



Department for  
Business, Energy  
& Industrial Strategy

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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 UNDER PARAGRAPH 10 OF PART 2 OF  
SCHEDULE 14 TO THE ORDER**

1. The Hornsea Three Offshore Wind Farm Order 2020 as amended<sup>1</sup> ("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 Benthic Compensation Steering Group ("BCSG") for the benthic compensation measures required by paragraph 10 of Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the Order.
3. The Approval Request submitted the Plan of Work to the Secretary of State for approval under paragraph 10 of Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the Order approving the Plan of Work of the BCSG.
4. The Secretary of State wishes to inform the Applicant that consideration has now been given to the Approval Request.

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<sup>1</sup> 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 10 of Part 2 of Schedule 14**

5. Paragraph 10 of Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the Order states that:

*“10. The authorised development may not be commenced until a plan for the work of a Steering Group who will shape and inform the scope and delivery of Sandbanks Implementation Plans for the NNSSR and the WNNC (“the SIPs”) has been submitted to and approved by the Secretary of State.*

*Such plan to include:*

- (a) terms of Reference of the Steering Group;*
- (b) the membership of the Steering Group;*
- (c) the schedule of meetings, timetable for preparation of the SIPs 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 10 in Part 2 of Schedule 4 to the Order, 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 BCSG.
7. The Applicant also provided in the Approval Request, ratification letters signed by Natural England, the Marine Management Organisation, and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee, that confirm that these parties accept the Plan of Work for the BCSG.

## **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 BCSG. The Secretary of State is satisfied that the Approval Request and the enclosed Plan of Work provides the information required by paragraph 10 of Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the Order, and notes that the ratification letters evidence acceptance from the core members of the BCSG.
9. The Secretary of State therefore approves the Plan of Work submitted with the Approval Request in accordance with paragraph 10 of Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the Order.

Yours sincerely



Kerry Crowhurst  
Planning Case Manager, Energy Infrastructure Planning