

**From:** [Louise Staples](#)  
**To:** [Hornsea Project Three](#)  
**Cc:** [Jane Kenny](#)  
**Subject:** NFU and LIG submissions to the hearings from 3rd to 7th December 2018  
**Date:** 14 December 2018 20:11:48  
**Attachments:** [Orsted Open Floor hearing Monday 3rd December NFU LIG Final 14.12. 2018.pdf](#)  
[Orsted specific hearing Friday 7th December NFU LIG final 14.12. 2018.pdf](#)  
[Orsted specific hearing DCO Thursday 6 December NFU LIG 13.12. 2018 final.pdf](#)  
[Orsted specific hearing Tuesday 4 December NFU LIG Final 12.12. 2018.pdf](#)

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Dear Kay

Please find attached the written submissions on behalf of the NFU and LIG in regard to the following hearings:

Open floor hearing – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018

Issue Specific Hearing – Alternatives and design flexibility – Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Issue Specific Hearing – Draft Development Consent Order – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Issue Specific Hearing – Other Onshore Matters – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Further two documents have been attached which go with the submission in regard to the hearing on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2018. The links to these documents have also been inserted in the submissions.

If you do need anything else please do contact me.

Kind regards

Louise

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**PLANNING ACT 2008**

**INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATION PROCEDURE) RULES 2010**

**WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS OF NFU AND LIG REGARDING THE HORNSEA PROJECT THREE  
OFFSHORE WIND FARM DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER 201 [...]**

**PLANNING INSPECTORATE REFERENCE NO EN010080**

**SUBMISSIONS OF NATIONAL FARMERS UNION AND THE LAND INTEREST GROUP AT THE  
OPEN FLOOR HEARING – REPRESENTATIONS BY INTERESTED PARTIES ON 3rd DECEMBER  
2018**

**DATE 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2018**

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Submissions on behalf of the National Farmers Union (“NFU”) and the Land Interest Group (LIG) in respect of the application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) by Orsted Hornsea Project three (UK) Limited for the Hornsea project Three Offshore Wind Farm. The NFU is making a case on behalf of its members and LIG its clients, who are affected by the DCO.
- 1.2 The NFU represents 47,000 farm businesses in England and Wales, and additionally has 40,000 countryside members with an interest in the farming and the country.
- 1.3 The objectives of the NFU are to champion farming in England and Wales and to provide professional representation and service to its members. The matters raised in this submission are matters not only of concern to the farming owners of agricultural land affected by the DCO, but also of concern to, and raise points of principle that will affect, members of the NFU having farm holdings that may be affected by similar electrical and other infrastructure schemes.

## 2.0 Representation from NFU and LIG

- 2.1 Louise Staples on behalf of the NFU and LIG stated that they were going to highlight the main issues from the written representation submitted and that they would like for these issues to be covered at specific issue hearings during the examination.
- 2.2 **HVAC and HVDC Cables:** The NFU and LIG would like to understand further why Orsted feel that they cannot agree to take forward HVDC cables rather than HVAC cables. As highlighted in our written representation we believe and understand that HVDC cables would have less impact on farm businesses on a day to day basis once constructed. We understand that design HVAC and HVDC cables will be discussed further tomorrow at the specific hearing on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018.
- 2.3 **Construction:** The NFU and LIG understand that Orsted will use reasonable endeavours to complete construction works within a period of 2 years from date of entry for each phase. Landowners would like the cables to be laid in ducts and for all ducts to be laid in the first phase so that the overall impact is reduced on farm businesses as it would mean only coming on to the land once.
- 2.4 **Funding:** Further clarification is required from Orsted that they will be able to get funding for the scheme proposed. We have raised questions as to whether Orsted should be seeking a DCO for the second phase if funding is not secured.
- 2.5 **Link Boxes:** Further information is needed on what the link boxes will look like and how will they be set out especially if there is a group. It is understood they will look like manhole covers. Also what type of marker posts will be used? Landowners would like the link boxes to be situated in field boundaries so to reduce the impact on day to day agricultural operations.
- 2.6 **Code of Construction Document:** The NFU and LIG would like to see outline wording agreed for field drainage, soil reinstatement and aftercare as well as water supplies. This needs to be shown in a soil management document which is linked to the Code of Construction Practice in the DCO.
- 2.7 **Restrictive Covenants:** The final wording on the restrictive covenants that will be in place over the final lease area are still to be agreed. The NFU and LIG would like to see these included in the DCO so that the wording is binding.
- 2.8 **Access:** Further information is needed from Orsted on how access is to be achieved on a day to day basis to land during the laying of cables when contractors are on site. Further access across the cable route will be required permanently for maintenance which is still to be agreed.
- 2.9 **Highways:** Further clarification is required as to whether there will be any road closures during construction as this could have a big impact on a farm business if a road is closed. This is especially true where a farm may take access off this road. An example was highlighted in regard to one of the farm businesses having a large Christmas tree enterprise and how a road closure meant the business could not move trees which had been cut on a regular basis throughout the day, prevent customers making collections and deliveries, which would have a massive financial impact.

- 3.0 DCO Schemes:** The NFU stated that they supported Mr. Pearce in regard to this comments about how National Grid should be planning how these different Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects are brought forward especially in Norfolk so that they cause the least impact to landowners, occupiers and local communities. At the present time each project is looked at on an individual basis by National Grid and PINS. This needs to be looked at and considered by Government through the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government Planning. Land being compulsory purchased for these types of schemes on an individual basis are having far too great an impact on farming businesses.