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**RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank
South (West) Limited**

**RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank
South (East) Limited**

Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms

**Habitats Regulations Derogation: Provision of Evidence
Volume 6**

**Outline Dogger Bank Compensation Implementation and
Monitoring Plan**

June 2024

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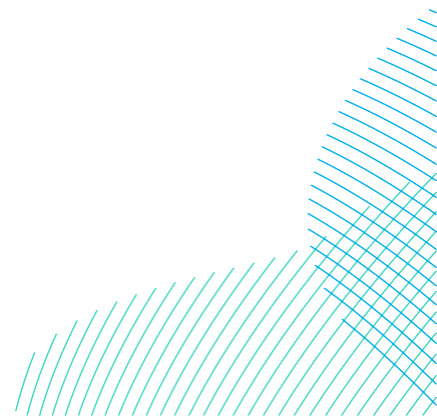
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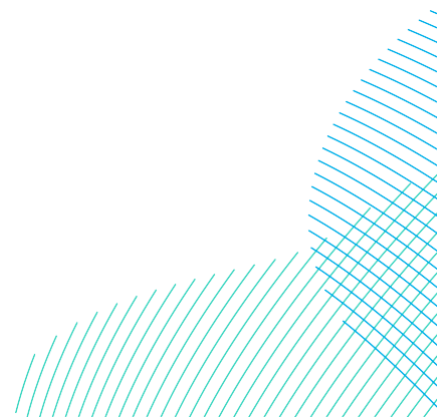
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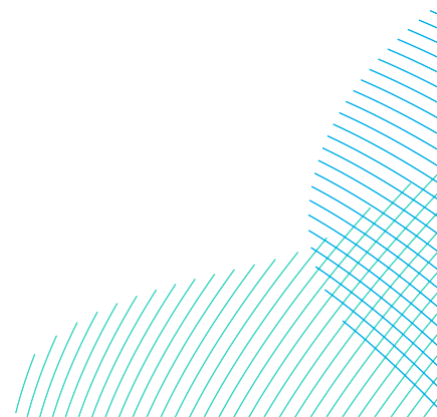
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Glossary

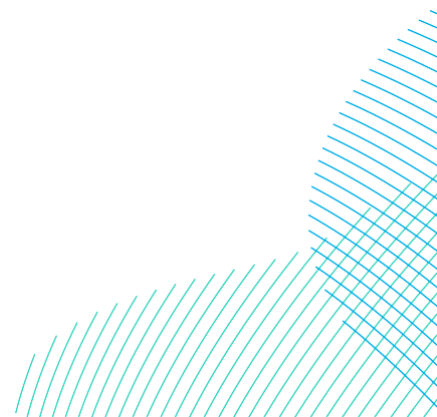
Term	Definition
Development Consent Order (DCO)	An order made under the Planning Act 2008 granting development consent for one or more Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project.
Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms	The collective name for the two Projects, DBS East and DBS West.
Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)	The process that determines whether or not a plan or project may have an adverse effect on the integrity of a European Site or European Offshore Marine Site.
Dogger Bank Strategic Compensation Plan	Document produced as part of The Crown Estates Derogation Case in support of the Round 4 Plan which must be adhered to by Dogger Bank South West and Dogger Bank East through their agreement for lease conditions. The overall objective of the DBSCP is <i>“to detail the development and delivery of strategic compensation to ensure the overall coherence of the UK National Site Network. Strategic compensation for the purposes of the Round 4 Plan is defined here as compensatory measures delivered collectively to address the AEOSI [Adverse Effect on Site Integrity] of Dogger Bank SAC [Special Area of Conservation] from the Round 4 Plan”</i> .
Dogger Bank Steering Group	A strategic steering group for Dogger Bank Special Area of Conservation compensation formed by The Crown Estate. This group includes representatives from The Crown Estate and their technical advisor NIRAS Group (UK), Natural England, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Department for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero and RWE Renewables UK.
Round 4 Plan	The Fourth Offshore Wind Seabed Leasing Round undertaken by The Crown Estate and adopted in January 2023.

Term	Definition
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	Strictly protected sites designated pursuant to Article 3 of the Habitats Directive (via the Habitats Regulations) for habitats listed on Annex I and species listed on Annex II of the Directive.
The Applicants	RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Limited and RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Limited. The Applicants are themselves jointly owned by the RWE Group of companies (51% stake) and Masdar (49% stake).
The Projects	DBS East and DBS West (collectively referred to as the Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms).



Acronyms

Term	Definition
CIMP	Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan
DCO	Development Consent Order
DESNZ	Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
DBS	Dogger Bank South offshore wind farms
DB SAC	Dogger Bank Special Area of Conservation
DBCSCG	Dogger Bank Compensation Steering Group
DBSCP	Dogger Bank Strategic Compensation Plan
DBSIMP	Dogger Bank Strategic Implementation and Monitoring Plan
UK	United Kingdom



1 Introduction

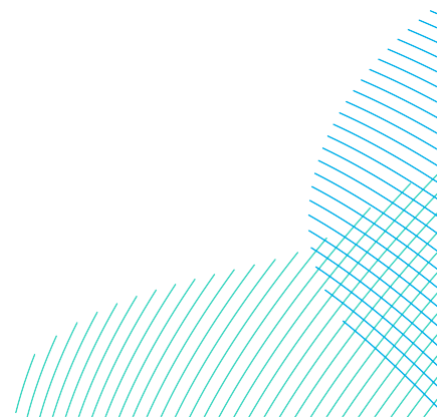
1. RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Limited and RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Limited ('the Applicants') are applying for a single Development Consent Order (DCO) for both the Dogger Bank South (DBS) East and DBS West offshore wind farms (hereafter referred to as 'the Projects'). When fully operational, the Projects would have the potential to generate renewable power for over 3 million homes in the United Kingdom (UK) from up to 200 wind turbines¹.
2. This document provides an outline for the Dogger Bank Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan (CIMP) that will be developed by the Applicants, in consultation with the proposed Dogger Bank Compensation Steering Group (DBC SG), should consent for the Projects be granted and compensation for the Dogger Bank Special Area of Conservation (DB SAC) sandbank feature be required.
3. The Dogger Bank CIMP will be developed in accordance with the **Volume 6, Appendix 3 - Project Level Dogger Bank Compensation Plan (application ref: 6.2.3)** which provides a detailed account of the strategy supporting the potential compensation measures for Dogger Bank Annex I sandbank habitat at the project level. The Dogger Bank CIMP will be submitted to the Secretary of State for approval post-consent, as secured by Schedule 18 of the **Volume 3, Draft DCO (application ref: 3.1)**.
4. The following sections of this outline plan set out the proposed content of the Dogger Bank CIMP. The Dogger Bank CIMP will be structured as follows:
 - Section 1: Introduction
 - Section 2: Background
 - Section 3: Consultation
 - Section 4: MPA Designation / Extension
 - Section 4.1: Scale and Location of compensation
 - Section 4.2: Design of MPA Designation / Extension
 - Section 4.3: Delivery Mechanism

¹ Calculation based on 2021 generation, and assuming average (mean) annual household consumption of 3,509 kWh, based on latest statistics from Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (Subnational Electricity and Gas Consumption Statistics Regional and Local Authority, Great Britain, 2021, Mean domestic electricity consumption (kWh per meter) by country/region, Great Britain, 2021.

- Section 4.4: Monitoring and Adaptive Management
- Section 4.5: Reporting
- Section 4.6: Programme for Implementation and Delivery
- Section 4.7: Discharge of Consent Condition

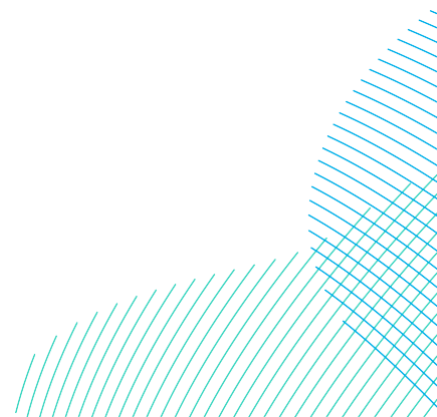
1.1 Implications of The Crown Estate's Round 4 Habitats Regulations Assessment Derogation

5. It should be noted that the Projects are part of the Fourth Offshore Wind Seabed Leasing Round (the 'Round 4 Plan') and are therefore subject to The Crown Estate's Round 4 derogation case. In accordance with this and their Agreement for Lease, the Projects are required to deliver compensation to offset predicted impacts on the DB SAC 'sandbanks slightly covered by seawater all the time' feature identified at the Plan level.
6. The Crown Estate has prepared in consultation with a strategic Dogger Bank Steering Group, a **Volume 6, Round 4 Dogger Bank Strategic Compensation Plan (DBSCP) (application ref: 6.2.3.1)** which details the compensatory measures to be delivered under the Round 4 derogation. In accordance with the **Volume 6, DBSCP (application ref: 6.2.3.1)**, The Crown Estate is required to submit a Dogger Bank Strategic Implementation and Monitoring Plan (DBSIMP) to the Secretary of State for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) prior to the operation of any wind turbine generator of the Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms.
7. There is currently some uncertainty as to whether it will be necessary for the Applicants to provide a Dogger Bank CIMP and establish a governance process in addition to that which is required at the plan level for The Crown Estate's Round 4 derogation. This is particularly given that the Applicants are proposing to rely upon strategic delivery of compensation (i.e. Marine Protected Area (MPA) Designation / Extension) via a Strategic Compensation Fund such as the Marine Recovery Fund. Subject to clarification from the Secretary of State, the Applicants have assumed that for the purpose of this DCO application, a Dogger Bank CIMP and DBCSG would be required.



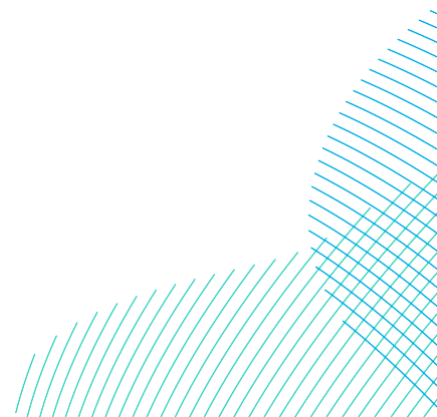
2 Background

8. This section will provide context to the Dogger Bank CIMP, confirming the reason for its need, its aims and objectives, and the latest project status.



3 Consultation

9. This section will summarise all relevant consultation that has taken place through the Steering Group process in the development of the Dogger Bank CIMP. It will capture any key decisions, agreements, and where relevant any outstanding issues under discussion (with clarity as to the steps necessary to resolve any such matters). Ongoing engagement, for example to provide updates on monitoring (post-discharge of the Dogger Bank CIMP), will be outlined here.



4 MPA Designation / Extension

4.1 Scale and Location of Compensation

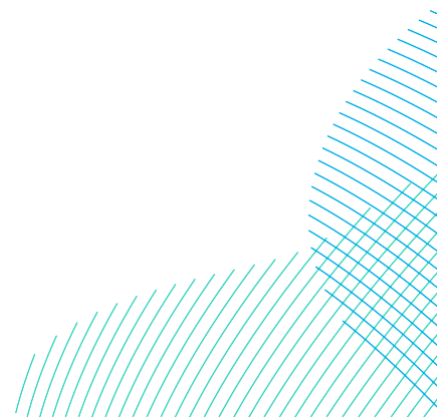
10. This section will identify the scale of compensation proposed to be provided and how this relates to the consent decision made by the Secretary of State. This section will then also detail the specific location(s) at which the compensation will be delivered and how the necessary land / seabed rights in those locations have been / will be secured. The evidence base included in support of the Dogger Bank CIMP will help inform these aspects. The results of any monitoring carried out pre-construction will also be detailed here as this may influence the location(s).

4.2 Design of MPA Designation / Extension

11. This section will identify the design and delivery for the MPA Designation / Extension programme proposed to be provided, including any updates to the evidence base to demonstrate the confidence that the measure will be able to deliver the required level of compensation. The evidence base provided in support of this measure is set out in the **Volume 6, Appendix 3 - Project Level Dogger Bank Compensation Plan (application ref: 6.2.3)** and engagement with the DBCSG will be important in informing the specific design aspects of the MPA Designation / Extension programme.

4.3 Delivery Mechanism

12. This section will confirm the nature and status of all consents, access agreements, as well as any other relevant approvals and / or funding arrangements that are necessary to secure the implementation of the compensation measure and include a programme for delivery of any outstanding consents.
13. This section will also outline key members involved in the delivery, their role in the process and responsibilities associated with implementation.



4.4 Monitoring and Adaptive Management

14. This section will identify the monitoring and adaptive management principles and processes that have been agreed with the DBCSG, including the scenarios under which adaptive management measures are required. It will be developed in line with the evidence base that has been provided in support of the **Volume 6, Appendix 3 - Project Level Dogger Bank Compensation Plan (application ref: 6.2.3)**. Following discharge of the Dogger Bank CIMP, the DBCSG will be engaged in relation to implementing adaptive management, if required, as outlined in the Consultation section above. Specific topics of discussion for inclusion within the DBCSG, and therefore the purpose of the group, will be regarding site selection, project / study design, monitoring, adaptive management options and associated triggers. The focus of the DBCSG will be specifically to deliver the compensation for DBS East and DBS West and topics beyond this will be out of scope for the Dogger Bank CIMP.

4.5 Reporting

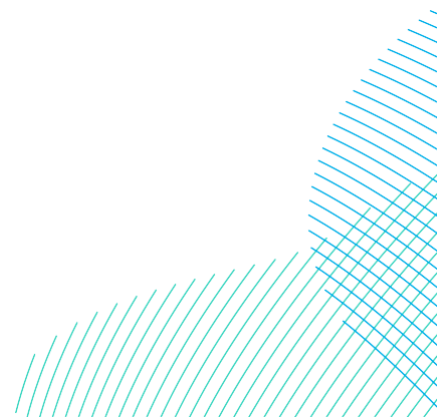
15. This section will set out the reporting requirements associated with the monitoring and adaptive management. In doing so, it will confirm the necessary objectives and timescales for the reporting.

4.6 Programme for Implementation and Delivery

16. This section will confirm the programme for the implementation and long-term delivery of the compensation.

4.7 Discharge of Consent Condition

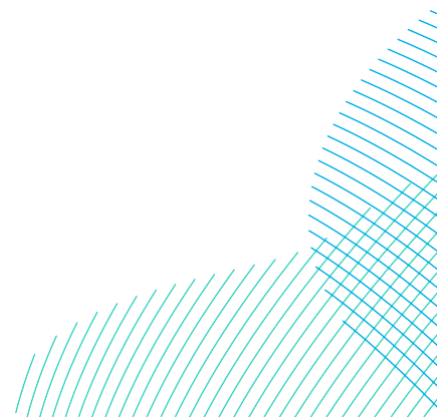
17. This section will confirm how, based on the content of this report, the Secretary of State can discharge the condition relating to the delivery of the compensation required for the DB SAC sandbank feature.



5 Collaborative and Strategic Compensation

18. In the event that other viable compensation measures that are suitable for collaborative or strategic delivery become available within the necessary timescales for the Projects, this section will, as secured by Schedule 18 of the **Volume 3, Draft DCO (application ref: 3.1)**, confirm either the nature of the:

- collaborative compensatory measure/s to be delivered wholly or partly in place of the Applicant's proposed measures or as an adaptive management measure; and/or
- contribution to be made to a Strategic Compensation Fund wholly or partly in place of the Applicant's proposed measures or as an adaptive management measure.



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