



Our ref: KM/JB

Your ref: 20048646

Grahame Gould  
Lead Member of the Examining Authority  
National Infrastructure Planning  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square Bristol  
BS1 6PN

Kelly Milburn  
Spatial Planning Manager  
Operations (East)  
National Highways  
Woodlands  
Manton Lane  
Bedford  
MK41 7LW

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Via E-Mail to:

[fiveestuaries@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:fiveestuaries@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

Dear Mr Gould,

**FIVE ESTUARIES OFFSHORE WIND FARM – EN010115**

**DEADLINE 7 SUBMISSION – RESPONSE TO THE EXAMINING AUTHORITY’S  
THIRD WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

Pursuant to the Examining Authority’s third Written Questions (ExQ3) published on 3 February 2025, specifically Question TT3.02, “Projects considered within cumulative assessment of traffic”, I can confirm that, from National Highways’ perspective, the projects set out in Section 8.12 of the Traffic and Transport Chapter of the Environmental Statement (ES) (current draft version of which is found at Appendix 3 of the Applicant’s response to ISH3 Action Points [REP3-023]) can be treated as a finalised list of projects scoped in or out of assessment at the close of this Examination.

In addition, National Highways is able to provide an update to the ExA on Action Point 6, which arose at Issue Specific Hearing 6, relating to the capacity of the A120’s junctions east of the B1035 (Horsley Cross). The Applicant has updated the Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (OCTMP) as follows,

*“Should, once appointed, the Principal Contractor(s) identify the requirement for vehicle movements through the A120/ Parkeston Road or A120/ B1352 roundabouts that would result in greater than 30 two-way vehicle movements at either junction, during a highway network peak hour the Principal Contractor(s) will discuss with NH the requirement for any supporting junction capacity assessments and/ or the need for mitigating measures, before greater than 30 two-way vehicle movements can be permitted.”*



The inclusion of this measure in the oCTMP effectively ensures that the capacity of the junctions is not breached without appropriate mitigation measures being implemented.

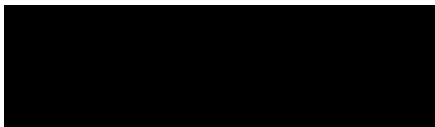
Further, the Applicant's transport consultants have provided us with the modelling work they have undertaken on the impact of construction traffic at three junctions on the A120 (A120/ Bentley Road, A120/ B1035 (Horsley Cross Roundabout) and A120/ Harwich Road). We will be able to provide a definitive response at Deadline 8 on those junctions' capacity regarding construction traffic movements.

In respect of the remaining areas of disagreement between National Highways and the Applicant;

1. The Protective Provisions are now resolved with the exception of the clause relating to compulsory purchase, which remains unacceptable to National Highways. We are working with the Applicant to expedite a series of Land Agreements which we hope will enable the clause to be removed.
2. Whilst we believe that the Abnormal Indivisible Loads (ALLs) issue is resolvable, we are awaiting the Applicant's proposals for mitigating the risk of damage to the road surface to provide sufficient assurance that this can be managed.

In summary, we have managed to resolve most of the areas of disagreement between ourselves and the Applicant and will continue to work with them to settle the remaining matters where possible before the close of the Examination.

Yours sincerely,



Kelly Milburn  
Spatial Planning Manager