

3 March 2025

THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATIONS PROCEDURE) RULES 2010

FIVE ESTUARIES OFFSHORE WIND FARM PROJECT

RESPONSE TO THE EXAMINING AUTHORITY'S THIRD WRITTEN QUESTIONS

[PD-026]

OUR REF: 20049242

BCLP.

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1 **RESPONSE TO THE EXAMINING AUTHORITY'S THIRD WRITTEN QUESTIONS [PD-026]**

1.1 NGET's response to ExA's Q3 is as follows:

ExQ3	Question To:	Question:	Response:
<p>SLV.3.01</p>	<p>Applicant, Tendring District Council, Essex County Council, North Falls Offshore Windfarm Limited (NFWL) and National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET)</p>	<p>Detailed design within the onshore substation zone</p> <p>The ExA notes that under subparagraph 5(b) of Requirement 10 of the made DCO for the Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Extensions Offshore Wind Farm the detailed design for the onshore substations for that project must be subject to a design review to be undertaken by an independent design review panel prior to seeking detailed design approval from the relevant planning authority's approval [e-page 1,876 in REP4-044]. Having regard to the Applicant's, NFWL's and NGET's intention that there would be three onshore substations in close proximity with one another:</p> <p>a) Should the detailed design for the substations within the onshore substation zone be subject to review by an independent design review panel? In answering this question if you consider there should not be an independent design review process explain why that is the case.</p> <p>b) For the Applicant – submit wording for an independent design review mechanism, for incorporation into Requirement 5 (Onshore substation works etc) of the dDCO (on a without prejudice basis should you not be agreeable to there being a design review by an independent panel).</p>	<p>National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) propose for the EACN substation to use Air insulated switchgear (AIS), which does not result in the majority of the apparatus being located within a built structure.</p> <p>The layout and design arrangement for such an AIS is dictated by safety and circuit design practicalities. As a result, there is no opportunity for the layout arrangement to be modified for design reasons. Other design details such as external colour finish to fencing will be expected to be agreed and stated within the DCO. On this basis there is no beneficial role for design review and NGET would not consider this appropriate in this situation.</p> <p>The inclusion of Five Estuaries and North Falls substation within an independent review is a matter for those parties and on which NGET has no comment.</p>

Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP

For and on behalf of National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc

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