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To the Applicants
By email only

Your Refs:

Our Refs: EN010077 & EN010078

Date: 29 April 2021

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

The ExAs have reviewed submissions and evidence and have decided to seek further information in writing arising from certain circumstances where additional investigation or survey work has been proposed or sought. Questions under Rule 17 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (EPR) (R17Qs) are set out in **Annex A**. These are the third set of such questions issued in these Examinations and are known as R17QC. They are only addressed to the Applicants. However, other Interested Parties (IPs) wishing to respond may do so.

The initial deadline for the submission of the information sought is **Deadline 10, Thursday 6 May 2021** with some substantive submissions of detail sought at Deadline 11, Monday 7 June 2021. Any IP wishing to comment on responses to this request may do so at Deadline 11. If substantive responses to certain questions raised are not able to be submitted until Deadline 11, IP comments in such circumstances will be accepted at Deadline 12, Monday 28 June 2021.

All responses should be marked as relating to Rule 17 Questions of 29 April 2021 (R17QC).

Yours faithfully

Rynd Smith

Rynd Smith
Lead Member of the Examining Authorities

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**Application by East Anglia ONE North Ltd for East Anglia ONE North Offshore Wind Farm
Application by East Anglia TWO Ltd for East Anglia TWO Offshore Wind Farm**

Questions under EPR Rule 17 (R17QC)
Proposals for Investigations and Surveys

Issued on 29 April 2021

This R17Qs document is a parallel document applicable to both Examinations. Each individual question indicates the Examination(s) it is applicable to as follows.

-  A yellow icon with a black **1**: the question is applicable to the East Anglia ONE North Examination.
-  A blue icon with a white **2**: the question is applicable to the East Anglia TWO Examination.
-  Both icons: the question is applicable to both Examinations.

The questions raised in this document emerge from the ExAs’ consideration of the balance of evidence and responses to it. There are a number of circumstances in which the Applicants have proposed or Interested Parties (IPs) have requested that additional investigations or surveys might be undertaken, with a view to better control of relevant effects, refining provisions in the draft Development Consent Orders (dDCOs) and/or refinements to drafting in plans and documents proposed to be certified under the dDCOs. The questions aim to resolve whether additional investigations and surveys are considered to be necessary and are underway. If they are, clarity about when the work is to be undertaken is sought. If they are not, reasons for that view are sought.

An editable version of this table in Microsoft Word is available on request by email from the Case Teams (please include R17QC in the subject line of your request). It would assist the ExAs if responses were provided in tabular format as far as possible.

Initial responses are due by **Deadline 10: Thursday 6 May 2021**. These should clarify whether relevant investigations or surveys are being carried out. Where data emerging from these processes is available, it can also be submitted at Deadline 10. However, where investigations or surveys have not commenced or are not yet complete, the ExAs will support substantive data submissions being made at later deadlines¹, subject to there being an adequate means of enabling IPs to respond to it.

¹ Substantive data submissions should be made at Deadline 11 if possible, enabling IP responses at Deadline 12 and Applicants closing submissions at Deadline 13. Substantive data submissions after Deadline 11 may lead to additional forms of IP consultation needing to be carried out and/or to recommendations for other drafting changes to relevant documents.



R17Q C		To		Question
Offshore Ornithology				
R17QC.1	The Applicants	1	2	<p>Cumulative and In-Combination Collision Risk</p> <p>On 15 April 2021, the Secretary of State for BEIS decided to make a non-material change to the East Anglia THREE Offshore Wind Farm Order 2017 as applied for by East Anglia THREE Limited on 21 July 2020. The change reduces the maximum number of turbines and amends some of the offshore design parameters for turbines.</p> <p>Do the Applicants intend to further update their Offshore Ornithology Cumulative and In-Combination Collision Risk Updates [REP8-035] to reflect the revised position following the making of the East Anglia THREE Offshore Wind Farm (Amendment) Order 2021?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If not, please explain your reasoning. • If so, please indicate at which deadline² the updated document (and any consequential updates to other examination submissions relating to cumulative/in-combination ornithological collision risk impacts) will be submitted, allowing time for other parties to comment on any material.
Terrestrial Ecology				
R17QC.2	The Applicants	1	2	<p>Ecology Survey Results [REP6-035]</p> <p>Natural England’s D7 response [REP7-073] indicated that surveys had not followed best practice in relation to timings and ground conditions, as many vegetation species are only evident in spring or summer and that the ability to identify these can be key to an adequate understanding of habitat type and its quality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will any further surveys be undertaken during spring and submitted into the Examinations? • If so, please indicate at which deadline² additional survey results will be available. • If not, then please explain your reasoning, responding to comments from NE and other IPs on this matter.

² See Footnote 1 above.



R17Q C To		Question		
Marine and Coastal Processes				
R17QC.3	The Applicants	1	2	<p>Surveys to inform HDD design and delivery at landfall</p> <p>At ISHs4, the Applicants stated that further ground investigations into geological conditions would take place in April/May 2021 or when weather conditions permitted, to further inform the horizontal directional drilling (HDD)/ trenchless techniques design at the landfall location.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the outcomes from this work be submitted into the Examinations? • If so, please indicate at which deadline³ the survey results will be available. • If not, then please explain your reasoning. In these circumstances might any changes to the dDCOs or relevant certified documents be required in order to respond to the survey outcomes once known?
R17QC.4	The Applicants	1	2	<p>Contaminant sampling, dredge and disposal activity offshore [REP9-060]</p> <p>In [REP8-156], the MMO set out its view that the contaminant sampling conducted by the Applicants at this stage is insufficient. In [REP9-060] the MMO clarified that it would normally advise that the regulation of all dredge and disposal activity should be removed from the dDCOs and a separate sediment sampling plan and marine licence should then be sought by the Applicants for each project. However, the MMO proceeded to observe in relation to its D8 position (set out prior to the extension decision) that <i>'due to the late stage of the application process [it had] made a pragmatic decision to agree to the inclusion of the dredge and disposal activity within the DCO consent.'</i></p> <p>In its D9 submission, the MMO identified that it was content with the current drafting of dDCOs / Deemed Marine Licences (DMLs) in Schedules 13, Condition 31(1) and (2) / Schedules 14, Condition 27(1) and (2), as this drafting <i>'accurately reinforces that dredge and disposal activities cannot take place until results of sediment sampling information and proposed dredge and disposal activities have been approved by the MMO.'</i> However, the MMO also identified that discussions on these matters with the Applicants are continuing with a request having been made on their part for sampling to be provided, prior to the close of the Examinations. Enabling this to occur could in turn enable the MMO to revert to its in-principle position that these DML conditions may not be required in the final dDCOs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will outcomes from these discussions with the MMO and additional sampling work be

³ See Footnote 1 above.



R17Q C	To			Question
				<p>submitted into the Examinations and is it anticipated that consequential changes to DML drafting will be proposed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If so, please indicate at which deadline⁴ this work will be available. • If not, then please explain your reasoning.
Onshore Substation Siting and Design				
R17QC.5	The Applicants	1	2	<p>Flood risk modelling</p> <p>Please consider undertaking further percolation testing and additional topographical and hydraulic modelling at the proposed substations site at Friston, to enable a more precise assessment of construction and operational flood risk to be made, taking downstream/ Friston River conditions into account. In addition, please consider further investigative work to confirm that any potential culvert to the Friston watercourse is a viable option.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can this work be submitted into the Examinations? • If so, please indicate at which deadline⁴ the survey results and additional impact assessments will be available. • If not, then please explain your reasoning. What steps should be taken in the absence of this data?
R17QC.6	The Applicants	1	2	<p>Substation Design Principles Statement (SDPS) [REP8-082]</p> <p>Further to the question on flood risk modelling above (R17QC.5), please confirm whether revisions to existing modelling or further modelling for flood risk purposes and/or soil and groundwater investigations could be carried out to support further revisions and refinements to the proposed final finished ground levels and maximum visual envelope for the proposed onshore substations and National Grid substation. If this work is contemplated or in progress, it should include consideration of the impact of possible drainage solutions on landscape treatments and planting locations, species and density.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can this work be submitted into the Examinations? • If so, please indicate at which deadline⁴ the survey results and additional impact assessments will be available.

⁴ See Footnote 1 above.



R17Q C	To	Question
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If not, then please explain your reasoning. Why is this work unnecessary?