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The Applicants

Your Ref: DGBS-APL001

Our Ref: EN010125

Date: 10 October 2024

Dear Sir/ Madam

Planning Act 2008 (as amended) Section 89
The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended) – Rule 17

Application by RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Ltd and RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Ltd for an Order granting Development Consent for the Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms

Request for further information

Following the submission of information at the Pre-Examination deadline, the Examining Authority (ExA) is issuing a request for further information under Rule 17 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.

In its response to the Rule 6 letter, the RSPB [PDA-01] intimated that the Applicants intend to submit substantive updates in respect of various documents relating to offshore ornithology impacts as well as updates relating to compensatory measures. The RSPB has indicated that it is expecting this to be submitted at Deadline (D) 1. However, in your response to the RSPB's Relevant Representation (RR), you indicate that additional Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) compensatory measure information is likely to be submitted at D1, while updates to the offshore ornithology assessment in relation to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and the Report to Inform the Appropriate Assessment (RIAA) may not be submitted until D2.

In addition, the ExA notes that you did not provide a response to Natural England's RR [RR-039] in your information submitted for the Pre-Examination deadline.

To better understand the implications for the Examination timetable, the ExA requests that you:



- 1. Confirm if the information that the RSPB indicate it is expecting will be submitted and whether this would be at D1 or D2.
- 2. If updated information is to be submitted, provide a list of the information to be submitted including, where possible, a brief summary of the key documents and details of which deadline this information will be submitted.
- 3. If it is the case that the updated HRA compensation information is to be submitted at D1 and the updated ornithological assessments at D2, the extent to which you expect your updated RIAA ornithological assessment to have the potential in turn to change the RIAA, for example in relation to the necessary quantum of compensation for each identified Adverse Impact on Integrity.
- 4. Confirm when you intend to provide a substantive response to Natural England's Relevant Representation and briefly indicate now which matters of concern raised by Natural England and the RSPB that you intend to address in the updates to the offshore ornithology (EIA and RIAA).

The ExA notes in your Pre-Examination deadline submissions that you have indicated that you are proposing to submit a change request and that the necessary consultation materials are being prepared with the intention to begin a 30-day consultation at the beginning of November. Can you provide any further information about the proposed consultation and submission schedule?

The ExA also requests the Applicant to summarise any other information which has not already been submitted, or any substantive updates, and which deadline these are likely to be submitted.

This information needs to be submitted by Monday 14 October 2024.

Should you have any queries regarding the content of the letter, please contact the case team using the details at the top of this letter.

Yours faithfully

Jo Dowling

Lead Member of the Examining Authority

