



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 8 dealing with onshore environmental matters

Issue Specific Hearing 8:	Onshore environmental matters
Date:	Tuesday 19 July 2022
Arrangements Conference from:	9:15am ¹
Hearing start time:	9:30am 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 Website³ closer to the event.

Interested Parties are 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.

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.

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

The virtual event will be open 15 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 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.

Agenda

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

- **Proposed development, site selection and design:** including design and assessment of the energy balancing infrastructure elements of the proposed development, and the onshore substation access road.
- **Landscape and visual effects:** the case for independent design review of onshore buildings and structures.
- **Onshore water environment:** progress update on any outstanding matters, including at Watton Beck.
- **Socio-economic and land use effects:** progress update on any outstanding matters.
- **Approach to within project cumulative effects.**



Agenda

Title of meeting	Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm Issue Specific Hearing 8 – onshore environmental matters
Date	Tuesday 19 July 2022
Time	9.30am
Venue	Online via Microsoft Teams invitation
Attendees	Invitees

1 Welcome, introductions, arrangements for the Hearing

2 Proposed development, site selection and design

- 2.1 The onshore substation (OnSS) access road and the consideration of alternatives, including the assessment of any impacts on ecology and flood risk.
- 2.2 The parameters and constraints influencing the design solution proposed for the energy balancing infrastructure (EBI) equipment and building envelopes, including the environmental risk assessment methodology set out in Table 3 of the *Environmental Risk Assessment of the OnSS and EBI* [AS-020].

3 Landscape and visual effects

The requirement for independent design review of onshore buildings and structures in light of recently made Orders for similar offshore windfarm applications.

4 Onshore water environment

Update from the Applicant and Environment Agency on progress regarding the crossing of Watton Beck and the disapplication of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016.

5 Socio-Economic and land use effects

Progress update from East Riding of Yorkshire Council regarding the response provided in [REP5-094] to the ExA's Further Written Questions SEL.2.1 and SEL.2.2 [PD-012].

6 Approach to within project cumulative effects

By way of example how the Applicant has assessed the cumulative effects of individual receptors in terms of noise, air quality, vibration and other potential

effects on human health. With particular reference to the ExA's Further Written Question ES.2.1 [PD-012] and the response by the Applicant [REP5-074].

7 Action Points arising from the Hearing

8 Any other business

9 Close of Hearing

Attendees:

All Interested Parties are welcome to attend the hearing. However, the Examining Authority would particularly welcome participation by representatives of the following parties as their submissions raise or contribute to issues that may need to be explored at the Hearing:

- The Applicant;
- East Riding of Yorkshire Council;
- The Environment Agency;
- Historic England; and
- Gordons LLP/ Mr and Mrs Dransfield.

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 website⁴ 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 6, Wednesday 27 July 2022.

⁴ <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/yorkshire-and-the-humber/hornsea-project-four-offshore-wind-farm>