

Hornsea Project Three
Offshore Wind Farm



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Appendix 43 to Deadline 7 submission - Memorandum of
Understanding between Hornsea Project Three and The Wildlife
Trusts

Date: 14th March 2019

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Front cover picture: Kite surfer near a UK offshore wind farm © Ørsted Hornsea Project Three (UK) Ltd., 2019.

The proposed Hornsea Project Three Offshore Wind Farm

Memorandum of Understanding between Ørsted Hornsea Project Three and The Wildlife Trusts

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been prepared by Orsted Hornsea Project Three (UK) Ltd. ('the Applicant') and The Wildlife Trusts (TWT); individually "a Party" and together 'the Parties', as a means of clearly stating the scope of ongoing engagement between the Parties through the development and construction of the Orsted Hornsea Project Three offshore wind farm (Hornsea Three). The MoU covers any affiliates that fall under TWT.

Scope of MoU

This MoU will come into effect should Hornsea Three be granted consent pursuant to the Planning Act 2009. It is acknowledged that typically, following the close of the examination, through to any Financial Investment Decision engagement may be limited and best captured in regular meetings already established between the Applicant and TWT. At the point of which Hornsea Three successfully secures internal Financial Investment Decision (typically secured after a successful Contract for Difference tender (under the current funding regimes for offshore wind farms) the Applicant will then move forward preparing the material to discharge pre-commencement conditions. It is from this point, leading up to and into construction that the Applicant will engage with TWT under the scope of this MoU.

This MoU sits separately to any MoU that the Applicant and TWT may agree, but if such wider MoU is reached between the Parties, practical steps to align commitments will be taken.

The intention of this MoU is to facilitate post consent engagement and encourage collaboration between the Parties.

It is not the intent of the MoU to supersede or limit any Party to matters it may raise during the examination. Objections to the application will continue to be managed separately in the Statement of Common Ground and evidence submitted by both Parties to the Examination Authority through the examination.

The MoU has however been issued to the Hornsea Three Examination Authority to allow either party to refer to it during the examination and demonstrate to the Examining Authority their commitment to ongoing engagement.

Hornsea Three

Hornsea Three is a proposed offshore wind farm located in the southern North Sea and will include all associated offshore (including up to 300 turbines) and onshore infrastructure.

The Hornsea Three array area (i.e. the area in which the turbines are located) is approximately 696 km², and is located approximately 121 km northeast off the Norfolk coast and 160 km east of the Yorkshire coast. The Hornsea Three offshore cable corridor extends from the Norfolk coast, offshore in a north easterly direction to

the western and southern boundary of the Hornsea Three array area. The Hornsea Three offshore cable corridor is approximately 163 km in length.

From the Norfolk coast, underground cables will connect the offshore wind farm to an onshore HVDC converter/HVAC substation, which will in turn, connect to an existing National Grid substation. Hornsea Three will connect to the Norwich Main National Grid substation, located to the south of Norwich. The Hornsea Three onshore cable corridor is 55 km in length at its fullest extent.

Memorandum of Understanding

The Applicant agrees to recognise that TWT have an interest in the protection and conservation of marine mammals and protected benthic habitats, particularly in relation to the inshore cabling route and that they are an informed stakeholder that can contribute to discussions regarding mitigating impacts (during marine construction and maintenance works) on marine mammals and benthic habitats.

The Applicant and TWT agree to commit to working in a collaborative manner as the project moves forward into the post consent phase.

This engagement will be led by the Applicant's environment and consents team as part of the development of construction management measures where they may have an influence on marine mammals and inshore cabling route.

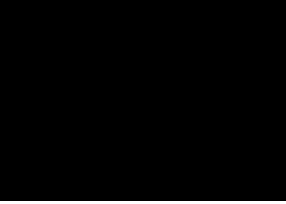
That engagement may be alongside, for example as part of a Working Group, the Statutory Nature Conservation Body and determination body (BEIS), or direct between the Project and TWT.


Specific areas of engagement between the Parties will extend to but not restricted to:

- i. Marine Mammal Mitigation Protocol (MMMP);
- ii. Southern North Sea SCI Site Integrity Plan (SIP); and
- iii. Plan for marine mammal monitoring.
- iv. Final inshore cabling route, cable protection measures and any associated monitoring.

The level and nature of engagement required to each plan is dependent on the complexity of the plan in question. For example, if it is a formulaic plan then it may require only a single brief discussion between the Applicant and TWT to confirm the intended approach. If on the other hand it is a more complex plan (e.g. SIP) it will inevitably require more engagement over a longer period. It is not possible at this stage to give some precise steps of engagement that must occur for any given plan at this stage.

Signatories

Signed	
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