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All Interested Parties, Statutory Parties and Other Persons

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010077 & EN010078

Date: 26 March 2021

Dear Sir/ Madam

Planning Act 2008 – Section 89 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rule 9 Application by East Anglia ONE North Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the East Anglia ONE North Offshore Wind Farm

Application by East Anglia TWO Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the East Anglia TWO Offshore Wind Farm

Procedural Decision on Changes to the Applications

I am writing to advise you of a procedural decision by the Examining Authorities (ExAs) in relation to Changes to the Applications Submitted at Deadline 7.

Having regard to proposed changes to the Applications submitted to both Examinations at Deadline 7 by East Anglia ONE North Limited and East Anglia TWO Limited (together referred to as 'the Applicants') and to guidance in the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 16: Requesting Changes ('AN16'), the ExAs have decided that the proposed changes are not material changes. The ExAs have accepted the proposed changes for Examination on that basis.

This procedural decision is set out in full **in Annex A** to this letter. The procedural decisions tracker has been re-published to take account of these decisions and is provided in Annex B.

Yours faithfully

Rynd Smith

### **Lead Member of the Panels of Examining Inspectors**

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### **Procedural Decision made by the Examining Authorities**

The ExAs have made the following procedural decision<sup>1</sup>. Previous procedural decisions can be accessed from the Procedural Decisions Tracker in Annex B.

# 32. Proposed Changes to the Applications at Deadline 7: Approach to Examination

At Deadline 7 to both Examinations, the Applicants submitted requests to reduce the land required onshore [REP7-004][REP7-012/013] in the following locations:

- Remove Plot 3 from the landfall area; and
- Reduce the required width of the onshore cable route at Plot 54 (crossing of the Hundred River)<sup>2</sup>.

The ExAs have considered the changes and responses to them arising at Compulsory Acquisition Hearings 3 held on Thursday 18 March 2021. They have concluded that these changes are non-material, for reasons set out below. It follows that no formal acceptance, notice, consultation or related process is required before the ExAs commence examination of these proposed changes, which the ExAs have done with immediate effect, alongside the Applications as submitted. This agreement by the ExAs does not imply any acceptance of the planning merits or evidence for the changes, the effects of which will be examined with equal rigour to the proposals contained in the original Applications.

## The Examining Authorities' reasoning

In reaching this decision, the ExAs note that the proposed changes do not extend the land affected by the applications. Both have the effect of reducing the land required for the proposed developments. In comparison with the scale of the proposed developments as a whole, the land affected by the changes is only minor in extent.

The Applicants have provided reasoning which suggests that the proposed developments can be delivered without any requirement for the land proposed to be excluded.

The changes appear intended to have the effect of reducing the extent and or adversity of environmental effects (and so appear likely to be within the Rochdale envelopes for the proposed developments). Whilst the ExAs make no judgement yet as to whether the proposed changes will reduce adverse effects, they accept that there is no likelihood that the exclusion of this land will lead to any material exacerbation of adverse effects.

On this basis and having taken the advice in AN16<sup>3</sup> fully into account, the ExAs accept that the changes described above are not material changes to the applications.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Decisions made under Section 89(1) of the Planning Act 2008

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> References in [square brackets] are to documents in both Examination Libraries, where the relevant documents share the same reference numbers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Advice-note-16.pdf

Application by East Anglia ONE North Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the East Anglia ONE North Offshore Wind Farm

Application by East Anglia TWO Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the East Anglia TWO Offshore Wind Farm

#### Log of Procedural Decisions made by the Examining Authorities

The ExAs have made the following groups of procedural decisions<sup>4</sup>:

- Procedural decisions made in the pre-examination period before the Preliminary Meeting, initially to support Examination including physical hearing events before the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, and then to ensure continued preparation for Examination using Covid-safe methods. There are 19 of these decisions, numbered in date order from 1 to 19, of which 5 have been superseded and cancelled and 14 remain in effect having been confirmed following the Preliminary Meetings.
- **Procedural decisions made following the Preliminary Meetings**. There are three of these, numbered in sequence from 20 to 22. These decisions are set out in full in the **Rule 8 Letters** of 12 October 2020. Noting that some elements of these decisions were contested in written and oral submissions to the Preliminary Meetings, a statement of reasons was also provided and can be accessed by a hyperlink from those letters.
- **Procedural decisions made during the Examinations**. There are currently ten of these, numbered 23 to 32, relating to:
  - PD 23: requests by the Applicants for changes to the applications including the inclusion of additional land.
  - PD24: a decision by the ExA not to issue a second round of written questions (ExO2).
  - PD 25: a decision by the ExA to accept non-material revisions to details of the onshore substations (updated details of finished ground levels and height of structures).
  - PD 26: a decision by the ExA to amend the timetables to respond to requests by the Applicants for changes to the applications and to provide additional time for Open Floor and Issue Specific Hearings.
  - PD 27: publication of Questions on the Energy White Paper (December 2020) under EPR Rule 17.
  - PD 28: amendment of Timetable to accommodate revised hearings in February 2021.
  - PD 29: Examination process decisions for additional Affected Persons under the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010.
  - PD 30: amendment of Timetable to accommodate revised hearings in March 2021.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Decisions made under Section 89(1) of the Planning Act 2008



- PD 31: Procedural Decision on Negotiations with Affected Persons (ISHs9 Agenda Item 1A).
- PD32: a decision by the ExA to accept non-material reductions to the land required at the proposed landfall and the crossing of the Hundred River (this letter).

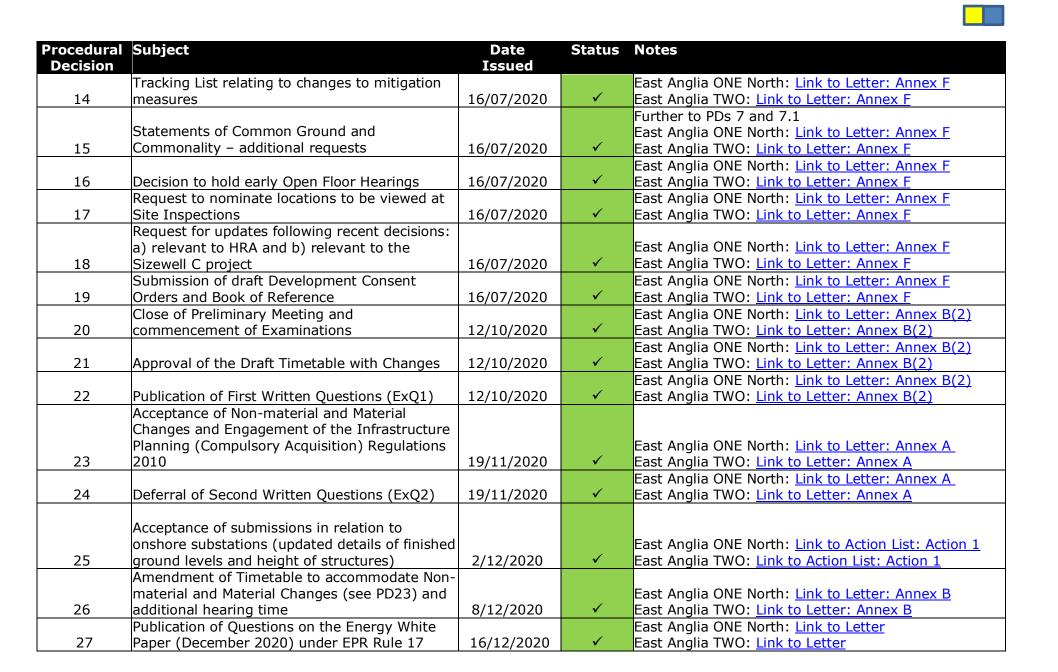
The table below provides access to the original documents in which each procedural decision was recorded.

Publication date: 26/03/2021

# Procedural Decisions Tracker

The ExA has made the following Procedural Decisions under Section 89(3) of the PA2008. Decisions are numbered in order of the date on which they were made. Decisions shown with a green status ( $\checkmark$ ) remain applicable. Decisions shown with a red status ( $\ast$ ) have been cancelled or superseded and no longer have effect.

Procedural Decision	Subject	Date Issued	Status	Notes
				East Anglia ONE North: <u>Link to letter: Annex B</u>
1	Request for hard copy documents	23/12/2019	✓	East Anglia TWO: <u>Link to Letter: Annex B</u>
	Document submission procedure relating to			East Anglia ONE North: Link to letter: Annex B
2	both East Anglia applications	23/12/2019	✓	East Anglia TWO: <u>Link to Letter: Annex B</u>
	Means of identifying documents relating to			East Anglia ONE North: <u>Link to letter: Annex B</u>
3	one/both East Anglia applications	23/12/2019	✓	East Anglia TWO: <u>Link to Letter: Annex B</u>
	Tracking List relating to SoCG, Commercial Side			
4	Agreements and Planning Obligations	21/02/2020	x	Superseded by PD 12
	Tracking List relating to changes			
5	to application documents and plans	21/02/2020	ж	Superseded by PD 13
	Tracking List relating to changes			
6	to mitigation measures	21/02/2020	ж	Superseded by PD 14
				East Anglia ONE North: <u>Link to Letter: Annex G</u>
7	Requests for Statements of Common Ground	21/02/2020	✓	East Anglia TWO: <u>Link to Letter: Annex G</u>
				Further to PD 7
	Requests for early submission of selected			East Anglia ONE North: <u>Link to Letter: Annex G</u>
7.1	Statements of Common Ground	21/02/2020	✓	East Anglia TWO: <u>Link to Letter: Annex G</u>
8	Decision to hold early Issue Specific Hearings	21/02/2020	×	Superseded by PD 16 and FAQ
	Request to nominate locations to be viewed at			0 1 11 20 17
9	Site Inspections	21/02/2020	ж	Superseded by PD 17
	Decision to postpone the Preliminary Meeting			East Anglia ONE North: <u>Link to Letter</u>
10	and early Hearings	17/03/2020	✓	East Anglia TWO: <u>Link to Letter</u>
	Request for Comments on Relevant			East Anglia ONE North: <u>Link to Letter</u>
11	Representations	21/05/2020	✓	East Anglia TWO: <u>Link to Letter</u>
	Tracking List relating to SoCG, Commercial Side			East Anglia ONE North: <u>Link to Letter: Annex F</u>
12	Agreements or Planning Obligations	16/07/2020	✓	East Anglia TWO: Link to Letter: Annex F
	Tracking List relating to changes to application			East Anglia ONE North: <u>Link to Letter: Annex F</u>
13	documents and plans	16/07/2020	$\checkmark$	East Anglia TWO: <u>Link to Letter: Annex F</u>





Procedural Decision	Subject	Date Issued	Status	Notes
	Amendment of Timetable to accommodate revised hearings in February			East Anglia ONE North: <u>Link to Letter</u>
28	2021	25/01/2021	✓	East Anglia TWO: Link to Letter
	Examination process decisions for additional Affected Persons under the Infrastructure			
	Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations			East Anglia ONE North: Link to Letter
29	2010	5/02/2021	✓	East Anglia TWO: <u>Link to Letter</u>
	Amendment of Timetable to			East Anglia ONE North: Link to Letter
30	accommodate revised hearings in March 2021	9/02/2021	✓	East Anglia TWO: <u>Link to Letter</u>
	Procedural Decision on Negotiations with			East Anglia ONE North: <u>Link to Letter</u>
31	Affected Persons (ISHs9 Agenda Item 1A)	22/02/2021	✓	East Anglia TWO: <u>Link to Letter</u>
	Procedural Decision to accept as non-material			This Letter
	changes a reduction in the land required at the			
	proposed landfall and at the crossing of the			
32	Hundred River	26/03/2021	$\checkmark$	