

# EN010098 / Hornsea Four

## Post-examination Submissions

**Last updated:** 12/07/2023

**Date Examination Closed:** 22 August 2023

**Date of Recommendation Report:** 22 November 2022

**Date of Decision:** 12 July 2023

This document lists submissions that have been submitted by any party either to the Planning Inspectorate or the Department and accepted since the examination closed.

The order of documents within each sub-section is either chronological, numerical, or alphabetical and confers no priority or higher status on those that have been listed first.

<b>Submissions made to the Planning Inspectorate during Recommendation stage</b>				
No.	Name / Organisation	On behalf of	Receipt Date	Sent to SoS
001	Ørsted		06/09/2022	06/09/2023

<b>Submissions made to the Department during Recommendation stage</b>			
No.	Name / Organisation	On behalf of	Receipt Date

<b>Submissions made to the Planning Inspectorate during Decision stage</b>				
No.	Name / Organisation	On behalf of	Receipt Date	Sent to SoS

<b>Submissions made to the Department during Decision stage</b>			
No.	Name / Organisation	On behalf of	Receipt Date

## **A. Submissions made to the Planning Inspectorate during Recommendation stage**

Numbers PIR-001 – PIR-xxx

**From:** MARINEENERGY [REDACTED] t>  
**Sent:** 06 September 2022 15:05  
**To:** Ørsted Hornsea Project Four <[hornseaprojectfour@orsted.com](mailto:hornseaprojectfour@orsted.com)>; MARINEENERGY [REDACTED] >  
**Cc:** Sarah May Randall [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Hornsea Four Offshore Wind Farm - Moray Firth SAC

Apologies for the delay in replying [REDACTED].

Thanks you for advising NatureScot of the assessment on the bottlenose dolphins – a qualifying feature of the Moray Firth SAC. We agree that there will be no adverse effect on site integrity to this SAC feature. We acknowledge that the bottlenose dolphins are extending their range beyond that of the SAC and even the East coast of Scotland into English waters and beyond, however given the distance from the SAC and also the distance from shore that HronSea4 is to be sited. The potential low numbers likely to be affected during the construction period lead us to agree with the conclusion reached.

Erica

Erica Knott | Marine Sustainability Manager | Sustainable Coasts and Seas | NatureScot | Battleby, Redgorton, Perth PH1 3EW | [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] *Scotland's Nature Agency | Buidheann Nàdair na h-Alba*

**From:** Ørsted Hornsea Project Four <[hornseaprojectfour@orsted.com](mailto:hornseaprojectfour@orsted.com)>  
**Sent:** 11 August 2022 15:36  
**To:** MARINEENERGY [REDACTED] >; Erica Knott [REDACTED] >  
**Cc:** Ørsted Hornsea Project Four <[hornseaprojectfour@orsted.com](mailto:hornseaprojectfour@orsted.com)>; Sarah May Randall <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Hornsea Four Offshore Wind Farm - Moray Firth SAC  
**Importance:** High

Good day,

With regards to the application for Development Consent for Hornsea Four Offshore Wind Farm, the Examining Authority (ExA) has requested the Applicant directs NatureScot to the summary information regarding the bottlenose dolphin qualifying feature of the Moray Firth SAC in the Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES). The original [Rule 17 letter](#) can be found on the [Planning Inspectorate's website](#).

This email is therefore intended to direct NatureScot to the Moray Firth SAC section of Table 4.2 in the Hornsea Four [Report on the Implications for European Sites \[PD-015\]](#) in order to verify NatureScot agrees with the conclusions presented. In brief, these are:

- Protected site: Moray Firth SAC.
- Qualifying feature: Bottlenose dolphin.
- Potential Adverse Effects on Integrity (AEol): Increase in underwater noise (during construction and decommissioning).
- Potential AEol: Vessel disturbance (all phases).
- Potential AEol: Vessel collision risk (all phases).

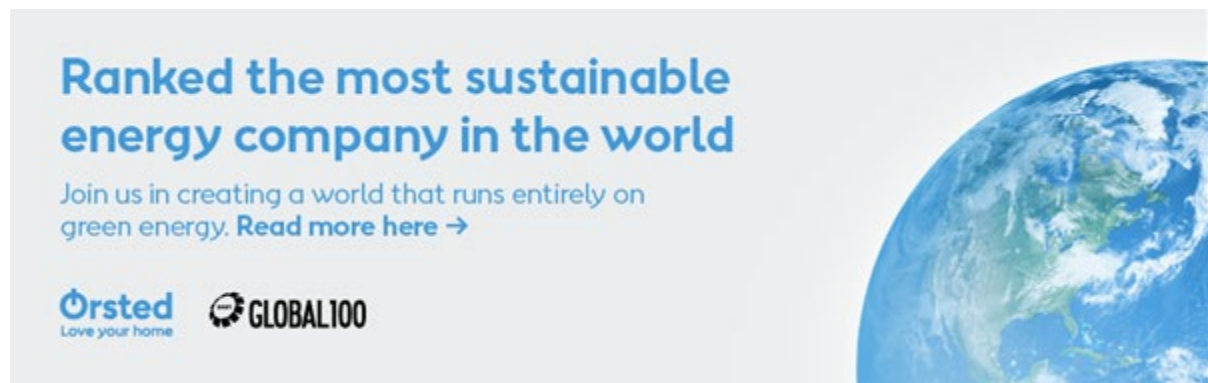
- Summary: At application, in its [RIAA \[APP-167\]](#), the Applicant concluded that no AEoI were likely. The supporting document [B2.2, RIAA Part 12: Appendix G: Marine Mammals - Bottlenose dolphin RIAA information \[APP-178\]](#) provides the detail.

The ExA has requested a response from NatureScot on this matter by examination Deadline 8, which is midday on Thursday 18 August 2022. If you have any questions concerning this request, do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best regards,  
Hornsea Four Offshore Wind Farm

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