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Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
Energy Infrastructure Planning
1 Victoria Street
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25 April 2022

The Norfolk Boreas Offshore Wind Farm Order 2021

Application for a Non-material Change (removal of maximum export capacity and reduction in turbine numbers)

The Norfolk Boreas Offshore Wind Farm Order 2021 (the **Order**) granted consent on 10 December 2021 for the development of an offshore wind farm located approximately 73km from the coast of Norfolk (at the closest point) (the **Project**). The Project, located in the southern North Sea, covers an area of approximately 725km². Offshore cables transmitting power from the Project make landfall south of Happisburgh. From there underground cables continue approximately 60km to an onshore project substation, and connect into the National Grid substation near Necton, Norfolk.

On 17 December 2021, Norfolk Vanguard East Limited entered into an agreement for lease with The Crown Estate in respect of (i) part of the wind farm array area and (ii) the cable corridor. Therefore, for the purposes of paragraphs 2(6) and 2(7) of Schedule 6 to the Planning Act 2008, Norfolk Boreas Limited and Norfolk Vanguard East Limited both hold an interest in the land to which the Order relates. For the avoidance of doubt this non-material change application does not seek a change to any order limits and does not relate to the Norfolk Vanguard offshore windfarm Order.

As holders of an interest in the land, Norfolk Boreas Limited and Norfolk Vanguard East Limited (the **Applicant**) hereby apply for a non-material change to the Norfolk Boreas Offshore Wind Farm Order 2021 (the **Application**) in accordance with the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 (as amended) (**2011 Regulations**).

The Application seeks to remove the limit on the maximum generating capacity for the Project. It also seeks a reduction in turbine numbers from 158 to 137. These amendments are sought to allow the Project to benefit from continuing technological developments in the offshore wind industry and to further reduce the costs of energy produced by the Project to the consumer in line with government policy. On 27 June 2019, following advice from the Committee on Climate Change, the UK Government announced a new carbon reduction 'net zero' target for 2050 which resulted in an amendment to the Climate Change Act 2008; the target for the net UK carbon account for 2050 changed from 80% to 100% below the 1990 baseline. The Energy White Paper, Powering our Net Zero Future, was published on 14 December 2020. The white paper puts net zero and the UK government's effort to fight climate change at its core, following the Prime Minister's Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution. Facilitating an increase in the capacity of the Norfolk Boreas Wind Farm will further the contribution of the project to the government's goals and further assist in the fight against climate change.

The Application does not seek any changes to the onshore elements of the Project.

A separate application will be made to the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) to vary the Deemed Marine Licences in line with the changes in this Application.

In accordance with Regulation 4 of the 2011 Regulations, we enclose copies of the documents outlined below:

1. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1.1 This document includes:

- 1.1.1 The details of the proposed non-material change to the Order as prescribed by the 2011 Regulations;**

- 1.1.2 An explanation as to why the proposed change is considered non-material; and
 - 1.1.3 Considers whether the changes sought would give rise to likely significant effects on the environment or would adversely affect the integrity of any protected site forming part of the National Site Network.
- 1.2 A copy of the Supporting Statement will also be sent to the MMO in support of the separate application to vary the Deemed Marine Licences.
- 2. THE DRAFT AMENDMENT ORDER**
- 2.1 The enclosed draft Amendment Order sets out the amendments proposed to the Order to reflect the changes sought.
- 3. A TRACK CHANGES VERSION OF THE ORDER**
- 3.1 This document highlights, in tracked changes, the proposed amendments to the Order.
- 4. A TRACKED CHANGES VERSION OF THE DEEMED MARINE LICENSES**
- 4.1 As a separate, parallel, application is being made to the MMO to vary the Deemed Marine Licences (DMLs), a copy of the DMLs with the proposed changes shown in tracked changes, has been enclosed for reference.
- 5. A COPY OF THE NEWSPAPER NOTICE REQUIRED BY REGULATION 6 OF THE 2011 REGULATIONS (NOTICE)**
- 5.1 Notice of the Application will be published in the following newspapers as required by Regulation 6 of the 2011 Regulations:
- Fishing News; and
 - Eastern Daily Press.

A copy of the Notice is enclosed with this Application. The Regulation 7A consultation and publicity statement will follow after the second newspaper notice advertising the making of the Application has been published. This statement will confirm that the Applicant has consulted on the Application in accordance with Regulations 6 and 7 of the 2011 Regulations.

The Applicants confirm that the application fee of £6,891.00, as required by Regulation 5 of the 2011 Regulations has been processed for payment to BEIS.

For ease of reference, we also enclose a checklist at Schedule 1 to this letter, setting out all of the information required by Regulation 4(2) of the 2011 Regulations.

We would be grateful if you would acknowledge safe receipt of this letter and its enclosures.

If you have any questions or require clarification on the content of this letter or accompanying information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely



Ruari Lean

Norfolk Boreas Project Manager

Enclosures:

1. The Supporting Statement;
2. The draft Amendment Order;
3. The tracked changes version of the Order;
4. The tracked changes version of the Deemed Marine Licences; and
5. The newspaper notice as required by Regulation 7 of the 2011 Regulations.

SCHEDULE 1

Checklist of details required by Regulation 4(2) of the 2011 Regulations

Regulation	Requirement	Response
4(2)(a)	Name and address of applicant	Norfolk Boreas Limited and Norfolk Vanguard East Limited both of 5th Floor 70, St Mary Axe, London, United Kingdom, EC3A 8BE
4(2)(b)	Name and address of an agent, if appointed	N/A
4(2)(c)	The Secretary of State's reference for the development consent order to which the application relates	The Norfolk Boreas Offshore Wind Farm Order 2021 (S1 2021/1414) PINS reference: EN010087
4(2)(d)	Details of the change being applied for	The Application seeks to make a non-material change to remove the limit on the maximum export capacity and reduce the number of turbines from 158 to 137. The Application does not seek any changes to the onshore elements of the Project.
4(2)(e)	Any documents and plans considered necessary to support the application	A Supporting Statement, draft Amendment Order, a copy of the Order with the proposed amendments shown in tracked changes and a copy of the newspaper notice are enclosed. The Secretary of State is requested to confirm that the above documents are sufficient for determination of the Application.
4(2)(f)	A statement as to the status of the applicant, as referred to in regulation 4(2)(f)(i) and (ii)	Norfolk Boreas Limited is the applicant who originally applied for the Order and Norfolk Vanguard East Limited has an interest in part of the wind farm array and cable corridor following a transfer of the leasehold interest on 17 December 2021 from Norfolk Boreas Limited.
4(2)(ff)	The consultation and publicity statement referred to in regulation 7A	This will be provided to the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy after the second newspaper notice advertising the making of the Application has been published.
4(2)(g)	Details of the applicant's interest in the land	The Applicant has an agreement with The Crown Estate for the lease of the necessary seabed.
4(2)(h)	If requested by the Secretary of State, 3 paper copies of the application and other supporting documents and plans	The Planning Inspectorate confirmed paper copies of the Application are not required.