

Summary of Written Representation by the National Trust – Interested Party No: 10028761

Introduction

The National Trust has a statutory duty ‘to promote the permanent preservation of places of historic interest and natural beauty, and their enjoyment by the public, for benefit of the nation, forever, for everyone’. This applies to off-shore and coastal places as much as it does to inland sites especially in relation to the National Trust’s direct ownership of land within The Isle of Purbeck, Dorset, and the Isle of Wight and to the Trust’s wider remit to protect environmental interests and respond where there are impacts on the natural and historic environment.

The Trust do not consider that sufficient weight has been given to the status of the area’s designated assets which are of exceptional visual and amenity value concerned about the visual impact on the land/seascape.

The Trust supports more sustainable forms of energy generation, but we believe that the location and design of all energy generation schemes should take account the full range of environmental considerations, including the protection of valued landscapes, and that developments must be in acceptable locations and of an appropriate scale and design for their setting to avoid unacceptable harm.

Visual Impact on Landscape and Seascape Character

The Trust welcomes recent revisions to decrease in the proposal’s boundaries. However, these measures do not go far enough to successfully mitigate the potential harm to the environment and should be moved back within the 12nm limit.

SEA Policy of 12NM

We believe that the proposal is contrary to policy in that it ignores the Government’s own SEA policy of the 12n miles limit which is the minimum for sensitive coasts.

Conclusion

In conclusion, The National Trust does not consider that sufficient weight has been given to the status of the WHS and its setting. We believe the project will impact on landscape, seascape and visual impact are likely to outweigh the benefits and as a result the proposal is contrary to government policy as set out in NPS EN1 and EN3.”