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National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc
C/o Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP
and
Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm
Limited

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010115

Date: 13 December 2024

Dear Sirs

The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended) – Rule 17

Application by Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm Limited for an order granting development consent for the Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm project

Request for further information

We are writing under Rule 17 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended).

In responding to the Examining Authority's second written questions (ExQ2) GC.2.02 National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) in [REP4-055] has advised it is intended that the proposed East Anglia Connection Node (EACN) substation would be "... *the connection point for three customers with signed connection agreements. These are the North Falls and Five Estuaries offshore windfarms and the Tarchon interconnector project.*"

NGET (and some other Interested Parties) have referred to the proposed Tarchon interconnector (TI), however, no details about TI, for example timing, siting and scale, have been made available to the Examining Authority. The originally made Development Consent Order (DCO) for the Norfolk Vanguard offshore wind farm was quashed because it was found that inadequate consideration of the cumulative effects of the onshore substations for Norfolk Vanguard and Norfolk Boreas had been undertaken prior to the DCO's making¹. To assist the Secretary of State's and the Examining Authority's understanding of the potential cumulative effects for the proposed onshore substations for the Five Estuaries and North Falls offshore wind farms, EACN and TI, the Applicant and NGET are requested to submit details for the proposed TI project, including the following matters:

¹ Pearce and Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy and Norfolk Vanguard Limited [2021] EWHC 326 (Admin)

- 1) Anticipated timings for TI, ie submission of any application for consent, the undertaking of construction works and commissioning.
- 2) The intended consenting mechanism, ie via the Planning Act 2008 or the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
- 3) The location of and scale for any proposed onshore converter and substation
- 4) Any other information that is considered to be pertinent.

If the requested information about TI is currently not readily available within the public domain then that information should be sought by either NGET or the Applicant from TI's promoter and incorporated into a document that can be submitted and published as an Examination document. In responding to this request for information the Examining Authority recommends that NGET and the Applicant liaise with one another about which party takes the lead in submitting the requested information to avoid any unnecessary duplication.

Responses should be submitted by **Deadline 5 (10 January 2025)**.

Yours faithfully

Grahame Gould

Grahame Gould
Lead Member of the Panel of Examining Inspectors

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