

**Lindsay Smith**

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Our Ref: Tarchon/01/25

Date: 30 January 2025

Enquiries to: Mark Woodger  
[REDACTED]

By E-Mail only to: [info@tarchonenergy.net](mailto:info@tarchonenergy.net)

Dear Lindsay Smith

**Planning Act 2008**

**Tarchon Energy Project**

**Request for a Direction by Secretary of State under Section 35 of the Planning Act 2008**

Thank you for advising Essex County Council (ECC) of your intention to submit a request to the Secretary of State for the Tarchon Energy Project, located in England and in UK waters to be directed under Section 35 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) (the Act). It is understood that if the Direction is made then the project will be treated as a nationally significant infrastructure project (NSIP) for which development consent is required.

Essex County Council is supportive of the request to the Secretary of State for the project to be considered nationally significant and require development consent under the Act. Having been given initial details on the scope and type of the proposal which it is intended to be brought forward, Essex County Council concurs with your view that the proposal would be best considered through the NSIP regime.

Not only does the regime allow for a holistic approach to assessments and consultation across multiple consenting regimes, both within onshore and offshore jurisdictions, but it also offers a comprehensive framework for considering the proposals on a comparable basis to other projects which the Secretary of State has agreed should be considered of national significance for which development consent under the Act is required. Furthermore a development of one proposed will interact with other current NSIP proposals, most notable the Norwich to Tilbury, and ECC consider that the NSIP regime would be the one best to consider in combination effects, which are likely to be hugely significant alongside the East Anglian Connection Node, where ECC understands the Tarchon Project is proposed to link to the wider electricity grid as part of the wider "Great Grid Update".

ECC are content for you to add this letter of support in your request to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Mark Woodger

Principal Planner, Nationally Strategic Infrastructure Projects

Essex County Council

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