Dear Sir/Madam

Proposed Navitus Bay Wind Park (PNBWP)
Phase Three Community Consultation February 2013

Thank you for advising us of the above consultation.

We have read the consultation documents with interest, we also attended one of your drop in sessions in Dorset. The RSPB has made previous submissions to you on the proposal’s Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) 1 and 2.

The RSPB generally supports renewable energy proposals, including offshore wind parks, subject to there being no significant adverse effects on birds either directly or indirectly from their construction, operation or decommissioning. It is from this general position that the RSPB approaches engagement with the PNBWP.

We have been encouraged by the comprehensive assessment work undertaken by your professional advisers, including on and offshore surveys for birds. We do have some concerns over the data as has been communicated to you separately. In addition, and as you are aware, concerns remain over possible impacts on migrants. This is a concern shared by many in Dorset and Hampshire, as you will note from public submissions to your current consultation.
Going forward, the RSPB will continue to engage positively in the environmental impact assessment process, to ensure that the proposal’s possible impacts on birds, both on and offshore are fully assessed.

The main consultation document correctly summarises the findings of the ornithological survey work undertaken to date (Figures 24 and 25). Interpretation of this ‘raw’ data is now required to determine the potential effects on birds.

Yours faithfully

Renny Henderson
Conservation Officer