



**Maritime and Coastguard Agency**  
 UK Technical Services Navigation  
 105 Commercial Road  
 Southampton  
 SO15 1EG

National Infrastructure Planning  
 Temple Quay House  
 2 The Square  
 Bristol, BS1 6PN

[www.gov.uk/mca](http://www.gov.uk/mca)  
 5 July 2024

Your ref: EN010117

Dear Sir/Madam

**Application by Rampion Extension Development Limited (RED) for an Order Granting Development Consent for a new offshore windfarm, Rampion 2, with up to 90 wind turbine generators, offshore substations and electricity transmission infrastructure.**

**Planning Act 2008 – Section 88 and 89 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rules 4, 6, 9 and 13.**

**Examination Timetable – Deadline 5 - Comments on the Applicant’s second update to the draft DCO**

The MCA provided comments on the draft DCO on 16/01/24 and the applicant provided their latest position to MCA on 26/06/24. Whilst most of our comments have been satisfactorily addressed there are still some condition wordings that remains not agreed. Please find below a table summarising the specific conditions that are not agreed.

Reference	MCA’s requested amendment (16/01/24)	Applicant’s position 26/06/24	MCA comments 05/07/24
Schedules 11 & 12 Condition 9 (8)	<i>All dropped objects must be reported to the MMO, UKHO and HMCG using the Dropped Object Procedure Form as soon as reasonably practicable and no later than 6 hours of the</i>	<i>All dropped objects must be reported to the MMO using the Dropped Object Procedure Form as soon as reasonably practicable following the undertaker becoming aware of an incident. On</i>	MCA and UKHO need to know immediately if the dropped object is a navigation hazard for warnings to be issued to mariners via HMCG. Therefore we still support notification within 6

	<p><i>undertaker becoming aware of an incident. Immediate notification should be made to HM Coastguard via telephone where there is a perceived danger or hazard to navigation. On receipt of the Dropped Object Procedure Form, the MMO may require relevant surveys to be carried out by the undertaker (such as side scan sonar) if reasonable to do so and the MMO may require obstructions to be removed from the seabed at the undertaker's expense if reasonable to do so.</i></p>	<p><i>receipt of the Dropped Object Procedure Form, the MMO may require relevant surveys to be carried out by the undertaker (such as side scan sonar) if reasonable to do so and the MMO may require obstructions which are hazardous to other marine users to be removed from the seabed at the undertaker's expense if reasonable to do so.</i></p> <p>The Applicant has amended the Condition to remove the previous reference to notice having to be given within five days; notice must therefore be given as soon as reasonably practicable following the undertaker becoming aware of an incident in all instances; this is consistent with the condition imposed on the grant of the Hornsea Four Offshore Wind Farm Order, 2023.</p> <p>There is inconsistency in terms of the drafting and timings suggested by MCA and MMO but, the Applicant's drafting amendment means that this is irrelevant as the Condition secures that dropped objects will be reported 'as soon as reasonably practicable'.</p>	<p>hours. We have proposed to the MMO that this becomes standard wording for the dropped objects procedure and while we are still waiting for their position this wording is consistent with other ML authorities in the UK.</p>
<p>Schedules 11 &amp; 12 Condition 16 (2)</p>	<p><i>A swath bathymetric survey to IHO Order 1a of the area within the Offshore Order Limits extending to an appropriate buffer around the site, must be undertaken. This should fulfil the requirements of MGN654 and its supporting 'Hydrographic Guidelines for Offshore Renewable Energy Developers', which includes the requirement for the full density data and reports to be delivered to the MCA and the UKHO for the update of nautical charts and publications. This must be submitted as soon as possible, and no later than [three months] prior to construction. The Order Limit shapefiles must be submitted to MCA.</i></p>	<p><i>(2) Subject to receipt from the undertaker of specific proposals pursuant to this condition, the pre-construction survey proposals must have due regard to the need to undertake-</i></p> <p><i>(a) a full sea floor coverage swath-bathymetry survey undertaken to IHO Order 1a standard that meets the requirements of MGN654 and its annexes, and side scan sonar of those parts of the offshore Order limits in which it is proposed to carry out the authorised scheme <b>including proposed cable locations and an</b></i></p>	<p>MCA disagrees with '<i>must have due regard to the need to undertake...</i>'</p> <p>The requested amendment is as per MGN hydrographic guidelines in MGN 654 Annex 4 for pre-construction surveys. Having due regard for the need to undertake hydrographic surveys does not secure the requirement to conduct surveys.</p>

	<p><i>The Report of Survey must also be sent to the MMO.</i></p>	<p><b><i>appropriate buffer. This should fulfil the requirements of MGN654 and its supporting 'Hydrographic Guidelines for Offshore Renewable Energy Developers', which includes the requirement for the full density data and reports to be delivered to the MCA and the UKHO for the update of nautical charts and publications;</i></b></p> <p>...</p> <p><i>(3) The undertaker must carry out the surveys agreed under sub-paragraph (1) and provide the baseline report to the MMO in the agreed format and in accordance with the agreed timetable, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the MMO and submitted to the MCA as Geographical Information System data referenced to WGS84 datum.</i></p>	<p>Once completed, the data must be sent to MCA in either CARIS Project Directory or GSF (Generic Sensor Format) format, as per MGN 654 Annex 4, not as Geographical Information System data.</p>
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The implication of the above is that we are unfortunately unable to agree the Statement of Common Ground with the applicant until these are resolved.

Yours faithfully,



Nick Salter  
 Offshore Renewables Lead  
 UK Technical Services Navigation