



National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol, BS1 6PN

Our ID no: 20033306
Your ref:
Date: 28 April 2023

by email

Dear Sir/Madam,

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 THE EXAMINING AUTHORITY'S WRITTEN QUESTIONS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION (WQ2)

Thank you for consulting with us on the Examining Authority's Second Written Questions which was received (document library reference PD-012)

Due to the number of questions and in accordance with the requested approach we have recorded our response in a table format which is attached to this letter as APPENDIX 1, which we hope that you find of assistance.

Yours faithfully,

Barbara Moss-Taylor
Sustainable Places - Planning Specialist

Direct dial [REDACTED]
Direct e-mail [REDACTED]@environment-agency.gov.uk
Team e-mail Planning.EastAnglia@environment-agency.gov.uk

Q2.13.3.2	Applicant Environment Agency	<p>Signal Crayfish Clarify whether the Applicant's proposed procedures for minimising risk of transmission of both crayfish plague and transmission of signal crayfish between watercourses [REP1-036, Q1.13.4.4] is agreed. Submit an updated SoCG which includes the current agreed position on this topic.</p>	<p>The Applicant has recognised and addressed the risk to native white clawed crayfish from the spread of crayfish plague in the submitted Outline Code of Construction Practice [REP1-023] and further clarification in [REP1 - 036]. We are content with the measures proposed and the actions identified and await consultation on the final Codes of Construction Practice as secured by Requirement should the DCO application be approved by the Secretary of State.</p>
Q2.24.1.4	Environment Agency	<p>Flood Risk Effects from Trenched Crossings of Ordinary Watercourses that are in Fluvial Flood Zones 2 and 3a. Further to the issues raised by the EA [RR-032] and the Applicant's reply [REP1-036, Q1.24.1.12], is the EA now content that such matters have been suitably assessed?</p>	<p>The Environment Agency is now content that the Applicant has assessed the risk of flooding at this location and identified appropriate measures to mitigate the level of risk.</p>
Q2.24.3.1	Applicant Environment Agency	<p>Drainage Strategies The Applicant's response [REP1-036, Q1.24.1.9] sets out that drainage strategies for the construction phase, including temporary compounds, will be agreed with the EA and NCC, in their role as the LLFA, as appropriate. Are the EA and LLFA content that this is appropriate post consent?</p>	<p>The Environment Agency is not the lead authority for surface water drainage, we provide advice or make representations where proposals may impact either a main river or groundwater body. There are no significant effects arising from drainage strategies that lie within our remit and so we are content that this may be addressed post consent.</p>
Q2.24.4.3	Applicant Environment Agency Lead Local Flood Authority	<p>Outstanding Concerns It was evident from discussions at ISH3 [EV-038] [EV-043] that there are still some outstanding matters being discussed between the Applicant, the EA and the LLFA. Provide an update on these discussions, setting out any areas that remain in dispute</p>	<p>The Environment Agency is content that issues in respect of flood risk, that lie within its remit and cannot be addressed post consent have now been addressed to our satisfaction. The issue of Protective Provisions remains outstanding at this stage. If the Protective Provisions are not agreed, the Environment Agency's interests are protected by the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016.</p>