



**Galloper Wind Farm Project**  
Environmental Statement Annex - Onshore Decommissioning  
Strategy  
November 2011  
Document Reference – 5.3.2

Galloper Wind Farm Limited



Document title Galloper Wind Farm Project  
Document short title Environmental Statement Annexe - Onshore  
Decommissioning Strategy  
Document Reference 5.3.2  
Regulation Reference APFP Regulations, 5(2)(a)  
Version 3  
Status Final  
Date November 2011  
Galloper Wind Farm Limited

Drafted by	Rob Gully	
Checked by	Julian Boswall	
Date/initials check	JB	08/11/2011
Approved by	Kate Harvey	
Date/initials approval	KH	14/11/2011

## 1. ONSHORE DECOMMISSIONING STRATEGY

- 1.1.1 This statement intends to capture proposals, discussions and agreements in relation to decommissioning of the onshore works for Galloper Wind Farm (GWF), with the aim of this document being the primary basis for any subsequent agreement of a decommissioning strategy in line with provisions in the Development Consent Order (DCO). In relation to the two main substation compounds, Galloper Wind Farm Limited (GWFL) has held discussions in relation to decommissioning with Suffolk Coastal District Council (SCDC), Suffolk County Council (SCC) and British Energy Generation Limited (BEGL). BEGL owns the land to the north of Sizewell Gap road which is required for the GWF. EDF Energy, a subsidiary of BEGL, is currently developing Sizewell C. As part of this development an extensive plan is being established regarding landscaping and how Sizewell C will fit in the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). This plan is called the "Sizewell Vision".
- 1.1.2 During construction, GWF will undertake earthworks to create four platforms (for 2 no. substation compounds and 2 no. sealing end compounds). The material generated by this operation will be utilised to create a landform which provides mitigation for visual impact and noise. The landform will be planted with a layout and mixture of species, in line with a subsequently approved statement, itself based on a statement with this application. A detailed landscape planting plan will need to be agreed with SCC and SCDC that is in line with the landscape mitigation statement (unless otherwise agreed in writing).
- 1.1.3 In discussions with SCDC and SCC, there was agreement that it would not be appropriate or logical to require GWFL to return the land to its original form (including surrounding earthworks) following the decommissioning of GWF. This is on the basis that the proposed landform and its associated planting are intended to form an integral part of a future 'Sizewell Vision' providing a woodland core transitioning into heathland habitat. To return the area under the landform and in the two substation compounds to its original profile on decommissioning would require the removal of the established woodland (present for a period of 20+ years). Furthermore, the platform created for both substations, whilst flat, will be entirely hidden from view once planting has established. On this basis SCDC, SCC and GWFL are also in agreement that the two substation compounds should remain unaltered on decommissioning as relatively flat level areas. No topsoil replacement is proposed in any area, as the compound platforms will be nutrient poor, meeting the requirement of the habitats that the Sizewell Vision seeks to create. However all above ground structures will be removed and foundations broken out to a minimum depth of 1m below ground level.
- 1.1.4 Subsequent discussions with EDF Energy have proposed that the inside (unplanted) face of the landform would sensibly be broken away to create a less regular edge and that additional irregular planting would be placed within the substation area to break up the regular shape. GWFL is in agreement to this approach, subject to maintaining safe gradients.

- 1.1.5 No discussions have taken place with respect to the sealing end compounds. Due to their constrained nature, there are limited opportunities for planting around the compounds and therefore GWFL proposes that it will be appropriate to reprofile these areas back to original gradients on removal of all above ground equipment, except for the replacement tower arms, and 1m depth of foundations.
- 1.1.6 All ducted and unducted onshore cables are assumed to be removed on decommissioning, although ducts would be left in-situ to minimise disruption to landowners, which would otherwise occur through their removal. This would be confirmed closer to decommissioning though. All above surface equipment and structures associated with the transition bays would be removed from site and concrete foundations removed to a depth of 1m and any subsurface chambers removed.