

Guidance: Southern North Sea marine area: index map and site packages

Updated: New sites added: Benacre to Easton Bavents Lagoons SAC, Breydon Water SPA, Dengie (Mid-Essex Coast Phase 1) SPA and Thanet Coast SAC.

Find out if your activity, proposal or area of responsibility has a potential impact on the species and habitats in the marine protected areas in the Southern North Sea.

Advice packages are listed alphabetically. Packages marked 'awaiting update' on the map have not been updated on the Designated Sites System but advice may still exist. These sites are not listed here, but you can search for all sites on the Designated Sites View [site search](#). This will include links to any existing advice.

Advice packages in the Southern North Sea

[Alde, Ore and Butley Estuaries Special Area of Conservation](#) (UK0030076)
Formal

[Alde Ore Estuary Special Protection Area](#) (UK9009112) Formal

[Benacre to Easton Bavents Lagoons Special Area of Conservation](#) (UK0013104)
Draft

[Benfleet and Southend Marshes Special Protection Area](#) (UK9009171) Formal

[Blackwater, Crouch, Roach and Colne Estuaries Marine Conservation Zone](#) (UKMCZ0003) Formal

[Blackwater Estuary \(Mid-Essex Coast Phase 4\) Special Protection Area](#) (UK9009245) Formal

[Breydon Water Special Protection Area](#) (UK9009181) Draft

[Cromer Shoal Chalk Beds Marine Conservation Zone](#) (UKMCZ0031) Draft

[Deben Estuary Special Protection Area](#) (UK9009261) Draft

[Dengie \(Mid-Essex Coast Phase 1\) Special Protection Area](#) (UK9009242) Draft

[Essex Estuaries Special Area of Conservation](#) (UK0013690) Formal

[Foulness \(Mid-Essex Coast Phase 5\) Special Protection Area](#) (UK9009246) Draft

[Gibraltar Point Special Protection Area](#) (UK9008022) Formal

[Haisborough, Hammond and Winterton Special Area of Conservation](#) (UK0030369)

Formal

[Holderness Inshore Marine Conservation Zone](#) (UKMCZ0035) Draft

[Humber Estuary Special Area of Conservation](#) (UK0030170) Draft

[Humber Estuary Special Protection Area](#) (UK9006111) Draft

[Inner Dowsing, Race Bank and North Ridge Special Area of Conservation](#)
(UK0030370) Formal

[Margate and Long Sands Special Area of Conservation](#) (UK0030371) Formal

[Medway Estuary and Marshes Special Protection Area](#) (UK9012031) Formal

[Medway Estuary Marine Conservation Zone](#) (UKMCZ0011) Formal

[North Norfolk Coast Special Area of Conservation](#) (UK0019838) Formal

[North Norfolk Coast Special Protection Area](#) (UK9009031) Formal

[Orfordness – Shingle Street Special Area of Conservation](#) (UK0014780) Formal

[Stour and Orwell Estuaries Special Protection Area](#) (UK9009121) Draft

[Thames Estuary and Marshes Special Protection Area](#) (UK9012021) Formal

[Thanet Coast Marine Conservation Zone](#) (UKMCZ0017) Formal

[Thanet Coast Special Area of Conservation](#) (UK0013107) Draft

[The Swale Special Protection Area](#) (UK9012011) Formal

[The Swale Estuary Marine Conservation Zone](#) (UKMCZ0041) Formal

[The Wash and North Norfolk Coast Special Area of Conservation](#) (UK0017075)
Formal

[The Wash Special Protection Area](#) (UK9008021) Formal

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Updated: New sites added: Aln Estuary MCZ, Coquet to St Mary's MCZ and Farne Islands SPA. Northumberland Marine SPA and Northumbria Coast SPA now at formal stage.

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Advice packages in the Northern North Sea

[Aln Estuary Marine Conservation Zone](#) (UKMCZ0001) Draft

[Coquet Island Special Protection Area](#) (UK9006031) Draft

[Coquet to St Mary's Marine Conservation Zone](#) (UKMCZ0030) Draft

[Farne Islands Special Protection Area](#) (UK9006021) Draft

[Flamborough Head Special Area of Conservation](#) (UK0013036) Draft

[Lindisfarne Special Protection Area](#) (UK9006011) Draft

[Northumberland Marine Special Protection Area](#) (UK9020325) Formal

[Northumbria Coast Special Protection Area](#) (UK9006131) Formal

[Runswick Bay Marine Conservation Zone](#) (UKMCZ0039) Draft

[Tweed Estuary Special Area of Conservation](#) (UK0030292) Formal

Press release: Regulators give design acceptance to the AP1000® power station design

The AP1000® nuclear reactor, designed by Westinghouse, is suitable for construction in the UK said the regulators today following completion of [an in-depth assessment of the reactor design](#).

The Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR), the Environment Agency (EA) and Natural Resources Wales (NRW), the regulators who undertake the Generic Design Assessment of new reactor designs, are satisfied that the reactor meets expectations on safety, security and environmental protection at this stage of the regulatory process.

ONR has issued a Design Acceptance Certificate (DAC) to Westinghouse and the environment agencies have issued a Statement of Design Acceptability (SoDA).

Dr Richard Savage, ONR's Chief Nuclear Inspector, said:

The closure of our assessment of the generic design of the AP1000® reactor is a significant step in the process, ensuring the design meets the very high standards of safety we expect.

We will now focus our regulatory attention on site specific assessments, and NuGen's application for a nuclear site licence.

Dr Jo Nettleton, Deputy Director for Radioactive Substances and Installations Regulation at the Environment Agency, said:

Successfully completing GDA means that the AP1000 is capable of meeting the high standards of environment protection and waste management that we require.

We're already working with NuGen, as it develops its proposals to build and operate three AP1000 reactors at Moorside in Cumbria, to ensure that those high standards are delivered.

The regulators required 51 GDA Issues to be resolved before confirming the suitability of the AP1000. All of the issues have been addressed to the regulators' satisfaction enabling the DAC and SoDA to be issued. The regulators' assessment reports are all available [online](#)

ENDS

Notes for Editors

1. The Office for Nuclear Regulation is the nuclear safety and security regulator for the UK.
2. The [Environment Agency](#) and Natural Resources Wales are the environmental regulators of nuclear sites in England and Wales respectively.
3. More information on Generic Design Assessment on the joint regulators' website <http://www.onr.org.uk/new-reactors/index.htm>
4. All assessment reports, decision documents and a copy of the Design Acceptance confirmation (DAC) and Statement of Design Acceptability (SoDA) are available online ONR
<http://www.onr.org.uk/new-reactors/ap1000/reports.htm>
Environment Agency
<http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gda-decisions-and-soda-ap1000-nuclear-power-station-design-by-westinghouse-electric-company>
5. The DAC and SoDA are valid for a period of ten years from issue and can be extended subject to review and agreement of the regulators.

6. The issuing of a DAC/SoDA does not mean the construction of the reactor can start. Before a new nuclear power station can be built, the operator (NuGen in this case) must obtain a number of site specific permissions from the regulators and Government, including a nuclear site licence and relevant consents, environmental permits and planning permission (Development Consent Order).
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/guidance-for-operators-of-new-nuclear-power-stations>
7. The Statement of Design Acceptability (SoDA) is being issued jointly by the Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales. GDA applies to both England and Wales.
8. For more information, please contact the ONR press office on onr@onr.gov.uk or 020 3028 0505.
9. For the Environment Agency media team contact newsdesk@environment-agency.gov.uk or 020 3025 5623

Decision: GDA decisions and SoDA: AP1000® nuclear power station design by Westinghouse Electric Company

Updated: Added bilingual supplement to decision document summary.

In 2011 the Environment Agency published its [decision document](#) setting out its detailed assessment of environmental aspects of the UK AP1000® nuclear power station design. It used the comments and issues raised in the [2010 consultation](#) to help inform its decisions.

Since December 2011, the Environment Agency has been assessing the further information Westinghouse provided.

The environmental regulators have now issued a full SoDA. This supplement to the 2011 decision document explains developments since 2011 and why they have issued a SoDA.

The regulators conclude that the environmental aspects of the design would meet the high standards they expect, and have decided to issue a SoDA for the design.

The Office for Nuclear Regulation has also published its [Design Acceptance Confirmation](#).

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