



# Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm Extension Projects

## Cover Letter

**Revision A**

Deadline 8

July 2023

Document Reference: 22.1

**FAO Louise Harraway**  
Case Manager, National Infrastructure Planning  
The Planning Inspectorate  
Temple Quay House, Temple Quay  
Bristol, BS1 6PN

Our reference: C282-EQ-Z-GA-00063  
Your reference: EN010109  
17 July 2023

To whom it may concern,

## **Development Consent Order (DCO) application for Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm Extension Projects (EN010109) – Examination Deadline 8 Document Submissions**

### **1 DEADLINE 8 SUBMISSIONS**

We refer to the Planning Inspectorate's Rule 8 Letter dated 30 May 2023 (the Rule 8 Letter). In accordance with the deadlines at Annex A of the Rule 8 Letter, Equinor New Energy Limited (the Applicant) encloses the documents listed in **Annex 1** of this letter in response to Deadline 8.

The Applicant highlights to the Examining Authority that the Examination Library was published on the Planning Inspectorate's website on 17 July 2023. The Applicant has therefore used its own document reference system to cross refer to its own Deadline 7 submissions (making clear the document revision referred to where necessary if different revisions of the same document (e.g. Draft DCO) have been made at Deadline 7 and Deadline 8) in its Deadline 8 submissions.

### **2 STATEMENTS OF COMMON GROUND**

In the Planning Inspectorate's Rule 6 Letter dated 13 December 2022 (the Rule 6 Letter), Annex F requested that the Applicant submit Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) with a number of Interested Parties and Other Parties. A number of draft SoCGs and final SoCGs were submitted at previous deadlines. The Applicant now encloses the final SoCGs listed in **Annex 2** of this letter. **The Applicant's Statement of Commonality (Revision H)** [document reference 12.45] provides the final status of all SoCGs requested in Annex F of the Rule 6 Letter.

Please note there is a drafting error within some of the final SoCGs. Some of the final SoCGs make reference in the main body of the text to it being a 'draft SoCG', however, the Applicant can confirm that the revisions submitted at this deadline are the final signed SoCGs. The Applicant has not amended the drafting error because the revisions submitted at this deadline have been agreed and signed by stakeholders.

### 3 ADDITIONAL SUBMISSIONS

The Applicant encloses a number of additional submissions being made at Deadline 8. These are new documents, or updates to previously submitted documents where the Applicant considers that these provide information, clarifications and updates useful to both the Examining Authority and Interested Parties. **Annex 3** of this letter contains a list of additional documents that have been submitted by the Applicant.

### 4 OTHER MATTERS

#### 4.1 RULE 17 LETTER (DATED 12 JULY 2023)

The Applicant notes that a Request for Further Information was published by the Examining Authority pursuant to Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 on 12 July 2013 (the Rule 17 letter). The Applicant has provided responses to the Rule 17 letter in **The Applicant's Response to the Examining Authority's Rule 17 Letter dated 12 July 2023** [document reference 22.2].

With regards to the questions within the Rule 17 letter that have been prompted by the Secretary of State's decision of 12 July 2023 to grant development consent for The Hornsea Four Offshore Wind Farm Order (EN010098) (Hornsea Project Four), the Applicant appreciates that the Examining Authority will be keen to understand what the implications of that decision are for their assessment of SEP and DEP.

However, the Applicant has simply not had sufficient time before the close of this Examination to fully review the decision (including the Habitats Regulations Assessment and recommendation report) and understand all of the implications for SEP and DEP. Furthermore, the Applicant has had to consider this decision whilst also ensuring it meets the other procedural deadlines fixed for Deadline 8.

The Applicant has sought to be as helpful as possible in responding to the questions raised by the Examining Authority in the Rule 17 letter. However, the Applicant considers that there may be aspects of the Hornsea Four decision that are material to SEP and DEP that have not been identified, given the time limitations. The Applicant considers that it may be necessary and appropriate to prepare a more detailed response in due course to be submitted to the Secretary of State and would reserve its position on doing so.

#### 4.2 CLOSING STATEMENT

The Applicant encloses at Deadline 8 The **Applicant's Closing Statement** [document reference 22.11] to provide the Examining Authority with the Applicant's closing view on why it respectfully considers the Examining Authority can recommend SEP and DEP be granted consent. The document aims to draw together various strands of information that have been provided through the course of the examination, and to provide a clear summary of the Applicant's final position on key matters outstanding with Interested Parties.

#### 4.3 JOINT RESPONSE FROM THE APPLICANT AND NATURAL ENGLAND IN RELATION TO HRA CONCLUSIONS AND DEROGATION REQUIREMENTS

The Examining Authority's Second Written Question Q2.14.1.1 [PD-012] requested a joint response from the Applicant and Natural England in relation to HRA conclusions and derogation requirements which was provided within **Appendix B.2 of Appendix B - Supporting documents to the Applicant's Responses to the Examining Authority's Second Written Questions** [REP3-103] submitted at Deadline 3. This was subsequently updated at Deadline 7 (see **Supporting Documents for the Applicant's Responses to the Examining Authority's Fourth Written Questions** [document reference 21.5.1]). Throughout its Deadline 7 submissions, the Applicant noted that this document would be updated and resubmitted at Deadline 8; however, it has instead been combined with the relevant Natural England SoCGs i.e. **Final Statement of Common Ground with Natural England (Offshore)** (Revision B) [document reference 14.7], **Final Statement of Common Ground with Natural England (Offshore Ornithology)** (Revision B) [document

reference 14.8] and **Final Statement of Common Ground with Natural England (Onshore)** (Revision B) [document reference 12.13].

We would be grateful if you could kindly acknowledge safe receipt of this letter and the enclosures. If we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Emma Eshelby ([EESH@equinor.com](mailto:EESH@equinor.com)) in the first instance.

Yours faithfully,

Sarah Chandler  
Development & Consents Manager, SEP&DEP  
Equinor

## ANNEX 1 - DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED IN RESPONSE TO DEADLINE 8

- **The Applicant's Response to the Examining Authority's Rule 17 Letter dated 12 July 2023** [document reference 22.2]
- **The Applicant's Comments on the Environment Agency's Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.3]
- **The Applicant's Comments on National Highways' Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.4]
- **The Applicant's Response to National Highways Serious Detriment and Protective Provision Submissions** [document reference 22.4.1]
- **The Applicant's Comments on Norfolk County Council's Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.5]
- **The Applicant's Comments on Norwich Western Link's Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.6]
- **The Applicant's Comments on Ørsted Hornsea Project Three Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.7]
- **The Applicant's Comments on Ørsted Hornsea Project Four Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.8]
- **The Applicant's Comments on the Marine Management Organisation's Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.9]
- **The Applicant's Comments on Trinity House's Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.15]
- **The Applicant's Comments on Natural England's Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.16]
- **The Applicant's Comments on National Trust's Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.17]
- **The Applicant's Comments on the National Farmers Union (NFU) and Land Interest Group's (LIG) Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.22]
- **The Applicant's Comments on Christopher Bond's Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.23]
- **The Applicant's Comments on Norfolk Parishes Movement for an Offshore Transmission Network Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.24]
- **The Applicant's Comments on the Maritime and Coastguard Agency's Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.25]
- **The Applicant's Comments on the Ministry of Defence's Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.26]
- **The Applicant's Comments on Mr Clive Hay-Smith and Priory Holdings Limited's Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.27]
- **The Applicant's Comments on Mr Derek Aldous' Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.28]
- **The Applicant's Comments on Oulton Parish Council's Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.31]

- **The Applicant's Comments on Perenco UK Limited's Deadline 7 Submission** [document reference 22.32]
- **Guide to the Application (and Glossary) (Revision K)** [document reference 1.3]
- **Draft Development Consent Order (Revision K) (Clean)** [document reference 3.1]
- **Draft Development Consent Order (Tracked) (Tracked Revisions J/K)** [document reference 3.1.1]
- **Draft Development Consent Order (Tracked) (Full Tracked Revisions A/K)** [document reference 3.1.4]
- **Schedule of Changes to Revision K of the Draft Development Consent Order** [document reference 3.1.2]
- **Explanatory Memorandum (Revision I) (Clean)** [document reference 3.2]
- **Explanatory Memorandum (Tracked) (Tracked - Revisions H/I)** [document reference 3.2.1]
- **Explanatory Memorandum (Tracked) (Full Tracked Revisions A/I)** [document reference 3.2.2]
- **Book of Reference (Revision H) (Clean)** [document reference 4.1]
- **Book of Reference (Revision H) (Tracked)** [document reference 4.1.1]
- **Schedule of Changes to Revision H of the Book of Reference** [document reference 4.1.2]
- **Compulsory Acquisition Schedule (Revision D) (Clean)** [document reference 12.5]
- **Compulsory Acquisition Schedule (Revision D) (Tracked)** [document reference 12.5.1]

## ANNEX 2 – STATEMENTS OF COMMON GROUND SUBMITTED AT DEADLINE 8

- **Final Statement of Common Ground with Environment Agency (Revision D)** [document reference 12.10]
- **Final Statement of Common Ground with Marine Management Organisation (Revision D)** [document reference 12.11]
- **Final Statement of Common Ground with Natural England (Onshore) (Revision B)** [document reference 12.13]
- **Final Statement of Common Ground with Natural England (HRA Derogation) (Revision B)** [document reference 12.15]
- **Final Statement of Common Ground with National Highways (Revision E)** [document reference 12.22]
- **Final Statement of Common Ground with Natural England (Offshore) (Revision B)** [document reference 14.7]
- **Final Statement of Common Ground with Natural England (Offshore Ornithology) (Revision B)** [document reference 14.8]
- **Final Statement of Common Ground with National Trust (Revision C)** [document reference 14.21]
- **Final Statement of Common Ground with North Norfolk District Council (Revision B)** [document reference 14.23]
- **Final Statement of Common Ground with Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (Revision B)** [document reference 16.17]
- **Final Statement of Common Ground with Norwich Airport (Revision D)** [document reference 16.23]
- **Final Statement of Common Ground with Norfolk Wildlife Trust (Revision B)** [document reference 16.24]
- **Final Statement of Common Ground with National Farmers Union (Revision C)** [document reference 19.13]
- **Final Statement of Common Ground with Norwich Western Link** [document reference 20.7]
- **The Applicant's Final Statement of Commonality (Revision H)** [document reference 12.45]
- **The Applicant's Final Statement of Commonality (Revision H) (Tracked)** [document reference 12.45.1]



## ANNEX 3 – ADDITIONAL SUBMISSIONS AT DEADLINE 8

- **Works Plans (Offshore) (Revision D)** [document reference 2.7]
- **Works Plans (Offshore) (Without Prejudice) (Revision B)** [document reference 2.7.2]
- **Proposed Without Prejudice DCO Drafting (Revision D) (Clean)** [document reference 3.1.3]
- **Proposed Without Prejudice DCO Drafting (Revision D) (Tracked)** [document reference 3.1.3.1]
- **Appendix 5 - Derogation Funding Statement (Habitats Regulations and Marine and Coastal Access Act) (Revision B) (Clean)** [document reference 5.5.5]
- **Appendix 5 - Derogation Funding Statement (Habitats Regulations and Marine and Coastal Access Act) (Revision B) (Tracked)** [document reference 5.5.5.1]
- **Appendix 10.2 Underwater Noise Modelling Report (Revision C) (Clean)** [document reference 6.3.10.2]
- **Appendix 10.2 Underwater Noise Modelling Report (Revision C) (Tracked)** [document reference 6.3.10.2.1]
- **Schedule of Mitigation and Mitigation Routemap (Revision B) (Clean)** [document reference 6.5]
- **Schedule of Mitigation and Mitigation Routemap (Revision B) (Tracked)** [document reference 6.5.1]
- **Outline Code of Construction Practice (Revision G) (Clean)** [document reference 9.17]
- **Outline Code of Construction Practice (Revision G) (Tracked)** [document reference 9.17.1]
- **Outline Ecological Management Plan (Revision E) (Clean)** [document reference 9.19]
- **Outline Ecological Management Plan (Revision E) (Tracked)** [document reference 9.19.3]
- **The Applicant's Statutory Undertakers Position Statement (Revision E) (Clean)** [document reference 12.46]
- **The Applicant's Statutory Undertakers Position Statement (Revision E) (Tracked)** [document reference 12.46.1]
- **Apportioning and HRA Updates Technical Note (Revision E) (Clean)** [document reference 13.3]
- **Apportioning and HRA Updates Technical Note (Revision E) (Tracked)** [document reference 13.3.1]
- **Habitats Regulations Assessment Derogation and Compensatory Measures Update (Revision D) (Clean)** [document reference 13.7]
- **Habitats Regulations Assessment Derogation and Compensatory Measures Update (Revision D) (Tracked)** [document reference 13.7.1]
- **Instrument Flight Procedures Assessment for Norwich Airport (Revision B)** [document reference 19.22]
- **The Applicant's Response to Natural England's Risk and Issues Log** [document reference 22.10]
- **The Applicant's Closing Statement** [document reference 22.11]
- **Final Joint Position Statement on Open Space Agreements between the Applicant and Norfolk County Council** [document reference 22.12]
- **The Applicant's Position Statement on Open Space Agreements with Broadland District Council** [document reference 22.13]
- **Final Joint Position Statement on Open Space Agreements between the Applicant and Louise Savory** [document reference 22.14]



- **The Applicant's Further Responses to the Examining Authority's Fourth Written Questions** [document reference 22.19]
- **Joint Statement between Ørsted and Equinor** [document reference 22.29]