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PINS Reference: EN010056

Our Reference: 10032037

3rd October 2016

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Re: EN010056 Application by Scottish Power Renewables for an Order granting Development Consent for East Anglia Three Offshore Wind Farm.

Please find below Whale and Dolphin Conservation (WDC) responses to the second questions.

ECMM15. WDC

WDC and the Applicant in their Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) [REP2-056] had a number of areas of disagreement. In its comments on Written Representations [REP3-005] the Applicant highlighted recommendations made by WDC which had not yet been addressed, including groundtruthing of modelled noise assessment data and making collected data available to stakeholders, and provided its response. Have WDC's concerns been addressed by the Applicant and, if not, what additional information does WDC consider should be provided?

In the Applicants response to WDC's Written Representation [REP3-005], the applicant states that in condition 18 of the DML Schedules 1 and 2, that the noise generated by first four piled foundations will be monitored. We do not feel this alone is adequate or robust enough on which to base an assessment. This will only give a snapshot of the impacts of noise from pile driving, which will not generate sufficient data on which to assess the accuracy of the noise modelling or extrapolate the impacts of pile driving on harbour porpoises for the duration of the construction period.

To fully ground-truth the noise modelling assessment, the monitoring and reporting should continue, preferably, for the duration of the construction period and certainly in different parts of the development site over a longer period of time at the start, in the middle and towards the end of the construction period. It would be helpful if the acoustic data collected were contributed to the Noise Registry.

We are pleased to see that the applicant supports sharing of non-sensitive data to further the knowledge base for future developments. However, we would like to see details of the non-sensitive data the applicant will be sharing, a timescale and details of how the data would be available. The data will only be useful to stakeholders if it scientifically robust.

ECMM17. Applicant

In its post-hearing submission for Deadline 4 [REP4-032] the MMO states that it would not expect the Secretary of State to instruct the MMO who to consult. MMO suggests it more appropriate for the Applicant to consult with The Wildlife Trusts (TWT) during drafting, and the Trusts should be named in the draft Deemed marine Licence (dDML). Is the Applicant willing to name TWT and WDC



in the dDML?

We welcome the opportunity to be involved in the post consent schedule in the Site Integrity Plan (SIP), and we would be pleased to be consulted on the drafting process.

HRA13. All interested parties

The ExA invites responses related to the Applicant's assessment of effects on the Southern North Sea pSAC [REP4-016], the draft Site Integrity Plan (SIP) [REP4-013] and the drafting of Condition 13 of the dDMLs to secure the SIP [REP4-003 and 004].

We would like to draw your attention to The Wildlife Trusts response to this question, as we echo their concerns and fully support, and agree with, their detailed response on this question.

Yours faithfully,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Vicki James.

Vicki James
Science Officer

WHALE AND
DOLPHIN
CONSERVATION

