



**Defence
Infrastructure
Organisation**

Ministry of Defence
Safeguarding Department
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National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
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6 July 2023

By email only

Dear Sir/Madam,

National Infrastructure Planning: Sheringham and Dudgeon Extension Projects

I write to further update the position of the Ministry of Defence (MOD) in relation to the proposed Sheringham and Dudgeon Extension Projects. The development proposed consists of extensions to the existing Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon wind farms, adding a total of up to 53 wind turbine generators (up to 23 to Sheringham Shoal Wind Farm and up to 30 to Dudgeon Wind Farm) as well as the associated infrastructure, export cables, landfall, and onshore export cables.

The MOD objected to the above development through a letter to the National Infrastructure Planning Team dated 19 January 2023 on two grounds:

- the unacceptable impact the development would have on technical assets (communications equipment) sited at RAF Weybourne; and
- the unacceptable impact the development would have on Air Defence (AD) radar systems sited at Remote Radar Head (RRH) Trimmingham and RRH Neatishead.

RAF Weybourne

The impact of the development on technical assets sited at RAF Weybourne formed the subject of discussions between the applicant and MOD. Following the submission of additional information, the objection due to the impact of the development on Technical Assets sited at RAF Weybourne was withdrawn by MOD through a letter to the National Infrastructure Planning Team dated 20 February 2023.

Air Defence Radar

Following additional submissions by the applicant, the MOD was able to remove the objection relating to the impact on Air Defence radar systems. Removal of that objection was subject to the amendment of the wording of requirement 27 as set out in the applicant's draft Development Consent Order. The requested requirement wording referred to both RRH Trimmingham and RRH Neatishead. Confirmation of the MOD position and the revised wording was provided to the National Infrastructure Planning Team through a letter dated 13 June 2023.

I am now able to provide a further update to the MOD's requested requirement wording. The revised requirement, as set out at Annex A, removes reference to RRH Trimingham whilst retaining the requirement to prevent or remove any adverse effects which the authorised development will have on the air defence radar(s) at RRH Neatishead.

Aviation Safety

The proposed development will affect military low flying training activities that may be conducted in the area, it will therefore be necessary for the turbine structures to be fitted with appropriate aviation lighting to maintain the safety of military aviation.

It is acknowledged that the applicant's draft Development Consent Order (Revision I) contains, within each of the four Marine Licences, conditions designed to secure the submission, approval and implementation of aviation safety lighting and the submission of sufficient data to ensure the development can be appropriately lit and charted to minimise impact on aviation safety. These conditions are at:

- Schedule 10, Part 2, Condition 10;
- Schedule 11, Part 2, Condition 10;
- Schedule 12, Part 2, Condition 9; and
- Schedule 13, Part 2, Condition 9.

MOD agree that these conditions are both necessary and appropriate to secure aviation safety lighting and suitable charting, no changes to the wording within the draft Development Consent Order are requested.

Conclusion

In summary, subject to the inclusion of the requirement set out at Annex A of this letter, and the retention of:

- Condition 10 – Aviation Safety at Schedule 10 (Marine Licence 1), Part 2;
- Condition 10 – Aviation Safety at Schedule 11 (Marine Licence 2), Part 2;
- Condition 9 – Aviation Safety at Schedule 12 (Marine Licence 3), Part 2; and
- Condition 9 – Aviation Safety at Schedule 13 (Marine Licence 4), Part 2.

within any Development Consent Order that might be made, the MOD has no objection to this development.

I trust this adequately explains our position on this matter.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any additional information, or should you wish to discuss matters.

Yours faithfully

James Houghton
Senior Safeguarding Manager
Enc. Annex A

Annex A

Ministry of Defence Surveillance Operations

1. No wind turbine generator forming part of the authorised development is permitted to rotate its rotor blades on its horizontal axis until the Secretary of State, having consulted with the Ministry of Defence, confirms satisfaction in writing that appropriate mitigation will be implemented and maintained for the life of the authorised development and that arrangements have been put in place with the Ministry of Defence to ensure that the approved mitigation is implemented.
2. For the purposes of this requirement—
 - (a) “appropriate mitigation” means measures to prevent or remove any adverse effects which the authorised development will have on the air defence radar(s) at Remote Radar Head (RRH) Neatishead, and the Ministry of Defence’s air surveillance and control operations;
 - (b) “approved mitigation” means the detailed Radar Mitigation Scheme (RMS) that will set out the appropriate measures and timescales for implementation as agreed with the Ministry of Defence at the time the Secretary of State confirms satisfaction in writing in accordance with paragraph (1); and
 - (c) “Ministry of Defence” means the Ministry of Defence as represented by Defence Infrastructure Organisation – Safeguarding, St George’s House, DIO Head Office, DMS Whittington, Lichfield, Staffordshire, WS14 9PY or any successor body.
3. The undertaker must thereafter comply with all other obligations contained within the approved mitigation for the life of the authorised development.