Meeting note

Project name Hornsea Project Three

File reference EN010080 Status Draft

Author The Planning Inspectorate

Date 20 February 2018

Meeting with Hornsea Project Three

Venue Telecon

Attendees The Planning Inspectorate

Kay Sully - Case Manger

Karl-Jonas Johansson - Case Officer

Helen Lancaster – Senior EIA and Land Rights Advisor

The Applicant Stuart Livesey Sophie Banham Emely Woolfenden

Meeting Project update meeting

objectives

Circulation All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which Applicants (or others) could rely.

Project update

The Applicant gave an overview of the recent s42 stakeholder engagement conducted and changes to the project. These changes related to the Redline boundary, access points, reduction in turbines in the array, reduction in the number construction phases, and refinements to the location of substations and booster stations.

The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that it is conducting a targeted 28 day statutory consultation in regards six minor onshore cable route amendments. The Applicant was advised to justify the approach to the targeted consultation in the consultation report.

Applicant is planning further meetings with the relevant county council, district councils and parish councils before the application is planned to be submitted in late May 2018.

Evidence plan

The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that the marine mammals' expert working group (EWG) meeting had progressed well. The planned onshore ecology EWG meeting had been postponed to allow all parties to review the new information before the meeting.

The Inspectorate informed the Applicant that it regarded the issues about the Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) and cumulative impacts on the Flamborough Head Special Protection Area as potential risks to the project. The Applicant stated that it was less concerned about the potential impact on the Flamborough Head SPA in comparison with previous Hornsea projects as birds from the SPA are unlikely to forage close to the development.

The ornithology EWG is aiming to agree a roadmap for the project at the meeting scheduled for 27 February 2018. The next meeting of the benthic ecology EWG and an MCZ workshop will be held on 23 February 2018.

Surveys

Wintering bird surveys almost completed. Archaeological surveys have been completed. The geotechnical surveys are yet to commence but the MMO has now issued the necessary Marine Licence needed to conduct the survey work. It was further clarified that the geotechnical survey results would not form part of the application but will be used as supporting evidence by the Applicant during the examination.

Compulsory acquisition

The Applicant confirmed that it had not identified any new landowners during the last consultation period.

The Applicant advised that it was considering seeking legal powers to enter two parcels of land for further survey work. The Inspectorate clarified that an application under s53 to enter someone's land takes two to three months and that the test for s53 changes after an application has been submitted. The Applicant was advised to review Advice note five: Section 53 – Rights of entry if making an application under s53.

Draft documents review

The Applicant indicated that it was unlikely to request a full draft documents review but was contemplating sending the Inspectorate its consultation programme diagram, which sets out the structure of the Consultation Report for review. The Inspectorate clarified that any advice given would be published as s51 advice.

Anticipated submission date

The Applicant suggested that this was anticipated to be the mid to end of May 2018. Prior to or at a similar time as the application being submitted the Applicant intends to submit a newsletter to all its stakeholders explaining how to participate in the examination. It was confirmed that the Applicant had received the s55 checklist and that it needed to submit two hard copies of the application to the Inspectorate.

Any Other Business

The Applicant was requested to submit a list of its s42 as a non application document and its list of s56 consultees at the same time as it certified under s59. [post-meeting note – s42 and s56 list templates has been sent to the Applicant]

The Applicant confirmed it was aware of the General Data Protection Regulations that come in to effect in May 2018.

Specific decisions/ follow-up required?

The following actions were agreed:

- The Applicant to send the Inspectorate its list of potential Hearing/Preliminary meeting venues this is dependent upon the Planning Inspectorate releasing requirements to the Applicant as requested.
- The Applicant to clarify which legislation it intended to apply for the right to enter land under.