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(By email only)

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

15 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

Submission regarding MMO attendance at Issue Specific Hearings (ISH): ISH7; ISH8; ISH9; ISH10; ISH11; and ISH12

Thank you for the invitation from the Examining Authority (“ExA”) for the Marine Management Organisation (“MMO”) to speak at ISH7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12. The MMO will be attending ISH10 regarding marine processes and ecology (excluding ornithology) on 20 July 2022.

In the interests of efficient team resource management, the MMO will not be attending ISH7, 8, 9, 11 and 12. This is due to resource issues faced by the MMO. We have reviewed the detailed agendas for these hearings and have determined that the MMO’s written submissions to date cover our position on most of these topics to the fullest extent and where it doesn’t, this is because we are in the process of reviewing the information and will not be in a position to provide further updates at the hearings.

The MMO would like to further offer some additional comments in writing on the agenda items we consider to be of relevance to the MMO. Additionally, we are happy to address any further points in writing as part of any future Written Questions from the ExA, and we will continue to provide written representations at each future deadline until such time as the examination comes to a close.

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.



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1. ISH7 on the draft Development Consent Order (DCO)

The MMO's latest position on the DCO and Deemed Marine Licences are located within our Deadline 5 submission REP5-107. The MMO notes that the Applicant has made some changes within the latest draft DCO submitted at Deadline 5a. The MMO is currently reviewing these changes and aims to provide comments regarding these at Deadline 6.

2. ISH8 on onshore environmental matters

The MMO has no comments to make on onshore matters.

3. ISH9 on offshore environmental matters

The MMO has no comments to make however we will review any information provided from this ISH and will provide any necessary comments at a subsequent Deadline.

4. ISH10 on the marine processes and ecology (excluding ornithology)

The MMO will be attending this hearing with our technical advisors for Marine Processes from Cefas (Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science). The MMO we will be in a position to discuss Marine Processes at this hearing and will endeavour to provide as much update as possible under the other agenda items. However, the ability of verbal contribution for each of the agenda items will depend on the stage of review of documents submitted into Examination at Deadline 5 and 5a. Where unable, we will ensure they are covered within our Deadline 6 submission (this is particularly applicable to agenda item 3 - Piling restriction).

5. ISH11 on marine ornithology

The MMO will review the transcript and action points when they are provided and make any comments/actions if required at a subsequent deadline.

6. ISH12 on the Habitats Regulations Assessment

The MMO will review the transcript and action points when they are provided and make any comments/actions if required at a subsequent deadline. The MMO aims to provide additional details on the topics under item 8 at Deadline 6.

Yours Sincerely

Luella Williamson
Marine Licencing Case Manager

