



HEARING AGENDA

Application by Equinor New Energy Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm Extension Project and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm Extension Project

Issue Specific Hearing 3	Onshore Matters
Date	Wednesday 22 March 2023
	Hearing Start Time: 10:00 am
Timings	Arrangements Conference for virtual attendance online: 09:00 am Seating for in-person hearing available at the venue from: 09:00 am
Location	Main Auditorium, The Kings Centre, 63-75 King Street, Norwich, NR1 1PH Microsoft Teams for virtual attendance online

REQUESTED ATTENDEES

1. Applicant
2. North Norfolk District Council
3. Broadland District Council & South Norfolk Council
4. Corpusty and Saxthorpe Parish
5. National Highways
6. Norfolk County Council (as Highway Authority and Local Lead Flood Authority)
7. Network Rail
8. Oulton Parish Council
9. Environment Agency

In addition, the Examining Authority welcomes involvement from all parties at Issue Specific Hearing 3. You were required to confirm attendance at Issue Specific Hearing 3 at Deadline 1, Monday 20 February 2023.

PURPOSE OF ISSUE SPECIFIC HEARING 3

The main purpose of the Issue Specific Hearing 3 is to clarify and get views on matters relating to:

1. Construction effects;
2. Noise and Vibration;
3. Traffic and Transportation;
4. Water Quality and Resources; and



5. Draft Development Consent Order

DOCUMENTS

The Examining Authority referred to several documents in the preparation of this agenda, and some of the documents that we will be referring to during the Hearing are listed here. These documents can be located using the Examination Library reference number in [] square brackets:

1. Environmental Statement Chapter 4 Project Description [APP-090]
2. Outline Code of Construction Practice [REP1-023]
3. Environmental Statement Chapter 28 Health [APP-114]
4. Sheringham and Dudgeon Extension Projects EMF Assessment [APP-279]
5. Environmental Statement Chapter 23 Noise and Vibration [APP-109]
6. Road Traffic Noise Assessment [APP-265]
7. Construction Noise Assessment [APP-266]
8. Environmental Statement Chapter 24 Traffic and Transport [APP-110]
9. Transport Assessment [APP-268]
10. Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [APP-301]
11. Environmental Statement Chapter 17 Ground Conditions and Contamination [APP-103]
12. Environmental Statement Chapter 18 Water Resources and Flood Risk [APP-104]
13. Flood Risk Assessment [AS-014]
14. Outline Operational Drainage Plan [APP-307]
15. Onshore Substation Drainage Study [APP-210]
16. Applicant's Change Request [REP2-001a]

HEARING FORMAT

The Hearing will be a blended event, whereby the principal means of conducting the Hearing will be face-to-face within the venue cited above. Participants may join online if they wish using the Microsoft Teams platform and, if you have registered to join using this format, the joining link for the virtual Issue Specific Hearing will be sent to parties the day before, or on the day of, each session. Observers may attend in person or can watch remotely via the livestream of the event, the link for which will be published on the project page of the National Infrastructure website on the day of the Hearing. The Examining Authority will not accept representations at the Hearing in the form of video or audio recordings.

The virtual event will be open 60 minutes prior to the start of the Hearing to enable a prompt start. Hearings will finish as soon as the Examining Authority 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 Examining Authority 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.

AGENDA

The Hearing will start promptly at the indicated time of 10:00 am. All other times in the agenda are indicative. The Examining Authority will close the Hearing at 05:30 pm, or sooner if all relevant matters have been covered.

09:00 am Seating available for in-person attendance

1. Registration by the Case Team

09:00 am Arrangements Conference for virtual attendance

2. Registration by the Case Team

10:00 am Issue Specific Hearing 3 (session 1)

1. Welcome by Lead Member of the Examining Authority

2. Procedure for running the Issue Specific Hearing

3. Construction Effects

- i. Further to the Applicant's reply to written question Q1.6.2.3, whether the sought cable corridor width at trenchless crossings is justified.
- ii. Whether the worst case has been assessed in the Environmental Statement for trenchless crossing techniques that could be used, given the flexibility sought by the Applicant.
- iii. Discussion regarding the addition of missing vulnerable population groups and health outcomes and whether this affects the conclusions of the overall assessment findings; views sought particularly from Norfolk County Council and the Applicant.
- iv. Further justification from the Applicant relating to the expertise used and the methodology that has underpinned the assessment of adverse effects on human health [APP-114], having regard to the concerns of Corpusty and Saxthorpe Parish Council [REP1-073].
- v. Whether any further mitigation, from that already secured, is needed with regard to mental health effects, including to address concerns regarding adverse effects of Electro-Magnetic Fields. Having particular regard to the relevant representation of Norfolk County Council [RR-64].



- vi. Further to written representations [REP1-186 and REP1-187] whether any Electro-Magnetic Field readings have been undertaken at the property and whether the meeting planned for 2 February 2023 took place; whether any similar surveys are required at any other locations along the cable corridor.

11:30 am **Break**

11:45 am **Issue Specific Hearing 3** (session 2)

4. Construction Effects Continued

- i. Further to the Applicant's reply to written question Q1.6.5.8 whether the cumulative air quality assessment for road traffic emissions is robust, particularly whether estimated effects on these links by comparing them to links of similar nature.
- ii. The level of detail provided in the Outline Code of Construction Practice and whether this is sufficient, particularly with regard to agriculture, flood risk to third parties and waste management. Views sought particularly from the National Farmers Union, the Environment Agency and the Applicant.
- iii. If pre-commencement activities are adequately controlled in the draft Development Consent Order and through the drafting of Requirement 19.

5. Noise and Vibration

- i. Adequacy of the baseline noise assumptions.
- ii. Whether BS5228-1 (Construction) is the appropriate guidance for noise assessment at the main construction compound.
- iii. Given the findings of the detailed mitigation scheme for receptor CCR2 [REP1-036], explanation from the Applicant if all identified significant adverse noise impacts along the corridor can be sufficiently mitigated and whether similar detailed schemes are required to demonstrate this can be achieved.
- iv. Whether the cumulative impact assessment for noise has or should consider the impact of construction works on sensitive receptor CCR16C from the Proposed Development, alongside noise generated by traffic accessing the Hornsea Project 3 main construction compound.
- v. Adequacy of the Outline Code of Construction Practice in securing necessary noise mitigation, including the use of Horizontal Directional Drilling at night.
- vi. Whether all sensitive receptors should be identified within a draft of the Noise Construction Management Plan and provided during the Examination, to ensure all significant adverse effects are suitably mitigated.



01:15 pm **Lunch Break**

02:15 pm **Issue Specific Hearing 3** (session 3)

6. Traffic and Transport

- i. Implications of the A47 North Tuddenham to Easton improvement scheme delay, including whether there is now a need to take this scheme into account in the cumulative impact assessment.
- ii. Whether it has been suitably demonstrated that identified significant adverse impacts on the A47 can be successfully mitigated, should the improvement schemes not be delivered or are significantly delayed.
- iii. How the proposed mitigation to limit vehicle movements to agreed 'caps' on some links will affect construction activities and the potential impacts on other links should alternative routes be used.
- iv. Whether it is appropriate to agree detailed access arrangements and necessary highway improvements or arrangements (widening or vehicle escorts) post-consent.
- v. Whether Norfolk County Council are content with the list of roads proposed to be crossed by open cut techniques.
- vi. Whether Norfolk County Council are content with the assessment of Links 9, 11 and 52.
- vii. Views from Norfolk County Council about the concerns raised by Oulton Parish Council about the number of proposed accesses along the B1149 in close proximity to each other, that are required for the delivery of the Proposed Development, Hornsea Project 3, Norfolk Vanguard and Norfolk Boreas.
- viii. Update from Network Rail on their consideration of the proposed access road to the onshore substation.

03:45 pm **Break**

04:00 pm **Issue Specific Hearing 3** (session 4)

7. Water Quality and Resources

- i. Description of the change proposed for the surface water drainage solution at the onshore substation; and feedback from Norfolk County Council, in its role as the Lead Local Flood Authority.
- ii. Having regard to the sequential test, why an area of flood risk to the west of Little Barningham could not be avoided.
- iii. Whether suitable drainage can be provided at the Onshore Substation and whether there remains any uncertainty around the use of infiltration.



- iv. The disapplication of relevant provisions and securing appropriate protective provisions which will govern the process for securing the relevant watercourse consents.
- v. Adequacy of the Outline Code of Construction Practice in securing necessary mitigation and whether more detail is needed, particularly in relation to landfall, the onshore substation and watercourse crossing methodologies.
- vi. The Lead Local Flood Authority consider that some initial site-investigations at crossings would be appropriate to mitigate some of the associated risks. Discussion on this matter and clarification on where the Lead Local Flood Authority consider these should be done.
- vii. Whether the Lead Local Flood Authority is, or is not, content that sufficient drainage information and mitigation is before the Examination to reassure the ExA that the approach to surface water drainage for all onshore infrastructure is sound.

8. Procedural decisions, review of actions and next steps

9. Closing remarks

05:30 pm

Close of Issue Specific Hearing 3