

European Offshore Wind Deployment Centre Environmental Statement

Chapter 30: Summary



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- 1 This document and supporting volumes have assessed the potential effects of the construction, operation and decommissioning of the proposed European Offshore Wind Deployment Centre (EOWDC).
- 2 The assessments presented have used detailed, site specific, baseline information gathered over a number of years, through: desk study, site surveys and consultation with both statutory and non statutory organisations.
- 3 Assessments have made using Environmental Impact Assessment criteria, guidance and best practice (where relevant), and are presented in relation to the following topics:
 - seascape, landscape and visual impact
 - ornithology
 - marine ecology, intertidal, sediment and water
 - geology and bathymetry
 - offshore ordnance
 - coastal processes
 - bats
 - cultural heritage
 - offshore archaeology
 - marine mammals
 - electromagnetic interference
 - statutory designations and conservation
 - shipping and navigation
 - aviation
 - Ministry of Defence
 - commercial fisheries
 - salmon and sea trout
 - socio-economics, recreation and tourism
 - in-air noise
 - energy and emissions
 - other marine users
- 4 The design of the project has been sensitive to many environmental (physical, biological and human) and technical issues, many potential impacts have been removed or reduced.
- 5 Environmental Impact Assessments have been carried out assuming a worst case scenario. This ensures that any possible negative impacts upon the environment resulting from the development of the EOWDC would never be more than, and are likely to be less than, the findings of the EIA.
- 6 As a result of the worst case scenario being modelled the potential for a major significant impact has been identified within the seascape, landscape and visual assessment and in some instances behavioural disturbance and displacement during possible construction activities is considered to be of moderate to potentially major significance for marine mammals. A number of mitigation strategies have been suggested in order to minimize any impacts upon marine mammals.

- 7 Where assessments have identified the potential for significant effects, possible mitigation measures have been proposed. These measures include the provision of a draft Environmental Management Plan (EMP) that accompanies this document and an obligation to produce a Marine Mammal Protection Plan.

- 8 It should be noted that significant effects can be reversible. When the proposed EOWDC is decommissioned at the end of the 22 year Crown Estate Lease period the wind turbines would be dismantled and removed.

www.vattenfall.co.uk/en/aberdeen-bay.htm



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