



Hornsea 4 Project Team
Planning Inspectorate
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(By email only)

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN010098
MMO Reference: DCO/2018/00014
Identification Number: 20029896

04 July 2022

Dear Jo Dowling,

Planning Act 2008 - Application by Ørsted Hornsea Project Four (UK) Limited (“Ltd”) for an Order Granting Development Consent for Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm

Deadline 5a Submission

On 4 November 2021, the Marine Management Organisation (the “MMO”) received notice under Section 56 of the Planning Act 2008 (the “PA 2008”) that the Planning Inspectorate (“PINS”) had accepted an application made by Orsted Hornsea Project Four (UK) Ltd (the “Applicant”) for a development consent order (the “Application”).

The Application seeks authorisation to construct, operate and maintain Hornsea Project Four offshore wind farm, comprising of up to 180 offshore wind turbines together with associated offshore and onshore infrastructure and all associated development (the “Project”).

The MMO submits the following as part of our Deadline 5a submission:

- 1. Comments on responses to ExQ2**
- 2. Comments on any submissions received at Deadline 5**
- 3. Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules**

The MMO notes the Rule 8(3) letter of 30 May 2022. Whilst the MMO understands the reasoning behind amending the examination timetable including the addition of Deadline 5a. The MMO would like to raise concern that the period between the publishing of Deadline 5 responses and Deadline 5a does not give the MMO sufficient time to review the submissions, consult where necessary and prepare a full response. Therefore, the MMO has deferred most of our comments to Deadline 6.



This written representation is submitted without prejudice to any future representation the MMO may make about the Application throughout the Examination process. This representation is also submitted without prejudice to any decision the MMO may make on any associated application for consent, permission, approval or any other type of authorisation submitted to the MMO either for the works in the marine area or for any other authorisation relevant to the proposed development.

Yours Sincerely



Gregg Smith
Marine Licencing Case Officer



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1. Comments on responses to ExQ2

1.1. The MMO has reviewed the responses to the Examiner's Questions issued on 30 May 2022 and included within the Deadline 5 submissions and wish to make the following comments:

1.2. DCO. 2.1

1.2.1. The MMO notes the Applicant's response to Question DCO 2.1 [REP5-074] regarding the extent of the temporary access ramp and continues to hold discussions with the Applicant through the Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) process. The MMO defers further comment until Deadline 6.

1.3. DCO. 2.4

1.3.1. The MMO notes the response to this question provided by both Natural England [REP5-111] and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) [REP5-119]. We note that Natural England have deferred their response to Deadline 5a, and we will provide any comments at Deadline 6. We also note that the RSPB continue to have concerns with the DCO as is and the MMO will maintain a watching brief of the discussions between themselves and the Applicant.

1.4. DCO. 2.17

1.4.1. The MMO notes the Applicant's response to this question and their intention to seek a separate consent for UXO clearance rather than include a schedule within this DCO [REP5-074].

1.4.2. The MMO would like to reiterate to the Applicant our response in Deadline 5 [REP5-107], specifically that "if UXO clearance remains out of the DCO application, that surveying is conducted prior to a marine licence application."

1.5. MC. 2.3

1.5.1. The MMO notes the response from both Natural England and the Applicant regarding consideration of climate change scenarios in modelling and will await any further comments from the Applicant in light of our Deadline 5 submission.

1.6. MC. 2.7

1.6.1. The MMO defers our response to Deadline 6.

1.7. NVL. 2.1

1.7.1. The MMO notes the Applicant's response to this question and the MMO will defer our response to Deadline 6



2. Comments on any submissions received at Deadline 5

2.1. Maritime and coastguard Agency [REP5-108]

2.1.1. The MMO notes the submission from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency in particular section 2. The MMO have noted the amendments to be made to the DCO in respect of Schedule 11, Part 2, 11(10) & Schedule 12, Part 2, Condition 27 and supports their inclusion into the DCO.

2.2. Applicant's comments on other submissions received at Deadline 4 [REP5-081]

2.2.1. The MMO notes the applicant's response to our comments regarding the clarification note on Peak Herring Spawning Period and Seasonal Piling Restrictions. We are currently seeking technical advice on the applicant's response and will provide further comments at Deadline 6.

3. Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules

3.1. The MMO still intends to defer to Deadline 6 the action point regarding Issue Specific Hearing 4 (ISH4) where the MMO commented: "AP 10: "Provide clarification of concerns regarding exclusion of SELcum impact ranges in the approach to Marine Mammal Mitigation Protocol following Applicant's response [REP1-038] to [RR-020-4.3.4] and discussions at ISH4". The MMO are currently seeking technical advice on this matter, and so shall provide a response at Deadline 5." [REP4-052]. As outlined within this Deadline, the MMO are still reviewing these details, alongside our advisors at CEFAS and will aim to provide our response at Deadline 6.

