



Department for
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& Industrial Strategy

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8 May 2019

Dear Sir

**LETTER EMAILED ON 15 APRIL 2019 Re: Flamborough and Filey Coast
Special Protection Area (“FFC SPA”)
The Dogger Bank Creyke Beck Offshore Wind Farm (“the Project”)**

I am writing in reply to your letter dated 15 April 2019 in which you asked for clarification of matters set out in the letter of 9 April 2019 outlining the Secretary of State’s decision on an application for a non-material change (“the change application”) to be made to the Dogger Bank Creyke Beck Offshore Wind Farm Order 2015 (“the 2015 Order”).

Specifically, you asked for clarification that, following the Secretary of State’s conclusion in paragraph 27 of the letter that the Dogger Bank Offshore Wind Farm (“the Project”) would have no adverse effect alone or in-combination with other projects on the FFC SPA, the 2015 Order would not be subject to a further review for that European site.

As part of the Secretary of State’s consideration of the change application, it was necessary for him to review the decision to grant consent for the 2015 Order by carrying out a Habitats Regulations Assessment (“HRA”) of the implications of the Project for the FFC SPA in view of its conservation objectives.

The HRA undertaken for the change application (and referenced in the Secretary of State’s decision letter) considered the impacts of the Project both alone and in-combination with other projects on the FFC SPA and concluded no adverse effects. This included conducting an appropriate assessment (“AA”) for the project’s impact on

the FFC SPA. Natural England and the Marine Management Organisation were both consulted on the HRA for the change application.

I can confirm that the Secretary of State is satisfied that a review of consent has been conducted, under regulation 33(2) of the Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, and the AA already conducted for the Creyke Beck change application fulfils the requirement of regulation 33(3) to conduct an appropriate assessment. Therefore the 2015 Order as amended is confirmed and will not as currently in force be subject to a future review for the FFC SPA.

Yours sincerely,

Gareth Leigh

Gareth Leigh
Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning