by PINS in Advice Note Seventeen. For example, other developments which are already under construction have a higher degree of certainty that these will contribute to cumulative effects than those development applications that are at an early stage.

5.10.17 For these reasons, all of the relevant other developments on the long list are allocated into 'Tiers', reflecting their current status within the planning and development process. This allows the CEA to present several scenarios, reflecting the varying levels of certainty of an activity proceeding and therefore the potential for impacts to arise that might act cumulatively with the impacts arising from Rampion 2.

Stage 2: Screening of offshore long list

Screening of offshore long list - interactions

5.10.18 Following creation of the long list, all other developments are screened based on the potential for interaction with Rampion 2; either temporal, spatial or potential (i.e. identifying a potential source-pathway-receptor); and on the level of detail available (tiered approach). This screening produces EIA aspect-specific short-lists of other developments which are considered further within the offshore CEA in **Chapters 6** to **18** (and will be reviewed again in the ES).

5.10.19 The following criteria have been applied to the screening of the long list for other developments offshore:

- screened into the CEA:
  - other developments which are considered as part of the baseline but the effects of which are not fully determined in the marine environment (in line with **paragraphs 5.10.4** to **5.10.6**); and/or
  - where there is a potential for a cumulative impact to occur (based upon available information and professional judgement).
- Screened out of the CEA:
  - other developments which are considered as part of the baseline environment;
  - where there is low data confidence (therefore a meaningful assessment cannot be undertaken);
  - where no potential impact-receptor pathway exists (see **Table 5-4**);
  - where there is no potential for a spatial effect interaction (see **Table 5-4**); or
  - where there is no potential for a temporal effect interaction (see **Table 5-4**).

5.10.20 These criteria ensure a clear justification for screening other developments in or out. Further detail on the other development screening criteria is given in **Table 5-4**.

Table 5-4 Other development specific screening criteria

Term	Criteria
Potential impact-receptor pathway	There is the potential that a pathway exists whereby an impact could have an effect on a receptor. For example, increases to suspended sediment concentration could have an impact on fish and shellfish receptors, but underwater noise could not have an effect on aviation and radar receptors.
Spatial effect interaction	The impacts on a receptor from Rampion 2 and one or more other plans/projects have a geographical overlap. For example, underwater noise contours from piling at Rampion 2 could overlap with those of another offshore wind farm project, if it is sufficiently close to Rampion 2. If there is no spatial interaction, there is no potential for a cumulative effect.
Temporal effect interaction	The impacts from Rampion 2 and one or more other plans/projects have the potential to occur at the same time. If there is no temporal interaction, there is no potential for a cumulative effect.

5.10.21 Only where there is the potential for both spatial and temporal interaction between effects arising from Rampion 2 and from one or more of the other developments identified, is a cumulative impact be taken forward for consideration in the CEA. The screening process for the long list of other developments provides a record of those screened in or out for further consideration within the CEA on the basis of one or more of these criteria.

Aspect specific screening list – impact ranges

5.10.22 The screened long list identifies all the other developments that might give rise to cumulative effects when considered alongside the potential impacts arising from Rampion 2 but does not detail the differences in impact ranges for different environmental receptors.

5.10.23 In order to focus the aspect specific CEAs presented in **Chapters 6** to **18**, the screened long list is subject to further aspect specific screening to identify those relevant other developments within the ZOIs of Rampion 2 for each aspect. The aspect specific screening distances used to refine the screened long list into aspect specific short lists (along with justifications for the distances used) are provided in **Table 5-5**.

Table 5-5 Screening extents for CEA purposes

Receptor	Maximum extent of impact and justification
Marine geology, oceanography and physical processes	Based on the distance of one tidal excursion ellipse (pending topic baseline assessment).
Benthic and intertidal ecology	Based on the marine physical processes' assessment (pending topic baseline assessment).
Fish and shellfish ecology	For sedimentary impacts, based on the marine physical processes (pending topic baseline assessment). Greater distance for underwater noise related impacts based on underwater noise modelling (100km).
Marine mammals	Dependent on the reference population extent (e.g. 'the North Sea' for harbour porpoise).
Offshore and intertidal ornithology	Dependent on the mean maximum foraging range of the species in question (e.g. 315.2km for gannet).
Commercial fisheries	Extent of the relevant fishing grounds.
Shipping and navigation	Based on shipping lanes and available sea room around relevant components of Rampion 2.

Receptor	Maximum extent of impact and justification
Aviation, military and communications	Distance at which disturbance from the Rampion 2 array would interact with that of an 'other development' (45km).
Marine archaeology	Dependent on the archaeological receptor in question.
Seascape and visual resources	Based on the maximum extent of the Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV).
Infrastructure and other users	Based on the extent of the order limits plus any relevant safety zones (i.e. maximum 500m from the edge of the PEIR Assessment Boundary).

Stage 3

5.10.24 All available information on the 'other developments' within the shortlist generated at Stage 2 is collated to inform the CEA.

Stage 4

5.10.25 As part of each aspect's assessment, a review is undertaken of each of the 'other developments' in turn to assess whether cumulative effects may arise. This also includes, where relevant, any environmental measures where negative cumulative effects have been identified and clearly signposts to the relevant means by which required mitigation will be secured (e.g. draft DCO requirements and associated mitigation plans).

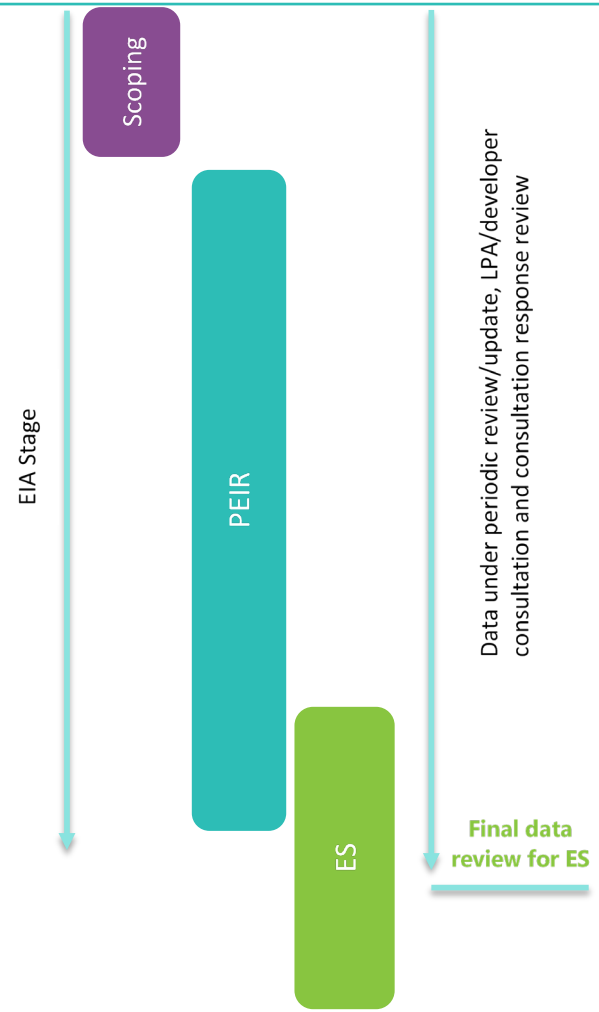
5.10.26 In developing potential environmental measures that may be required of Rampion 2 in relation to cumulative effects, appropriate consideration of measures likely to be implemented by the proponents of other developments to address effects arising from those developments is being undertaken to ascertain the contribution of each development to the effect (using professional judgement). Where appropriate, RED is engaging other developers to identify means to jointly address mitigation of significant negative cumulative effects and means to ensure delivery where this is practicable.

Onshore CEA approach

5.10.27 The onshore CEA has been conducted in the stages set out in **Graphic 5-5** which correspond to PINS Advice Note Seventeen.

Graphic 5-5 Onshore CEA process

- Stage 1: identify impacts from Rampion 2 that may contribute to cumulative effects on resources and receptors and define Zones of Influence (ZOIs) of Rampion 2 impacts *[corresponds with Stage 1 of PINS Advice Note Seventeen].*
- Stage 2: prepare CEA long list of 'other developments' whose potential impacts may interact with the Rampion 2 ZOIs *[corresponds with Stage 1 of PINS Advice Note Seventeen].*
- Stage 3: screening of CEA long list to establish their potential for acting cumulatively on resources and receptors with potential impacts, and from this produce a shortlist of 'other developments' to be taken forward in the CEA. This will focus on identifying a potential source-pathway-receptor *[corresponds with Stage 2 of PINS Advice Note Seventeen]*. Further information gathering for shortlisted 'other developments'.
- Stage 4: individual aspect review of short listed developments to define level of detail of CEA to be adopted (this will be dependent on level of information available and level of risk involved with potential interaction) *[corresponds with Stage 3 and 4 of PINS Advice Note Seventeen]*.
- Stage 5: assessment of 'other developments' screened in using a tiered approach for categorisation *[corresponds with Stage 4 of PINS Advice Note Seventeen].*
- Stage 6: environmental measures will be developed for Rampion 2 impacts that contribute to cumulative effects and will take into account measures already identified in the EIA *[corresponds with Stage 4 of PINS Advice Note Seventeen]*.



Stage 1: Onshore 2 impacts and ZOIs

5.10.28 The main impacts of Rampion 2 that have the potential to contribute to cumulative effects with impacts from other developments will arise during the construction and operation of the substation, construction of the landfall and the construction of the onshore export cable.

5.10.29 The aspects and impacts detailed in **Table 5-6** have been identified as having the potential to contribute to cumulative effects.

Table 5-6 Onshore impacts with potential to contribute to cumulative effects

Aspect	Potential impacts and effects
Agriculture and soils	• Development at the Rampion 2 substation site resulting in potential permanent loss of agricultural land.
Air quality	• Construction activity from Rampion 2 and other developments resulting in effects on dust. • Changes to road traffic during construction resulting in effects on air quality.
Ground conditions	• Mobilisation of contamination (for example through generation of dusts, spillages and leaks etc.) resulting in impacts to human health and controlled waters receptors in combination with construction activities for other developments. • Damage to geodiversity sites resulting in effects on geodiversity receptors in combination with construction activities for other developments. • For ground conditions, UK legislation requires all developments to be suitable for their proposed use in which risks to human health and controlled waters from land contamination and risks from damage to geodiversity sites have been appropriately managed. Therefore, there are not considered to be any impacts from the operational phase of Rampion 2 that have the potential to act cumulatively with impacts from other developments to contribute to cumulative ground conditions effects.
Historic environment	• Construction and operation of onshore elements of Rampion 2 and other developments resulting in potential effects on historic landscape character. • Construction of onshore elements of Rampion 2 and other developments resulting in potential effects on buried archaeological remains within the construction footprint. • Construction and operation of Rampion 2 and other developments resulting in potential effects on

Aspect	Potential impacts and effects
	significance of designated and non-designated heritage assets through changes to setting.
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment	• Whole project effects resulting from the combined effects of the onshore and offshore elements of the Proposed Development. • Construction activities, operation and decommissioning of the substation, and construction of the cable corridor and landfall of Rampion 2 resulting in potential effects on landscape character, elements and characteristics. • Construction activities, operation and decommissioning of the substation, and construction of the cable corridor and landfall of Rampion 2 resulting in potential effects on landscape designations (special landscape qualities and integrity). • Construction activities, operation and decommissioning of the substation, and construction of the cable corridor and landfall of Rampion 2 resulting in potential effects on visual receptors.
Noise and vibration	• Concurrent onshore construction from Rampion 2 and other developments resulting in potential noise and vibration effects. • Operational noise from the substation in relation to other developments including the existing Bolney substation resulting in potential noise and vibration effects.
Terrestrial ecology and nature conservation	• Permanent and temporary habitat loss and degradation of notable habitats with corresponding effects on local populations. • Permanent and temporary fragmentation of the landscape reducing the viability of some local populations to access sufficient resources. • Temporary disturbance caused by construction activity resulting in the displacement of local populations.
Transport	• Permitted/committed developments within and in the vicinity of the transport study area that will result in additional traffic on the road network. To some extent, this will be accounted for within the TEMPro growth factors that will be applied as a 'blanket growth' on the network, however, the highway authorities may require that specific developments are included as the development traffic from these will have localised effects on specific parts of the road network. • Committed transport schemes that will affect the transport network, such as junction improvements and new road links.

Aspect	Potential impacts and effects
Water environment	• Construction and maintenance activities of onshore elements of Rampion 2 and other developments affecting water quality in rivers and groundwater. • Dewatering activities in construction resulting in effects on groundwater levels. • Construction and maintenance of onshore elements of Rampion 2 and other developments and permanent development resulting in effects on flood risk. • Construction and maintenance activities of onshore elements of Rampion 2 and other developments resulting in effects on hydro-morphology.

5.10.30 The search area for the onshore element of the CEA has been determined through identification of ZOIs by each aspect, taking into consideration the areas/receptors likely to be affected by Rampion 2 activities and facilities. Effects from unplanned but predictable potential effects caused by Rampion 2 that may occur later or at a different location have also been considered. The overall onshore search area shown in **Figure 5.2, Volume 3**. Individual aspect ZOIs are shown within each aspect chapter.

Table 5-7 Search area extents for the onshore elements of the CEA

Aspect	Search area extent
Agriculture and soils	• Area within the PEIR Assessment Boundary.
Air quality	• Generation of dust during construction. The ZOI for this is 350m. • Generation of air quality emissions from the other development, either during construction or operation. For these effects, the ZOI is less well defined, but based on the results of the main air quality assessment, may be conservatively taken as 200m.
Ground conditions	• 500m from the edge of the onshore cable corridor and 1km around the land required for the onshore substation to take into account impacts either through introduction of a new contaminative source or sensitive receptor.
Historic environment	• 1km radius around the onshore cable corridor for construction and operational effects of onshore development on the setting of heritage assets. • 2km radius around the substation for construction and operational effects of onshore development on the setting of heritage assets. • 25km radius from the offshore design envelope, for construction and operational effects of offshore

Aspect	Search area extent
	development (turbines/substation) on onshore heritage assets.
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment	• 2km from the PEIR Assessment Boundary. • 60km search area aligning with SLVIA will be considered for onshore wind farms.
Noise and vibration	• Construction phase: 500m from the temporary construction compounds and onshore substation. • Operation and maintenance phase (onshore substation): 1km from the onshore substation boundary. • Operation and maintenance phase (WTGs): 20km from the offshore WTGs.
Terrestrial ecology and nature conservation	• 2km radius around the PEIR Assessment Boundary to identify plans and projects where cumulative effects associated with direct disturbance or changes in hydrology may be realised. This 2km ensures that the 1km ZOI for Rampion 2 alone is accounted for, as would be the overlap of this ZOI with the ZOI of any other development should the same distance criteria be applied.
Transport	• Intrinsically considered as part of the Traffic Assessment.
Water environment	• Based upon the watercourses which intersect the PEIR Assessment Boundary, including a 1km upstream extent from the PEIR Assessment Boundary, and the downstream extents of the watercourses to their discharge to sea.

Stage 2: Long list of other developments onshore

5.10.31 Information has been gathered where possible on other developments from the following data sources:

- Local authorities' direct requests and planning portals (or appropriate methods) and Local Plans[3]. Local authority boundaries in the locality of the Rampion 2 development area are mapped in **Figure 2.1, Volume 3**:

[3] Sites identified within Local Plans will generally not be assessed directly due to lack of detailed information, but any planning applications for allocated sites which arise prior to submission of the ES will be included.

- South Downs National Park Authority, working in partnership with local authorities within the National Park (https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/planning-applications/);
- West Sussex County Council (minerals and waste applications);
- Arun District Council (https://www.arun.gov.uk/weekly-lists);
- Horsham District Council (https://public-access.horsham.gov.uk/public-access/);
- Mid Sussex District Council (https://pa.midsussex.gov.uk/online-applications/search.do?action=simple);
- Adur District Council (shares planning site with Worthing Borough Council) (https://www.adur-worthing.gov.uk/planning/applications/view/);
- Worthing Borough Council (shares planning site with Adur District Council) (https://www.adur-worthing.gov.uk/planning/applications/view/);
- Chichester District Council (https://chichester.gov.uk/viewplanningapplications); and
- Lewes District Council (https://planningpa.lewes.gov.uk/online-applications/).

- PINS website including applications and the scoping stage (https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/);
- Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, energy infrastructure portal for Section 36 and Section 37 Electricity Act applications: https://itportal.beis.gov.uk/EIP/pages/recent.htm (2005 to 2017) & https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/energy-infrastructure-development-applications-decisions (2018 - present):
  - Development Consent Orders under the Planning Act 2008;
  - Material Changes and Non-Material Changes (NMC) to Development Consent Orders under the Planning Act 2008;
  - applications for consent under section 36 (s.36) of the Electricity Act 1989;
  - variations to existing s.36 consents under s.36C of the Electricity Act 1989;
  - applications made under the Transport and Works Act 1992;
  - overhead line applications under section 37 (s.37) of the Electricity Act 1989 following a Public Inquiry;
  - Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOs) for electricity infrastructure;
  - Directions under section 35 (s.35) of the Planning Act 2008;
  - EIA screening and scoping opinions under the Electricity Works (EIA) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017;
  - Safety Zones for offshore renewable energy installations under the Energy Act 2004.

- Requests made to the Transport and Works Act 1992 Orders Unit at the DfT for Transport and Works Act 1992 applications: https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/transport-and-works-act-team; and
- Developer and/or project proponent websites, where available.

5.10.32 The following criteria has been applied to the search for other developments onshore:

- Spatially, the search area is defined by the largest extent of the individual ZOIs identified in **Table 5-7**. This may be refined as the design develops.
- Temporally, the search is limited to the five years preceding the date of this PEIR. Five years is selected as planning permissions typically expire after a period of three to five years (unless an application for extension is permitted). Any permissions prior to this will be presumed to have elapsed or have been implemented and therefore form part of the baseline.

Stage 3: Screening of the onshore long list

Screening process

5.10.33 The initial screening exercise of the other developments collated for the long list is based upon the following:

- the location and proximity to Rampion 2 with respect to the relevant ZOIs for each type of impact;
- Tier 1 or 2 developments under PINS 'other existing development and/or approved development', and Tier 3 where sufficient information is available to include in the assessment under the themes of (please refer to **Table 5-3** for definitions of Tiers) :
  - residential developments of >50 dwellings;
  - energy infrastructure (all);
  - developments which fall under Schedule 1 or Schedule 2 of the EIA regulations; and
  - local plan sites.
- Professional judgement of the likely impacts based on the nature and scale of the development and information available in the public domain at the time of assessment.

5.10.34 The search and screening criteria are further described in **Appendix 5.3, Volume 4**.

Stage 4: Level of detail of onshore CEA

5.10.35 Following generation of the screened list Stage 3 it is reviewed by each technical aspect in relation to their ZOI to identify the 'other developments' which have the potential to result in cumulative effects with Rampion 2. All 'other developments'

falling outside the ZOI will be excluded and not carried forward for assessment. The aspect specific short lists are set out in **Chapters 19** to **28**.

Stage 5: Assessment of other developments onshore

5.10.36 **Chapters 19** to **28** set out the assessment of 'other developments' screened in using a tiered approach for categorisation identified in **Table 5-3** and **paragraphs 5.10.15** to **5.10.17**.

Stage 6: Environmental measures

5.10.37 Environmental measures are being developed for Rampion 2 impacts that contribute to cumulative effects and measures already identified in the EIA will be considered. Where appropriate, additional measures may be identified where practicable to avoid, minimise or reduce the contribution of Rampion 2 impacts to significant cumulative effects, these will be embedded into the design. Where appropriate, monitoring may be suggested to deal with uncertainty in conclusions and would be discussed and agreed with consultees and other stakeholders. **Appendix 4.1: Commitments register, Volume 4** sets out those measures identified at this stage.

5.11 Transboundary effects assessment

5.11.1 Transboundary effects arise when impacts from a development within one European Economic Area (EEA) states affects the environment of another EEA state(s). The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, which was adopted in 1991 as the 'Espoo Convention', was negotiated to enhance the cooperation between EEA states in assessing environmental effects in a transboundary context. The Espoo Convention has been implemented by the EIA Directive and transposed into UK law for NSIPs by way of the EIA Regulations 2017, specifically under Regulation 32 which sets out the process for consultation and notification.

5.11.2 Regulation 32 of the EIA Regulations 2017 requires that where the SoS is of the view that a development that is the subject of an EIA is likely to have significant effects on the environment of another EEA State a notification is made by the SoS to that other EEA State.

5.11.3 As set out in Advice Note Twelve: Transboundary Impacts and Process (Planning Inspectorate, 2018b), the role of the Planning Inspectorate, where an NSIP has been identified as an EIA development, includes the screening for likely significant effects on the environment of another EEA State. Screening may take place at any time when new relevant information becomes available. Where a likely significant effect on the environment of any other EEA State(s) is identified, the role of PINS includes the identification of EEA State(s) to be notified, notification of these states, consultation with EEA States, and notification to the EEA State(s) of the outcome of the application for development consent.

5.11.4 Whilst the UK is no longer an EEA state the relevant regulations have been amended to reflect this change and to ensure that they continue to apply in terms of the need to assess transboundary effects.

5.11.5 The scoping exercise undertaken for the Proposed Development and presented in the Scoping Report identified that Rampion 2 may potentially have transboundary interactions with EEA States, France, Spain, Belgium and the Netherlands. The Scoping Report identified six environmental aspects in relation to which a transboundary effect on other EEA States could conceivably arise as a result of the Proposed Development. The Scoping Report concluded that on the basis of the current information, there was the potential for significant effects arising from the Proposed Development on the interests of EEA States and as such transboundary effects may arise. Those impacts for which a transboundary effect may arise, and which are therefore have been screened into the EIA, are as follows:

- fish and shellfish ecology;
- marine mammals;
- ornithology;
- commercial fisheries;
- shipping and navigation; and
- other marine users.

5.11.6 The transboundary assessment for each aspect has been progressed and is set out in the relevant technical aspect chapters (**Chapters 6** to **28**). The transboundary assessment will be further updated if necessary, for each aspect prior to DCO submission.

5.12 Inter-related effects

5.12.1 Paragraph 5(2)(e) of the EIA Regulations 2017 requires that the EIA consider the interaction of environmental effects associated with the Proposed Development. The inter-related effects assessment considers likely significant effects from multiple impacts and activities from the construction, operation and decommissioning of Rampion 2 on the same receptor, or group of receptors. The inter-related effects assessment does not include effects on receptors as a result of Rampion 2 and other developments, which is assessed within the CEA.

5.12.2 Inter-related effects can be the following:

- Project lifetime effects: i.e., those arising throughout more than one phase of the Proposed Development (construction, operation, and decommissioning) to interact to potentially create a more significant effect on a receptor than if just one phase were assessed in isolation; and
- Receptor led effects: assessment of the scope for all effects to interact, spatially and temporally, to create inter-related effects on a receptor (or group). Receptor-led effects might be short term, temporary or transient effects, or incorporate longer term effects.

5.12.3 Common receptors for environmental aspects have been identified, and consideration given to whether the aspect effects on any common receptors are likely to combine. This consideration looked at:

- identification of the common receptor(s) from the individual aspect assessments;
- identification of impact source pathways that can affect the common receptor(s);
- identification of potential effects on the identified common receptor(s); and
- the inter-related effects across the construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning phases where appropriate.

5.12.4 It should be noted that some elements of the preliminary assessment inherently consider inter-related effects. For example, the terrestrial ecology and nature conservation assessment of effects takes into account the potential for multiple impacts affecting particular features such as disturbance effects on faunal receptors resulting from noise and vibration, visual disturbance and lighting. Where this is the case, this is described within the individual aspect chapter.

5.12.5 Given the preliminary stage of the process, sufficient detail is not currently available to enable a detailed assessment of inter-related effects to be undertaken. Following Statutory Consultation, the inter-related effects assessment will be updated and fully reported in the ES. The inter-related effects assessment at ES stage will identify any significant residual inter-related effects (and non-significant effects, greater than negligible or neutral significance, which could combine to create a perceivably significant effect) on common receptors or receptor groups set out in individual aspect assessments, and qualitatively comment on the potential for actual or perceived significant residual effects for such receptors. This will be informed by an over-arching matrix setting out where aspects have reached an assessment of relevant effects per receptor or receptor group, followed by a narrative explaining the effects for each receptor.

5.12.6 The preliminary inter-related effects assessment for each aspect is set out in the relevant technical aspect chapters (**Chapters 6** to **28**).

5.13 PINS Scoping Opinion responses

5.13.1 **Table 5-8** sets out the comments received in Section 3 of the PINS Scoping Opinion relevant to the approach to the EIA and how these have been addressed in this PEIR. A full list of the PINS Scoping Opinion comments and responses is provided in **Appendix 5.1, Volume 4**. Regard has also been given to other stakeholder comments that were received in relation to the Scoping Report. The information provided in the PEIR is preliminary and therefore not all the Scoping Opinion comments have been able to be addressed at this stage, however all comments will be addressed within the ES.

Table 5-8 PINS Scoping Opinion responses relevant to the Approach to the EIA

PINS ID number	Scoping Opinion comment	How this is addressed in this PEIR
3.1.3	The Inspectorate has set out in this Opinion where it has/ has not agreed to scope out certain aspects/ matters on the basis of the information available at this time. The Inspectorate is content that the receipt of a Scoping Opinion should not prevent the Applicant from subsequently agreeing with the relevant consultation bodies to scope such aspects/matters out of the ES, where further evidence has been provided to justify this approach. However, in order to demonstrate that the aspects/ matters have been appropriately addressed, the ES should explain the reasoning for scoping them out and justify the approach taken.	**Section 5.7: Scope of the assessment** sets out the aspects/matters considered in this PEIR. Each aspect chapter (**Chapters 6** to **28**) sets out activities or impacts scoped out of assessment and the rationale to justify the approach.
3.1.4	The Inspectorate has made effort to ensure that this Scoping Opinion is informed through effective consultation with the relevant consultation bodies. Unfortunately, at this time the Inspectorate is unable to receive hard copy consultation responses, and this may affect a consultation body's ability to engage with the scoping process. The Inspectorate also appreciates that strict compliance with COVID-19 advice may affect a consultation body's ability to provide their consultation response. The Inspectorate considers that Applicants should make effort to ensure that they engage effectively with consultation bodies and where necessary further develop the scope of the ES to address their concerns and advice. The ES should include information to demonstrate how such further engagement has been undertaken and how it has influenced the scope of the assessments reported in the ES.	Details of the consultation and engagement undertaken is set out in **Chapter 1: Introduction**. **Chapters 6** to **28** also provide further detail on technical engagement.
3.1.5	Where relevant, the ES should provide reference to how the delivery of measures proposed to prevent/ minimise adverse effects is secured through DCO requirements (or other suitably robust methods) and whether relevant consultation bodies agree on the adequacy of the measures proposed.	**Section 5.8: Approach to environmental measures** identifies the overarching approach to environmental measures and **Appendix 4.1:**

PINS ID number	Scoping Opinion comment	How this is addressed in this PEIR
		Commitments register, Volume 4 sets out the commitments being made as part of the Rampion 2 design.
3.2.1	Sector-specific NPSs are produced by the relevant Government Departments and set out national policy for NSIPs. They provide the framework within which the Examining Authority (ExA) will make their recommendation to the SoS and include the Government's objectives for the development of NSIPs. The NPSs may include environmental requirements for NSIPs, which Applicants should address within their ES.	The planning policy, legislation and guidance, including sector-specific National Policy Statements, and how they are considered in this PEIR are detailed in **Chapter 2: Policy and legislative context**.
3.3.2	General The Inspectorate recommends that in order to assist the decision-making process, the Applicant uses tables: • to demonstrate how the assessment has taken account of this Opinion; • to identify and collate the residual effects after mitigation for each of the aspect chapters, including the relevant interrelationships and cumulative effects; • to set out the proposed mitigation and/ or monitoring measures including cross-reference to the means of securing such measures (eg a DCO requirement); • to describe any remedial measures that are identified as being necessary following monitoring; and • to identify where details are contained in the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA report) (where relevant), such as descriptions of	A standard chapter structure, including tables, has been applied throughout this PEIR to ensure clarity. Each chapter of the PEIR where relevant includes a table which sets out the PINS Scoping Opinion comments relevant to that chapter and how they have been addressed in this PEIR. Each aspect chapter includes a summary of residual effects table which sets out effects following mitigation (which is all embedded into the Rampion 2 design).

PINS ID number	Scoping Opinion comment	How this is addressed in this PEIR
	European sites and their locations, together with any mitigation or compensation measures, are to be found in the ES.	Each aspect chapter includes a table of all relevant environmental measures which are embedded into the design and how they will be secured. The **Draft Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment** is provided alongside the PEIR as a separate document.
3.3.3	Baseline Scenario The ES should include a description of the baseline scenario with and without implementation of the development as far as natural changes from the baseline scenario can be assessed with reasonable effort on the basis of the availability of environmental information and scientific knowledge.	The details of the baseline and future baseline scenarios for each aspect are set out in **Chapters 6** to **28**.
3.3.4	The concept of 'future baseline' conditions is introduced in the context of a number of aspect chapters (e.g. landscape, air quality and ecology). In light of the number of ongoing developments within the vicinity of the Proposed Development application site, and potential evolution of the onshore and offshore environments prior to construction and operation of the Proposed Development, the Applicant should clearly define their overarching approach to the prediction of future baseline conditions against the project programme.	The approach to future baseline is discussed in **paragraph 5.7.2** and considered as appropriate within relevant aspect chapters.
3.3.5	Some aspect chapters of the Scoping Report have identified specific receptors, whereas others identify broad categories of receptors only. Specific receptors should be clearly identified within the ES, alongside categorisation of their sensitivity and value. Section 4.4 of the Scoping Report explains the generic approach to defining receptor sensitivity in order to assess the potential impacts	Specific receptors and aspect approaches to the identification of receptor sensitivity are identified in aspect **Chapters 6** to **28**.

PINS ID number	Scoping Opinion comment	How this is addressed in this PEIR
	upon each receptor. The Inspectorate expects a transparent and reasoned approach to be applied to assigning receptor sensitivity to be defined and applied across the aspect chapters.	
3.3.6	Forecasting Methods or Evidence The ES should contain the timescales upon which the surveys which underpin the technical assessments have been based. For clarity, this information should be provided either in the introductory chapters of the ES (with confirmation that these timescales apply to all chapters), or in each aspect chapter.	Timescales upon which the surveys which underpin the technical assessments have been based is provide in each of the aspect chapters (**Chapters 6** to **28**)
3.3.7	The Inspectorate expects the ES to include a chapter setting out the overarching methodology for the assessment, which clearly distinguishes effects that are 'significant' from 'non-significant' effects. Any departure from that methodology should be described in individual aspect assessment chapters.	This chapter sets out the overarching methodology for the assessment, with any necessary variations set out in **Chapters 6** to **28**.
3.3.8	The ES should include details of difficulties (for example technical deficiencies or lack of knowledge) encountered compiling the required information and the main uncertainties involved.	The details of any technical difficulties or limitations for each aspect are set out in **Chapters 6** to **28**. **Section 5.2: Progressing Rampion 2 during COVID-19** sets out some of the challenges and subsequent measures which have been taken to achieve as much as possible during the EIA programme to date whilst working fully within the restrictions of the pandemic.
3.3.9	The approach to assessing and interpreting significance levels should be consistent across aspect chapters where possible. Where matrices are used in	This chapter sets out the overarching methodology for the assessment, with

PINS ID number	Scoping Opinion comment	How this is addressed in this PEIR
	combining magnitude of impact and sensitivity of receptor they too should be consistent in the determining overall significance. The ES should clearly explain where and how professional judgement has been applied in assessing the significance of effects.	any necessary variations set out in **Chapters 6** to **28**.
3.3.10	Paragraphs 4.4.10 – 4.4.11 set out that there is a considerable existing evidence base in the form of data from the previous assessment carried out for Rampion 1. This existing evidence base has and will continue to be used "to help inform the scope of the forthcoming environmental assessments and establish the robustness of survey data collected during the COVID-19 period". The Inspectorate generally welcomes the Applicant's intention that the evidence base will be regularly discussed with relevant stakeholders to ensure it remains appropriate. Particular consideration should be given to the methods and the spatial and temporal scope of previous surveys given the time that has elapsed since the Rampion 1 application, particularly in justifying the continued validity and relevance of information to the Proposed Development. The Inspectorate also notes the relative geographical separation between the onshore cable routes for Rampion 1 and the Proposed Development which may also affect the applicability.	**Section 5.2** sets out some of the challenges and subsequent measures which have been taken to achieve as much as possible during the EIA programme to date whilst working fully within the restrictions of the pandemic. The existing evidence base and its application to Rampion 2 has been and will continue to be discussed with stakeholders as part of the Evidence Plan Process (EPP).
3.3.11	The Inspectorate understands that the maximum height to blade tip of the Proposed Development's WTGs is 325m, whereas those installed as part of Rampion 1 are 140m to blade tip. This is likely to be a key consideration across the aspect chapters of the ES (particularly landscape and visual, cultural heritage and socio-economics), and the ES should be clear as how the magnitudes of effects of the Proposed Development (within the design envelope) account for the relationship with the Rampion 1 project	Details of the maximum assessment assumptions are set out in **Chapter 4: The Proposed Development**. For the preliminary assessment of effects of the WTGs in relation to landscape and visual impact, cultural heritage and socio-economics, please refer to **Chapter 19: Landscape and visual impact**, **Chapter 26: Historic**

PINS ID number	Scoping Opinion comment	How this is addressed in this PEIR
		environment and **Chapter 18: Socio-economics**.
3.3.12	Paragraphs 4.3.10 – 4.3.12 of the Scoping Report explains that an Evidence Plan Process with specialist stakeholders is being progressed in effort to agree the approach and information required to support the assessment of certain environmental aspects relating to HRA matters and "relevant components of the EIA process". This approach to agreeing the finer details of the assessment is welcomed. The Applicant should ensure that any agreements reached during this process are evidenced within the ES.	**Chapter 1: Introduction** sets out the EPP for Rampion 2. Agreements achieved through the EPP to date is documented in the relevant aspect chapters (**Chapters 6** to **28**).
3.3.13	As set out in paragraph 2.3.11 of this Scoping Opinion, the ES should be clear as to the potential construction programme options where the installation of all onshore cables may not occur in a single operation. Paragraph 4.4.26 and Figure 2.7 of the Scoping Report states that the construction of the Proposed Development will have a duration of approximately 5 years although it does not clearly state how this accounts for flexibility in the onshore construction programme and whether this accounts one or more cable installation operations.	An outline construction programme is provided in **Chapter 4: The Proposed Development, Section 4.5**.
3.3.14	Residues and Emissions The EIA Regulations require an estimate, by type and quantity, of expected residues and emissions. Specific reference should be made to water, air, soil and subsoil pollution, noise, vibration, light, heat, radiation and quantities and types of waste produced during the construction and operation phases, where relevant. This information should be provided in a clear and consistent fashion and may be integrated into the relevant aspect assessments. "	Information on anticipated emissions from the Proposed Development is provided in **Chapter 4** and relevant aspect chapters (**Chapters 6** to **28**). An Outline Site Waste Management Plan will be prepared and submitted as part of the DCO Application.

PINS ID number	Scoping Opinion comment	How this is addressed in this PEIR
3.3.15	Mitigation and monitoring Any mitigation relied upon for the purposes of the assessment should be explained in detail within the ES. The likely efficacy of the mitigation proposed should be explained with reference to residual effects. The ES should also address how any mitigation proposed is secured, with reference to specific DCO requirements or other legally binding agreements.	The approach to environmental measures is set out in **Section 5.8: Approach to environmental measures**. Each aspect chapter includes a table of all relevant environmental measures which are embedded into the design and how they will be secured, and reports any residual effects.
3.3.16	The ES should identify and describe any proposed monitoring of significant adverse effects and how the results of such monitoring would be utilised to inform any necessary remedial actions.	Monitoring required of significant adverse effects will be detailed in aspect chapters where relevant.
3.3.17	The ES should clearly demonstrate how the Applicant has had regard to the mitigation hierarchy, for example by giving consideration to the avoidance of key receptors. In this regard, Paragraphs 4.4.19 – 4.4.20 set out the Applicant's proposed approach to setting out avoidance, best practice and design commitments and classifying them against the IEMA 'Guide to Shaping Quality Development' (2015) definitions.	This chapter sets out the overarching consideration of environmental measures and how they will be used for Rampion 2, with specific measures and requirements set out in **Chapters 6** to **28**.
3.3.18	The Inspectorate also notes that Appendix A of the Scoping Report provides a list of certain "commitments" that have already been identified by the project team for the purpose of mitigating potential effects of the Proposed Development. Many of those measures are in the form of management or mitigation plans or other documents. Whilst this approach is generally welcomed and the principles of how the measures listed would likely be beneficial in terms of environmental effects understood, limited detail is provided as to the content of the management and mitigation plans that are	The Commitments Register has been updated since Scoping for the PEIR (**Appendix 4.1: Commitments register, Volume 4**). This register is being updated through the iterative design evolution process and is supported by additional information where appropriate.

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	listed, and many of the matters included are suffixed by statements such as "where possible" or "as far as practicable". It is therefore difficult for the Inspectorate to gain confidence as to the likely efficacy of such plans at this stage. The ES should therefore set out these plans (or the reliance placed on them) in sufficient detail so as to understand the significance of residual effects. This should also include identification of any monitoring and remedial actions (if relevant) in the event that predicted residual effects differ to actual monitored outcomes Further comments on these are made in sections 4 and 5 of this Scoping Opinion as appropriate.	
3.3.19	The ES should also identify and describe any proposed monitoring of significant adverse effects and how the results of such monitoring would be utilised to inform any necessary remedial actions within the framework of the commitments register and other mitigation measures.	Monitoring required of significant adverse effects will be detailed in aspect chapters where relevant.
3.3.20	Risks of Major Accidents and/or Disasters The ES should include a description and assessment (where relevant) of the likely significant effects resulting from accidents and disasters applicable to the Proposed Development. The Applicant should make use of appropriate guidance (e.g. that referenced in the Health and Safety Executives (HSE) Annex to Advice Note 11) to better understand the likelihood of an occurrence and the Proposed Development's susceptibility to potential major accidents and hazards. The description and assessment should consider the vulnerability of the Proposed Development to a potential accident or disaster and also the Proposed Development's potential to cause an accident or disaster. The assessment should specifically assess significant effects resulting from the risks to human health, cultural heritage or the environment. Any measures that will be employed to prevent and control significant effects should be presented in the ES.	Risk of Major Accidents and/or Disasters has been included in this PEIR and is set out in **Chapter 28: Major accidents and disasters**.

PINS ID number	Scoping Opinion comment	How this is addressed in this PEIR
3.3.21	Relevant information available and obtained through risk assessments pursuant to European Union legislation such as Directive 2012/18/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council or Council Directive 2009/71/Euratom or relevant assessments carried out pursuant to national legislation may be used for this purpose provided that the requirements of this Directive are met. Where appropriate, this description should include measures envisaged to prevent or mitigate the significant adverse effects of such events on the environment and details of the preparedness for and proposed response to such emergencies.	Risk of Major Accidents and/or Disasters has been included in this PEIR and is set out in **Chapter 28**.
3.3.22	Climate and Climate Change The ES should include a description and assessment (where relevant) of the likely significant effects the Proposed Development has on climate (for example having regard to the nature and magnitude of greenhouse gas emissions) and the vulnerability of the project to climate change. Where relevant, the ES should describe and assess the adaptive capacity that has been incorporated into the design of the Proposed Development. This may include, for example, alternative measures such as changes in the use of materials or construction and design techniques that will be more resilient to risks from climate change	**Appendix 5.2: Greenhouse gases assessment, Volume 4** provides a preliminary assessment of greenhouse gases in relation to the Proposed Development. Consideration of vulnerability to climate change has been included within relevant chapters of the PEIR and in further documentation supplied for planning purposes. **Appendix 5.5: Vulnerability to climate change – policy and baseline, Volume 4** provides a summary of the policy and climatic baseline relevant to the Proposed Development. Where climate change may exacerbate any potential environmental effects, it is incorporated into all relevant chapters within this PEIR, as described in **Appendix 5.5, Volume 4**. Where environmental measures for climate

PINS ID number	Scoping Opinion comment	How this is addressed in this PEIR
		change resilience have been incorporated into the design of the Proposed Development, these will be described in the Design and Access Statement and the Deemed Marine Licence at DCO Application stage.
3.3.27	The Inspectorate expects that the ES will therefore provide further detail as to the Proposed Development's potential for significant transboundary effects and to confirm which EEA States could be affected.	The approach to the assessment of transboundary effects is set out in **Section 5.11: Transboundary effects assessment**.
3.3.28	A Reference List A reference list detailing the sources used for the descriptions and assessments must be included in the ES.	A bibliography or reference list is provided with each chapter of the PEIR.
3.5.2	Where documents are intended to remain confidential the Applicant should provide these as separate electronic documents with their confidential nature clearly indicated in the title and watermarked as such on each page. The information should not be incorporated within other documents that are intended for publication or which the Inspectorate would be required to disclose under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.	No confidential documents are to be provided within this PEIR. Information within the ES which is required to be confidential will be clearly marked and produced as separate documents.
4.1.6	Cumulative effects – sediment transport regime (Coastal processes) The Scoping Report does not address the likelihood of the potential impacts to the sediment transport regime to act cumulatively with other developments and/or infrastructure (including the Aquind interconnector). The ES should	The ES will include an assessment of the cumulative impacts on the sediment transport regime where significant effects are likely to occur. Please refer to **Chapter 6: Coastal processes**.

PINS ID number	Scoping Opinion comment	How this is addressed in this PEIR
	include an assessment of the cumulative impacts on the sediment transport regime where significant effects are likely to occur.	
4.6.10	Cumulative assessment study area and scope (Marine mammals) The Applicant's proposed assessment of cumulative effects on marine mammals does not make specific reference to the study area(s) (which is still to be defined) for each species. Paragraphs 5.7.36 – 5.7.38 explain that the study area for cumulative effects remains "to be defined through evidence of potential connectivity". There is no specific reference to spatial and temporal overlap between construction of the Proposed Development and the Aquind interconnector and the operation and maintenance activities associated with Rampion 1. These matters should be assessed in the ES where significant effects are likely.	Consideration of cumulative effects is presented within **Chapter 11: Marine Mammals**, **Section 11.12**, with inclusion of all relevant projects informed based on the study areas (as detailed in **Section 11.6**).
4.7.7	Cumulative effects (Offshore Ornithology) The ES should contain details of other developments assessed in the cumulative effects assessment. Given the far-ranging nature of breeding and migratory birds, justification should be provided as to the spatial and temporal extent of the other projects considered.	Cumulative effects are assessed in **Chapter 12: Offshore and intertidal ornithology**, **Section 12.15**. Full justification is given for the spatial and temporal extent of the other developments considered.
4.8.5	Cumulative effects: UXO (Underwater noise) The possible modelling of noise from UXO is not referenced in this section. Elsewhere in the Scoping Report there is reference to UXO surveys yet to be conducted and that UXO removal may be required. The ES should therefore consider the potential for UXO underwater noise impacts of the Proposed Development where significant effects are likely to	Underwater noise impacts are considered across the relevant marine ecology aspect chapters including **Chapter 11: Marine mammals, Chapter 8: Fish and shellfish ecology** and **Chapter 9: Benthic subtidal and intertidal ecology.**

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	occur (including cumulative effects with other underwater noise producing activities).	
4.9.5	Cumulative effects: Marine aggregate dredging areas (Shipping and navigation) The ES should explain how the assessment has factored in shipping and navigation effects on the nine marine aggregate dredging areas intersecting the study area. It is unclear if such effects are to be considered part of the 'baseline' conditions or whether a future baseline is required accounting for changes in dredging activity. Such effects may also need to be considered as part of the cumulative effects assessment of combined effects of the Proposed Development and aggregate activity on other receptors. The Inspectorate notes the Applicant's identification of a "significant marine aggregate dredging route…within the north-west of the study area" in this regard.	Consultation with marine aggregate dredging stakeholders has been undertaken and marine aggregate dredgers have been considered as a receptor in the impact assessment, both for the assessment of Rampion 2 in isolation and as part of the CEA. The preliminary assessment (which includes consideration of marine aggregate dredgers) is provided in **Chapter 13: Shipping and navigation**, **Section 13.9**, **Section 13.10** and **Section 13.11**.
5.1.9	Cumulative effects: Impacts of the substation (Landscape and Visual Amenity) The proposed substation location is identified as being 'near to' the existing Bolney substation. With approximate dimensions of 300m x 150m x 15m, the effects on landscape and visual amenity of this new structure by itself and any cumulative impacts with the existing substation and other existing or proposed structures, should be assessed in the ES.	Details on the maximum assessment assumptions of the onshore proposed new substation are provided in **Chapter 4.** Cumulative effects on landscape and visual amenity are considered in **Chapter 19: Landscape and visual amenity**.
5.1.12	Cumulative assessment (Landscape and Visual Amenity) The ES should include all different types of development which may lead to a cumulative impact, not just those which are similar in nature to the Proposed	The approach to the CEA and cumulative developments included in the PEIR are reported in **Chapter 5:**

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	Development. Details of agreements with relevant consultation bodies as to the scope of projects to be included should be presented as part of the ES.	**Approach to the EIA, Section 5.10** and **Appendix 5.4: Cumulative effects assessment shortlisted developments, Volume 4**.

5.14 Glossary of terms and abbreviations

Table 5-9 Glossary of terms and abbreviations

Term (acronym)	Definition
Aspect	Used to refer to the individual environmental topics.
Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM)	International membership organisation for ecology and environmental management professionals.
Cumulative Effects Assessment (CEA)	Assessment of impacts as a result of the incremental changes caused by other past, present and reasonably foreseeable human activities and natural processes together with the Proposed Development.
Development Consent Order (DCO)	This is the means of obtaining permission for developments categorised as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects, under the Planning Act 2008.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	The process of evaluating the likely significant environmental effects of a proposed project or development over and above the existing circumstances (or 'baseline').
Environmental Statement (ES)	The written output presenting the full findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment.
European Economic Area (EEA)	Member States of the European Union (EU) and three countries of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway; excluding Switzerland)
Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD)	An engineering technique avoiding open trenches.
Institute of Environmental management and Assessment (IEMA)	International membership organisation for environment and sustainability professionals.
Maximum Design Scenario (MDS)	The maximum design scenario represents the worst case scenario for each aspect whilst allowing the flexibility to make improvements in the future in ways that cannot be

Term (acronym)	Definition
	predicted at the time of submission of the DCO Application.
Mean High Water Springs (MHWS)	The average throughout the year, of two successive high waters, during a 24-hour period in each month when the range of the tide is at its greatest.
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)	The Government department responsible for housing supply, public services and local planning.
National Infrastructure Commission (NIC)	The Commission carries out in-depth studies into the UK's major infrastructure needs and makes recommendations to the government.
Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP)	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects are major infrastructure developments in England and Wales that bypass normal local planning requirements. These include proposals for renewable energy projects.
Planning Inspectorate (PINS)	The Planning Inspectorate deals with planning appeals, national infrastructure planning applications, examinations of local plans and other planning-related and specialist casework in England and Wales.
Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)	The written output of the Environmental Impact Assessment undertaken to date for the Proposed Development. It is developed to support public consultation and presents the preliminary findings of the assessment to allow an informed view to be developed of the Proposed Development, the assessment approach that has been undertaken, draw preliminary conclusions on the likely significant effects of the Proposed Development and environmental measures proposed.
Proposed Development/ Rampion 2	The onshore and offshore infrastructure associated with the offshore wind farm comprising of installed capacity of up to 1,200MW, located in the English Channel in the south of England.
Secretary of State (SoS)	The body who makes the decision to grant development consent.

Term (acronym)	Definition
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Sites designated at the national level under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). They are a series of sites that are designated to protect the best examples of significant natural habitats and populations of species.
WTG	Wind turbine generator

5.15 References

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