
**THREE OAKS RENEWABLE
ENERGY PARK
EXTENSION**

**Environmental
Statement Chapter 1:
Introduction**

MAY 2026



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1 Introduction

- 1.1 Three Oaks REP Extension Ltd (the Applicant) is applying to East Riding of Yorkshire Council (the Council) to construct, operate, maintain and decommission a wind farm development (along with associated development), to be known as the Three Oaks Renewable Energy Park Extension (hereafter referred to as the 'Proposed Development'). It would have an export capacity of 25.2 megawatts (MW) with a proposed operating lifetime of 40 years.

Proposed Development

- 1.2 The Proposed Development (during operation) would comprise of the following elements:

- Wind turbines;
- Wind turbine foundations;
- Crane hardstandings;
- Met mast;
- Site access and maintenance tracks;
- Transformers;
- Cabling;
- Temporary construction compounds;
- Mitigation and Enhancement; and
- The substation and access tracks from the adjacent and consented (yet to be built) Three Oaks Renewable Energy Park (planning reference 22/02777/STPLF).

- 1.3 The Proposed Development would rely on access tracks and the substation within the consented (but yet to be built) Three Oaks Renewable Energy Park (with planning reference 22/02777/STPLF), which is located on land immediately east of, and partially surrounding (at proposed turbine 6) the Proposed Development. Cables from the turbines within the Proposed Development would generally be routed alongside site tracks to the substation, other than from T3 (the north-westernmost turbine), where cables would be routed south through a dedicated cable trench of 343 m (approximately 1 m wide and 1 m deep) to the consented substation (see Figure 2.3 (Indicative Contextual Site Layout Plan) – Volume 3). The Application Boundary for the Proposed Development therefore incorporates these consented elements.

- 1.4 Further information on the Proposed Development can be found in Chapter 2 (Project and Site Description) – Volume 2 of this Environmental Statement (ES), and is shown on Figure 2.2 (Indicative Site Layout Plan) – Volume 3, and Figure 2.3 (Indicative Contextual Site Layout Plan) – Volume 3.

The Applicant

- 1.5 The Applicant is a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) owned by Ridge Clean Energy Ltd (RCE). RCE is a UK based clean energy company whose team has extensive experience developing, constructing and operating clean energy projects across the UK, including solar, wind, and associated infrastructure. RCE's ethos is centred around community engagement and support throughout the lifetime of the project, creating an enduring and meaningful local impact.

EIA Development

- 1.6 The Proposed Development is considered to fall within Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (hereafter referred to as the 'EIA Regulations'). Wind turbines fall under Schedule 2 Category 3(i) – "*Installations for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (wind farms)*", with the Proposed Development exceeding the thresholds set of 2 or more turbines, and being of greater than 15 m in height.
- 1.7 A Pre-Application Advice Request was sought from the Council in August 2025, which confirmed that the Applicant would volunteer to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), and that a Request for a Screening Opinion would not be sought.
- 1.8 Schedule 4 of the EIA Regulations sets out the information required to be included within the ES. Table 4.1 in Chapter 4 (EIA Assessment Methodology) – Volume 2 identifies where this required information can be found within the ES.
- 1.9 Regulation 18 (5) of the EIA Regulations requires that, to ensure completeness and quality of Environmental Statements:
- (a) the developer must ensure that the environmental statement is prepared by competent experts; and*
- (b) the environmental statement must be accompanied by a statement from the developer outlining the relevant expertise or qualifications of such experts.*
- 1.10 Such a statement is included in Appendix 1.1 (Statement of Expertise) – Volume 4.

The Scope of the EIA

- 1.11 The scope of this EIA was proposed through a Pre-Application Advice Request – see Appendix 1.2 (Pre-Application Consultation Report) – Volume 4, submitted to the Council on 7th August 2025, who provided a response on 24th December 2025 – see Appendix 1.3 (ERoY Pre-Application Response) – Volume 4, which raised no objection or issue with the proposed scope. The Council's responses have been considered during the EIA process and are addressed as reported in this ES.

The Structure of this ES

- 1.12 This ES has been structured to inform about the Proposed Development, the environmental information, assessment methodologies and the findings of the EIA. It has been split into the following volumes:
- **Volume 1** – Non-Technical Summary;
 - **Volume 2** – Main Text (this volume);
 - **Volume 3** – Non-LVIA Figures;
 - **Volume 3a** – LVIA Figures; and
 - **Volume 4** – Appendices.

1.13 This ES Main Text is structured as follows:

- **Chapter 1** comprises an overview of the Proposed Development and a description of the Applicant;
- **Chapter 2** provides a description of the Proposed Development, the Site and surrounding area;
- **Chapter 3** provides a description of the reasonable alternatives which have been considered to date, including evolution of the site design;
- **Chapter 4** provides a description of the methodology employed in the undertaking of the EIA for the Proposed Development;
- **Chapters 5 – 12** provide a description of the findings of the EIA process for each environmental topic considered. These topics are as follows:
 - **Chapter 5** – Landscape and Visual Impact (LVIA);
 - **Chapter 6** – Historic Environment;
 - **Chapter 7** – Biodiversity;
 - **Chapter 8** – Traffic and Transport;
 - **Chapter 9** – Noise and Vibration;
 - **Chapter 10** – Other Considerations;
 - Electromagnetic Interference (EMI)
 - Shadow Flicker
 - Aviation
 - Soil Resource and Land Take
 - Climate
 - Economics
 - Tourism
 - Waste and Hazardous Materials
 - Accidents and Disasters
 - Hydrology and Flood Risk
 - Air Quality
 - Lighting
 - Heat and Radiation
 - Human Health
 - **Chapter 11** – Summary of Significant Findings and In-combination Effects;
 - **Chapter 12** – Schedule of Mitigation; and
 - **Chapter 13** – Glossary of Acronyms.

The Project Team

1.14 This ES has been compiled by RCE on behalf of the Applicant, supported by a suite of discipline specific specialists as outlined in Table 1.1 below.

Table 1.1 – Applicant and Specialist Consultancy Team

Position	Company
EIA Coordination	Ridge Clean Energy Ltd
Planning Lead	DBPlanning
LVIA	H:B:A Environment
Biodiversity	Ecology Consulting
Noise and Vibration	Ion Acoustics
Heritage	York Archaeology
Traffic and Transport	TTC
Disciplines scoped out of detailed assessment:	
EMI, Telecommunications and Shadow Flicker	Pager Power
Aviation	Dunnock Ltd
Carbon Balance	Gondolin
Economic	BiGGAR Economics

- 1.15 Appendix 1.1 (Statement of Expertise) – Volume 4 is a statement outlining the relevant expertise and qualifications of the team which has undertaken the EIA and contributed to this ES, demonstrating compliance with the EIA Regulations.

Other Documentation

- 1.16 This ES forms part of a suite of documents submitted in support of the planning application. The other documents accompanying this application are listed below:
- Planning Statement;
 - Design and Access Statement;
 - Flood Risk Assessment; and
 - Statement of Community Involvement.

Policy Framework

- 1.17 Section 38(6) of the Planning and compulsory Purchase Act 2004 indicates that the statutory Development Plan will continue to be the starting point for the consideration of a planning application for the development or use of land, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
- 1.18 The adopted Development Plan comprises:
- East Riding Local Plan Update 2020 – 2039 – Strategy Document Update (April 2025); and
 - East Riding Local Plan Update 2020 – 2039 – Allocations Document Update (April 2025).

- 1.19 The following policies are of relevance to the consideration of the application:
- S1 – Sustainable Development;
 - S2 – Addressing Climate Change;
 - S9 – Strengthening Blue/Green Infrastructure;
 - EC5 – Supporting the Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Sector;
 - ENV1 – Integrating High Quality Design;
 - ENV2 – Promoting High Quality Landscape;
 - ENV3 – Valuing our Heritage;
 - ENV4 – International, National, and Local Sites of Importance for Biodiversity;
 - ENV5 – Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity;
 - ENV6 – Managing Environmental Hazards; and
 - A2 – Bridlington Coastal sub area.
- 1.20 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (updated in December 2024) is a significant material consideration in the consideration of a planning decision. The National Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) is also a consideration within the decision making process.
- 1.21 Paragraph 5 of NPPF confirms that the National Policy Statements (“NPSs”) form part of the overall framework of national planning policy and may be a material consideration in preparing plans and making decisions on planning applications. These include:
- Overarching National Policy Statement of Energy (EN-1); and
 - National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3).
- 1.22 The NPSs were updated in December 2025 following public consultation in summer 2025 to ensure that they reflect the government’s energy priorities.
- 1.23 For further information, please see the Planning Statement which accompanies this ES.