

## **Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm (Revised Design) - Information to inform the Appropriate Assessment (“AA”)**

**Updated SNH advice received on 5 October and 8 October 2018**

### Guillemot

SNH have reviewed the AA excerpt for guillemot and can advise that there is no change to our advice of 7<sup>th</sup> September. SNH are able to conclude that there would be no adverse effect on site integrity to Forth Islands, Fowlsheugh, Buchan Ness to Collieston and St Abbs to Fastcastle SPAs either from Neart na Gaoithe on its own or in combination with the Seagreen Alpha and Bravo and Inch Cape developments, based on the worst case scenario (Neart na Gaoithe 2017 application in combination with the 2014 consented Inch Cape and Seagreen windfarms.)

### Razorbill

SNH have reviewed the AA excerpt for razorbill and advise the following. This advice should also be read in conjunction with the advice provided in our response of 7<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

SNH advise that for the Outer Forth and St Andrew’s Bay complex that there would be no adverse effect on site integrity from the Neart na Gaoithe development on its own. Neart na Gaoithe is the only wind farm that has any overlap with this pSPA and therefore there is no requirements to consider in combination effect with the other wind farm developments in the Forth and Tay.

### **Forth Islands SPA**

SNH advise that there would be an adverse effect on site integrity for razorbill from the in combination effect of the windfarms as assessed for the worst case scenario.

### **Fowlsheugh SPA**

SNH advise that there would be an adverse effect on site integrity for razorbill from the in combination effect of the windfarms as assessed for the worst case scenario.

### **St Abb’s Head to Fastcastle SPA**

SNH advise that there would not be an adverse effect on site integrity for razorbill from the in combination effect of the windfarms as assessed for the worst case scenario.

### Kittiwake

SNH advise that there is no change to our advice of 7<sup>th</sup> September, there will be adverse effect on site integrity at Forth Islands and Fowlsheugh SPAs, from the in combination effects of the Forth and Tay windfarms worst case scenario. In addition SNH advise that there will be an adverse effect on site integrity of St Abb’s Head to Fast Castle SPA for kittiwake from the in combination effect of the windfarms as assessed for the worst case scenario.

### Gannet

SNH advise that there is no change to our advice of 7<sup>th</sup> September, there will be adverse effect on site integrity to Forth Islands SPA, from the in combination effects of the Forth and Tay windfarms for the worst case scenario.

SNH note that the AA, and this advice, are based on the current worst case scenario i.e. 2018 Neart na Gaoithe in combination with the consented proposals for Inch Cape and Seagreen. It is possible that if all or some of the developers commit firmly to their new proposals the impacts will fall sufficiently for our advice in relation to all or some of these effects to change.