



The Planning Inspectorate

The Planning Act 2008

Application for Development Consent for Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm

Case Ref: EN010098

The Examining Authority's Note of an Unaccompanied Site Inspection

Background

The Examining Authority ('the ExA') undertook an unaccompanied site inspection to support the examination of an application for development consent for the proposed Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm ('the application') on Thursday 10 February 2022.

The ExA carried out its unaccompanied site inspection from publicly accessible land (roads, footpaths and bridleways). No inspections were undertaken on private land, and advance permission to enter land was not required so these inspections could be undertaken on an unaccompanied basis.

The site inspection was undertaken in order to view the locations of the proposed cable route, compounds, onshore substation site and other elements of the proposed scheme in the context of the existing highway network and the surrounding area.

Particulars of the Site Visit

The visit was undertaken by: Stephen Bradley, Jo Dowling, Gavin Jones, Rod MacArthur and Andrew Mahon.

The visit was undertaken by car and on foot. Weather conditions were dry and sunny with a temperature circa nine degrees centigrade. Weather conditions were at all times suitable to appreciate long range views.

The inspections commenced at approximately 08:45 and finished at approximately 15:30. A list of the locations visited is attached at Annex A, and an overview of the inspection route is attached at Annex B.



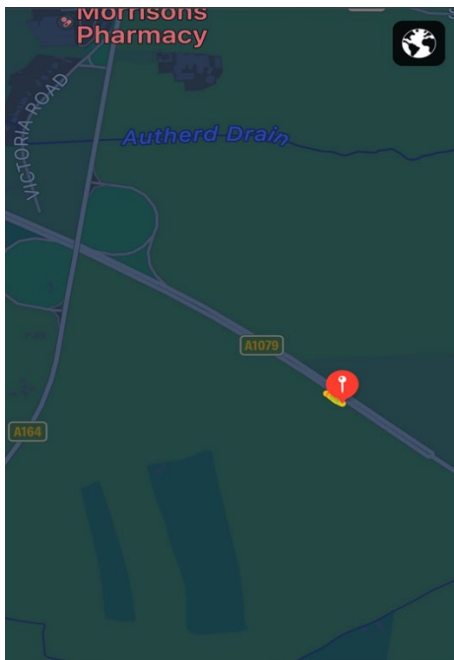
The Planning Inspectorate

Annex A: List of locations visited on the Unaccompanied Site Inspection on Thursday 10 February 2022

The ExA undertook a site inspection at the following locations.

Starting in Beverley the ExA drove east from the junction of the A164/ Lincoln Way and Victoria Road along Lincoln Way/ Minster Way, taking in Viewpoint (VP) 8. The ExA then turned south along the A1174 before turning west along the A1079. The ExA noted the convertor station for the Dogger Bank Offshore Wind Farm that is under construction on the northern side of the A1079 and the cable installation works to the southern side of the A1079 which provides the connection into Creyke Beck Substation. The ExA observed VP3 and then parked in the layby off the A1079 from where vehicular access (Work Nos 9a – temporary access track and 10 – permanent access track and footpaths) to the proposed onshore substation (Work No 7a) would be located. The ExA took a short walk (Walk 5 see plan B below) along the layby.

Plan A: Walk 5, Layby and proposed vehicular access from A1079



The ExA then continued along the A1079 north, U-turned at the roundabout with the A1174 and returned back along the A1079 to exit at the Jocks Lodge junction before heading south along the A164.

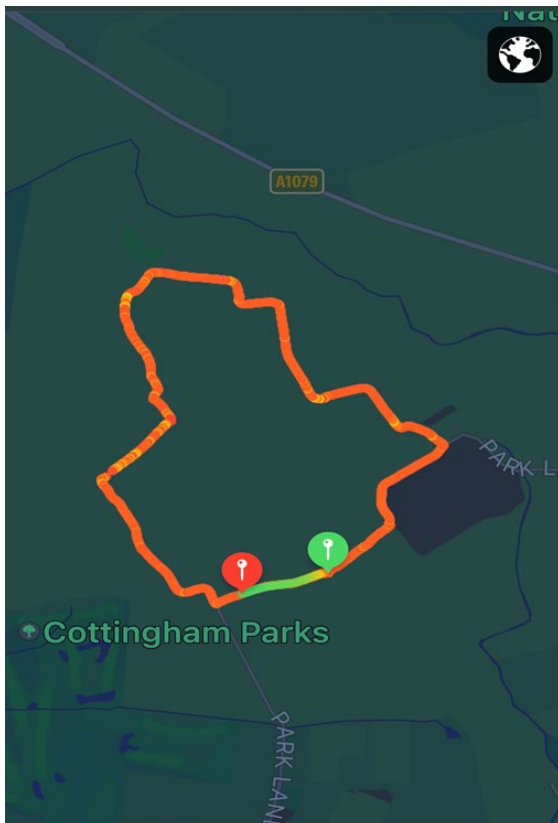
The ExA continued along the A164 taking in VP5 and VP4 before turning east along the B1233/ Harland Way/ Northgate. The ExA then turned left onto Park Lane. Driving along Park Lane, the ExA observed the Dogger



The Planning Inspectorate

Bank construction compound in the field immediately after Park Lane Nursery. The ExA continued along Park Lane and stopped near the entrance to Creyke Beck substation. Here the ExA undertook Walk 6 (see plan B), observing the proposed location of the onshore connection works (Work Nos 6 and 8); onshore HVDC/ HVAC substation (Work No 7a); Energy Balancing Infrastructure (Work No 7b); cable circuits and electrical circuit ducts (Work No 7c); various access tracks and footpaths (Work No 7d); attenuation features (Work No 7e); landscaping (Work No 7f) and onshore construction works (Work No 7g). Using existing Public Rights of Way (PRoW) the ExA saw Wanlass Farm, Poplar Farm and Burn Park Farm and more distantly viewed Jillywood Farm to the northwest and Lazaat, Jillywoods and Jillywood Lane to the west. In walking the PRoW the ExA noted the location of the proposed permanent diversion to footpath No 16 between points 25c and 25d [APP-215, Sheet 28] and the location of the proposed permanent access track and footpaths (Work No 10). The walk continued taking in close views of the proposed onshore substation site from all sides including VP2, Burn Park Cottages and VP1.

Plan B: Walk 6, North Cottingham, Creyke Back substation and the proposed site for the Converter Station





The Planning Inspectorate

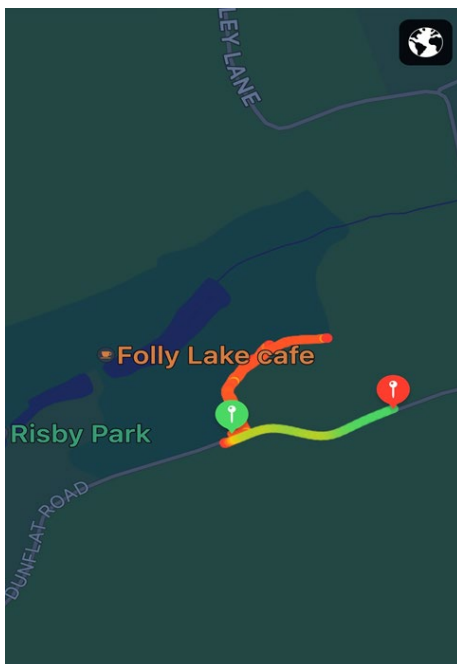
Having returned to the car, the ExA drove back along Park Lane to Northgate, turned left and then left again at the end of Northgate onto Dunswell Road. At the sharp right turn on Dunswell Road the ExA observed the eastern end of the existing private road from Creyke Beck Substation. The ExA then continued along Dunswell Road and Dunswell Lane to Dunswell.

This completed the main drive, following which the ExA undertook a series of standalone visits.

Walk 7, Skidby Mill and Fishpond Wood

The ExA drove from Beverley along the A164 towards Skidby, turning right into Skidby Main Street, taking a short diversion to Skidby Mill. Returning to Main Street, the ExA continued through Skidby before turning right onto Little Weighton Road, taking in VP7. Before reaching Little Weighton, the ExA turned sharp right onto Dunflat Lane. The ExA passed Risby Park and Fishpond Wood stopping just before the PRow crossing of the road. The ExA walked along the road a short way before turning north along the PRow that follows the eastern edge of the wood from this vantage point the ExA viewed VP6. The ExA then walked to the northern tip of the wood to view the route of the onshore connection works (Work No 6) and temporary logistics compound (Work No 9c). The ExA then returned to the car.

Plan C: Walk 7, Fishpond Wood and Dunflat Road



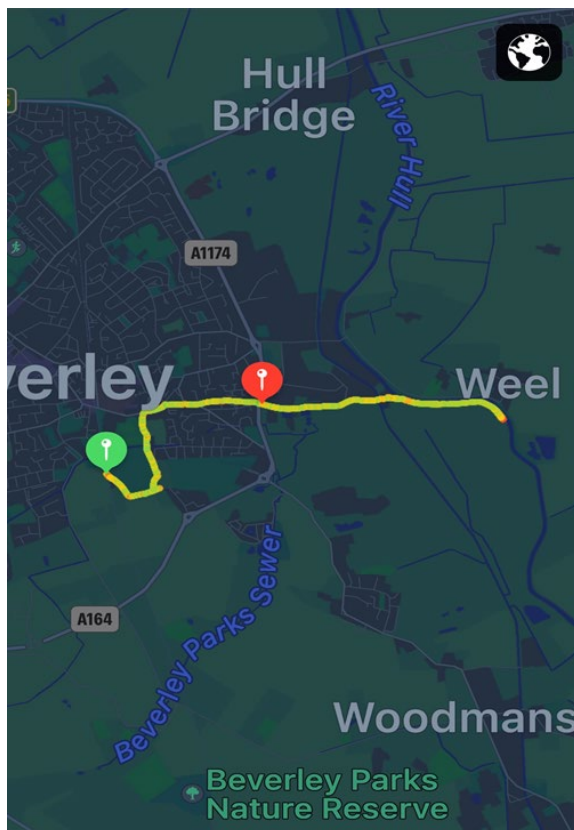


The Planning Inspectorate

Walk 8, Views south of Beverley and from the River Hull

The ExA walked the PRow network from Beverley Minster via Long Lane to Spark Mill Lane across the railway line to see the view from the area to the south of Beverley. The ExA noted that a number of sites adjacent to the PRow were being developed for housing. The ExA walked past Sparkmill Allotments turning right onto Flemingate/ Becksides (B1230). The ExA then proceeded to walk along the southern bank of Beverley Beck to the River Hull continuing out along the southern flood bank to a point which was just opposite the village of Weel. From this location the ExA then looked southeast towards the Creyke Beck substation. The ExA then walked back to Beverley.

Plan D: Walk 8, Southern edge of Beverley, Beverley Beck and the River Hull





The Planning Inspectorate

Annex B: Overview of the inspection route

