



DELEGATED APPLICATIONS - ASSESSMENT SHEET

APPLICATION NO./ADDRESS:

DISC/26/0135

Rampion 2 Offshore Windfarm Onshore Cable Transmission Works – Climping to Bolney National Grid Substation Compound, Land West of Kent Street, Cowfold, West Sussex

DESCRIPTION:

DCO Requirement 38 (Permitted vegetation removal and retention to enable and construct the project) Discharge Request in relation to Rampion 2 Onshore Site Investigation Campaign 2a.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION:

Rampion Extension Development Limited seeks to conduct a campaign of onshore site investigations in 2026. These activities fall under the definition of 'Onshore Site Preparation Works' as per the Made Order (as corrected).

This stage of 'Onshore Site Preparation Works' is called Onshore Site Investigation Campaign 2a. This campaign relates to a single site at the Rampion 2 onshore substation location at Oakendene. Boreholes, test pits, trial trenches, cone penetration testing, soil stripping and geophysical techniques are proposed across an area of the onshore substation Order Limits presented in Plan 1 (Drawing Number 006807176) shown as 'SI Campaign 2 Target Area'. These activities will determine and monitor ground conditions and ground water levels in preparation of the construction of the Rampion 2 onshore substation.

Requirement to be partially discharged: Requirement 38 (Permitted vegetation removal and retention to enable and construct the project)

For the Onshore Site Investigation Campaign 2a the applicable subsection of Requirement 38 is triggered by

PART 3, Requirement 38 .

Vegetation retention and removal

38.—(1) No stage of works landward of MLWS is to commence until a vegetation retention and removal plan (which accords with the outline vegetation retention and removal plan) has been submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority.

(2) Any vegetation retention and removal plan submitted under paragraph (1) may cover one or more stage of the onshore works.

(3) The vegetation retention and removal plan for each stage must be implemented as approved.

The details comprise.

- 006796644-01 REV 01 Dated 21/04/2026 DCO Requirement 38 Discharge Request in relation to Rampion 2 Onshore Site Investigation Campaign 2a for Approval of Horsham District Council
- 006807176 Version 01 Dated 21/04/2026 Onshore SI Campaign 2a – Area for Site Preparation Works Plan 1
- 006795166 - Version 01 Dated 15/04/2026 Requirement 38 Annex 1 Onshore SI Phase 2a: Site Specific Vegetation Retention and Removal Plan for Discharge of Requirement 38 (VRRP)

For clarity and as stated on the Plan – for this specific stage of site preparation there is no proposed loss of any of the mapped vegetation.

The principle is that vegetation loss for the SI Campaign Phase 2a is avoided and that the VRRP is strictly followed in terms of adhering to retention of the key habitats established in the Rampion 2 Outline Vegetation and Removal Plan (2024); this document is certified under the Made Order having been considered at Examination Stage of the project in the developer's application submission.

The intrusive activities that form part of SI Campaign 2a have been sited in fields where possible. Some vegetation management is envisaged – for example strimming may be needed for clear and safe access for the geophysical investigations. For enabling vehicular access strimming and light pruning of woody branches may be necessary. Any such vegetation disturbance will be under the watch of the Environmental Clerk of Works. All those areas where bore holes are drilled and standpipes are installed will be stripped and then reinstated following removal of the water monitoring equipment. Those areas marked for trial pits and the starter pits for bore holes will be reinstated with the topsoil and existing seed mix within the couple of days of the works being completed.

RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY:

Planning Act 2008

The Rampion 2 Offshore Wind Farm Order 2025 (As Corrected)

CONSULTATIONS

HDC Landscapes: No Objection

REPRESENTATIONS

None received

Other Considerations

The application has been considered having regard to Article 1 of the First Protocol of the Human Rights Act 1998, which sets out a person's rights to the peaceful enjoyment of property and Article 8 of the same Act, which sets out their rights in respect to private and family life and for the home. Officers consider that the proposal would not be contrary to the provisions of the above Articles.

The application has also been considered in accordance with Horsham District Council's public sector equality duty, which seeks to prevent unlawful discrimination, to promote equality of opportunity and to foster good relations between people in a diverse community, in accordance with Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. In this case, the proposal is not anticipated to have any potential impact from an equality perspective.

PLANNING ASSESSMENT

The Council's Landscape Architect has reviewed the submitted details and raises no concerns with the Site-Specific Vegetation Retention and Removals on landscape grounds; the information submitted being sufficient to recommend discharge.

Based upon the information submitted, Horsham District Council is satisfied, as determining authority, that the vegetation removal and retention to enable the onshore site preparation works for the Onshore Site Investigation Campaign 2a is appropriate and acceptable for the specific purposes identified.

The documentation provided is therefore considered suitable to satisfy the partial discharge of Requirement 38, for the purposes of the Onshore Site Investigation Campaign 2a.

Conclusion

For the reasons given above, it is recommended that Requirement 38 (1) is partially discharged for the purposes of Onshore Site Investigation Campaign 2a.

Recommendation: Application Permitted

INFORMATIVE

This decision only relates to the above-mentioned requirement. All other terms and conditions of the Development Consent Order, where relevant, must be fully complied with.

Plans list for: DISC/26/0135

(The approved plans will form Condition 1 on the Decision Notice of all Permitted applications)

Schedule of plans/documents **approved**:

Plan Type	Description	Drawing Number	Received Date
Plans	Dated 21/04/2026 Onshore SI Campaign 2a - Area for Site Preparation Works Plan 1	006807176 Version 01	24.04.2026
Plans	Dated 15/04/2026 Requirement 38 Annex 1 Onshore SI Phase 2a: Site Specific Vegetation Retention and Removal Plan for Discharge of Requirement 38	006795166 Version 01	24.04.2026
Supporting Docs	Onshore Site Investigation Campaign 2a -Background information on methods to be used as part of the SI Campaign 2a - 006796647-01 REV 01		24.04.2026
Supporting Docs	006796644-01 REV 01 Dated 21/04/2026 DCO Requirement 38 Discharge Request in relation to Rampion 2 Onshore Site Investigation Campaign 2a for Approval of Horsham District Council		24.04.2026

DELEGATED

Case Officer sign/initial Matthew Porter Date: 08-06-2026

Authorising Officer sign/initial Adrian Smith Date: 08/06/2026