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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](#)

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 3rd December 2018

Issue Specific Hearing – Alternatives and design flexibility – Tuesday 4th December 2018

Issue Specific Hearing – Draft Development Consent Order – Thursday 6th December 2018

Issue Specific Hearing – Other Onshore Matters – Friday 7th December 2018

Further two documents have been attached which go with the submission in regard to the hearing on Thursday 6th 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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**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 ON THE
ISSUE SPECIFIC HEARING 4 – OTHER ONSHORE ISSUES ON 7th DECEMBER 2018**

DATE 14TH 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.

2.0 Land Use and Recreation

- 2.1 The NFU and LIG confirmed that negotiations are progressing on a voluntary basis and that a further meeting had been held that morning with Richard Grist from Orsted.
- 2.2 We do still have some significant issues especially after hearing information provided by the Applicant at the hearings earlier in the week. The main issue is the length of time the project will take if it goes ahead in two phases to lay the cables onshore. We now understand very clearly that the gap between the first phase being completed and the second phase starting is likely to be 3 years. Orsted have explained that it will be a minimum of 2 years for a phase to be completed and so this means that construction could be completed for the two phases over 7 years. We understand that Orsted have asked for 8 years.
- 2.3 The disruption and severance caused to agricultural businesses by contractors being in situ over 7 years, which will include the haul road, temporary land requirements, temporary access routes and top soil which has not been reinstated over the cable ducts, will be very significant.
- 2.4 Further to reduce the impact on the condition of the soil, the soil needs to be reinstated as soon as possible and not left stored in bunds along the length of the cable route for a minimum of 7 years. The condition of the soil will deteriorate the longer it is left in a bund and so the quicker the soil can be reinstated the quicker it will settle. It is then possible to start to rebuild the condition and structure of the soil. This will then have less impact on farm businesses as the aftercare needed to bring the soil back to its condition and yielding potential will not take so long.
- 2.5 The concerns over the time required to lay the cables in two phases was re-iterated to Richard Grist at the meeting we had in the morning. In particular the importance of reinstating both sub and top soil over as much of the cable lengths as possible was discussed but that probably would not be possible to re-instate the soil around the jointing bays and link boxes until the end of both phases. It was emphasised how this would greatly reduce the impact on disruption and in particular severance in fields and on daily field operations.
- 2.6 This is why the NFU and LIG believe it is so important to have the wording on soil reinstatement and aftercare agreed in a soil management document which is linked to the Code of Construction Practice.
- 2.7 As above it is essential that the general wording on how field drainage and water supplies will be dealt with pre, during and post construction and again for this to be highlighted in a soil management document. This document will then be binding by the DCO and contractors undertaking the laying of the cables for Orsted will have to abide to it.
- 2.8 For negotiations to progress on a voluntary basis, now in particular to the Option, the NFU and LIG are expecting Orsted to include appropriate wording in a soil management type document which can be agreed. The NFU and LIG are not asking for anything which has not been agreed under other DCO projects. Examples of the wording that we would like to see for soil reinstatement and aftercare as well as field drainage have been submitted in a submission to the specific hearing held on Thursday 6th December on the draft DCO.