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David Wagstaff OBE  
Deputy Director, Energy Infrastructure  
Planning  
Department for Business, Energy &  
Industrial Strategy

Your reference: ENO010098  
Our reference:  
DCO/2018/00014

By Email Only

12 January 2023

Dear Mr Wagstaff

## **Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010**

**Application by Ørsted Hornsea Project Four Limited (“the Applicant”) for an Order granting Development Consent for the proposed Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm (“Hornsea Project Four”)**

### **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

The MMO notes that a letter was issued by the Secretary of State on 16 December 2022 requesting information from ourselves regarding the Sediment Sampling and Analysis.

In our Deadline 7 response the MMO provided comments regarding the sample analysis but noted that:

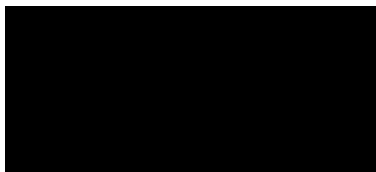
*“The MMO and Cefas have agreed to review the PSA information and supply comments on the full suite of sample analysis on the provision that a condition is included within the Deemed Marine Licences (DML) that either the samples will be re-analysed by a validated laboratory or that the Applicant provides evidence that Thomson Ecology has been validated for the MMO’s approval.”*

The applicant submitted updated sediment sampling analysis [REP8-018] at Deadline 8. The analysis was conducted by Ocean Ecology Ltd who are validated by the MMO for Particle Size Analysis. The MMO has reviewed this data along with our scientific advisors at the Centre for Environment Fisheries & Aquaculture Science (“CEFAS”).

The MMO is satisfied that the sampling advice given in Deadline 7 remains valid, and that there will no longer be a need for a condition to be included within the DML for the samples to be re-analysed by a validated laboratory or, for the applicant to provide evidence that Thomson Ecology has been validated.



Yours Sincerely



Gregg Smith  
Marine Licencing Case Officer



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Copies to:

Katherine White – MMO Case Manager  
Paul Stephenson – MMO Senior Case Manager  
The Applicant

