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Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street,
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7 September 2021

Dear Ms Jones.

PLANNING ACT 2008

HORNSEA THREE OFFSHORE WIND FARM ORDER 2020 (AS AMENDED) ("the Order")

APPROVAL OF PLAN OF WORK ISSUED UNDER PARAGRAPH 2 OF PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 14 TO THE ORDER

- 1. The Hornsea Three Offshore Wind Farm Order 2020 as amended¹ ("the Order") contains a number of requirements and conditions that the undertaker must comply with before the authorised development as defined in the Order can commence.
- 2. Orsted Hornsea Project Three (UK) Limited ("the Applicant") made a request to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy ("the Secretary of State") on 4 August 2021 for approval ("the Approval Request") of the Plan of Work of the Offshore Ornithology Engagement Group ("OOEG") for the kittiwake compensation measures required by paragraph 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 14 to the Order.
- 3. The Approval Request submitted the Plan of Work to the Secretary of State for approval under paragraph 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 14 to the Order approving the Plan of Work of the OOEG.
- 4. The Secretary of State wishes to inform the Applicant that consideration has now been given to the Approval Request.

¹ The Hornsea Three Offshore Wind Farm Order 2020 (SI 2020/1656) was amended by The Hornsea Three Offshore Wind Farm (Correction) Order 2021 (SI 2021/599).

Plan of Work under paragraph 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 14

- 5. Paragraph 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 14 to the Order states that:
 - "2. The authorised development may not be commenced until a plan for the work of the Offshore Ornithology Engagement Group ("OOEG") has been submitted to and approved by the Secretary of State. Such plan to include:
 - (a) terms of Reference of the OOEG;
 - (b) details of the membership of the OOEG;
 - (c) details of the schedule of meetings, timetable for preparation of the kittiwake implementation and monitoring plan (the "KIMP") and reporting and review periods; and
 - (d) the dispute resolution mechanism.

The Approval Request

- 6. The Applicant has, in accordance with the requirements set out under paragraph 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 14 to the Order, provided a Plan of Work that sets out the terms of reference, the membership, the schedule of meetings, timetables, reporting and review periods, and the dispute resolution mechanism for the OOEG.
- 7. The Applicant also provided in the Approval Request ratification letters signed by Natural England, the Marine Management Organisation, and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, that confirm that these parties accept the Plan of Work for the OOEG.

Consideration of the Approval Request by the Secretary of State

- 8. The Secretary of State has considered the details provided by the Applicant in respect of the requirements related to the submission of the Plans of Work for the OOEG. The Secretary of State is satisfied that the Approval Request and the enclosed Plan of Work provide the information required by paragraph 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 14 to the Order, and notes that the ratification letters evidence acceptance from the core members of the OOEG.
- 9. The Secretary of State therefore approves the Plan of Work submitted with the Approval Request in accordance with paragraph 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 14 to the Order.

Yours sincerely

Kerry Crowhurst
Planning Case Manager, Energy Infrastructure Planning