

Norfolk Vanguard & Norfolk Boreas Wind Farm Developments

Stage 1 Assessment Meeting

4th October 2018

The NATS logo is displayed in a white, italicized, sans-serif font. It is positioned on the right side of the slide, above the AVA logo and the text 'Documents NATS Unclassified Hub'.

NATS

The AVA logo consists of the letters 'AVA' in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font. It is located in the bottom right corner of the slide, to the left of the text 'Documents NATS Unclassified Hub'.

AVA Documents
NATS Unclassified Hub

- Statement of need
- Introduction & Background
- Current Situation
- Issues and benefits arising from proposed change
- Provisional indication of the appropriate scaling level and notes re Process Requirements
- Draft Timescales and first three planned Gateway Assessments
- Engagement & Identified Stakeholders
- Next steps

Original Statement of Need



5. Statement of Need

Please provide a brief 'Statement of Need' expressing explicitly what airspace issue or opportunity you are seeking to address. Your Statement of Need should clearly articulate the current situation, the issue (and the cause of it) to be resolved or the opportunity to be addressed along with any other factors or requirements. *

The current/existing situation:

Vattenfall is proposing substantial wind farm developments in an eastern portion of the UK FIR off of the coast of East Anglia and partly in UK airspace delegated to the Dutch ANSP, LVNL. At lower levels Helicopters operate in the area of the proposed windfarms under the control of Anglian Radar (Aberdeen airport, NATS) and LVNL, whilst at higher levels, multiple airways cross the airspace concerned.

The issue:

As part of the planning process Vattenfall has engaged with stakeholders to assess the likely impacts of these developments. One such stakeholder is NATS who have highlighted the potential effects of Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) on their ability to provide Air Traffic Services. As such NATS has lodged an objection to the planned windfarm development until such time as a suitable mitigation is established.

Action:

Vattenfall has employed NATS Services Ltd (NSL) to investigate potential impacts of the WTGs on NATS and other stakeholder operations. Preliminary investigation by NSL suggests that the Airspace Change Process (CAP1616) should be initiated in order to manage the development of airspace based mitigation options.

This project is classed as critical National infrastructure by the Department for Energy and Climate Change. As such, Vattenfall believes that the airspace change process should be initiated now so that the mitigation requirements and options can be investigated and understood prior to the project funding decision gate of Q2 2019.

Please specify the altitudes (where applicable) affected by your Statement of Need:

- ☒ Surface to below 4,000 feet
- ☒ 4,000 feet to below 7,000 feet
- ☒ 7,000 feet to below 20,000 feet
- ☒ 20,000 feet and above

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The purpose of this briefing is to inform the CAA regarding two Vattenfall wind farm developments off of the coast of East Anglia, in accordance with the CAA Airspace Change Proposal process as specified in CAP1616.

Vattenfall has conducted initial engagement with stakeholders as part of the DCO process and has received an objection from NATS on the grounds of potential interference of NATS radars from the WTGs and the subsequent impact on NATS ability to provide Air Traffic Services.

Vattenfall has engaged NATS Services Ltd to investigate the potential impact of the proposed wind farms on appropriate stakeholders (including NATS Enroute Ltd) and to provide advice for possible solutions and mitigations.

These developments are considered as Critical National Infrastructure by the Department for Energy and Climate Change, are extremely expensive to develop and necessitate a long lead time from proposal to implementation. As such Vattenfall, advised by both NATS and Osprey consider that the airspace change process as laid out in CAP1616 is the appropriate vehicle to investigate the airspace related issues surrounding these wind farm developments.

In line with CAP1616 Vattenfall has submitted a Statement of Need (see slide 3) to initiate the Airspace Change Process.

NATS has been asked to assess the operational impact of Vattenfall's project to build 3 new wind farms in the North Sea (blue portions in illustration).

- Norfolk Boreas
- Norfolk Vanguard
 - East &
 - West

Portions of these wind farms sit within UK airspace within which ATS has been delegated to the Dutch ANSP, LVNL (yellow portion)

