



National Infrastructure Planning
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To the Applicant
(By email only)

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010121

Date: 27 June 2024

Dear Ms Watson,

Planning Act 2008 (as amended) – Section 51

Application by Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Ltd for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets project.

Advice following issue of decision to accept the application for examination

On 27 June 2024 the Secretary of State decided that the application for the above project satisfied the acceptance tests under section 55 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008). The Planning Inspectorate's acceptance checklist and the application documents have been published and made available on the project page of our website.

In undertaking checks at the acceptance stage, the Inspectorate has made some initial observations in relation to the application. This letter comprises advice to the Applicant provided under section 51 of the PA2008 in respect of these initial observations. The Applicant should pay attention to its content and consider how appropriate action might be taken in response.

Chapter 15: Marine Archaeology and Cultural Heritage (Doc 5.1.15)

Geotechnical survey data collected in 2023 has been analysed for its archaeological interest. Environmental Statement (ES) paragraph 15.46 states that further geotechnical investigations are planned to be undertaken in 2024 to acquire additional data. The date of availability to the ExA (once appointed) of the further geotechnical data and archaeological analysis is required in order to inform the examination timetable. The Applicant is requested to confirm this as soon as practicable.

Offshore Statutory and Non-Statutory Nature Conservation Sites (Doc 2.6)

Noting comments in the section 55 checklist, at box 30, the Applicant is requested as soon as possible, to provide the Inspectorate with a plan or a series of plans (noting the

scale required) showing all the statutory and non-statutory designated sites that have been considered as part of the application.

Consultees identified on a precautionary basis

Given the individual circumstances of this case, the Planning Inspectorate advises taking a precautionary approach to consultation under s42(1)(a) of PA2008 to ensure that all persons potentially affected by, or potentially likely to have an interest in the application are given the opportunity to participate fully in the Examination of the application. On this basis, the Applicant may wish to serve notice on the bodies listed in Box 6 of the section 55 checklist when it serves notice of the accepted application under s56(2)(a) of the PA2008; unless there is a specific justification why this is not necessary.

Minor errors and omissions

There are minor errors and omissions, as reflected in Box 30 of the acceptance checklist and the Applicant may wish to review this information and amend their documentation as deemed appropriate.

Please note this list is not exhaustive and other errors and omissions may be identified during pre-examination and examination. An Examining Authority, once appointed, may ask questions regarding these matters or request an update.

Please pay close attention to the advice set out in this letter and act on it accordingly. This will contribute towards a more efficient examination and give any future Examining Authority comfort that the documentation is complete and accurate.

We trust you find this advice helpful, however if you have any queries on these matters please do not hesitate to contact our office using the contact details at the head of this letter.

Yours sincerely,

Caroline Hopewell

Caroline Hopewell
Case Manager

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