



DELEGATED APPLICATIONS - ASSESSMENT SHEET

APPLICATION NO./ADDRESS:

DISC/26/0133

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 19 (Archaeological Investigations Onshore) 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 19 (Archaeological Investigations Onshore)

For the Onshore Site Investigation Campaign 2a the applicable subsection of Requirement 19 is triggered by

PART 3, Requirement 19

Onshore Archaeology

19.—(1) No stage of the authorised project within the onshore Order limits may commence until a site-specific written scheme of archaeological investigation for that stage which must accord with the outline onshore written scheme of investigation has been submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority following consultation with West Sussex County Council.

(2) All archaeological investigations including those carried out as part of onshore site preparation works must be carried out in accordance with the relevant written scheme of archaeological investigation approved under sub-paragraph (1).

(3) The archaeological site investigations and post investigation assessment must be completed in accordance with the programme set out in the written scheme of archaeological investigation and provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition.

(4) Any written scheme or archaeological investigation submitted under sub-paragraph (1) may cover one or more stage of the onshore works.

[Underlined and bold text; Officer emphasis]

The submitted details comprise a Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief Version 5 Date of Issue June 2026 NGR: 523000 122500 ASE Project no: 260077 Site Code: BNC26.

In line with the 'DCO explanatory memorandum sections 9.6-10', the key principles have been transposed to apply to the delivery of the SI Campaign 2a - having considered the nature of the preconstruction activity and its potential impacts.

Update to discharge of Archaeological Watching Brief

Details were incorporated into the discharge Watching Brief at request of West Sussex Archaeologist relating to geoarchaeological aims and objectives; review process on logs and reports; clarification that temporary handstand will not result in additional ground disturbance; and a statement that the results of this phase will be carried forward to inform subsequent stages of the project. All the requests made have been incorporated into updated Watching Brief Version 5. The County Council Archaeologist is now satisfied.

RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY/LEGISLATION:

Planning Act 2008

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

CONSULTATIONS

West Sussex Archaeology (3rd and final comments):

Confirm requested revisions made. WSI is now considered acceptable and capable of discharging DCO Requirement 19 (Archaeological Investigations Onshore).

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 element of the campaign relevant for this application is the use of a Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief, the scope and content of which is tailored to the Site Investigation Campaign 2a.

Following amendment to incorporate the additional practice measures requested, the West Sussex Council's Archaeologist is now satisfied the Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief Version 5 submitted to partially discharge Requirement 19 of the DCO in relation to the Site Preparation Works.

Conclusion

For the reasons given above, it is recommended that Requirement 19 (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/26/0133

(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
Supporting Docs	Rampion 2 Wind Farm Onshore Site Investigations Campaign 2a Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief Version 5 Date of Issue June 2026 NGR: 523000 122500 ASE Project no: 260077 Site Code: BNC26		24.06.2026
Supporting Docs	006796647-01 REV 01 Onshore Site Investigation Campaign 2a - Background information on methods to be used as part of the SI Campaign 2a		24.04.2026
Plans	Onshore SI Campaign 2a - Area for Site Preparation Works Plan 1	006807176 VERSION 01	24.04.2026

DELEGATED

Case Officer sign/initial Matthew Porter Date: 26-06-2026

Authorising Officer sign/initial Adrian Smith Date: 26/06/2026