



# **Galloper Wind Farm Eastern Super Grid Transformer Project**

Environmental Statement – Chapter 12 Conclusions

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Galloper Wind Farm Limited





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## **12 CONCLUSIONS**

### **12.1 Introduction**

12.1.1 This chapter provides a summary table which details the outcome of the Environmental Impact Assessment for the ESGT. The summary table sets out the potential environmental impacts of the ESGT during construction, operation, and decommissioning phases, as set out in the relevant technical chapters. The table also provides a summary of the mitigation measures proposed which will reduce adverse impacts.

### **12.2 Summary of Assessment of Potential Impacts**

12.2.1 Table 12.1 provides a summary of the significance of the potential impacts on all receptors assessed within this ES, and sets out the mitigation measures proposed to reduce adverse impacts.

**Table 12.1 Summary of impacts and mitigation**

Description of impact	Impact significance	Potential mitigation measure	Residual impact significance
<b>Landscape and Visual (see chapter 4 for further details)</b>			
<b>Construction Phase</b>			
As operational phase	As operational phase	As operational phase	As operational phase
<b>Operational Phase</b>			
Estate Sandlands - <i>Overall effects on the character area within the study area</i>	Minimal (Neutral)	No additional mitigation planting is proposed as part of the ESGT application because the existing and consented landscape framework would provide sufficient mitigation and an appropriate landscape context for the proposals.	N/A
Coastal levels - Effects on the most effected parts of the character area, and overall effects on the character area	Minimal (Neutral)		
Local roads – overall effects on local roads	Minimal (Neutral)		
Recreational routes – Sandlings Walk long distance path	Minimal (Neutral)		
Recreational routes – Bridleway on Sandy Lane	Slight (Positive)		
Recreational routes – group of PROW to the south of site	Minimal (Neutral)		
Accessible and Recreational Landscapes	Minimal (Neutral)		
Designated Landscapes and Heritage Coast – Suffolk Coast and Heaths	Minimal (positive)		

AONB			
Designated Landscapes and Heritage Coast – Suffolk Heritage Coast	Minimal (Neutral)		
<b>Decommissioning Phase</b>			
As operational phase	As operational phase	As operational phase	As operational phase
<b>Terrestrial Ecology (see chapter 5 for further details)</b>			
<b>Construction</b>			
Habitats and flora	Negligible	No specific mitigation measures are proposed in the absence of significant impact Ecological mitigation measures e.g. creation of new reptile habitat have been agreed for GWF. These measures will be of direct benefit to the ESGT	n/a
Reptiles (woodland edge within the ESGT footprint)	Minor adverse	Ecological mitigation measures e.g. creation of new reptile habitat have been agreed for GWF. These measures will be of direct benefit to the ESGT All works which could potentially cause harm to reptiles will be supervised by a suitably qualified ecologist The ESGT area will be checked for reptiles and a programme of translocation carried out if necessarily	Negligible
Bats (roosting)	No impact	No specific mitigation measures are proposed in the absence of significant impact	n/a
Bats (indirect disturbance)	Negligible	Mitigation measures agreed for GWF: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bat boxes will be put up in the retained woodland to increase the potential for the area to support roosting bats in the future.</li> <li>Lighting will be sensitive towards foraging and commuting bats.</li> <li>Tree planting which, after maturing, will offer alternative suitable habitat;</li> </ul>	Negligible
Nesting Birds	Minor adverse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vegetation clearance, including tree felling, will avoid the breeding season.</li> <li>Measures will be taken to discourage nesting within the affected</li> </ul>	Negligible

		<p>area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All clearance works will be undertaken under the supervision of an ecologist;</li> <li>Best practice noise control and management measures such as those set out in the Construction Code of Practice (see Appendix A3.1) to be implemented;</li> <li>Lighting will be sensitive towards nesting birds; and</li> <li>Bird boxes have been installed on retained trees within Sizewell Wents.</li> </ul>	
Other species of Conservation Importance	Negligible	No specific mitigation measures proposed in the absence of significant impact	No effect
<b>Operational Phase</b>			
Operational Impacts	Negligible	Lighting provision to be sensitive towards ecological receptors. Site personnel to be briefed on appropriate conduct when on site.	Negligible
<b>Decommissioning Phase</b>			
Decommissioning Impacts	As per construction	As per construction	As per construction
<b>Noise (see chapter 6 for further details)</b>			
<b>Construction Phase</b>			
Construction impacts	Negligible	Measures included in the GWF CCoP will be applied to the ESGT construction	Negligible
Construction impacts (out of normal working hours)	Significant short term	Timing will be agreed with SCDC, local residents will be informed in advance, machinery will be turned off when not in use	Significant short term
<b>Operational Phase</b>			
Operational impacts	Negligible	<p>A landscaping bund surrounding the north, south and western sides of the substation has been incorporated into the design of the GWF substation to offer additional noise attenuation.</p> <p>A noise enclosure will be fitted to the super grid transformer within the ESGT compound which will provide an insertion loss of 20dB.</p>	Negligible
<b>Decommissioning Phase</b>			
Decommissioning impacts	Negligible	n/a	Negligible

<b>Cultural Heritage (see chapter 7 for further details)</b>			
<b>Construction Phase</b>			
Direct impacts to statutory and local designations	Separating distance too great for visual interaction i.e. negligible impact	WSI established, and watching briefs; and recording of sites where disturbance is unavoidable;  An Archaeological Clerk of Works will be onsite during the Construction Phase.  Archaeological features at the site will effectively be preserved by record.	Negligible
Direct impact to archaeological resource	DBA determined archaeological resource to be of low value – i.e. negligible direct impact		Negligible
Direct impact to historic landscape	Disturb only smaller and simplified alternative to the previously consented Leiston B SGT - i.e. minor direct impact		Negligible
Indirect Impacts during construction	Potential impact will be temporary, the relevant difference between construction and operation are limited to the use of large equipment to install the ESGT components	N/A	Negligible
<b>Operational Phase</b>			
No scope for direct impacts occurring during the operation phase in the absence of excavation works.			
<b>Decommissioning Phase</b>			
Indirect impacts to statutory and local designations	As the work would take place on the same site, this potential direct	N/A	N/A
Direct impact to			



archaeological resource	impact could not be considered as being greater than, or even equal to the impacts incurred during construction		
Direct impact to historic landscape			
<b>Geology, Hydrogeology, Land Quality, and Flood Risk (see chapter 8 for further details)</b>			
<b>Construction Phase</b>			
Impact to local geology	No impact	n/a	n/a
Contamination of secondary aquifer	Minor adverse	The GWF Construction Code of Practice will be applied to the ESGT construction	Negligible
Contamination of principal aquifer (hydrogeology)	No impact	n/a	n/a
Pollution of hydrological receptors (hydrology)	Minor adverse	The GWF Construction Code of Practice will be applied to the ESGT construction	Negligible
Risks to site workers health (land quality)	Negligible	The GWF Construction Code of Practice will be applied to the ESGT construction	Negligible
Mobilisation of contaminants by rainfall (land quality)	Negligible	The GWF Construction Code of Practice will be applied to the ESGT construction	Negligible
Generation of waste materials	Negligible	n/a	n/a
Increased flood risk	Negligible	n/a	n/a
<b>Operational Phase</b>			
Geology, hydrogeology and land quality	Negligible	n/a	n/a
Pollution of hydrological receptors (hydrology)	Negligible	n/a	n/a
Flood risk and increased surface water runoff	Negligible	A drainage strategy will be implemented on the GWF site which the ESGT drainage will complement	Negligible

<b>Decommissioning Phase</b>			
As construction activities	As construction activities	As construction activities	As construction activities
Generation of waste	Minor adverse	Appropriate site waste management plan will be developed for decommissioning phase	Negligible
<b>Traffic and Transport (see chapter 9 for further details)</b>			
<b>Construction Phase</b>			
Driver delay at priority junctions	Negligible	No mitigation measures in the absence of significant effects	Negligible
Pedestrian severance – peak construction period	Minor adverse	Measures to ensure deliveries are phased to avoid unnecessary traffic congestion; Measures for preventing mud on the road Measures for avoidance of dust from traffic Measures to avoid nuisance from vehicle emissions	Minor adverse
Pedestrian severance (rest of construction)	Negligible		Negligible
Pedestrian amenity – peak construction period	Minor adverse		Negligible
Pedestrian amenity (rest of construction)	Minor adverse		Negligible
Reduction in highway safety	No impact	n/a	No impact
<b>Operational Phase</b>			
Operational impacts	No impact	n/a	n/a
<b>Decommissioning Phase</b>			
Decommissioning	Negligible	A decommissioning Traffic Management Plan will be developed in agreement with Suffolk County Council (the Highways Authority)	Negligible
<b>Air Quality (see chapter 11 for more details)</b>			
<b>Construction Phase</b>			
Construction related dust	Negligible to minor adverse	A range of environmental management controls developed with reference to the Building Research Establishment (BRE) guidance and the Greater London Authority and London Councils Best Practice Guidance. These will be detailed within the CCoP	Negligible
Construction	Negligible	A range of construction site best	Negligible

related vehicle emissions		practice, which will be detailed within the CCoP.	
<b>Operational Phase</b>			
Operational Impacts	No impact	N/A	N/A
<b>Decommissioning Phase</b>			
Construction related dust	Negligible to minor adverse	A range of environmental management controls developed with reference to the Building Research Establishment (BRE) guidance and the Greater London Authority and London Councils Best Practice Guidance. These would be monitored on site by the ECW.	Negligible

## 12.3 Cumulative Impact Assessment

- 12.3.1 Each technical chapter of the ES contains an assessment of the potential cumulative impacts and a summary is provided in Chapter 12.
- 12.3.2 The main cumulative impacts arising in connection with the ESGT relate to the consented GWF onshore site. The ESGT will be constructed within the GWF onshore site, and will mean that one of the consented substations (Leiston B) and the associated infrastructure is no longer required. Construction of the proposed ESGT instead of Leiston B will allow a large area of the Sizewell Wents woodland to be retained.
- 12.3.3 The construction periods of the ESGT and the GWF onshore site are expected to coincide and the Construction Code of Practice which has been agreed for GWF will be applied to the ESGT construction to ensure that the potential impacts of the construction period are minimised.
- 12.3.4 Overall, the ESGT will lead to a reduction in potential adverse impacts on terrestrial ecology, traffic and transport, noise, and landscape and visual when compared to the consented GWF scheme.
- 12.3.5 Other potential cumulative effects associated with the ESGT may arise from interactions with traffic associated with the Sizewell B Dry Fuel Store, and Sizewell A decommissioning. However, the peak construction period for the dry fuel store was in 2013 and traffic movements associated with Sizewell A are decreasing as the decommissioning process progresses.