

## Bilag H. Skema til kommentering af udkast hos rekvirent/ekstern part

<b>Titel på produkt</b>	Technical report, North Sea 1 – WPB - Birds		
<b>Ansvarlig for produktet</b> (projektleder i instituttet)	Ib Kragh Petersen		
<b>Ekstern institution</b>	<b>Energinet (EN)</b>		
<b>Kontaktperson</b>	<b>Majken Them Tøttrup</b>		
<b>Deadline for fremsendelse af kommentarer</b>	1/10 2024	<b>Dato for afslutning af håndtering af kommentarer</b> 1/11 2024	

	Rekvirent		Instituttet	
	Evt. linjenr.	Kommentar	Begrundet håndtering af kommentar	Ansvarlig for håndtering
<b>0</b>		Please consider writing a Preface (text section) as is included in the reports about Bats and Marine mammals.	A preface has been included. The Declaration section has been extended.	<b>IKP</b>
<b>1</b>		In the list of key terms, the term 'Expanded bird survey area' is used for what is called the Survey area in the text (Summary 2nd section). Please use the term Survey area' throughout the text – and simplify the explanation in the list, e.g. 'The pre-investigation area including a 20 km buffer zone (the phrase 1 is not relevant in this report)'... This area was surveyed...	The word "extended" has been taken out, and the survey area is now defined as: "The pre-investigation area and a 20 km buffer zone around that. This area was surveyed for birds using aerial surveys."	<b>IKP</b>
<b>2</b>		In the 1 <sup>st</sup> section of the summary, 2nd sentence; please delete 'both the strategic environmental assessment and'	'both the strategic environmental assessment and' has been deleted.	<b>IKP</b>
<b>3</b>		In the Summary it says (Reference to the NSEI). It is suggested to include a traditional reference to the relevant report from the NSEI project.	Reference has been fixed, along with others...	<b>IKP</b>

	Rekvirent		Institut	
	Evt. linjenr.	Kommentar	Begrundet håndtering af kommentar	Ansvarlig for håndtering
4		<p>The Summary ends by saying ‘This data can perspectiviate bird abundance within the NSI area with densities and distributions in other parts of the Danish North Sea’.</p> <p>It is suggested to add one-two paragraphs reflecting on this, i.e. comparing the NSI area to the distribution in other areas.</p>	<p>We have added: “Common scoters and red-throated divers are mainly found in the eastern parts of the bird survey area, and thus almost absent from the North Sea Energy Island study area. Bird species with a more pelagic distribution, such as northern fulmar, was found in smaller numbers in the NSI area than in the North Sea Energy Island area. Northern gannet and razorbill/common guillemot were found in comparable numbers between the two survey sites.”</p> <p>And furthermore we have added some more specific text in the Discussion/Conclusion section.</p>	IKP
5		<p>Section 1.1. Please consider changing text to; ‘...abundance and distribution observed by aerial surveys in a/the survey area comprised of...’</p>	<p>Sentence changed to: “The specific objective of this technical report is to present the collected data describing the abundance and distribution of selected bird species and species groups observed by aerial surveys within the bird survey area.”</p>	IKP
6		<p>Section 2. You write ‘the only recent survey with comprehensive bird coverage...was conducted in April/May 2019’</p> <p>What about the bird data from Energy Island Nordøsøen? Should that not be included and compared to the data from the present project?</p>	<p>Text changed to “comprehensive, large scale...” and a text added:</p> <p>Between March 2022 and November 2023 twelve aerial surveys were conducted in the North Sea Energy Island area, situated to the northwest of the North Sea I bird survey area, covering an area of more than 4,800 Km<sup>2</sup> (Petersen, et al., 2024).</p>	IKP

	Rekvirent		Institut	
	Evt. linjenr.	Kommentar	Begrundet håndtering af kommentar	Ansvarlig for håndtering
7		Section 3. Please consider changing the text to just 'North Sea survey area' – as there is no need to mention the definition again, as it has been explained in 'The list of terms' (see suggestion in comment 1)	Done	IKP
8		Section 4. Data analysis Please consider adding a paragraph for each data analysis method (abundance estimation, spatial analysis, distance analysis, area of persistence etc.) explaining (in layman terms). For the reader it will be helpful to understand: - Why do you perform this analysis – what is the result an indication of? - What does the figures/scores of the different analysis express, e.g. persistence scores. What does a value of '0/blue' mean? Consider also adding an explanatory sentence along with the figures/results for each species/species group - as it is done for Northern Gannet page 50	We added the following text: "A persistence score of 1 indicates that the density in that grid cell was estimated to be above average in every bootstrap replicate in every survey (so uniformly above the mean; high persistence), while a value of 0.1 indicates that just 10% of the estimates were above the estimated mean, and thus indicates low persistence in that location."  We have changed Chapter 4.1.3 so that it is better and shorter explained in the main text, and an Appendix 2 has been added to give the reader access to more details.	IKP
9		Text to figure 5.2 - three surveys – not five. Please check the whole document as it seems to apply to all figures showing numbers and distribution for 2024	Corrected	IKP
10		Section 6.1. The text says '...a decision that was abandoned before it was set in force.' It is not clear what the purpose of this statement is. If the statement is included, it should be explained why the decision was abandoned. Alternatively, it seems sufficient to just keep the sentence 'In order to ensure data compatibility...'	The present text reads: "...a decision that was abandoned before it was set in force. In order to ensure data compatibility between the NSI and the North Sea Energy Island aerial survey data it was decided to use human-based observers for the aerial suveys at the NSI site.". So, the sentence "In order to..." explains why the decision was taken.	IKP

	Rekvirent		Institut	
	Evt. linjenr.	Kommentar	Begrundet håndtering af kommentar	Ansvarlig for håndtering
11		<p>Section 6.1. It is not evident why there is so much focus on the digital method and its potential for improvement. On NS1 the client, Energinet, has not argued against the use of a digital method.</p> <p>Question: If Energinet had not been the client on both NSEI and NSI survey programs, would you have raised the issue in the same way?</p> <p>Question: Would you suggest using a digital method for year-two survey?</p>	<p>Answers to your questions:  We would not have raised this issue if it wasn't because Energinet is the client in both projects. For comparison and analysis reasons it is beneficial to use the same method throughout the North Sea surveys. When NSEI project uses human observers it therefore makes sense to continue with that method in the adjacent NSI area. And for the same reason we recommend that surveys through the NSI Y2 surveys are continued with that same method.  Regardless of this, the benefits from digital surveys are still relevant.</p>	IKP
12		Section 6.2. Consider deleting the sentence 'There is no doubt that data from at 3D radar...' - as the importance of this is also stressed in the next two paragraphs	Accepted, and sentence has been deleted.	IKP
13		Section 7, 2 <sup>nd</sup> paragraph; Please consider deleting '....and activities related to the strategic environmental assessment of the present project' - as there were no survey activities in regard to the EIA of NSI	Accepted and changed to: "Moreover, activities related to the Thor OWF in the northern part of the survey area and activities related to the present project were ongoing during the survey period."	
14		Section 7, page 114, 1 <sup>st</sup> paragraph; Please consider deleting 'pre-investigation area and extended bird' - so it is just Survey area	This has been changed.	IKP

	Rekvirent		Institut	
	Evt. linjenr.	Kommentar	Begrundet håndtering af kommentar	Ansvarlig for håndtering
15		Section 7. What was found at the Energy Island Nordsøen project?	The following text has been added: "In the North Sea Energy Island area, situated further offshore to the northwest of the North Sea I area and covering ca. 60% of the survey area of the NSI area, common scoters and red-throated divers were less abundant. There, bird species with a more pelagic distribution, such as razorbills/guillemots, northern fulmars and northern gannets were more abundant. Razorbill/common guillemot abundances in the North Sea Energy Island area were estimated to count ca. 14,000 individuals in March 2023 and 25,000 birds in April 2023. Northern gannets were estimated at 2,500 to 3,800 birds in early and late April 2022, and reduced to 24 and 668 in March and April 2023 (Petersen, et al., 2024)."	<b>IKP</b>