

30 May 2019

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Our ref:
VJR2/JT8/47583.46
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Dear Sirs

Norfolk Vanguard Offshore Wind Farm Development Consent Order (DCO) (the Project)
Case reference no: EN010079
The Applicant: Norfolk Vanguard Limited

Deadline 8 Submissions

We write further to the Planning Inspectorate's Rule 8 letter dated 19 December 2019 (the Rule 8 letter). In accordance with the deadlines at Annex A of the Rule 8 letter, we enclose the following in response to Deadline 8:

1. Comments on the REIS
2. Comments on the ExA's draft DCO schedule of changes
3. Final updated version of the Book of Reference
4. Final CA Schedule
5. Applicant's guide to the application
6. Final SoCGs (although see further update below)
7. Statement of Commonality of SoCGs
8. Responses to further information (Rule 17) requested by the ExA
9. Final DCO.

The Applicant refers the ExA to the Guide to the Application (Document Reference 1.4 (Version 9)) for a full list of documents submitted by the Applicant as part of Deadline 8.

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Protective Provisions

Protective provisions are now agreed with the National Grid, Cadent Gas, and Network Rail. This is reflected in the dDCO submitted at Deadline 8 and in the Statements of Common Ground with National Grid and Cadent and the Network Rail position statement submitted at Deadline 8.

Statements of Common Ground (SoCGs)

Whilst the Applicant recognises that the deadline for final SoCGs is scheduled for Deadline 8, through engagement with stakeholders the Applicant understands that the preference of a select number of stakeholders is to submit a final SoCG at Deadline 9. This is largely as a result of stakeholders wishing to see the Applicant's Deadline 8 submissions before being able to confirm their final position in the SoCG. The Applicant is continuing to engage with stakeholders in order to resolve any outstanding matters.

The Applicant therefore proposes submitting updated SoCGs at Deadline 9 with the following stakeholders:

1. Broadland District Council
2. Environment Agency
3. Happisburgh Parish Council
4. Marine Management Organisation
5. Maritime and Coastguard Agency
6. National Farmers' Union
7. Natural England
8. Norfolk County Council

To the extent that any significant matters remain unresolved with the parties identified above at Deadline 9, the Applicant also proposes to submit position statements in relation to those matters at Deadline 9.

The Applicant has updated the SoCG for National Grid and Cadent Gas in order to reference their letters dated 23 May 2019, which withdraw their objections to the project, and to state that the protective provisions are agreed. Unfortunately it has not been possible to obtain a signed copy of these SoCGs from National Grid or Cadent but the Applicant has updated them to reflect the latest agreed position.

Article 37 and Certified Plans

The Note on Requirements and Conditions (document reference 3.3 (version 3)) outlines the final plans and documents that should be considered as certified documents under Article 37 of the DCO. The Applicant will update this further at Deadline 9 to capture the most recent plans and any changes since Deadline 8 as appropriate.

Validation of the DCO

The Applicant has been informed that the online validation system is encountering problems in processing the dDCO. The Applicant has been in correspondence with the validation service, who have advised that the DCO is too large to be validated through their online system. The Applicant has split the DCO into parts for the purposes of using the online validation system and the Applicant has obtained validations of the parts. However, the validation service provider has confirmed that they will be undertaking a manual validation service for the whole document and the Applicant expects to submit this at Deadline 9.

We would be grateful if you could kindly confirm safe receipt.

Yours faithfully

Womble Bond Dickinson (UK) LLP