

The Planning Inspectorate
3/18 Eagle Wing
Temple Quay House (2 The Square)
Temple Quay
Bristol
Avon
BS1 6PN

Our ref: RA/2022/144579/01-L01
Your ref: EN010098
Date: 20 June 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

HORNSEA PROJECT FOUR OFFSHORE WIND FARM DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER: RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S QUESTIONS EXQ2. ERYC.

We have reviewed the Examining Authority's questions (EXQ2) and wish to offer the following responses.

BCG.2.4 – Statements of Common Ground

At this stage, it is not considered that sufficient progress has been made to warrant an update to the draft Statement of Common ground between ourselves and the applicant. We will consider whether an update can be provided for Deadline 5a.

CA.2.5 – Land at Watton Beck

This matter has not yet been resolved. We are continuing to work with the applicant to agree how our concerns might be addressed. Discussions between our land teams are ongoing and we believe that suitable agreement can be reached on this matter prior to the end of the examination.

DCO.2.12 – Requirement 17

Section 5.8.2.1 of the Code of Construction Practice [REP4-018] has been updated to reflect the conversations we have had with the applicant with regards to main river crossings. We confirm that this addresses our concerns and the matter is now resolved.

DCO.2.15 – Schedule 9(5)

Please see response to CA.2.5 above.

OWE.2.1 – Disapplication of EPR

Please see response to CA.2.5 above.

OWE.2.2 - Written Ministerial Statement on river basin catchment conditions

We would suggest that this question would be better directed to Natural England (NE). However, we have discussed this with colleagues at NE and our response would be that there are no implications for the Hornsea Project Four proposal as a result of the Ministerial Statement, as Nutrient Neutrality only applies to residential/overnight accommodation development. The Hornsea Project Four development should have no pathway to cause increased nutrient levels within the environment.

OWE.2.4 - Updated peak rainfall allowances

The updated peak rainfall allowances have resulted in allowances that are slightly higher across the country and there is new guidance available to help applicants with applying these new allowances.

With respect to the implications on surface water overland flow and detailed drainage design, we would defer to East Riding of Yorkshire Council, as lead local flood authority (LLFA). However, we recommend that the applicant reviews the latest guidance in light of the development's lifetime and checks against the modelling and assessment undertaken within their Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy.

In terms of subsequent detailed drainage design at the substation, the new guidance when applied may result in a slightly larger attenuation feature.

We would be happy to provide any technical support to the LLFA if required.

Yours faithfully

Miss Lizzie Griffiths
Sustainable Places - Planning Specialist

