



Morecambe Offshore Generation Assets  
Case Team  
Planning Inspectorate  
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(Email only)

MMO Reference: DCO/2022/00001  
Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN010121  
Identification Number: 20049449

15 October 2024

Dear Sir or Madam,

**Planning Act 2008, Floatation Energy, Proposed Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets**

**Response to Examining Authority's Rule 6 Letter**

On 5 July 2024 the Marine Management Organisation (the "MMO") received notice under section 55 of the Planning Act 2008 (the "PA 2008") that the Planning Inspectorate ("PINS") had accepted an application made by Floatation Energy, (the "Applicant") for determination of a development consent order for the construction, maintenance and operation of the proposed Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets (the "DCO Application") (MMO ref: DCO/2022/00001; PINS ref: EN010121).

The Applicant seeks authorisation for the construction, operation and maintenance of DCO Application, comprising of up to 35 offshore wind turbine generators together with associated onshore and offshore infrastructure and all associated development ("the Project"). The project is located approximately 30 kilometres (km) from the Lancashire coast, England. The proposed site development area has been reduced to approximately 87km<sup>2</sup>. All project infrastructure will be located within the 87km<sup>2</sup> windfarm site.

The MMO received a Rule 6 letter on 23 September 2024. Please find below the MMO comments to the following sections:

- 1. Preliminary Meeting Attendance**
- 2. Comments on Examination Timetable**
- 3. Anything further required from Examination Authority**
- 4. Responses to Relevant Representations**



This written representation is submitted without prejudice to any future representation the MMO may make about the DCO Application throughout the examination process. This representation is also submitted without prejudice to any decision the MMO may make on any associated application for consent, permission, approval or any other type of authorisation submitted to the MMO either for the works in the marine area or for any other authorisation relevant to the proposed development.

Yours faithfully

[Redacted signature]

Victoria Hindmarsh  
Marine Licensing Case Officer

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## 1. Preliminary Meeting Attendance

- 1.1 The MMO will not be attending the Preliminary Meeting on 23 October 2024. The MMO has reviewed the draft timetable for the examination of the application and would like to highlight the following concerns for consideration by the Examining Authority (ExA).

## 2. Comments on Examination Timetable

- 2.1 With regard to the examination timetable the MMO notes that the Preliminary Meeting and Open Floor Hearing (OFH1) are held on the same day. The MMO considers it unusual to have these hearings consecutively. The MMO requests that the ExA considers rearranging these hearings to allow all participants to fully attend when there is a change in position or further discussion is required. The MMO is unlikely to attend these hearings.
- 2.2 At this stage, the MMO is not planning on attending any issue specific hearing (ISH), however, will keep a watching brief and respond to any questions posed by the ExA on completion of the ISH. This is to ensure resource is spent on providing detailed written responses and resolving any issues with the Applicant.
- 2.3 If the ExA requests MMO attendance for an ISH, the MMO would ask that hearings are organised to minimise the need for the MMO to be in attendance for all hearings, (e.g., discussing both offshore matters and onshore matters). In addition to this, the MMO would welcome any discussions on the DML or offshore DCO sections to be discussed at the earliest opportunity within the agenda. For example, in East Anglia One North and East Anglian Two, the agenda was rearranged to enable MMO involvement at the start of the hearing. This would enable better time utilisation, allowing for a more efficient and effective examination.

## 3. Anything further required from Examination Authority

- 3.1 The MMO notes that the ExA has requested Summaries of Relevant Representations that exceed 1500 words at Pre-examination Procedural Deadline A. The MMO has provided this as a separate document.

## 4. Responses to Relevant Representations

- 4.1 The MMO has reviewed the Relevant Representations (RR) submitted, specifically,

- **Historic England**

The MMO will review the comments on the RR provided by the Applicant and provide overall comments at Deadline 1.

- **Maritime and Coastguard Agency**

The MMO maintains a watching brief on the response from this Interested Party (IP).

- **Natural England**

The MMO will review the comments on the RR provided by the Applicant and provide overall comments at Deadline 1.

- **Corporation of Trinity House of Deptford Strond (Corporation of Trinity House of Deptford Strond)**

The MMO maintains a watching brief on the response from this IP.



- **Royal Society for the Protection of Birds**

The MMO will review the comments on the RR provided by the Applicant and provide overall comments at Deadline 1.

- **North West Wildlife Trusts**

The MMO will review the comments on the RR provided by the Applicant and provide overall comments at Deadline 1.

- **National Federation of Fisherman's Organisations**

The MMO will review the comments on the RR provided by the Applicant and provide overall comments at Deadline 1.

Yours faithfully

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