

Attn: Denise Libretto
Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy
Level 3, Orchard 2,
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

9th October 2019

Our Ref: AU-TPD-PM575-00001-013

The Dogger Bank Teesside A and B Offshore Wind Farm Order 2015 (as amended) – Proposed Non-material Change Application

Regulation 7(3) - Request for Approval of the Consultee List

Doggerbank Offshore Wind Farm Project 3 Projco Limited (the Projco) is a Joint Venture between SSE and Equinor, which has been set up to take forward the development of The Dogger Bank Teesside A Offshore Wind Farm (Teesside A).

Development consent was granted for the construction and operation of Teesside A in August 2015 under The Dogger Bank Teesside A and B Offshore Wind Farm Order 2015 (the DCO). The DCO also authorised the Dogger Bank Teesside B Offshore Wind Farm (now known as the Sofia Offshore Wind Farm (Sofia)). The DCO was subsequently amended by The Dogger Bank Teesside A and B Offshore Wind Farm (Amendment) Order 2019 (the Amendment Order) in March 2019. The Amendment Order did not make any amendments to Teesside A: it only made amendments to Sofia.

SSE and Equinor were two of four companies comprising the original Forewind Limited consortium that applied for, and was granted, the DCO. As you will be aware, since the DCO was granted the consortium has split: SSE and Equinor now own 50% each of Teesside A through the Projco and have the benefit of the DCO in respect of Teesside A; and Sofia Offshore Wind Farm Limited (SOWFL) now owns 100% of Sofia and has the benefit of the DCO in respect of Sofia.

The Teesside A project team is intending to apply for a non-material change to the DCO as amended in relation to the offshore works for Teesside A only. The proposed amendments do not relate to Sofia.

The Teesside A project team is seeking a non-material change to the DCO (as amended) for:

1. an increase to the permitted rotor diameter for individual wind turbine generators from 215m to 280m; and
2. the removal of the stated gross electrical output capacity of up to 1.2 gigawatts for Teesside A. No changes are being sought to the other parameters of Teesside A to necessitate this amendment (i.e. pile diameter and hammer energy). It is envisaged that the change in the electrical output capacity will be achieved through the utilisation of more efficient wind turbines.

The proposed changes are relevant to the offshore works only as they relate to the wind turbine parameters and generating capacity, and no changes are being sought to the onshore works.

DOGGER BANK WIND FARMS

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In accordance with Regulation 7(3) of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011, we are seeking the consent of the Secretary of State for a focused and targeted consultation for the proposed non-material change application. This is due to the proposed amendment only being relevant to the offshore works and therefore not affecting onshore consultees or landowners. As such, it is not considered necessary to consult all stakeholders that were informed of, or involved in, the DCO application process. In identifying the consultee list, consideration has also been given to the consultation responses received as a result of Sofia's previous non-material change application to the DCO (applied for in June 2018 and subsequently granted in March 2019 in relation to, amongst other things, an increase in permitted generating capacity and the rotor diameter of wind turbine generators), as well as other recent and similar applications made by other developers including those made by SSE and Equinor's other project companies in relation to the Dogger Bank Creyke Beck A & B Offshore Wind Farms.

As such, a reduced consultee list is proposed, limited to those who either responded to the previous application or who are considered to have a clear interest in the nature of the proposed change. Details of the consultees that the Teesside A project team proposes to consult with on the non-material change application are provided in Appendix 1 to this letter, with Appendix 2 listing those consultees that the Teesside A project team does not intend to consult with. The tables include details on whether the consultee is a Section 42 consultee, whether they submitted a relevant or written representation during the examination, or a response to the previous non-material change application and the reasons for their exclusion from this consultation, where appropriate.

In addition, formal public consultation will also be undertaken, with a notice of the application being published in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning Regulations 2011. This notice will be published for two consecutive weeks in the following publications:

- Coastal View and Moor News
- The Evening Gazette
- Fishing News

The Teesside A project team intends to submit its non-material change application in October 2019, and therefore we would be grateful if you can confirm approval of the consultee lists provided in Appendix 1 and 2 and that the publication proposals as outlined above are acceptable, by 30th October 2019.

If you have any queries or further information requirements, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,



Jonathan Wilson

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