
**THREE OAKS RENEWABLE
ENERGY PARK
EXTENSION**

**Environmental
Statement Chapter 4: EIA
Assessment Methodology**

MAY 2026



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4 EIA Assessment Methodology

Introduction

- 4.1 This chapter sets out the methodology which has been followed in undertaking the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) as reported in this Environmental Statement (ES). It describes the EIA process, outlines consultation undertaken and how the scope of the assessment has been defined. The steps in undertaking the EIA are described in detail, including:

- The consultation undertaken;
- Assessment methodology and significance criteria used;
- Assumptions and limitations used;
- How inter and intra project cumulative impacts have been taken into account;
- The approach to defining mitigation measures; and
- How residual effects (after mitigation) are taken into account.

EIA Requirements

- 4.2 Schedule 4 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (hereafter referred to as the Regulations) sets out the information which is to be included in the ES. Table 4.1 below identifies where the information as required by Schedule 4 can be found within this ES.

Table 4.1 – EIA Requirements

Specified Information	Location within this ES
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; (d) an estimate, by type and quantity, of expected residues and emissions (such as water, air, soil and subsoil pollution, noise, vibration, light, heat, radiation and quantities and types of waste produced during the construction and operation phases.	Chapter 1 (Introduction) - Volume 2. Chapter 2 (Project and Site Description) - Volume 2. Chapter 9 (Noise and Vibration) - Volume 2. Chapter 10 (Other Considerations) - Volume 2.
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 relevant to the proposed project and its specific characteristics, and an indication of the main reasons for selecting the chosen option, including a comparison of the environmental effects.	Chapter 3 (Site Selection, Design Evolution and Alternatives) - Volume 2.

Specified Information	Location within this ES
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 reasonably assessed based on available environmental information and scientific knowledge.	Chapters 4 – 9, Volume 2.
4. A description of the factors specified in regulation 4(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.	Chapter 2 (Project and Site Description) - Volume 2. Chapters 5 to 11, Volume 2. See Table 4.2 below for further information.
5. A description of the likely significant effects of the development on the environment resulting from, inter alia: (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; (g) the technologies and the substances used. The description of the likely significant effects on the factors specified in regulation 4(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 United Kingdom level which are relevant to the project, including in particular those established under Council Directive 92/43/EEC and Directive 2009/147/ EC.	Chapters 5 to 11, Volume 2.
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.	Chapters 5 to 10, Volume 2.
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	Chapters 5 to 10, Volume 2.

Specified Information	Location within this ES
arrangements (for example the preparation 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 retained EU law such as any law that implemented] Directive 2012/18/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council or Council Directive 2009/71/Euratom or UK environmental assessments may be used for this purpose provided that the requirements of any law that implemented] 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.	Chapter 10, Volume 2.
9. A non-technical summary of the information provided under paragraphs 1 to 8.	Non-Technical Summary, Volume 1.
10. A reference list detailing the sources used for the descriptions and assessments included in the environmental statement.	Chapters 5 to 10, Volume 2.

Consultation

- 4.3 Three Oaks REP Extension Ltd (The Applicant) has undertaken a range of consultations to inform the scope and content of the EIA for the Three Oaks Renewable Energy Park Extension (the Proposed Development), involving both technical and non-technical consultees.
- 4.4 Three public exhibitions were held at local venues:
- Burton Agnes on 14th July 2025;
 - Carnaby 15th July 2025; and
 - Rudston 16th July 2025.
- 4.5 Exhibition boards providing information on the Proposed Development infrastructure, timeline, environmental assessments and predicted views were shown. This enabled the Applicant to explain the rationale and key objectives of the Proposed Development and provided the community with the opportunity to submit feedback early in the process. Further information can be found in the accompanying Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).
- 4.6 Further correspondence was also undertaken by the Applicant, who approached:
- Parish Councils;
 - East Wold and Coastal Ward Councillors;
 - Bridlington Central and Old Town Ward Councillors;
 - East Riding Food Poverty Alliance;
 - East Riding Community Transport;

- Burton Agnes Primary School; and
- Beacon Benefice.

4.7 Further information can be found in the accompanying SCI.

4.8 The Applicant also engaged with East Riding of Yorkshire Council (the Council) in a formal Pre-Application process (25/10744/STPREP), supplemented with a planning performance agreement, to allow meaningful engagement and collaboration with statutory advisors. A Pre-Application Advice Request – see Appendix 1.2 (Pre-Application Consultation Report) – Volume 4, was 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.

4.9 The Council's responses have been considered during the EIA process and are addressed as reported in this ES.

4.10 Furthermore, consultation was undertaken with the representatives of the Council and other bodies, as described below:

- Representatives of the Council and the Applicant liaised via a virtual meeting held (August 2025) followed by a visit to the Site and surrounding area (August 2025);
- The Council's independent landscape and visual impact consultant (November and December 2025, February and March 2026) in relation to methodology and viewpoint location agreement, see Chapter 5 (Landscape and Visual Impact) – Volume 2 for further information;
- The Council's Development Management Archaeologist (December 2025) in relation to the archaeological desk based assessment and agreement on archaeological trial trenching being secured with a pre-commencement condition, see Chapter 6 (Historic Environment) – Volume 2 for further information;
- The Council's, and Hull City Council's Abnormal Load Teams – (2025/2026) in relation to the abnormal loads routing, see Chapter 8 (Traffic and Transport) – Volume 2 for further information;
- The Council's Environmental Control Officer (September 2025) in relation of the proposed noise monitoring locations, see Chapter 9 (Noise and Vibration) – Volume 2 for further information; and
- Electromagnetic Interference consultation was undertaken with link operators (Airwave, Arquiva, Atkins, BT, JRC, MBNL, MLL Telecom, Virgin Media O2 and Vodafone), see Chapter 10 (Other Considerations) – Volume 2 for further information.

Scope of Detailed Assessments

4.11 The Proposed Development is a 'Schedule 2' development under the Regulations, and the Applicant volunteered to undertake an EIA, as reported in this ES. Due to information previously gathered on the site and locality through the consented Three Oaks Renewable Energy Park (22/02777/STPLF), situated on land adjacent to and surrounding the Proposed Development, and utilising the Applicant and topic specialist advisor's prior experience in the wind sector, no formal EIA Scoping Opinion was requested. EIA Scoping is not a mandatory process under the Regulations.

- 4.12 As identified above, during the formal Pre-Application process the Applicant suggested which environmental topics would be scoped in to the EIA (LVIA, Historic Environment, Biodiversity, Access and Transport, Noise and Vibration, EMI, Aviation, Shadow Flicker, Cumulative Effects and In-Combination Effects). The pre-application response did not object to the suggested scope and thus has been taken forward into the EIA as reported in this ES.
- 4.13 Notwithstanding, all environmental topics as listed within the EIA Regulations have been given consideration within this ES. Table 4.2 below identifies the location of environmental topics and whether they are scoped in for detailed assessment, or scoped out of a detailed assessment, however considered through proportionate appraisal.

Table 4.2 – Environmental topic, location and scoped in or out of detailed assessment

Environmental Topic	Scoped in or out of detailed assessment	Assessment consideration	Location within this ES
Population & Human Health	Out – however proportionate consideration has been given to this topic.	Indirectly assessed via Residential Visual Amenity Assessment, Shadow Flicker, Noise and Vibration and Air Quality.	Chapter 10 (Other Considerations) – Volume 2.
Biodiversity	In.	Detailed assessment.	Chapter 7 (Biodiversity) – Volume 2.
Land (land take)	Out – however proportionate consideration has been given to this topic.	Considered within Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) appraisal.	Chapter 10 (Other Considerations) - Volume 2.
Soil	Out – however proportionate consideration has been given to this topic.	Mitigation considered.	Chapter 10 (Other Considerations) – Volume 2. Appendix 2.1 – (Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan) – Volume 4.
Water	Out – however proportionate consideration has been given to this topic.	Proportionate appraisal.	Chapter 10 (Other Considerations) Volume 2. Appendix 8.6 (Surface Water Drainage Strategy) – Volume 4.
Air	Out – however proportionate consideration has been	Mitigation considered.	Appendix 2.1 – (Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan) – Volume 4.

Environmental Topic	Scoped in or out of detailed assessment	Assessment consideration	Location within this ES
	given to this topic.		Chapter 10 (Other Considerations) – Volume 2.
Climate	Out – however proportionate consideration has been given to this topic.	Proportionate appraisal.	Baseline sections of Chapter 5 – 9 – Volume 2. Chapter 10 (Other Considerations) – Volume 2.
Material Assets & Cultural Heritage	In.	Detailed assessment.	Chapter 6 (Historic Environment) – Volume 2.

Assessment Reporting

- 4.14 This section provides an overview of the processes undertaken within environmental topics scoped in for detailed assessment (see Table 4.2 above), following the technical structure of ES chapters 5-9.

1 – Consultation

- 4.15 Paragraphs 4.3 to 4.10 above provide a high level overview of the consultation undertaken by the Applicant and their team. However, the consultation section of Chapters 5-9 (and Chapter 10 where relevant) provide more detail of the consultation undertaken specific to that environmental discipline, including a summary of the points raised by the consultee and the topic author's response.

2 – Legislation, Policy, Guidance and Standards

- 4.16 This section of chapters 5-9 summarise the relevant legislation, policy, guidance and standards that are relevant to, and have shaped or informed the reporting associated with each environmental topic. No assessment of compliance against policy is undertaken within this ES, however this is undertaken within the Planning Statement which accompanies this application for planning permission.

3 – Assessment Methodology and Significance Criteria

- 4.17 This section of chapter 5-9 provides detail on how each assessment has been undertaken. It is for each technical discipline to outline the methodology and significance criteria that is relevant for its own assessment, defined by discipline specific guidance and criteria.

- 4.18 In accordance with the EIA Regulations, the likely significant effects arising from the Proposed Development, taking account of construction, operational and decommissioning stages have been identified, assessed and reported in this ES.
- 4.19 A study area that is appropriate for each assessment topic is identified which takes into consideration the surrounding context and the scale and range of likely significant effects. Confirmation of the study area for each assessment topic is set out in the respective topic chapter.
- 4.20 The following assessments have been undertaken:
- An assessment of construction impacts – the assessments have determined what the reasonable worst case scenario would be within each topic specific chapter and considered the impacts arising in relation to the sensitive receptors which have been identified before likely significant effects are identified;
 - An assessment of operational impacts – likely significant effects associated with the operation of the Proposed Development. The anticipated life of the operational development is up to 40 years; and
 - An assessment of decommissioning impacts – generally, the impacts from decommissioning are considered to be no greater than that of construction, and technical assessments reported in this ES include specific consideration to predicted impacts arising from the decommissioning phase.

Secondary Effects

- 4.21 Within the pre-application submission, no off-site improvement/mitigation works were identified. Since this time, it has been identified that there may be off-site works necessary, including works along the Abnormal Loads access route (see Appendix 8.3 (Abnormal Indivisible Loads Assessment) – Volume 4 for route description, details and swept path analysis). Such works would be subject to a separate approval process which would be subject to its own protocols to understand any environmental impacts. Appendix 8.7 (Environmental Consideration of Abnormal Indivisible Loads) - Volume 4 provides proportionate consideration in relation to off site landscape and visual effects, as well as biodiversity effects from delivery of abnormal loads.

Significance

- 4.22 Significance criteria have been used to help understand, evaluate and quantify the likely significant environmental effects which may be positive (beneficial) or negative (adverse).
- 4.23 An effect is typically the product of two factors, the value or sensitivity of the environmental resource affected and the magnitude of the impact, while consideration may also need to be given to the likelihood of an effect occurring. All effects are considered by the determining authority through the decision making process, however depending on the grade of that effect, each would be defined as being either 'significant' or 'not significant' against the EIA Regulations.
- 4.24 Specific criteria to determine whether effects are significant or not have been prepared as appropriate for, and reported within, each specialist topic chapter. However, Table 4.3 below provides a generic effect table which outlines typical grading of effect (from Negligible to

Substantial) and whether those effects would broadly be considered as significant in the context of the EIA Regulations.

Table 4.3 – Typical gradings of effect, and their significance

	Significance level	Criteria
Significant	Substantial	These effects are generally, but not exclusively, associated with sites and features of national or regional importance. A change at a district scale site or feature may also enter this category.
	Major	These effects are likely to be important considerations at a local or district scale.
Potentially Significant	Moderate	These effects are usually important at a local scale.
Not significant	Minor	These effects may be raised as local issues. Nevertheless, they are of relevance in enhancing the subsequent design of the project and consideration of mitigation and/or compensation measures.
	Negligible	Either no effect or an effect which is beneath the level of perception, within normal bounds of variation or within the margin of forecasting error.

- 4.25 Professional judgement is applied to all effects when determining which are significant or not, particularly 'moderate' which can, following appropriate consideration, be defined as either significant or not significant in the context of the EIA Regulations.
- 4.26 Where relevant, effects have also been described as direct/indirect, short/medium or long term and temporary or permanent in technical chapters 5 – 9 of this ES.
- 4.27 For some environmental topics within this ES, methodologies and significance criteria may need to differ from the above depending on the topic assessment and specific relevant industry guidance. Each topic chapter in this ES clearly identifies and explains the assessment methodology and criteria used.
- 4.28 A view on the acceptability of the Proposed Development in policy terms is provided in the accompanying Planning Statement. With regards to this, it must be noted that a significant adverse effect does not mean a proposal should be found unacceptable in policy terms. In addition, significant effects can also be positive as well as negative. Each chapter within this ES assesses impacts related to each stage of the development where scoped in: thus, the construction, operation and decommissioning stages have been considered.

4 – Assumptions and Limitations

- 4.29 The prediction of future effects inevitably involves a degree of uncertainty. Within each topic chapter of this ES, in accordance with Schedule 4 (6) of the EIA Regulations, any difficulties that have been encountered in undertaking the assessment to date are reported and considered.

5 – Baseline Conditions and Receptors

Baseline Conditions

- 4.30 In undertaking an EIA for any project, Schedule 4, Paragraph 3 of the EIA Regulations requires applicants to provide
- “a description of the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment (baseline scenario)”.*
- 4.31 For each environmental topic, this involved forming an understanding of the environmental receptors (e.g. their sensitivity) in an area and the developments that are already affecting those receptors at the time of the assessment. This allows any future baseline conditions to be determined and the likely significant effects of the Proposed Development to be compared and/or combined with the baseline in order to ensure an informed assessment is made of the potential effects of a project. Furthermore, it allows the identification of the most appropriate mitigation which could be employed to minimise identified likely significant adverse effects.
- 4.32 A range of environmental baseline data is then gathered from a combination of sources in respect of each study area. This includes:
- Desk based studies;
 - Site visits and surveys;
 - Review of existing site-specific information or public literature;
 - Modelling;
 - Review of relevant national and local planning policies; and
 - Consultation with relevant statutory and non-statutory consultees and the public.
- 4.33 The studies, surveys, analysis and evaluations that informed assessments as reported in chapters 5-10 of this ES are summarised in Table 4.4 (further detail is provided in each topic chapter):

Table 4.4 – Studies, Surveys, Analysis and Evaluations

Discipline	Activity	Date
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment	Review of legislation, policy guidance	November to March 2025.
	Desktop study	November 2025 to submission.
	Field work and assessments	November 2025 to submission.
	Photography for visualisations	March – November 2025.
	Production of visualisations	January/February 2026.
	Walkover Surveys	May 2025

Discipline	Activity	Date
Historic Environment	Geophysical survey	September 2025
Biodiversity	Extended Phase 1 Habitat and Preliminary Ecological Appraisal	September 2020, June 2022, July 2024.
	Bat surveys (roost potential, ground level activity, automated ground level surveys, static detectors)	April – September 2020 and 2024.
	Badger surveys	September 2020, June 2022, July 2024.
	Bird flight activity (Vantage Point)	Breeding season, April to August 2020 – 36 hours/VP and April to August 2024 – 36 hours/VP. Autumn/winter, September to March 2019-20 – 42 hours, and September to March 2024-25 – 24 hours.
	Core breeding bird walkover	2020 – four visits April to July, and 2024 – six visits April to July.
	Species specific Breeding Bird surveys (Wider Area)	April to August 2020 and 2024.
	Wintering bird field surveys	Fourteen surveys were undertaken at approximately fortnightly intervals between September and March 2019-20 and 2024-25.
Traffic and Transport	Desk based assessment of traffic network and routes	September 2025 to submission.
	Review of Department for Transport (DfT) annual average daily traffic count locations/dates	September 2025 to submission.
	ATC counts	September 2025.
	Review of accident records	September 2025 to submission.
	Highway design and junction improvement works	September 2025 to submission.
	Drainage strategy	September 2025 to submission.
	Abnormal load consultation and routing	September 2025 to submission.

Discipline	Activity	Date
	Construction Traffic Management Plan	November 2025 to submission.
	Site visit	January 2026.
Noise and Vibration	Baseline noise survey, including SODAR survey	October/November 2025.
Electromagnetic Interference	Consultation with link operators	September – December 2025.
Shadow Flicker	Desk based review of receptors	January 2026.
Climate	Carbon Calculator inputs	February 2026.

- 4.34 Throughout this ES, the origin of any 3rd party data, dates of surveys and dates for accessing information as relevant have been outlined in the relevant topic chapters.

Sensitive Receptors

- 4.35 Schedule 4, Paragraph 4 of the EIA Regulations states that an ES should include:

“a description of the factors specified in Regulation 4(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 adaption), material assets, cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological aspects, and landscape.”

- 4.36 In accordance with the EIA Regulations, the aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected by the Proposed Development have been identified and set out within chapters 5 – 9 of this ES. Topics scoped out of detailed assessment due to a lack of likely significant effects, are included within Chapter 10 (Other Considerations) – Volume 2.

6 – Baseline Evolution

- 4.37 As required by Schedule 4, Paragraph 3 of the EIA Regulations, an ES should include:

“...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 availability of environmental information and scientific knowledge.”

- 4.38 Environmental topics scoped in for detailed assessment proportionately outline the likely evolution of the identified baseline without implementation of the development (as far as natural changes can be assessed with reasonable effort on the basis of the availability of environmental information and scientific knowledge). Appendix 4.1 (Climate Projections) – Volume 4 uses UKCP18 probabilistic projection maps for the relevant 25 km square surrounding the Proposed Development to identify the likely influence of climate change on current climatic conditions.

- 4.39 This data has been used within Chapter 5 (LVIA) – Volume 2, Chapter 6 (Historic Environment) – Volume 2, and Chapter 7 (Biodiversity) – Volume 2 to consider how the observed baseline conditions could evolve and whether this could affect identified assessment results. Baselines for Chapters 8 (Traffic and Transport) – Volume 2 and Chapter 9 (Noise and Vibration) – Volume 2 are not considered to be materially affected by the data.

7 – Primary and Tertiary Mitigation

- 4.40 In the hierarchy of mitigation, likely significant adverse effects should, in the first instance, be avoided. Where this is not possible, they should be reduced, mitigated and then finally offset. Such effects are best avoided by incorporating appropriate mitigation measures into the design process. As such, the iterative nature of the EIA process has assisted in informing the development of the final design of the Proposed Development.
- 4.41 Initial assessments within chapters 5-9 will identify and account for relevant primary and tertiary mitigation measures:
- Primary mitigation – those designed into the scheme which would be inherently delivered as part of the planning consent without requiring further work to secure; and
 - Tertiary mitigation – essential mitigation required to address what would otherwise be unacceptable impacts in other regimes (such as water pollution prevention measures).

8 – Assessment of Effects

- 4.42 Having set out the above information, and taking account of primary and tertiary mitigation, environmental disciplines will then report the findings of the assessment undertaken, considering the magnitude of impact with the sensitivity of receptors, to identify the effect for the construction, operation and decommissioning phases. Each effect will then be identified as being either Significant or Not Significant in relation to the EIA Regulations.
- 4.43 Table 4.3 above provides a generic effect table which outlines typical grading of effect (from Negligible to Substantial) and whether those effects would broadly be considered as significant in the context of the EIA Regulations.
- 4.44 For some environmental topics within this ES, methodologies and significance criteria may need to differ depending on the topic assessment and specific relevant industry guidance. Each topic chapter in this ES clearly identifies and explains the assessment methodology and criteria used.

9 – Secondary Mitigation

- 4.45 Where an effect remains (significant or otherwise) after the application of primary and tertiary mitigation, each chapter will consider the available and relevant secondary mitigation, defined as that which would require further work beyond the consenting of the scheme to be secured.

10 – Assessment of Residual Effects

- 4.46 Taking account of secondary mitigation, environmental disciplines will then report the residual effects from the Proposed Development relevant to that discipline. Each residual effect will then be identified as being either Significant or Not Significant in relation to the EIA Regulations.

Monitoring

- 4.47 Where necessary, monitoring arrangements and how they would be secured (such as to verify the effectiveness of proposed mitigation measures), are outlined within each chapter.

11 – Cumulative Effects (Inter-project)

- 4.48 The EIA Regulations require an ES to include consideration of likely significant effects resulting from the cumulation of impacts where a common receptor could be affected by the influence of both the Proposed Development and reasonably foreseeable projects within a geographical area.

- 4.49 The EIA reported in this ES has adopted a staged approach to the consideration of cumulative effects. At stage 1, the Applicant prepared a long list of projects using the following data sources:

- Landstack – an online interactive database of planning applications from local authority websites updated regularly;
- Planning Inspectorate online register of projects; and
- DESNEZ Renewable Energy Planning Database: quarterly extract.

- 4.50 A cut-off date of February 2026 was applied regarding the identification of cumulative schemes to allow time for assessments to be completed and presented within this ES.

- 4.51 In line with the EIA Regulations, the search undertaken focussed on 'projects', therefore sites allocated within local plans, core strategy documents or supplementary planning documents have not been considered due to a lack of available information upon which robust consideration can be made.

- 4.52 The following areas and search criteria were used when preparing the long list, which focussed on where cumulative schemes could introduce or modify a likely significant effect:

- 0-2 km from proposed turbines:
 - Solar farms – ground mounted schemes;
 - Wind turbines – all;
 - Agricultural/commercial/industrial buildings exceeding 200 m²; and
 - Residential development, with a minimum of 8 units.
- 0-5 km from proposed turbines:
 - All projects of a pertinent scale. These schemes have been identified using professional judgement, informed by their scale, perceived impact and/or complexity. Single wind turbines were included in this category.

- 5-10 km from proposed turbines;
 - All wind turbines.
- 10-20 km from proposed wind turbines
 - All wind turbines exceeding 100 m to tip.

- 4.53 The searches were run from a mean central point within the proposed turbine coordinates, for robustness, the commensurate distance from this point to the proposed turbines was added to the search buffer, effectively running the search from the outermost turbine locations.
- 4.54 The search considered all applications which were submitted 5 years prior to the cut-off date that were identified as pending determination, approved, or refused yet the subject of an appeal. Applications for discharge of conditions or non-material amendments were not considered (as they would not materially change a submitted scheme).
- 4.55 If an application was considered to have temporal overlap with the Proposed Development (i.e., it was identified as not yet being constructed and that there was no evidence to suggest the scheme would be constructed in advance of the anticipated commencement of construction early 2028, for the Proposed Development), an assumption was then made that the scheme would be constructed and operated concurrently with the Proposed Development and thus assessed cumulatively.
- 4.56 If the scheme was identified as already being constructed, or likely to be constructed in advance of construction commencing for the Proposed Development, that application was considered within the future baseline of assessments. If a scheme's commencement deadline had passed with no obvious sign of implementation, it was discounted.
- 4.57 One scheme for two wind turbines east of the Carnaby Industrial Estate (south-east of the Proposed Development) was included despite its submission date preceding the five year search period. This scheme was identified as having been implemented despite the turbines not being erected, meaning that the possibility for these to be built at any time remained. Accordingly, this scheme was included within the cumulative long list for possible inclusion in cumulative assessments.
- 4.58 Note, two NSIPs were identified in the search areas, these were the onshore buried cabling routes for the Hornsea Four and Dogger Bank north offshore wind farm projects. Given the elements of these schemes within the search area was for the temporary construction works to bury cables, and a closest distance of 6.5 km, these schemes were not taken forward for consideration.
- 4.59 This search identified 28 cumulative projects (see Appendix 4.2 (Long List of Cumulative Development) – Volume 4) which were passed to technical specialists and authors of Chapters 5 – 9 of this ES for consideration within their cumulative assessments (stage 2). Inclusion within the long list does not automatically require a scheme to be assessed by topic chapters, rather it required topic specialists to consider whether there is a likelihood for significant cumulative effect and as such, to then to be taken forward into cumulative assessments in each chapter.
- 4.60 No overarching methodology for the assessment of cumulative effects has been applied within this ES. Rather, the cumulative methodology for each technical assessment is included within each technical chapter.

- 4.61 As the assessment of effects within Chapter 8 (Traffic and Transport) – Volume 2 focusses on local transport links rather than distance from the proposed wind turbines, a bespoke approach to the assessment of cumulative effects has been applied (as outlined with Chapter 8). Accordingly, the cumulative assessment of traffic and transport related effects does not draw solely from Appendix 4.2.
- 4.62 A proportionate and qualitative appraisal of cumulative effects for each discipline scoped out of detailed assessment is included in Chapter 10 (Other Considerations) – Volume 2.
- 4.63 The adjacent and consented Three Oaks Renewable Energy Park will be built out in advance of the commencement of construction for the Proposed Development, and therefore is considered within the future baseline section of each chapter of this ES as relevant.

12 – Summary and Conclusions

- 4.64 Chapters 5-9 will conclude with a summary of the assessment findings specific to that environmental discipline.

In-combination Effects (Intra-project)

- 4.65 Effects to the environment can result from changes caused by interactions between effects resulting from an individual development. Direct and indirect effects of the Proposed Development are reported in relevant topic chapters (chapter 5-10), which could lead to effects being reported in separate chapters but the in-combination effect on the same environmental receptor not being considered.
- 4.66 A receptor receiving multiple effects which have been individually assessed as being above the level of perceptibility (i.e. Minor or above), could still be affected significantly due to the combination of one or more other perceptible effects. For this reason, the in-combination assessment in chapter 11 considers effects from different assessments to common receptors which have been assessed as Minor (which, taken individually, is not significant in EIA terms), Moderate, Major or Substantial (or equivalent gradings as defined and reported in each chapter). Negligible (or equivalent) effects are not considered.

Transboundary Effects

- 4.67 The nature of the Proposed Development and the location of the Site are such that significant transboundary effects are not predicted for the Proposed Development, and are therefore not considered further within this ES.