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Your Ref:  
Our Ref:

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Date: 13 February 2015

Dear Ms Chapman

**Application by SMart Wind Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Hornsea Offshore Wind Farm (Zone 4) - Project Two**

**Adequacy of Consultation under Section 55 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended)**

I am responding on behalf of East Riding of Yorkshire Council ('the Council') to your letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> January 2015 seeking a representation from the Council on the adequacy of the consultation that has been undertaken in respect of the above project.

The Planning Inspectorate Advice Note 14 sets out that in responding to the request for an adequacy of consultation statement the role of local authorities is to provide a statement about whether or not the applicant has complied with sections 42, 47 and 48 of the 2008 Planning Act ('the Act').

Section 42 of the Act requires consultation with local authorities. Although the proposed development is not within the East Riding of Yorkshire Council area, the Council is a bordering authority under Section 43 and therefore consultation is required. The submitted Consultation Report ('the Report') correctly identifies that the Council is an adjoining authority and that the Council has been consulted accordingly.

The western boundary of the sub zone lies 89 km from the coast of the East Riding. The East Riding of Yorkshire Council has been kept informed of the project. I consider that the consultation by the applicant was sufficient to comply with section 42 of the Act.

Section 47 of the Act requires consultation with the community and the Advice Note sets out that local authorities should be given opportunity to comment on the draft Statement of Community Consultation prior to consultation being carried out. As set out in the Consultation Report, the applicant provided a draft Statement of Community Consultation in November 2012 for the Council to comment upon. The Council provided a response to the draft Statement stating that the Council did not wish to make any objection or further comments. The consultation is now in accordance with

the advice given and I have no further comment to make in respect of community consultation and section 47.

Section 48 requires statutory publicity in the form of a notice in local and national newspapers. The Report identifies the papers in which adverts were placed. With specific reference to the East Riding these papers are considered to be reasonable and most relevant to the proposed development and section 48 appears to have been complied with.

I can confirm that the Council does not wish to raise any concerns with regard to the adequacy of consultation in respect of Section 42, 47 or 48 of the Act or the submitted Consultation Report.

Please note these comments are in respect of the consultation process only and do not bind the Council on any future consultations on the scheme. The Council will provide any necessary comments on the merits of the proposal at the relevant time following formal consultation from The Planning Inspectorate.

Yours sincerely,

James Chatfield  
Strategic Development Team Leader