

# Hornsea Offshore Wind Farm

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Project Two

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## The Applicant's Response to Deadline III

**Application Reference: EN010053**

24 September 2015

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## **1. Overview**

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- 1.1 In response to the Examining Authority's ("Ex. A") letter of 22 June 2015 (the "Rule 8 Letter"), which set the procedural timetable for the examination of the Hornsea Offshore Wind Farm Project Two application (Application Reference: EN010053) ("the Project"), SMart Wind Limited ("SMart Wind") as agent on behalf of the joint applicants Optimus Wind Limited ("Optimus Wind") and Breesea Limited ("Breesea") (together "the Applicant") has prepared the following response (the "Response").

## **2. Hearings – Written Summaries of Oral Cases**

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- 2.1 The Applicant has prepared written summaries of its oral submissions from the Issue Specific and Compulsory Acquisition Hearings held on 15 and 16 September, and 17 September 2015 respectively. These are provided at Appendices I to K of the Response.

## **3. Proposed reduction to the Order Limits**

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- 3.1 The Applicant has previously acknowledged the area of overlap between the Project's Order land and Hornsea Project One's Order land at land to the north of plot 506 on the Project's Land Plans. The Applicant had previously sought compulsory acquisition rights over this area to allow for flexibility in the Project's substation design in the event that Hornsea Project One did not utilise that area for the Hornsea Project One substation. However, as part of the discussions in the development of the updated Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) between the Applicant and the Hornsea Project One Companies (submitted by the Applicant to PINS on 10 September 2015), the Hornsea Project One Companies have confirmed that they require all of this overlap area for the purposes of their project's substation. By consequence, the Applicant would propose to make the minor reduction to plot 506 to remove this overlap area from the land subject to permanent acquisition and instead provide it as land subject to temporary occupation. This amendment is reflected on new sheet 27 of 27 of the Onshore Land Plans (Appendix A of the Response) and new sheet 27 of 27 of the Onshore Works Plans (Appendix C of the Response).
- 3.2 There remains an area of overlap between the Project's order limits and the area of land identified for the Hornsea Project One substation site (now contained within plot 505 on the Project's Land Plans (Appendix A to the Response)). However, following the proposed change outlined above, the Applicant is no longer seeking any permanent compulsory acquisition powers over this area and is instead seeking only powers of temporary occupation over this area for worksite and access purposes. As described in the updated SoCG, protective provisions have been agreed between the parties to ensure that there is a clear mechanism in place to resolve any interface issues between the projects to protect Hornsea Project One's interests.
- 3.3 Similarly, the Applicant has further proposed to reduce its offshore Order limits to remove one export cable route option which previously ran through the Hornsea Project One's windfarm array area. Again, this reduction has been prompted by confirmation from the Hornsea Project One Companies that they would be very unlikely to accommodate this proposed work. The reduction in the offshore Order limits is reflected on Master Index Sheet of the Offshore Works Plans submitted as Appendix B of the Response.

- 3.4 These proposed reductions to both the Project's Order limits and Order land necessitate the equivalent minor amendments to other relevant Application plans and these are detailed in their entirety at Schedule 1 of this Response for sake of completeness. The Applicant requests that these minor reductions to the Project's Order limits and Order land be accepted into the examination.
- 3.5 The Applicant can confirm that this reduction in the Project's Order limits does not increase the worst case scenarios considered within the Project's ES and HRA nor alter the assessment conclusions presented therein.
- 3.6 A composite tabular overview of all updates to the Application plans since submission of the Application is also included at Appendix W of the Response for the Ex. A's ease of reference.
- 3.7 In addition, the Applicant advised the Ex. A during the Compulsory Acquisition Hearing on 17 September 2015 of two pieces of errata it had identified in the draft DCO relating to the Application plans. These are identified below:
- 3.7.1 Plot 353 is currently listed in Part 1(b) of Schedule G of the draft DCO as a Compensation Compound in respect of worksite and access. This is incorrect as the purpose of plot 353 is as a worksite and access for the Project alone and should, therefore, be listed in Part 1(a) of Schedule G of the draft DCO; and
- 3.7.2 Plot 517 is currently in Part 2(a) of Schedule G of the draft DCO as land which is subject to temporary occupation in common with others (shown purple on the Land Plans). However, the correct right sought in respect of this plot should be land subject to temporary exclusive occupation (**correctly** shown pink on the Land Plans) and so listed in Part 1(a) of Schedule G of the draft DCO.
- 3.8 It is the Applicant's intention to correct these errata in the next iteration of the draft DCO (Version 5) at Deadline IV.
- 3.9 Finally, the Applicant notes the Ex. A queried at the Compulsory Acquisition Hearing on 17 September 2015 whether the previous reduction in Order limits at plot 226 (pursuant to the Applicant's submission to PINS on 27 April 2015) had been carried across correctly to the Onshore Crossing Schedule and the Compensation Compounds Plan. The Applicant has checked these documents and can confirm that the correct reduction to the Order limits in relation to plot 226 was reflected in the updated Onshore Crossing Schedule and Compensation Compounds Plan submitted as Appendices M and O respectively to the Applicant's submission of 27 April 2015.

### SCHEDULE 3

#### Order Limits/Land reduction – proposed amendments to plans

| Document   | Description  | Detail of amendments proposed   |
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| Land Plans (offshore, intertidal and onshore) (Appendix A of the Response)                       | The Applicant has made revisions to the Land Plans to reduce the size of plot 506 and proportionally increase the size of plot 505. Whilst the extent of the order land in relation to these plots has been amended; | The Land Plans have been updated to show the reduction in size of plot 506 at the northern boundary and to proportionally increase the size of plot 505 shown on sheet 27 of 27 of the Onshore Land Plans - see Appendix A of this Response for a copy of the updated Land Plans.<br><br>The Land Key Plan and Sheet 1 of the Land Plan Offshore Plans have further been updated to reflect the reduction in the Project's offshore order limits. |
| Works Plans (Offshore) (Appendix B of the Response)  | The Offshore Works Plans have been amended to reflect the reduction in the offshore order limits to remove one of the Project's export cable route options within the Hornsea Project One wind farm array.           | The Applicant has updated the Master Index sheet, Map Index sheet and sheets 1 and 2 of 4 of the Offshore Work Plans to reflect the reduction of the order limits – see Appendix B of this Response for a copy of the updated Offshore Works Plans.   |
| Works Plans (Onshore) (Appendix C of the Response)   | As a result of the reduction in the order land at the Project's substation site, there are consequent equivalent changes needed to reflect the revised order limits on the Onshore Works Plans.                      | The Applicant has updated the Master Index sheet and sheet 27 of 27 of the Onshore Work Plans to reflect the reduction of the order limits – see Appendix C of this response for a copy of the Onshore Works Plans.   |
| Works Plans (Intertidal) (Appendix D of the Response)  | As a result of the reduction in the offshore order limits, there are consequent equivalent changes needed to reflect the revised order limits on the Intertidal Works Plans.   | The Applicant has updated the Master Index Sheet of the Intertidal Work Plans to reflect the reduction of the order limits – see Appendix D of this Response for a copy of the updated Intertidal Works Plans.  |
| Crown Plans (Offshore) (Appendix E of the Response)  | As a result of the reduction to the order limits, there are consequent equivalent changes needed to reflect the revised order limits on the Offshore Crown Plans.  | The Applicant has updated the Crown Plans (Offshore) to reflect the reduction of the order limits – see Appendix E of this Response for a copy of the updated Crown Plans (Offshore).   |
| Statutory and Non-Statutory Conservation etc. Sites Plan (Offshore) (Appendix F of the Response) | As a result of the reduction to the order limits, there are consequent equivalent changes needed   | The Applicant has updated the Map Index sheet and sheet 1 and 2 of 2 of the Statutory and Non-Statutory Conservation etc. Sites   |

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| Response)  | to reflect the revised order limits on the Offshore Statutory and Non-Statutory Conservation etc. Sites Plan.   | Plan (Offshore) to reflect the reduction of the order limits – see Appendix F of this response for a copy of the updated Offshore Statutory and Non-Statutory Conservation etc. Sites Plan.  |
| The DCO/DML Coordinates Plan (Appendix G of the Response)      | As a result of the reduction to the order limits, there are consequent equivalent changes needed to reflect the revised Project's order limits on the DCO/DML Coordinates Plan.                 | The DCO/DML Coordinates Plan has been amended to reflect the reduction of the order limits – see Appendix G of this Response for a copy of the updated DCO/DML Coordinates Plan.   |
| Project One/Project Two Interface (Appendix H of the Response) | As a result of the reduction to the order limits, there are consequent equivalent changes needed to reflect the revised Project Two order limits on the Project One/Project Two Interface Plan. | The Applicant has updated sheet 1 of 29 of the Project One/Project Two Interface Plan to reflect the reduction of the Project Two order limits – see Appendix H of this Response for a copy of the updated Project One/Project Two Interface Plan. |