

Our Ref: RPC/ERW/DRA198/3
Your Ref: EN010098
Date: 20/06/22

Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN



Dear Sirs

DEVELOPMENT: HORNSEA 4 OFFSHORE WIND FARM
PROPERTY: [REDACTED]
OUR CLIENT: MR PAUL AND MRS JOANNE DRANSFIELD
INTERESTED PARTY NUMBER: HORN-001

Thank you for your question.

Please find enclosed our response to the question asked in the form of a letter from our client's planning consultant who we felt was best suited to provide the requisite answer.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to get in touch and we will endeavour to provide a response.

We were disappointed that the Examining Authority has not asked any questions of the Applicant about the failures in consultation nor has the Applicant been asked to provide any legal advice or opinion on the legal arguments raised in our client's Written Representations. We would request that the Examining Authority ensures these points have been properly addressed.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]
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Our ref: Q200357/jb
Your ref: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Date: 20 June 2022



Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Hornsea Project Four – Alternative Substation Access (ExQ2, PDS.2.1)

Further to written questions issued by the Examining Authority (ExQ2) on Monday 30 May 2022, the Examining Authority has asked for confirmation as to what alternative access arrangements could serve the Onshore Substation in respect of the above, alongside the potential benefits of this over the route proposed by the Applicant.

In determining the location for the Onshore Substation, the applicant's highways advisors (LTP) were appointed to consider five potential access routes shown in Figure 1 below. In summary:

- This analysis concluded that two of these options (Options 3 and 5) were unsuitable. An independent review by Fore Consulting agrees with this position.
- Quod and Fore Consulting consider that Option 1 is also unsuitable.
- Option 4 is the route currently proposed to serve the Onshore Substation.
- Option 2 is, in the opinion of Quod, an alternative suitable location.

The above position was confirmed in our representations to the Development Consent Order (DCO) consultation.

The only appropriate alternative of the options considered by LTP is therefore Option 2, being access from the west via the A164. There are a number of apparent merits of accessing the substation via Option 2:

- The route would be further away from a designated Ancient Woodland and Minerals Safeguarding Area (see Figure 2).
- The route could be further away from designated '*Candidate and Designated Local Wildlife Sites*' at Birkhill Wood and Jillywood Lane, being an improved option in environmental and ecological terms (see Figure 2).



- Construction works are already proposed in this location to facilitate the underground pipe works. There could be environmental merits of combining the access road with these works by limiting construction works to a single area and reducing the overall land take.
- This could potentially also avoid the need to disrupt two separate areas of the surrounding highway network.
- Option 2 would be located further away from Mr Dransfield's property at Jillywood Farm, avoiding potential adverse amenity impacts. It could also (subject to final layout) ensure that it is further away from any nearby residential property.
- Option 2 would avoid a need to cross an area designated as Flood Zone 3 (see Figure 3).
- Option 2 would avoid the need to cross the existing power lines that run north-east of Jillywood Farm.
- Option 2 would avoid the need to cross a high-pressure gas pipeline that runs to the south of the A1079.

There may be an additional route(s) which have not been considered by the above analysis which could also be appropriate. Further detailed technical evidence would be required should this require further exploration. One of the key points in RR-013 and Mr and Mrs Dransfield's Written Representations is that the failures in consultation mean that they have not properly considered alternatives. The Applicant should be asked to provide evidence of consideration of access delivery alongside the cabling route and a detailed supporting assessment provided for comment.

Yours sincerely



James Beynon
Associate Director

cc. Paul Dransfield



Figure 1

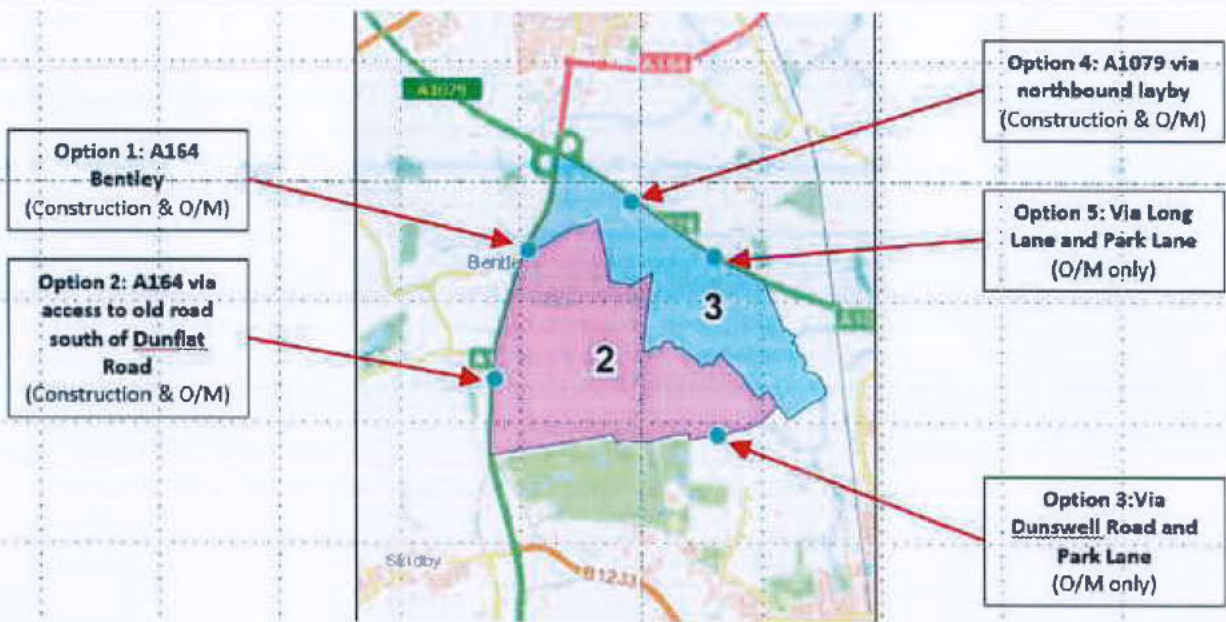


Figure 2

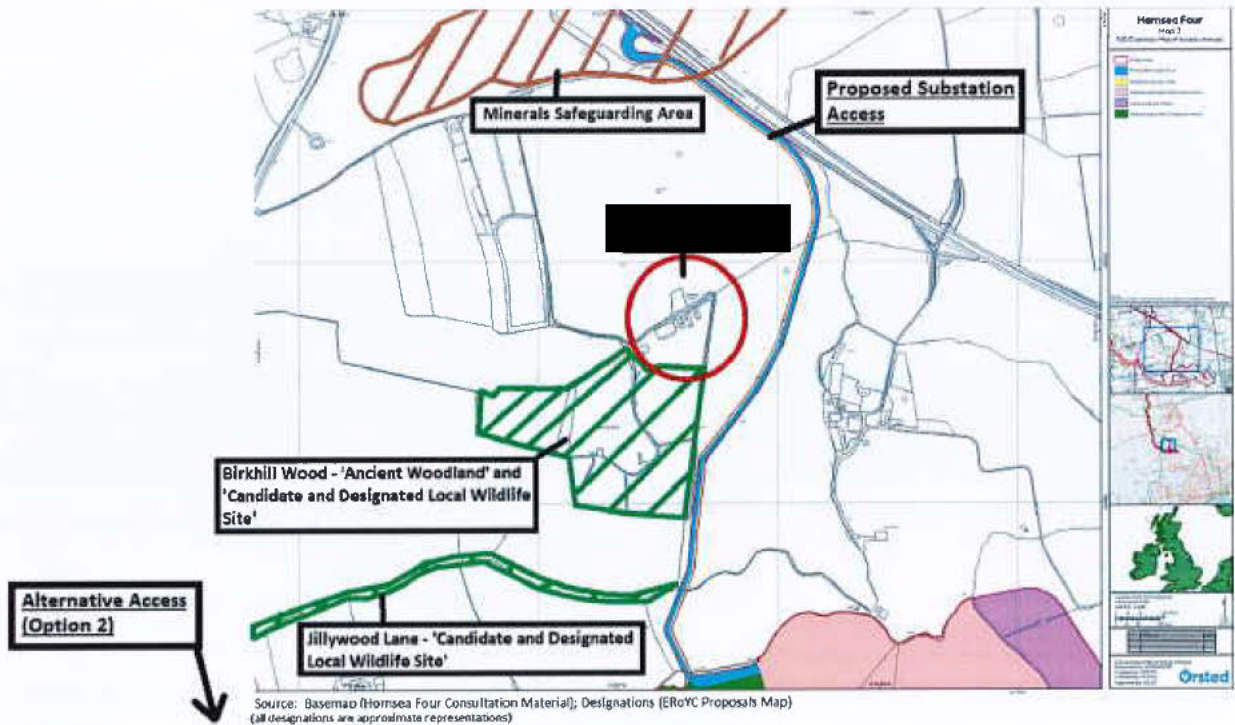


Figure 3

