



The Planning Inspectorate

Planning Act 2008 – Section 91

Application by Ørsted Hornsea Project Four Limited for an Order granting Development Consent for the Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm

Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing 3 dealing with offshore environmental matters

Issue Specific Hearing 3:	Offshore environmental matters
Date:	Tuesday 26 April 2022
Arrangements Conference from:	13:30pm ¹
Hearing start time:	14:00pm ²
Location:	Virtual event via Microsoft Teams
Hearings Guidance:	Please see Annex A of this Agenda

Interested Parties who wish to speak at this event were required to provide notification by Deadline 1. In order to receive the joining instructions to participate in this virtual Hearing can you please complete and submit the following [form](#). Alternatively, you can contact the Inspectorate's Case Team for further information about the event (HornseaProjectFour@planninginspectorate.gov.uk). If you wish to observe the Hearing then you do not need to register. A link to the livestream will be made available on the project page of the National Infrastructure Website closer to the event.

Each Interested Party is entitled to make oral representations at hearings. However, this is subject to the power of the Examining Authority (ExA) to control the conduct and management of hearings.

The virtual event will be open 30 minutes prior to the start of the hearing to enable a prompt start. Hearings will finish as soon as the ExA deems that all those present have had their say and that all matters have been covered.

The agenda is for guidance only. It is not designed to be exclusive or exhaustive. The ExA may add other issues for consideration, may alter the order in which issues are

¹ Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance of the meeting to those who register to participate.

² If you are joining as an active participant, please follow the joining instructions for the virtual event carefully and connect to the Hearing in good time. In common with traditional Hearings, the event will start on time irrespective of any late arrivals, for whom access may not be possible.

considered and will seek to allocate sufficient time to each issue to allow proper consideration of them. Any lack of discussion of a particular issue at a hearing does not preclude further examination of this issue, including the asking of further written questions.

Every effort will be made to ensure that the issues will be discussed on the day that they are scheduled for. Should the consideration of these issues take less time than anticipated, the ExA may conclude the Hearing as soon as all relevant contributions have been made and all questions asked and responded to.

If there are additional matters to be dealt with or there are submissions that take a considerable amount of time, there may be a need to continue the session for longer on the day. Alternatively, it may be necessary to prioritise matters and defer others to further written questions.

Please Note:

In order to ensure timely publication of the agenda, this has been drafted before the receipt of submissions for Deadline 3. As a consequence, the ExA may need to adjust the agenda at the meeting to allow for responses received at Deadline 3.

Purpose of hearing on offshore environmental matters:

The purpose of the Hearing is to examine offshore environmental matters, in particular:

- **Infrastructure and Other Marine Activities and Users:** including effects on electricity, telecoms and oil and gas infrastructure, both existing and proposed.
- **Navigation and Radar (Marine and Air):** including air and marine navigation; emergency response, search and rescue operations, offshore and land-based radar (National Air Traffic Services and Ministry of Defence).
- **Commercial Fishing and Fisheries** (excluding fish and shellfish ecology).
- **Historic Environment:** marine archaeology.

Please note that matters relating the Endurance Aquifer (and associated carbon storage) were discussed at the Issue Specific Hearing 1 on matters relating to the draft Development Consent Order on Tuesday 12 April 2022.



The Planning
Inspectorate

Agenda

Title of meeting	Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm Issue Specific Hearing 3 - offshore environmental matters
Date	Tuesday 26 April 2022
Time	14.00pm
Venue	Online via Microsoft Teams invitation
Attendees	Invitees

1. Welcome, introductions, arrangements for the hearing

2. Historic Environment

- 2.1 Update on progress on the Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) with Historic England (HE), including matters concerning the intertidal zone.

3. Commercial Fishing and Fisheries

- 3.1 Update on progress on the SoCGs with National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations and Holderness Fishing Industry Group with special regard to UK potting fisheries.

4. Other Infrastructure and Users

- 4.1 Examination of outstanding matters for Position Statements with NEO Energy and Perenco, particularly in relation to any aviation, radar, safety and navigation matters.
- 4.2 Update on discussions between the Applicant and National Grid Viking Link Limited (NGVL).

5. Aviation and Radar – general

- 5.1 Update on agreements and discussions with NATS and with the Ministry of Defence regarding effects of Proposed Development on radar systems (offshore or land-based).
- 5.2 Update on effects on aviation operations generally, including airborne Search and Rescue (SAR) operations.

6. Shipping and Navigation – general

- 6.1 Update on SoCGs with the Maritime and Coastguard Agency and Trinity House.
- 6.2 Any outstanding matters in regard to the gap between the Proposed Development and Hornsea Project Two array and management of Navigational Risk [NRA pt.2, APP-082 section 19.3.10].

7. Any other business

8. Action points arising from the Hearing

9. Close of Hearing

Attendees:

All Interested Parties are welcome to attend the hearing. However, the ExA considers that representatives for the following parties should consider attending because the ExA believes that the material that they have submitted raises issues that may need to be explored at the hearing:

- The Applicant;
- Historic England;
- Holderness Fishing Industry Group;
- The Marine Management Organisation;
- The Maritime and Coastguard Agency;
- Ministry of Defence;
- National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations;
- National Grid Viking Link Limited (NGVL);
- NATS;
- NEO Energy (SNS) Limited (NEO);
- Trinity House

Conduct and Management of Hearings

The Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 provide that the ExA that will probe, test and assess the evidence at hearings through direct questioning of persons making oral representations. Questioning at this Hearing will therefore be led by the ExA. Cross questioning of the person giving evidence by another person will only be permitted if the ExA decides it is necessary to ensure representations are adequately tested or that a person has had a fair chance to put their case. Parties wishing to make a representation will be invited to do so at the ExA's discretion.

The ExA will begin the Hearing with opening comments and introductions, then will run through housekeeping matters and explain how the Hearing will be conducted. The ExA's expectation is that each hearing session will typically last for one to two hours. However, the actual duration will depend on the progress made on the day and will be subject to the ExA's powers of control over the conduct of the Hearing.

The agenda may be amended by the ExA at the start of the Hearing or throughout its course. Furthermore, the ExA may wish to raise matters arising from oral submissions, Relevant Representations and Written Representations, and pursue lines of inquiry that are not listed on the agenda in the course of the discussion.

The Hearing is being held at the discretion of the ExA to consider matters that it considers to be important and relevant to the effective and robust examination of the application. Consequently, the business of the Hearing will be limited to the matters identified in the agenda or otherwise raised by the ExA.

Active participation is at the invitation and discretion of the ExA. Oral submissions must address the matters and questions identified on the Hearing agenda or raised by the ExA at the hearing. Oral submissions on other subject matters or from persons who have not been invited to speak by the ExA may only be heard at the discretion of the ExA, who may decide that such matters are not heard in the interests of relevance, efficiency or fairness.

A recording and transcript of the Hearing will be published by the Planning Inspectorate on the project page of the national infrastructure website³ and any Interested Party may make a written submission on the specific matters either included in the agenda or arising at the Hearing by Deadline 3, 21 April 2022.

³ <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/yorkshire-and-the-humber/hornsea-project-four-offshore-wind-farm>