

16 April 2020

Our Ref: AU-PM575-009-00002

Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

For the attention of: Gareth Leigh
Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning

Dear Mr Leigh,

Application by Dogger Bank Offshore Wind Farm Project 3 Projco Limited for a variation to an Order granting Development Consent for the Dogger Bank Teesside A Offshore Wind Farm and associated offshore and onshore infrastructure (“the Teesside A Offshore Wind Farm”): Response to Request for Information

I refer to your letter of 31 March, in relation to the newly extended Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast Special Protection Area (“T&CC SPA”), within which the export cable corridor and landfall of Dogger Bank C are located.

The letter references the Secretary of State’s duties under the Habitats Regulations in respect of the Applicant’s current non-material change (NMC) application. The Secretary of State is required under the Habitats Regulations to carry out an appropriate assessment of any likely significant effects arising from the NMC application. However, the NMC application only relates to the rotor diameter and capacity of the project. No changes to the cable or landfall are proposed, and there is no connectivity between the rotor diameter or capacity and the new T&CC SPA. In a response of 17 March 2020 to a request by the Secretary of State in the letter of 2 March for Natural England to advise if any of the newly designated Natura 2000 sites (other than the two sites screened into the draft HRA) should be considered further as part of the application, a similar view was also expressed by Natural England:

“The Teesside A export cable route and intertidal landfall site now falls within the T&CC SPA. The export cable route and landfall site are not affected by the NMC.”

The 31 March letter requests the Applicant provides any relevant information on impacts on the new T&CC SPA. Given there is no connectivity between the changes in the NMC application and the T&CC SPA, the Applicant is respectfully not aware of any information which might be relevant. The NMC application has no likely significant effects on the T&CC SPA.

The Applicant appreciates that BEIS may wish to use the process of determining the NMC application to also consider any potential for impacts of the project as a whole on the new SPA. This would of course have the advantage of fulfilling any review of consents obligations. The Applicant notes that this was also considered within Natural England’s response of 17 March, which states:

“Having reviewed the original ES Natural England do not currently anticipate any likely significant effects on the SPA, though reserve the right to review this advice in the light of any further information that comes forward.”

Having conducted a similar review of the ES, the applicant is in agreement with Natural England and concludes that the project as a whole would not have any likely significant effects on the T&CC SPA, either alone or in combination with other projects.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries in relation to the information provided above.

Yours sincerely,



Jonathan Wilson

Lead Consent Manager
Dogger Bank Offshore Wind Farm Project
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