



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

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Web: <http://www.gov.uk/desn>

To:

Net Zero Teesside Power Limited and Net Zero North
Sea Storage Limited
Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council
Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council

Our Ref: EN010103

Date: 16 May 2023

Dear Sir or Madam,

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

Application by Net Zero Teesside Power Limited and Net Zero North Sea Storage Limited (“the Applicant”) for an Order granting Development Consent for the proposed Net Zero Teesside project (“the Proposed Development”)

1. Following the completion of the Examination on 10 November 2022, the Examining Authority submitted a Report and Recommendation in respect of its findings and conclusions on the application for the Proposed Development (the “Application”) to the Secretary of State on 10 February 2023.
2. The statutory deadline for determining the Application has been extended by the Secretary of State from the original deadline of 10 May 2023 to a new deadline of 14 September 2023 to allow for the submission of further information.

The Wider Net Zero Teesside (“NZN”) project & offshore consenting

3. The Secretary of State seeks further information from the **Applicants** on whether and, if so, how the Wider NZN Project (as referred to in paragraphs 1.1.4 – 1.1.5 of the [Environmental Statement non-technical summary - Exam Library ref. APP-081](#)) can be delivered without affecting the Overlap Zone of the Endurance Store.
4. The Secretary of State requires the **Applicants** to also comment on the Wider NZN Project in the context of how any potential impacts on or conflicts with other

proposed development including the Hornsea 4 Offshore Wind Farm project (“the Hornsea 4 Project”) would be managed.

5. The Secretary of State requests that the **Applicants** provide information on how any conflicts or competing interests arising from the interaction between the Wider NZT Project and the Hornsea 4 Project could be managed or addressed through the later consenting procedures detailed in [Table 2.2 of the Applicant's Deadline 11 Submission - 5.10 - Other Consents and Licences - dated Oct 2022](#). This may include information on what considerations can be taken into account by the relevant consenting bodies, whether those bodies have powers to make changes, impose conditions or otherwise take steps to balance any competing interests, and how these consenting procedures will include the Offshore Environmental Impact Assessment process¹.

Environmental Assessment

6. The Secretary of State requests that the **Applicants** provide an updated Environmental Impact Assessment and Habitats Regulations Assessment Report which include assessment, alone and cumulatively, of the offshore elements of the Wider NZT Project, including the use of the Endurance Store.
7. The Secretary of State requests that the **Applicants** also provide, as part of its updated Environmental Impact Assessment, an assessment of the cumulative effects, and proposed mitigation of such effects where required, of the Proposed Development and the offshore elements of the Wider NZT Project, including potential development of the Endurance Store, on the Hornsea 4 Project.

Request for further proposed change – Removal of Tees Dock Road Access

8. The Secretary of State invites the **Listed Parties** to provide comments on the proposed change request submitted by the Applicant dated 27 April 2023 and published on the Net Zero Teesside project page:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/north-east/the-net-zero-teesside-project/>

Recent Government publications

9. The Secretary of State invites **the Applicants** to comment on the 30th March 2023 publication of the draft National Policy Statements and the Powering Up Britain strategy in relation to this case. The documents can be accessed here:

¹ The Offshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Production, Unloading and Storage (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2020

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-new-energy-infrastructure-revisions-to-national-policy-statements>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/powering-up-britain>

10. Finally, the Secretary of State invites **the Applicants** to comment on the responses to his letter of 3 April 2023. The responses received are published on the Net Zero Teesside project page:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/north-east/the-net-zero-teesside-project/>

11. **Responses to the requested information should be submitted by email only to: netzeroteessideproject@planninginspectorate.gov.uk by 23.59 on 30 May 2023.** Responses will be published on the Net Zero Teesside project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website as soon as possible after **30 May 2023**.

12. This letter is without prejudice to the Secretary of State's consideration of whether to grant or withhold development consent for the proposed development. Nothing in this letter is to be taken to imply what the eventual decision might be or what final conclusions the Secretary of State may reach on any particular issue which is relevant to the determination of the application.

Yours faithfully

David Wagstaff OBE

Deputy Director, Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery