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By Email

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010024

Date: 14 August 2014

Dear Mr Malton

Planning Act 2008 (as amended)

Application by Navitus Bay Development Ltd for an Order Granting Development Consent for the proposed Navitus Bay Wind Park

Thank you for your email to the Rt Hon Eric Pickles of 21 July 2014 about the proposed Navitus Bay Wind Park.

Your letter has been passed to me as it relates to a proposed nationally significant infrastructure project (NSIP). I have been asked to reply as the Planning Inspectorate, as the agency of the Department for Communities and Local Government responsible for examining NSIP applications for development consent under the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008).

Offshore generating stations in England or Wales that have a capacity of more than 100 megawatts are classified as NSIPs. Therefore, for any development of this nature and above the threshold an applicant is obliged to submit an application to the relevant Secretary of State for development consent under the PA2008. This application was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate on 10 April 2014, and was then subsequently accepted for examination on 8 May 2014.

The 'relevant representation' period closed on 23 June 2014. This is the period in which members of the public can register with the Planning Inspectorate and make a relevant representation so that they will become an 'interested party' in the examination. This gives members of the public an opportunity to participate in the examination of the application. Following the close of the registration period, we are no longer able to register persons as 'interested parties' for the purposes of this application. We are not able to extend the deadline and have no statutory powers that would enable us to do so. However, we will keep your information on file and make your name available to the Examining Authority who is able to exercise discretion to consider views and evidence from those who did not register a relevant representation on time. However, this does not mean that you would be regarded as an 'interested

party' for the purposes of the examination.

Shortly after the close of the period for making a relevant representation the Secretary of State appointed the 'Examining Authority' to examine the application. The Examining Authority reviewed the application and all relevant representations and identified the principal issues for examination. Following this, the Planning Inspectorate invited all interested parties to attend a meeting, known as the Preliminary Meeting, which is held to consider how the application will be examined. The meeting may include questions and answers about the key issues that will need to be examined, the timetable for the examination and other important organisational details. The merits of the application will not be discussed at the Preliminary Meeting, which is purely procedural. The Examining Authority will investigate the merits of the application during the examination stage which starts the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting. The meeting will be held on 11 September 2014, at 9:30am, at Tregonwell Hall, Bournemouth International Centre, Exeter Road, Bournemouth, BH2 5BH. See link to our letter published on our website: [Rule 6 letter](#)

The Examining Authority has a statutory duty to complete its examination within 6 months. The examination is a formal legal process, during which careful consideration is given to all the important and relevant matters, including the representations of all interested parties, any evidence submitted and answers provided to questions set out in writing and explained at hearings.

Within three months of the six month examination period closing the Examining Authority must prepare a report on the application to the relevant Secretary of State, in this case the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change. The report will include a recommendation. The Secretary of State then has a further three months to make the decision on whether to grant or refuse development consent.

The Planning Inspectorate has published a series of advice notes which explain the process, including information on how to get involved. These are available at the following web address: <http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes> . I would draw your attention in particular to advice notes 8.1 through to 8.5. If you have not done so and you wish to register as an interested party you will be kept informed of the Examination and be invited to engage in the process further by making detailed written representations (and oral representations at hearings). You may wish to sign up on this webpage to receive email alerts on the progress of the project.

I hope this information is of assistance. If you have any further queries please send them to the Navitus Wind Park case team at the above address.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Luke
Infrastructure Planning Lead, Major Applications and Plans

Advice may be given about applying for an order granting development consent or making representations about an application (or a proposed application). This communication does not however constitute legal advice upon which you can rely and you should obtain your own legal advice and professional advice as required.

A record of the advice which is provided will be recorded on the Planning Inspectorate website together with the name of the person or organisation who asked for the advice. The privacy of any other personal information will be protected in accordance with our Information Charter which you should view before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.