

RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Limited

RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Limited

Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms

Environmental Statement

Volume 7

Appendix 25-1 Noise Consultation Responses

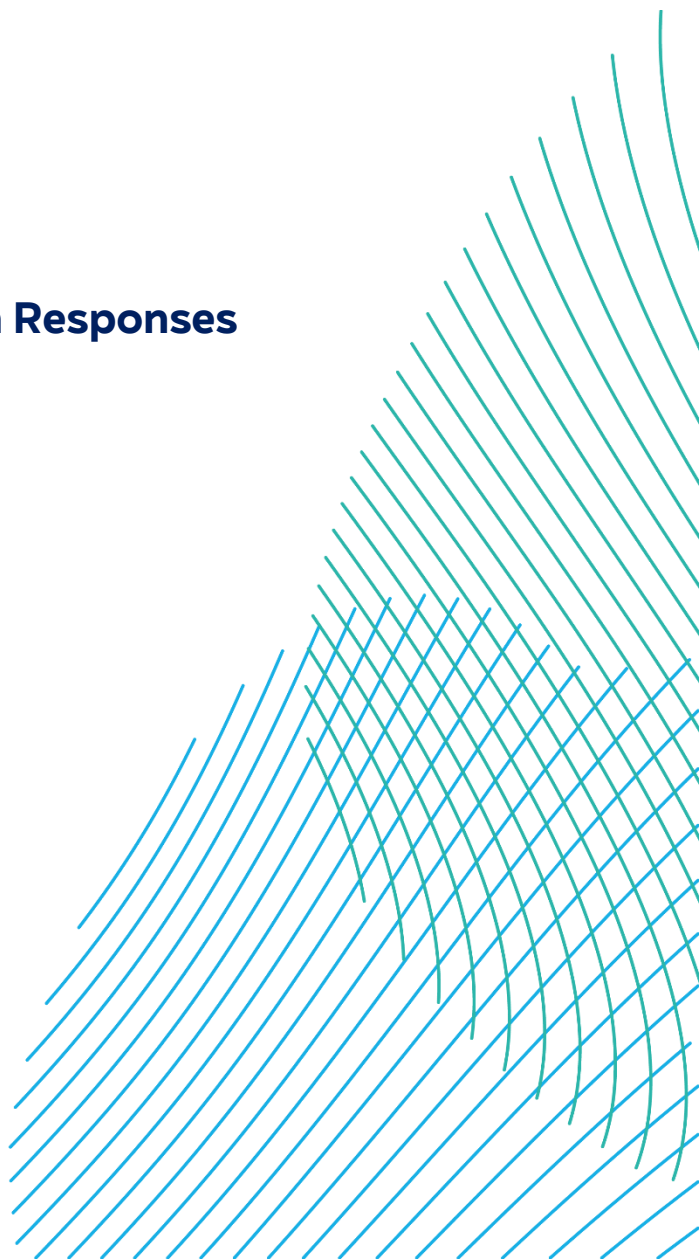
June 2024

Application Reference: 7.25.25.1

APFP Regulation: 5(2)(a)

Revision: 01

Unrestricted



Company:	RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Limited and RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Limited	Asset:	Development
Project:	Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms	Sub Project/Package:	Consents
Document Title or Description:	Appendix 25-1 Noise Consultation Responses		
Document Number:	004300169-01	Contractor Reference Number:	PC2340-RHD-ON-ZZ-AX-Z-0066

COPYRIGHT © RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Limited and RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Limited, 2024. All rights reserved.

This document is supplied on and subject to the terms and conditions of the Contractual Agreement relating to this work, under which this document has been supplied, in particular:

LIABILITY

In preparation of this document RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Limited and RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Limited has made reasonable efforts to ensure that the content is accurate, up to date and complete for the purpose for which it was contracted. RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Limited and RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Limited makes no warranty as to the accuracy or completeness of material supplied by the client or their agent.

Other than any liability on RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Limited and RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Limited detailed in the contracts between the parties for this work RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Limited and RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Limited shall have no liability for any loss, damage, injury, claim, expense, cost or other consequence arising as a result of use or reliance upon any information contained in or omitted from this document.

Any persons intending to use this document should satisfy themselves as to its applicability for their intended purpose.

The user of this document has the obligation to employ safe working practices for any activities referred to and to adopt specific practices appropriate to local conditions.

Rev No.	Date	Status/Reason for Issue	Author	Checked by	Approved by
01	June 2024	Final for DCO Application	RHDHV	RWE	RWE

Contents

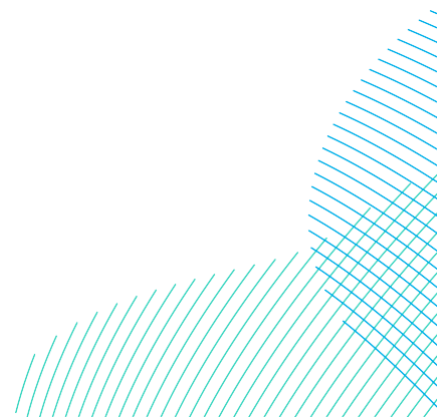
25.1	Consultation Reponses	6
25.1.1	Introduction.....	6

Tables

Table 25-1-1	Consultation Responses Related to Volume 7 Chapter 25 Noise (application ref: 7.25)	7
--------------	--	---

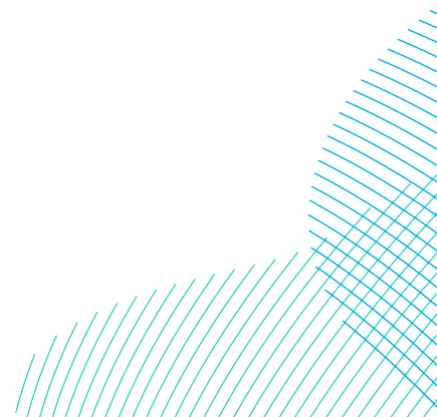
Glossary

Term	Definition
Dogger Bank South (DBS) Offshore Wind Farms	The collective name for the two Projects, DBS East and DBS West.
Evidence Plan Process (EPP)	A voluntary consultation process with specialist stakeholders to agree the approach, and information to support, the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) for certain topics.
Expert Topic Group (ETG)	A forum for targeted engagement with regulators and interested stakeholders through the EPP.
Landfall	The point on the coastline at which the Offshore Export Cables are brought onshore, connecting to the onshore cables at the Transition Joint Bay (TJB) above mean high water.
Landfall Zone	The generic term applied to the entire landfall area between Mean Low Water Spring (MLWS) and the Transition Joint Bays (TJBs) inclusive of all construction works, including the landfall compounds, Onshore Export Cable Corridor and intertidal working area including the Offshore Export Cables.
Onshore Export Cables	Onshore Export Cables take the electric from the Transition Joint Bay to the Onshore Converter Stations.
The Applicants	The Applicants for the Projects are 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
DBS	Dogger Bank South
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EPP	Evidence Plan Process
ES	Environmental Statement
ETG	Expert Topic Group
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Impact Report
UK	United Kingdom
UKHSA	United Kingdom Health Security Agency



25.1 Consultation Responses

25.1.1 Introduction

1. This appendix covers those statutory consultation responses that have been received as a response to the Scoping Report (2022), the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) (2023) and Expert Topic Group (ETG) meetings.
2. Response from stakeholders and regard given by the Applicants have been captured in **Table 25-1-1**.
3. Consultation with regard to noise and vibration has been undertaken in line with the general process described in **Volume 7, Chapter 6 EIA Methodology (application ref: 7.6)**. The key elements of consultation to date have included consultation with East Riding of Yorkshire Council regarding baseline noise monitoring locations, scoping, Evidence Plan Process (EPP) via Expert Topic Groups (ETG) and PEIR consultation responses.

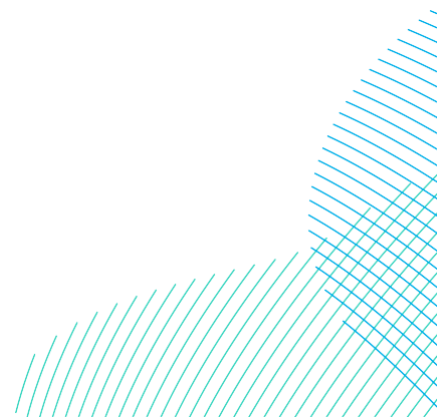
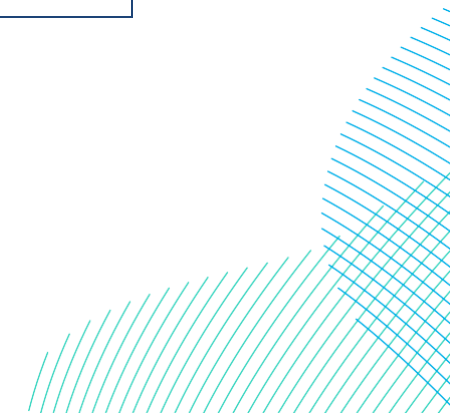
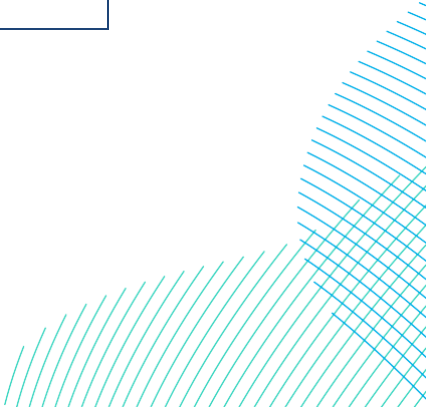


Table 25-1-1 Consultation Responses Related to **Volume 7 Chapter 25 Noise (application ref: 7.25)**

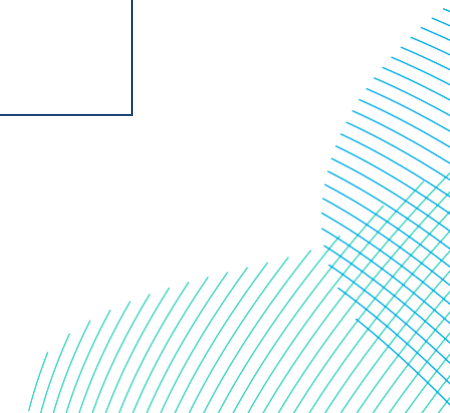
Comment	Project Response
<p>The Planning Inspectorate Scoping Opinion 02/09/2022</p>	
<p>Scoping Opinion Reference 4.8.1: The Scoping Report states that there are no operational noise impacts from buried infrastructure at landfall or from the onshore export cable. The Inspectorate considers that given the nature of the infrastructure significant noise effects are unlikely, however, the ES should provide evidence of the anticipated noise emissions from above ground infrastructure to demonstrate that a detailed assessment is not necessary.</p>	<p>Noise from the operational substation has been assessed within this ES in Volume 7, Chapter 25 Noise (application ref: 7.25). No other operational noise-generating plant are anticipated to be used across the Projects and therefore no other assessment of operational noise emissions will be undertaken.</p>
<p>Scoping Opinion Reference 4.8.2: The Inspectorate has considered the information in the Scoping Report regarding operational traffic, substation equipment, and other onshore infrastructure as sources of ground-borne vibration. The Inspectorate agrees that significant effects are unlikely and is content that operational vibration can be scoped out of the ES.</p>	<p>Operational ground-borne vibration impacts are scoped out of the assessment.</p>



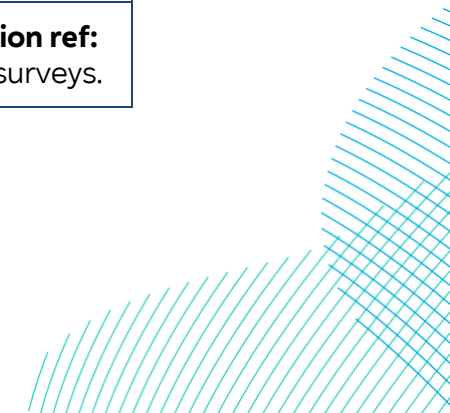
Comment	Project Response
<p>Scoping Opinion Reference 4.8.3: Table 3-27 lists criteria for determining the sensitivity of receptors. The ES should list the source of this data or indicate the use of professional judgement to inform the criteria, as no source is currently listed.</p>	<p>The sensitivity of receptors has been defined using professional judgement. The methodology for defining the sensitivity of receptors has been presented in Volume 7, Chapter 25 Noise (application ref: 7.25).</p>
<p>On the basis of the information presented in section 2.4.2 of the Scoping report concerning the offshore activities that would generate airborne noise, and the distance of these activities from the nearest onshore receptors (at approx. 100km), the Inspectorate agrees that offshore airborne noise impacts are unlikely to result in significant effects during construction, operation, and decommissioning, and can be scoped out of the ES.</p> <p>Noise impacts that are generated nearer to onshore receptors, i.e., activity associated with the laying/removal of nearshore cable, should be scoped into the ES where there is potential to result in likely significant effects. The Inspectorate notes that this matter is proposed to be scoped into the ES as part of the assessment of onshore noise and vibration (Section 3.8 of the Scoping report).</p>	<p>Impacts relating to offshore airborne noise have been scoped out.</p> <p>Nearshore impacts to onshore receptors have been considered as part of the assessment of on-site construction noise at the Landfall Zone within Volume 7, Chapter 25 Noise (application ref: 7.25).</p> <p>Underwater noise and the impacts on ecological receptors are considered in Volume 7, Chapter 11 Marine Mammals (application ref: 7.11).</p>



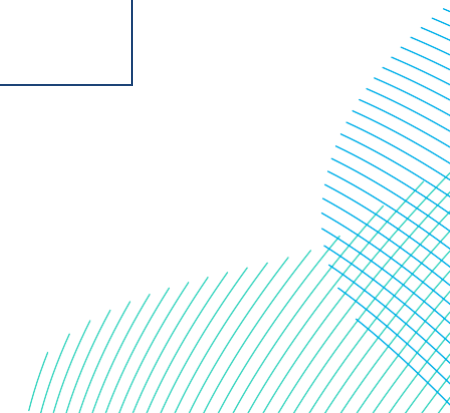
Comment	Project Response
<p>The Inspectorate is content that the main impacts from noise to ecological receptors occur from underwater noise, which is to be assessed in other relevant aspects chapters.</p>	
<p>As no pathway for effects has been identified the Proposed Development is not expected to contribute to cumulative effects with other offshore noise sources. The Inspectorate agrees that cumulative effects from offshore noise can be scoped out of the assessment.</p>	<p>Cumulative effects from offshore noise have been scoped out of the assessment.</p>
<p>Scoping Response - Hull City Council 02/09/2022</p>	
<p>Whilst the identified onshore study area is within the administrative area of East Riding of Yorkshire, construction traffic may be routed along the Strategic Road Network and local highway network within the Hull City Council administrative area. In such circumstances, assessment of potential noise and vibration impact on sensitive receptors and identification of appropriate mitigation measures should be undertaken. Hull City Council would wish to be consulted on such matters. It is noted that whilst the scoping report proposes to include the highway network within the</p>	<p>The study area for construction road traffic noise impacts includes all links within the Traffic and Transport Study Area (TTSA), which include roads within Hull City Council. Refer to Volume 7, Chapter 25 Noise (application ref: 7.25) for discussion on construction road traffic noise effects.</p>



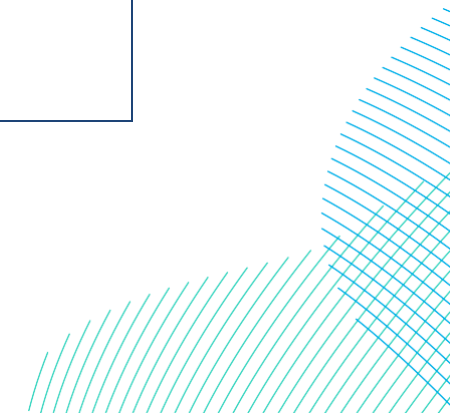
Comment	Project Response
<p>City of Hull for assessment of air quality impacts, the noise and vibration chapter scoping information is in contrast with this comprehensive approach.</p>	<p>Hull City Council have been consulted with regards to the noise and vibration assessment methodology and impacts through their attendance at ETGs.</p>
<p>Scoping Response - UK Health Security Agency 02/09/2022</p>	
<p>UKHSA has not assessed this issue [noise and vibration] and does not wish to submit any associated comments at this time. We note that the assessment is scoped in and reserve the right to comment at future stages of the consultation process.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>ETG1: Dogger Bank South Traffic and Access, Onshore Noise and Air Quality ETG/ Pre-Scoping Meeting 10/09/2021</p>	
<p>Presentation of the approach to collecting baseline data and the approach to assessing potential impacts. The ETG were in agreement that the proposed approach was acceptable.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>ETG Memo: Meeting with East Riding of Yorkshire Council on Noise Monitoring 05/10/2022</p>	
<p>East Riding of Yorkshire Council confirmed the proposed approach to baseline noise surveys was acceptable.</p>	<p>Refer to Volume 7, Appendix 25-2 (application ref: 7.25.25.2) for information on baseline noise surveys.</p>



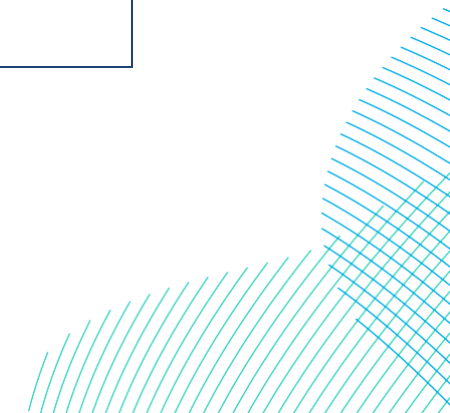
Comment	Project Response
Section 42 Consultation – Hull City Council July 2023	
The proposed assessment methodology for construction traffic noise is supported.	Noted with thanks.
Section 42 Consultation – Haven Leisure Centre Limited July 2023	
<p>The Preliminary Environmental Information Report (‘PEIR’) does not take into account the extant permission for the location of static caravans within the current ‘Pitch and Putt’. For example, the assessment of noise impact during the construction period includes the Pitch and Putt within a zone of likely construction noise impact from works a Zone 9 but does not identify the area as a specified noise receptor and it has not been assessed.</p> <p>The overall sensitivity of occupiers of Far Grange to impacts associated with the DBS must reflect the overall nature of occupancy at the site. In particular, as owner occupiers, visits to the site are typically longer and therefore those staying would experience impacts over longer periods (particularly during the construction period). Those staying at the site as part of their holiday would have an expectation of peace, quiet and as a means to enhance their overall wellbeing; this would be likely to be disrupted during the construction period.</p>	<p>Far Grange was considered at PEIR stage due to being within 300m of a temporary compound option (receptors within 300m of construction works are scoped into the assessment). The compound option in proximity to Far Grange will not be taken forward. Therefore, Far Grange is not considered as a receptor in the ES noise assessment as the nearest work site will be over 1km from noise sensitive uses of Far Grange (including the permitted extension).</p>



Comment	Project Response
ETG 2: Dogger Bank South Onshore Noise ETG Meeting 03/07/2023	
<p>Presentation of the PEIR assessment results and assessment methodology for noise and vibration to East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Hull City Council.</p> <p>The baseline monitoring approach was presented. The locations were as agreed at ETG1 / ETG Memo (agreement ID2). It was stated that <i>“due to weather conditions not all baseline surveys were completed in time to be included in the PEIR but they have now all been completed so will be included in the ES.”</i></p> <p>Methodologies for the assessments of construction noise and vibration (agreement ID3), construction road traffic noise (agreement ID4) and operational noise (agreement ID5). As some of the key noise stakeholders were not able to attend, the decision was made to agree these points in a subsequent meeting (see ETG3 and ETG4 below).</p>	N/A
ETG 3: Dogger Bank South Onshore Noise ETG Meeting 21/09/2023	
<p>Presentation of the proposed approach to the assessment of noise and vibration impacts for ES Noise Chapter to East Riding of Yorkshire Council. The ETG were in agreement that the proposed approaches to assessments were acceptable, including baseline monitoring (agreement ID2), construction noise and vibration</p>	N/A



Comment	Project Response
(agreement ID3), construction road traffic noise (agreement ID4) and operational noise (agreement ID5).	
ETG 4: Dogger Bank South Onshore Noise and Air Quality ETG Meeting 14/12/2023	
<p>Presentation of the approach to the assessment of noise and vibration impacts for ES Noise Chapter to East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Hull City Council. The ETG were in agreement that the proposed approaches to assessments were acceptable, including baseline monitoring (agreement ID2), construction noise and vibration (agreement ID3), construction road traffic noise (agreement ID4) and operational noise (agreement ID5).</p>	N/A
ETG 5: Dogger Bank South Onshore Noise and Air Quality ETG Meeting 14/03/2024	
<p>Presentation of the ES Noise Chapter assessment methodologies and findings to East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Hull City Council, including proposed mitigation measures.</p> <p>The ETG were in agreement that the proposed approaches to assessments were acceptable, including baseline monitoring (agreement ID2), construction noise and vibration (agreement ID3), construction road traffic noise (agreement ID4) and operational noise (agreement ID5).</p>	N/A



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

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

**Windmill Hill Business Park
Whitehill Way
Swindon
Wiltshire, SN5 6PB**

