



**National
Trust**

██████████@nationaltrust.org.uk
Direct line: +44 (██████████)
11 November 2024

National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

For the attention of Lead Member of the Examining Authority
By email only : DoggerBankSouth@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Interested Party Reference number: 20050110

Dear Ms Dowling

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

Your Ref: EN010125

Further to our letter dated 29 October 2024 in which National Trust set out our thoughts for the Examining Authority on the timeframe and the outstanding matters in respect of progression of the HRA compensation proposals for the above project, I am writing to update the authority on the National Trust's position in respect of the use of Sheep Island for any such measures by this project.

Following the request by the applicants to access Sheep Island over the Winter 2024/25 to undertake pre-eradication survey, as part of their work to support the development of a derogation case for the Dogger Bank South windfarm in the North Sea, the National Trust team in Northern Ireland gave very careful consideration to the request to undertake this survey work and has made the decision that they will **not grant access** to Sheep Island.

A number of factors have been taken into account by the Northern Ireland management team in making this decision including the high level of unknowns about the potential success of any scheme and the concerns expressed in the DCO responses by Natural England and RSPB regarding the quantifiable level of impact that needs to be addressed, the timeframes

National Trust
York Hub
Goddards, 27 Tadcaster Road
Dringhouses
York YO24 1GG

www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Patron: His Majesty The King
Regional Advisory Group Chair: Janet Dugdale
Director of Region: Mike Innerdale

Registered office:
Heelis, Kemble Drive, Swindon
Wiltshire SN2 2NA
Registered charity number 205846

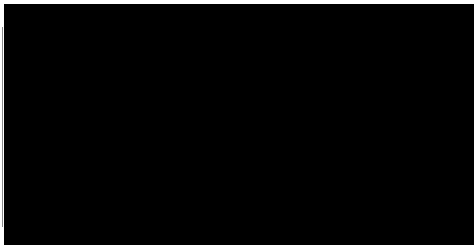
that the organisation is being asked to work within and the potential for requirements for compensation associated with renewable proposals in closer proximity to Sheep Island.

To be clear our position on the use of National Trust land at Worm's Head remains as set out in our letter dated 29 October 2024.

It is worth highlighting for the ExA that this organisation does not have an in-principle objection to the use of our land for the provision of compensatory habitat or proposals. As a result we are willing to continue to explore opportunities with the applicant to develop and deliver schemes which provide the necessary compensatory habitat to support the development of renewable energy proposals, where we are given a suitable timeframe to do so.

The applicants have been advised of this decision and we have confirmed our willingness to continue discussions on this matter.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Natasha Rowland MRTPI
Planning Adviser (North)

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