

Mr Jacob Hain  
Triton Knoll Offshore Wind Farm Limited  
RWE Npower Renewables Ltd  
Auckland House  
Lydiard Fields  
Great Western Way  
Swindon  
Wiltshire SN5 8ZT

23 February 2012

Dear Mr Hain,

**Planning Act 2008 (“the 2008 Act”) section 55 (Acceptance Stage)**

**Application by Triton Knoll Offshore Wind Farm Limited (“the developer”) for a Development Consent Order for the proposed Triton Knoll offshore wind farm and associated offshore infrastructure in the Greater Wash off the coast of Lincolnshire and North Norfolk (“the development”)**

**Notification of decision to accept application under section 55 of the 2008 Act**

**IPC Reference: EN010005**

I refer to your application purporting to be an application for an order granting development consent made under s37(2) of the 2008 Act and received by the Commission on 31 January 2012.

The Commission has concluded that the provisions in s55(3)(a) – (e) inclusive have been satisfied. In respect of the conclusion reached under s55(3)(e) the Commission has had regard to the matters set out in s55(4). The Commission is therefore of the view that it can accept the application for examination.

You should be aware that this decision to accept the application does not incorporate a decision on whether all of the development for which authorisation is sought falls within s115 of the 2008 Act.

As a general point, it should be noted that confirmation by the Commission that sufficient information has been provided for the purposes of acceptance does not fetter the Examining authority when appointed from considering the need for further information during the examination.

You should also be aware that the Commissioner’s decision to accept the application in accordance with s55 of the 2008 Act does not fetter the competent authority’s subsequent consideration of likely significant effects. If the Examining authority is unable to conclude any necessary ‘appropriate assessment’ prior to making a recommendation it would be

required to conclude that the competent authority under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010<sup>1</sup> should refuse to authorise the project.

Please be aware of your duties under s56 and s58 of the 2008 Act, Regulations 8, 9 and 10 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 and Regulations 13 and 14 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jan Bessell', written in a cursive style.

**Jan Bessell**  
**Commissioner**  
**on behalf of the Commission**

Enquiries telephone: 0303 444 5000

Email: [TritonKnoll@infrastructure.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:TritonKnoll@infrastructure.gsi.gov.uk)

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We are required by law to publish on our website a record of the advice we provide and to record on our website the name of the person or organisation who asked for the advice. We will however protect the privacy of any other personal information which you choose to share with us and we will not hold the information any longer than is necessary.

Before sending information to the IPC, please consider our Openness Policy, which can be viewed on our website or a copy will be provided free of charge on request

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<sup>1</sup> These regulations transpose Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.