



Planning Inspectorate

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

Customer Services: 0303 444 5000
e-mail: DoggerBankSouth@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Natural England,
The RSPB,
The National Trust,
The Marine Management Organisation,
The Wildlife Trusts,
The Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust,
The Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, and
The Applicants.

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010125

Date: 26 November 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

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

Request to Interested Parties

Following concerns regarding the maturity of some of the application documents, the ExA made the decision [PD-005] to delay the start of the Examination for the Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms. This was to allow the Applicants to update and expand the information submitted in relation to offshore ornithology and the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) compensation proposals. The Applicant has now submitted this information [AS-084] to [AS-090].

As set out in the ExA's letter of 7 November 2024 [PD-007], the ExA requests that you undertake a review of the new and updated documents and comment on whether sufficient information has been provided to address the concerns outlined at the Preliminary Meeting, in some Relevant Representations and in the ExA's letter of 22 October 2024 [PD-005]. At this stage, the ExA is not asking for detailed comments on the content of these documents - that will occur once the Examination commences. Instead, the ExA seeks confirmation that you are satisfied that sufficient information to

<https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>



assess the effects of the Proposed Development has now been submitted or could be provided within the six-month examination period.

Any comments need to be submitted on or before the **16 December 2024**. If no comments are submitted, then the ExA will assume that you are satisfied that sufficient information has been provided to enable the Proposed Development to proceed into Examination.

Request to the Applicants

In [AS-003], [AS-006] and [AS-016] you indicated an intention to update certain application documents and provide a number of new documents. The ExA requests that to manage the submission of documents, you provide details of when you are proposing to submit these updates or new documents. To aid this process, the ExA has reviewed [AS-003], [AS-006] and [AS-016] and created a list of the documents it is expecting, see Annex A of this letter. Could you review this list, add any documents that have been omitted and provide details of when they will be submitted. Can you please provide this information on or before the **3 December 2024**.

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

Yours faithfully

Jo Dowling

Jo Dowling
Lead Member of the Examining Authority

Annexes

A Table of documents to be submitted by Applicants

This communication does not constitute legal advice.
Please view our [Privacy Notice](#) before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.

<https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>

Document/ Update	Expected When	Promised in which Document	Received Y or N
Guide to the application	D1 and D2	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	Y [PDA-001] but will need updating due to number of documents subsequently submitted
Draft DCO*	D1 and D2	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	N
Explanatory Memorandum*	D1 and D2	[AS-006], [AS-003] and [AS-016]	N
BoR	D1	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	Y [AS-043] and [AS-044]
Offshore Operations and Maintenance Plan*	D1	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	Y [AS-027] and [AS-028]
Outline Marine Mammal Mitigation Protocol (revision 2)*	D1 [AS-016 stated D2]	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	N
In Principle Site Integrity Plan (SIP) for Southern North Sea (SNS) Special Area of Conservation (SAC) (Revision 2)*	D1 [AS-016 stated D2]	[AS-006] and [AS-016] which said D2	N
Statement of Commonality of Statements of Common Ground	D1	[AS-006]	n/a as Applicants advised that they would delay submission until after start of Examination
19 SoCGs as listed in [AS-006]	D1	[AS-006]	n/a as Applicants advised that they would delay submission until after start of Examination

Document/ Update	Expected When	Promised in which Document	Received Y or N
Response to Relevant Representations (including response to NE)(Revision 2)	D1	[AS-006]	Y [PDA-013], [PDB-006] and [AS-048]
Land Rights Tracker	D1	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	Y [AS-045] and [AS-046]
Deadline 1 cover letter	D1	[AS-006]	n/a
Archaeological Trial trenching Phase 2 (Interim Report) Section 5	D1	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	Y [AS-023]
Archaeological Trial Trenching Phase 2 (Interim Report) Section 6	D1	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	Y [AS-024]
DBS Phase 2 2024 Archaeological Trial Trenching Technical Note (Revision 2)	D1	[AS-006]	Y [AS-022]
Sediment deposition paper	D1	[AS-006]	N
Written summaries of oral submissions at hearings	D1	[AS-006]	n/a
Applicants suggested draft itinerary for an ASI	D1	[AS-006]	N
Examination progress tracker	D1	[AS-006]	n/a
Geophysical Assessment Report (final)	D1	[AS-006], [AS-003] and [AS-016] – AS-016 advises its in 9 parts	[AS-029] to [AS-036]
Costal erosion rate technical note (new document)	D1	[AS-006] and [AS-016] which said D2	N
Fish heat mapping report (new document)	D1	[AS-006]	N Applicants to confirm if this is the same as the Herring and Sandeel heat map referred to in [AS-016] to be submitted at D2

Document/ Update	Expected When	Promised in which Document	Received Y or N
Project level kittiwake compensation plan (revision 2)	D1	[AS-006]	Y [PDB-002]
Guillemot [and razorbill] compensation plan (revision 2)	D1	[AS-006]	Y [PDB-004]
Review of evidence on recovery of sandbank habitat following habitat damage (new document)	D1	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	Y [AS-025] Applicants to confirm if this is the same as the Sandbank habitat recovery technical note referred to in [AS-016] to be submitted at D2
Auk survey/ auk site selection report (new document)	D1	[AS-006]	N unless this is the Guillemot and Razorbill Compensation Site Shortlist Refinement Report (rev 1) [PDB-008], Applicants to clarify
Outline construction traffic management plan (including figures)(revision 2)*	D1	[AS-006] and [AS-016] – which said it would provide clean and tracked	Y [AS-020] and [AS-021]
Volume 7, 7.24.24.2 Environmental Statement Appendix 24-2 – Transport Assessment (revision 2)	D1	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	Y [AS-019]
Change notification letter – onshore substation zone	D1	[AS-006]	N

Document/ Update	Expected When	Promised in which Document	Received Y or N
Outline Landscape Management Plan (revision 2)*	D2	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	N
Outline code of construction practice (revision 2)*	D2	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	N
Outline drainage strategy (revision 2)*	D2	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	N
Outline ecological management plan (revision 2)*	D2	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	Y [AS-076] and [AS-077]
In principal monitoring plan*	D2	[AS-006]	N
Outline fisheries liaison and co-existence plan*	D2	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	Y [AS-082] and [AS-083]
Land rights tracker	D2	[AS-006]	Y [AS-045]
Deadline cover letter	D2	[AS-006]	n/a
Comments on LIRs	D2	[AS-006]	n/a
Comments on the WRs	D2	[AS-006]	n/a
Transboundary response	D2	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	N
Offshore ornithology EIA update	D2	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	Y new Chapter 12 submitted with 12 individual appendices [AS-057] to [AS-071]
Offshore ornithology RIAA HRA update	D2	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	Y [AS-085] and [AS-086]
Project level kittiwake compensation plan (revision 3)	D2	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	Y [AS-087] and [AS-088]
Guillemot [and razorbill] compensation plan (revision 3)	D2	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	Y [AS-089] and [AS-090]
Unexploded ordnance clearance information and assessment	D2	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	Y [AS-055] and [AS-056]
Cable statement*	D2	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	Y [AS-078] and [AS-079]

Document/ Update	Expected When	Promised in which Document	Received Y or N
Outline scour protection plan*	D2	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	Y [AS-80] and [AS-081]
Ornithological mitigation option report (new document)	D2	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	N
ES Appendix 5-2 Obstacle crossing register (revision 2)*	D2	[AS-006] and [AS-016]	Y [AS-053] and [AS-054]
Plans/figures provided to illustrate location of SPAS considered in Chapter 12 and RIAA	D1 (or sooner if requested by ExA)	[AS-003]	N
Final version of Phase 2 Archaeological trial trenching	Late Feb / D5		N
Agricultural Land Classification surveys	Due Sept 2024	[AS-003]	Y [PDA-015]
Agri-Environmental Stewardship scheme – specific scheme details	D2	[AS-016]	N
Arboricultural surveys to support detailed design and inform extent of root protection zones	Due October 2024	[AS-003]	Y [AS-036] and [AS-037]
Box 30 of s51 advice – minor errors and omissions	D1	[AS-003]	N
Statement of Reasons	D2	[AS-016]	Y [AS-041] and [AS-042]
Marine Mammal Mitigation Protocol (revision 2)*	D2	[AS-016]	N
Heat mapping report Atlantic herring and sandeel	D2	[AS-016]	Applicants to confirm if this is the same as the fish heat mapping report in [AS-006] to be submitted at D1

Document/ Update	Expected When	Promised in which Document	Received Y or N
Sandbank habitat recovery technical note	D2	[AS-016]	Applicants to confirm if this is the same as the review of evidence on recovery of sandbank habitat following habitat damage in [AS-006] to be submitted at D1
Schedule of changes to draft DCO	D2	[AS-016]	n/a
Tree Preservation Order and Hedgerow Plan	D1	[AS-016]	Y [PDA-009] and then [AS-026]
ES Chapter 4 Site selection and assessment of alternatives	D1	[AS-016]	Y [AS-017] and [AS-018]
Responses to Natural England's Relevant Representation (including Appendices A-F and I)	D1	[AS-016]	Y [AS-048]
Chapter 18 Terrestrial Ecology and Ornithology*	D2	[AS-016]	Y [AS-072] and [AS-073] updated in relation to arboricultural surveys but not in relation to beach access/ dune and cliff habitat so further update expected

Document/ Update	Expected When	Promised in which Document	Received Y or N
Water Environment Regulations Compliance Assessment*	D2	[AS-016]	Y [AS-074] and [AS—075]
ES Chapter 21 – Land Use (revision 2) including Agri-Environmental Stewardship scheme assessment of effects during construction	D2	[AS-016]	N
ES Chapter 22 – Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage (revision 2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> assessment of lighting effects on heritage assets; identification of substantial / less than substantial harm to heritage assets on an individual basis; assessment of effects on heritage assets on an individual basis (rather than grouped); matters scoped out of the ES. 	D2	[AS-016]	N
Appendix A – Outline soil management plan*	D2	[AS-016]	N
Appendix C – Outline PRow Management Plan*	D2	[AS-016]	N
Updated and new photomontages as requested by ExA	Jan 2025	[PD-006]	N – but not expected until Jan 2025
Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment Habitats Regulations Assessment - Part 2 of 4 – Annex I Offshore Habitats and Annex II Migratory Fish – Revision 3	Prior to start of examination	[AS-048]	Y [AS-051] and [AS-052]

*Indicates that the applicants think that the document would only have minor updates following stakeholder feedback.