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## **Environmental Protection**

**DONG Energy** 

PLANNING ACT 2008 (AS AMENDED)

INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT (EIA) REGULATIONS 2017

NOTIFICATION OF INFORMATION ABOUT DEVELOPMENT LIKELY TO HAVE SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN ANOTHER EEA STATE

## PROPOSED HORNSEA PROJECT THREE OFFSHORE WIND FARM (PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT) BY DONG ENERGY

**DONG Energy** has formally notified the Secretary of State, of its intention to submit an Environmental Statement.

The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (2017 Regulations) came into force in England and Wales on 16 May 2017. Regulation 37 of the 2017 Regulations provides transitional arrangements for the continued applicability of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) 2009 Regulations (as amended) (2009 Regulations). The transitional provisions apply to any application for an order granting development consent or subsequent consent where an Applicant has requested the Secretary of State or the relevant authority to adopt a Scoping Opinion (as defined in the 2009 Regulations) before the commencement of the 2017 Regulations in respect of the development to which the application relates.

On 26 October 2016 the Applicant requested the Secretary of State to adopt a Scoping Opinion in respect of the Proposed Development to which the screening relates. Since the Applicant's request for a Scoping Opinion was made before the 16 May 2017, the 2009 Regulations continue to apply. Subsequent references to 'the EIA Regulations' in this document are therefore made in relation to the 2009 Regulations unless otherwise stated.

The Proposed Development would be located in the North Sea, approximately 120km north east of the Norfolk coast and 160km east of the Yorkshire Coast. The Proposed Development comprises the development of an offshore generating station (windfarm) for up to 400 turbines with a generating capacity of up to 2,400MW. The blade tip height will be a maximum of 325m above the Lowest Astronomical Tide. In addition to the turbines the wind farm would also include up to 3 offshore accommodation platforms, 12 transformer substations, 4 converter substations, 4 booster stations and array cables. Electricity will be exported from the wind farm via export cables extending approximately 120km north east of the array area to the Norfolk coast.

Information about the Proposed Development and about its likely significant effects is available in the scoping report and the Secretary of State's scoping opinion, which is available electronically on the Planning Inspectorate's website:

https://infrastructure.planning in spectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/hornsea-project-three-offshore-wind-farm/

and in hard copy at the following location:

The Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6PN

Based on the current information provided by the Applicant to the Secretary of State, and applying a precautionary approach, the Secretary of State is of the view that the Proposed Development is likely to have significant effects on the environment of Iceland, France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Sweden and Norway. In accordance with Regulation 24 of the EIA Regulations the Secretary of State has provided information to the above mentioned EEA States about the Proposed Development and its likely significant effects, and these States have been asked to indicate by 11 August 2017 whether or not they wish to participate in the procedure for examining and determining the application under the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) (PA2008).

The Proposed Development is currently at the pre-application stage of the process. The applicant has not yet submitted an application to the Secretary of State. If the application is accepted for examination, the application will be examined in public and, subject to the provisions of the PA2008, the examination must be completed within a period of six months. Further information about how to participate in the examination procedure under the PA2008 and the way in which the Secretary of State will notify and consult EEA States in accordance with Regulation 24 of the EIA Regulations is available on the Planning Inspectorate's website: www.planningportal.gov.uk/infrastructure.

Following examination of the application and having taken the environmental information into consideration, the decision maker may refuse or grant development consent. If development consent is granted, this may be subject to requirements which, if necessary, will secure measures to avoid, reduce or offset the major adverse effects of the Proposed Development.

Signed by the Planning Inspectorate for and on behalf of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government

Date: 27 June 2017