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Your Refs:

To the Applicants,
NGET, NGESO, NGV and Ofgem¹

Our Refs: EN010077 & EN010078

Date: 16 December 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

**Planning Act 2008 (as amended) – Section 89 and
the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rule 17**

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

Requests for further information and written comments

HM Government has published 'Powering Our Net Zero Future: Energy White Paper' (December 2020) (the White Paper).

The Examining Authorities (ExAs) have reflected on matters raised by the White Paper and have decided to seek further information and comments. Questions under Rule 17 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (EPR) are set out in **Annex A**. They are addressed to the Applicants and to named Interested Parties (IPs). However, other IPs wishing to respond may do so.

The deadline for the submission of the information sought is **Deadline 4, Wednesday 13 January 2021**. Any IP wishing to respond to the ExA's questions should do so at Deadline 4.

Any IP wishing to comment on information submitted in response to this request at Deadline 4 may do so at Deadline 5, Wednesday 3 February 2021.

¹ NGET is National Grid Electricity Transmission, NGESO is National Grid Electricity System Operator, NGV is National Grid Ventures and Ofgem is the Office of Gas and Electricity Markets.



All responses should be marked as relating to Rule 17 Questions of 16 December 2020.

Responses to the questions in this letter will be published shortly after Deadline 4 to enable them to be referred to where relevant in Issue Specific Hearings (ISHs) 3 to 6 and/or Open Floor Hearings (OFHs) 6 to 7 between **19 and 29 January 2021**.

Queries regarding the content of this letter should be addressed to the Case Team using the details listed at the top of this letter.

Yours faithfully

Rynd Smith

Rynd Smith
Lead Member of the Examining Authorities

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Annex A

Questions under EPR Rule 17
The Energy White Paper

The Energy White Paper (December 2020) can be seen at this link:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/943807/201214_BEIS_EWP_Command_Paper_LR.pdf

	Question to	Question
1	The Applicants	<p>Attention is drawn to the policy position on connecting offshore generation to the mainland grid set out at page 80 of the White Paper.</p> <p>The primary policy statement on page 80 of the White Paper states that <i>'to minimise the impact on local communities, we will implement a more efficient approach to connecting offshore generation to the mainland grid'</i>, noting that the current regime has encouraged single point-to-point connections and recognising the impact that this has had on the coastal communities which host this infrastructure.</p> <p>Provide your views on this policy position and consider any potential effect (if any) for the Applications and for submissions into the Examinations to date.</p>
2	The Applicants, NGET, NGESO, NGV	In the second paragraph of page 80 of the White Paper, HM Government recognises the impact of





	Question to	Question
		<p>single/ per project point-to-point grid connections on the coastal communities that host this infrastructure and identifies that it will act 'quickly' to address this.</p> <p>In the sixth paragraph of page 80, HM Government states that '<i>in order to start delivering these benefits [arising from a more coordinated approach to grid connections], we will encourage projects already in development, where early opportunities for coordination exist, to consider becoming pathfinder projects</i>'.</p> <p>a) Have any discussions been held with the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) about the Government's expectations of pace and/or the development of a 'pathfinder' approach to the transmission system connection proposals for these Applications?</p> <p>b) If so, please provide an outline description of the implications of the 'pathfinder' approach for each Application, identifying any contingencies or matters not yet resolved.</p> <p>c) If not, is any approach to BEIS likely to be made during the timescale of these Examinations, or might a 'pathfinder' approach be taken post-decision?</p>
3	The Applicants	<p>The draft Development Consent Orders (dDCOs) [AS-068-070] seek a seven-year commencement period (Requirements 1), during which timescale various of the policy positions set out in the White Paper might be anticipated to have reached a high level of maturity or resolution. Is it necessary to adapt the drafting of the dDCOs in any specific way to enable the adaptation of one or both proposed developments to current or possible future grid connection 'pathfinder' approaches or to any other element of the White Paper position?</p>
3	Ofgem	<p>In Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2), Ofgem provided a view that projects already in the development pipeline would broadly be delivered within the framework of (then) existing policy. Does the policy position set out in the White Paper amend Ofgem's view?</p>