

**Application by Smart Wind Ltd
Hornsea Offshore Wind Farm (Zone 4) – Project 2**

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN010053

**Environment Agency's summary of Relevant
Representations made on 22 April 2015**

Environment Agency registration identification number: 10031161

15 July 2105

Summary of Environment Agency Relevant Representations

As required by the Examining Authority's Rule 8 letter, Annex B, bullet point 2, the following provides a summary of the main issues contained in the Environment Agency's Relevant Representations, which exceeded 1500 words.

The Environment Agency has statutory duties in respect to: flood and coastal risk management, water resources, water quality, salmon and freshwater fisheries and contributing to sustainable development.

The main issues raised in relation to the Hornsea Project 2 are as follows:

Benthic Subtidal, Intertidal Ecology & the Water Framework Directive

Clarification is required in relation to the Water Framework Directive (WFD) assessment, particularly with respect to the presence of Nickel and Copper, which are reported to exceed CEFAS action level 2. Clarification is also requested in respect of contaminated sediment disturbance, and consideration of saltmarsh and coastal lagoons. Additional information is required in respect of impacts on fish and shellfish.

Marine Processes

The data used in the assessment is historic and clarification as to why more recent data has not been included is required, particularly with respect to assessing the cable burial depth. The water level data used is for a relatively short period and this covers a period of relative calm compared to the stormier periods. Also, further explanation relating to how climate change has been factored into the assessment is requested.

Geology & Ground Conditions

We disagree with the summary of impacts to the principal aquifer and request the Applicant checks this as very few impacts to a groundwater body are of high reversibility.

Site Waste Management Plan

The European Waste catalogue code for drilling muds is incorrect.

Hydrology & Flood Risk

The assessment provided is fit for purpose based on an assumed lifetime of development of 50 years. The detailed scheme for surface water management at the HVDC Converter and HVAC Substations should be secured via a Requirement in the DCO – this is included as Requirement 14.

Outline Ecological Management Plan

Methods employed need to be appropriate for the WFD and if recovery of elements is not apparent during the post construction survey then a contingency for further surveys is required.

Development Consent Order

We are working with the applicant in respect of agreeing protective provisions and various Requirements within the DCO to ensure that the integrity of flood defences are protected.

Environment Agency Land Interests

The agreement between the Applicant and the Environment Agency in respect of our land holdings, previously entered into for Hornsea Project 1, will also cover Project 2.