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Date:
15/01/2019

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The Applicant's response to Deadline 1

Dear Ms Mignano,

The Applicant is pleased to provide its response to Deadline 1, required for submission by 23:59, Tuesday 15 January 2019.

These documents have been prepared by the Applicant in response to the Rule 8 letter issued by the Examining Authority (ExA) on 18 December 2018.

Submissions requested by the ExA

As requested in the examination timetable, Annex A to the Rule 8 letter, the following documents have been submitted:

- Responses to Relevant Representations (Appendix 1 and subsequent Annexes);
- Summaries of all Relevant Representations exceeding 1500 words (Appendix 2);
- Statements of Common Ground (Appendices 3 - 24) and a Statement of Common Ground tracker (Appendix 33);
- Responses to the first round of Examiners Questions (Appendix 25 and subsequent Annexes);
- Updated application documents including the Statement of Reasons (Appendix 36), Book of Reference (Appendix 37) and outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (Appendix 42), as set out in an updated Guide to the Application (Appendix 34);
- A revised draft DCO in both clean (Appendix 35) and tracked change (Appendix 35, Annex A) versions;
 - An accompanying DCO tracker (Appendix 35, Annex B) sets out where changes have been and why;
- Written summaries of the Applicant's oral case from the Preliminary Meeting and Issues Specific Hearing (ISH) 1 and 2 (Appendices 29 – 31);
- Responses to the action points arising from ISH1 and 2 (Appendices 27 and 28, and subsequent Annexes);
- Draft itinerary for the Accompanied Site Visits (Appendix 32)
- A landowner table of negotiations (Appendix 26, Annex A) and a commercial agreements tracker (Appendix 26, Annex B)

Removal of landfall option 2

Following the receipt of Relevant Representations, further ongoing discussions with stakeholders, and review of available information associated with burial of infrastructure within the landfill, the Applicant proposes to remove landfall option 2 (above ground installation) from the project envelope.

Full details of this change are set out in Appendix 45 to the response to Deadline 1. In proposing this change the Applicant has been mindful of the implications of this change on the application and the examination timetable.

As all landfall installation options were considered as part of the worst case scenario throughout the Environmental Statement, any effects following the removal of option 2 would at the very worst be the same as that assessed, and in many cases reduced. No additional land is required due to this decision and therefore, the Applicant does not consider that this is a material change to the application.

Whilst we have been able to update some documentation at Deadline 1 to take this change into account, others including the draft DCO, plans and the Book of Reference will be submitted with further revisions at Deadline 2.

Amendments to the Order Limits

Notwithstanding the removal of landfall option 2, minor changes to the Order Limits have been made and updates to the onshore and offshore works plans and land plans are submitted (Appendices 38A – 38H). These changes are as follows:

- An amendment involving the refinement and reduction of the extent of Order Limits in proximity to Ramsgate harbour and westwards towards the landfill. This has been done to ensure there is no overlap of the Order Limits with the harbour wall and also has the additional benefit of aligning the boundary to be outside of the Thanet Coast SAC to the west of the harbour. As this amendment is only a minor reduction in the Order Limits it is, in the Applicant's view, entirely non-material and would not lead to any new or materially different environmental effects as that assessed.
- An amendment to the Order Limits has been made on the advice of The Crown Estate (TCE), who identified that the coordinates of the boundary around the exiting Thanet Offshore Wind Farm (TOWF) (the inner boundary of Order Limits) did not precisely match those in TCE lease for TOWF. This change is imperceptible on the scale of the submitted plans, however coordinates have been updated in the draft DCO, Appendix 35 of the response to Deadline 1. These revised coordinates lead to a shift in the inner boundary of approximately 7 m south east which the Applicant considers to be *de minimus* and would not lead to any different environmental effects as concluded in the Environmental Statement. This change has not affected the outer Order Limits.

Application document submitted in error

It has come to light that the application document titled 6.4.2.4, Annex 2-4 – Geophysical Investigation Report 3 of 3 (APP-073) contains the wrong report (a benthic characterisation report was submitted in error). As such the correct Geophysical Investigation Report part 3 of 3 is submitted at Appendix 44.

Additional documents

An onshore archaeological draft written scheme of investigation has been submitted following discussions with Historic England (Appendix 40). It is intended that this will be a certified document; the draft DCO has been updated accordingly.

Nemo Link consent documents

The Applicant was requested at point 10 of Annex B to the Rule 8 letter to provide electronic copies of development consents documents for Nemo Link. These documents, as far as is publicly available, were sent to the Planning Inspectorate on 7 January 2019.

Email submission of documents

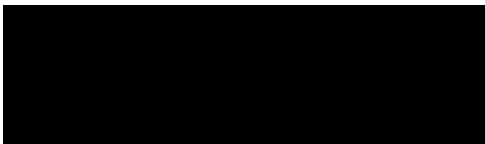
The documentation submitted at Deadline 1 is being sent via email to the PINS Thanet Extension address. These emails will be numbered and will each contain a document or documents under 12mb in size.

There is one document larger than 12mb in size and this has been sent to PINS on USB stick. This document is:

- Appendix 44 – Geophysical Investigation Report part 3 of 3.

Should there be any queries or issues with the documents submitted please contact myself.

Kind regards



Daniel Bates
Consents Manager – Thanet Extension Offshore Wind Farm
Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd