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Your Ref:  
Our Ref: EN010053  
Date: 26 May 2016

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Dear Sir/Madam,

**PLANNING ACT 2008**

**APPLICATION BY SMART WIND LIMITED FOR AN ORDER GRANTING  
DEVELOPMENT CONSENT FOR THE HORNSEA OFFSHORE WIND FARM (ZONE  
4) – PROJECT TWO (EN010053)**

I am writing to notify you of a decision announced by Andrea Leadsom (on behalf of the Secretary of State) to set a new deadline for the decision on this application.

In accordance with section 107(7) of the Planning Act 2008, the attached statement has today been made to the House of Commons setting the new deadline as 16 August 2016. This letter is without prejudice to the decision on whether to give development consent for this project, and nothing in this letter should be taken to imply what that decision might be.

Yours faithfully

***Giles Scott***

Giles Scott  
Head of National Infrastructure Consents and Coal Liabilities

**Andrea Leadsom (Minister of State for Energy and Climate Change)**

**Planning Act 2008: Application for the Proposed Hornsea Offshore Wind Farm (Zone 4) – Project Two Development Consent Order**

I have been asked by my Rt Hon Friend the Secretary of State to make this written statement. This statement concerns an application made under the Planning Act 2008 by *SMart Wind Limited* on 30 January 2015 for a proposed development known as the Hornsea Offshore Windfarm (Zone 4) – Project Two (“the Development”).

The Development would consist of up to 300 wind turbine generators, each with a capacity of between 6MW and 15MW, approximately 89km east of the East Riding of Yorkshire coast. The total installed capacity of the Development would be up to 1,800MW. The Planning Inspectorate’s Examining Authority commenced examination of the application on 16 June 2015 and the Examining Authority’s report was delivered to the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change on 16 March 2016.

Section 107(1) of the Planning Act 2008 requires the Secretary of State to make her decision within 3 months of receipt of the Examining Authority’s report unless she exercises her power under section 107(3) to extend the deadline and make a Statement to the House of Commons announcing the new deadline.

The deadline for the decision is to be extended to 16 August 2016 (an extension of 2 months). This extension is to enable the Secretary of State to obtain further information in order to fully assess the possible impact of the Development on the Southern North Sea possible Special Area of Conservation for harbour porpoise, and to ensure that her duties in relation to the requirements under regulation 61 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 have been met.

The decision to set a new deadline is without prejudice to the decision on whether to grant development consent for the Development.