

**Application by Vattenfall Wind Power Limited for the Thanet Extension Offshore Wind Farm Development
Consent Order**

The Examining Authority's ISH8 Hearing action points

	Action:	Response:
18	<p>The Crown Estate Plan-Level HRA Update The Crown Estate to provide an update on the status of its plan-level HRA before close of the examination on 11 June 2019.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Crown Estate to confirm whether or not the plan-level HRA takes account of the proposed SEZ. 	Noted. The plan-level HRA has used the Order Limits and the SEZ has no impact on the HRA.
19	<p>The Crown Estate Agreement for Lease Update The Crown Estate to provide an update on the status of the Agreement for Lease for TEOWF before close of the examination of 11 June 2019.</p>	Noted.
20	<p>The Crown Estate: Relevance of Decisions About Round 4 Leasing The Crown Estate and the applicant to respond to the ExA's question: "what is the relevance to the TEOW application of the decision for the North Kent Coast and Thames Approaches to be excluded from the Round 4 leasing exercise".</p>	<p>As part of the work carried out by The Crown Estate to design a new leasing round for the possible release of seabed rights to support the continuing development of electricity generation from offshore wind, spatial characterisation assessments of the seabed resource and constraints around England, Wales and Northern Ireland were carried out. Initially 18 regions were identified including region 7, the Thames Approaches and region 8, the Kent Coast, within which the proposed Thanet Extension project is located. Both of these regions were classed as favourable for offshore wind development in terms of their technical resource characteristics for the utilisation of fixed foundations having water depths between 5 and 50m and good accessibility in terms of maximum wave height frequency.</p> <p>The further regional characterisation refinement carried out by The Crown Estate sought to integrate hard constraints to offshore wind</p>

Action:	Response:
	<p data-bbox="1144 308 2213 587">farm development, such as existing wind farms/aggregate production areas/cables/pipelines and IMO shipping routes etc with a stakeholder validated evidence base that considered matters such as Ministry of Defence radars and practice areas, anchorage areas, environmental designations, high intensity shipping routes, This characterisation is to determine areas of scale where the potential consenting risk for projects is reduced such that future projects are more likely to be capable of being brought forward into construction.</p> <p data-bbox="1144 632 2213 911">The proposed Thanet Extension windfarm area, as per the Order Limits (including the current proposed Structures Exclusion Zone), was treated as a hard constraint in the regional characterisation (noting that two areas were also successful in the 2018 aggregates tender round, area 1801 to the east of TEOW and area 1802 to the north east in the Thames approaches). Areas suitable for development of Extension projects may not, in general, be the most suitable areas for development of Round 4 projects.</p> <p data-bbox="1144 956 2213 1053">The fact that region 8, Kent Coast, has been excluded from a future Round 4 tender for large scale offshore wind development, when launched, is not relevant to the TEOW application.</p>