



Planning Inspectorate

Planning Act 2008 – Section 91

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

Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) on the scope of the Proposed Development, including construction activities

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
Issue Specific Hearing 2: the scope of the Proposed Development, including construction activities	Wednesday 15 January 2025 Hearing starts at 02:00pm¹ Virtual event Virtual Registration from: 01:45pm² If the hearing is not completed on Wednesday 15 January it will recommence on Thursday 16 January 2025³ Hearing restarts at 10:00am Virtual event Virtual Registration from: 09:45am	By virtual means using Microsoft Teams

Hearings Guidance: Please see Annex A of this Agenda

¹ If you are joining as an active participant, please follow the joining instructions for the virtual event carefully and connect to the Hearing in good time. In common with traditional Hearings, the event will start on time irrespective of any late arrivals, for whom access may not be possible.

² Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance of the meeting to those who register to participate.

³ Please check the project page of the website for updates

Interested Parties who wish to speak at this event were required to provide notification by **Pre-Examination Procedural Deadline C**. If you haven't notified us that you wish to speak, can you please contact the Case Team (doggerbanksouth@planninginspectorate.gov.uk) as soon as possible.

Each Interested Party is entitled to make oral representations at hearings. However, this is subject to the power of the Examining Authority (ExA) to control the conduct and management of hearings.

The event will be open 15 minutes prior to the start of the Hearing to enable a prompt start. Hearings will finish as soon as the ExA deems that all those present have had their say and that all matters have been covered.

The agenda is for guidance only. It is not designed to be exclusive or exhaustive. The ExA may add other issues for consideration, may alter the order in which issues are considered and will seek to allocate sufficient time to each issue to allow proper consideration of them. Any lack of discussion of a particular issue at a hearing does not preclude further examination of this issue, including the asking of further written questions.

Every effort will be made to ensure that the issues will be discussed on the day that they are scheduled for. Should the consideration of these issues take less time than anticipated, the ExA may conclude the Hearing as soon as all relevant contributions have been made and all questions asked and responded to.

If there are additional matters to be dealt with or there are submissions that take a considerable amount of time, there may be a need to continue the session for longer on the day. Alternatively, it may be necessary to prioritise matters and defer others to further written questions.

Purpose of this Issue Specific Hearing:

The purpose of the Hearing is to examine the scope of the Proposed Development, including construction activities, in particular to:

- clarify issues around the scope of the Proposed Development including construction activities;
- identify any issues of prevention, mitigation or compensation which are not covered by the draft Development Consent Order as currently drafted; and
- establish or confirm the views of Interested Parties as to the appropriateness, proportionality or efficacy of the proposals.



Planning Inspectorate

Agenda

Title of meeting	Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms Issue Specific Hearing 2 – the scope of the Proposed Development
Date	Wednesday 15 January continuing on Thursday 16 January 2025 if required
Time	2:00pm on Wednesday 15 January 2025 and recommencing at 10:00am on Thursday 16 January 2025
Venue	Virtual event
Attendees	Invitees

1 Welcome, introductions, arrangements for the Hearing

2 Infrastructure and Other Uses

- 2.1 Wake loss: a brief explanation of wake loss and associated considerations; to what extent does the Crown Estate considers effects of wake loss and effects on annual energy production when issuing leases for offshore wind farms, and how; Fraser Nash Consultancy Offshore Wind Leasing Programme Array Yield Study [[AS-014](#)]; National Policy Statement (NPS) and Marine Plan compliance; potential effects on annual energy production and viability of other offshore wind farms within the vicinity of the Proposed Development; implications of/ for other offshore wind farms currently in Examination.
- 2.2 Cumulative effects assessment.
- 2.3 Co-ordination, co-location, crossing and proximity agreements: explanation of what they are, how they interact and an update on progress or any discussions held between the Applicants and Interested Parties on progressing these.

3 Military Radar

- 3.1 Impacts of the proposed Dogger Bank South West Offshore Wind Farm on the Staxton Wold Primary Surveillance Radars.

4 Marine and Coastal Processes

- 4.1 Disposal of dredged material, sediment deposition and proposed mitigation.
- 4.2 The requirement for cable protection measures within and outside designated sites.

5 Commercial Fisheries

- 5.1 An overview of approach to the assessment including the definitions of receptor sensitivity, magnitude of impact, and significance of effect [[APP-120](#)].
- 5.2 An overview of the data used and surveys undertaken to support the assessment of impact on the commercial fishing industry.
- 5.3 Assessment of the cumulative effects with other relevant projects.

6 Marine Ecology

- 6.1 Benthic ecology Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Assessments and the imminent change request.
- 6.2 Dogger Bank Strategic Compensation Plan and the Marine Recovery Fund.
- 6.3 Project level benthic compensation proposals.
- 6.4 Potential effects on prey species.
- 6.5 Monitoring and the In-Principle Monitoring Plan.

7 Shipping and Navigation

- 7.1 An overview of the risk assessment methodology.
- 7.2 Vessel displacement impacts.

8 Underwater noise

- 8.1 Maximum hammer energies, noise abatement systems, the Marine Mammal Mitigation Protocol and the Site Integrity Plan.
- 8.2 Worst case piling scenario.
- 8.3 HRA assessment conclusions for Southern North Sea Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Humber Estuary SAC and Berwickshire North Northumberland Coast SAC.

9 Seascape, Landscape and Visual

- 9.1 Scope of the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) [[APP-192](#)]: effects of offshore platform(s) outside the array areas; light pollution and effects on dark skies; Flamborough Head Heritage Coast; candidate Yorkshire Wolds National Landscape; Residential Visual Amenity Assessment.
- 9.2 Design details: colour and lighting of the turbines; converter stations building heights and lightning masts; gas and air insulated switch gear design of the converter stations.
- 9.3 Visualisations: selection of locations.
- 9.4 Significance of effects: construction and operational effects.
- 9.5 Outline Landscape Management Plan [[APP-236](#)]: tree and hedgerow replacements; early replanting opportunities; landscape enhancements; likely

success of planting and growth rates; consultation on the detailed management plan.

- 9.6 **Trees and hedgerows:** extent of removal of trees and hedgerows; replanting of trees and hedgerows; Arboricultural Survey Report, Preliminary Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Outline Arboricultural Method Statement Part 1 of 2 [[AS-036](#)]; ash die back; Works Number 29A of the draft Development Consent Order [[AS-092](#)].

10 Onshore Historic Environment

- 10.1 **Archaeology:** update on discussions with Historic England; Historic England's archaeology research framework for the Wolds; East Riding of Yorkshire Council's views on archaeological matters (investigative works, assessment methodology, effects and mitigation); trial trenching and geophysical surveys.
- 10.2 **Environmental Statement Chapter 22:** Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage [[AS-092](#)] methodology: defining the level of importance of heritage assets and consideration of gas insulated or air insulated switch gear design for the converter stations.
- 10.3 **Effects on heritage assets:** including the heavy anti-aircraft gunsite at Butt Farm, Blackmill and scheduled barrows, and Risby Hall Registered Park and Garden.
- 10.4 **Cumulative effects:** update on discussions with Historic England and the potential for cross-project working and community engagement.

11 Onshore Water Environment

- 11.1 The scope of the geomorphological survey with specific regard to its spatial extent and the identification of included watercourses.
- 11.2 The use of local flood risk datasets, impact on the functional floodplain during all phases of the projects and the application of the sequential test/ approach.
- 11.3 An overview of temporary watercourse crossings including how these are assessed.
- 11.4 Principles of the proposed drainage strategy, land drainage and surface water management plan.

12 Onshore Ecology

- 12.1 Potential effects on protected habitats, including Local Wildlife Sites and the proposed extent of hedgerow and tree removal, including the appropriateness of proposed mitigation measures.
- 12.2 Potential effects on protected species, with particular regard to bats and water voles including appropriateness of proposed mitigation measures.
- 12.3 An overview of the proposed biodiversity enhancements including the scope and assessment of the Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy [[APP-157](#)].

- 12.4 Potential air quality effects on designated sites with particular regard to horizontal directional drilling (HDD) compounds and temporary construction compounds (TCCs) and Natural England's request for a 200 metre buffer between TCCs and designated sites.

13 Land Use and Ground Conditions

- 13.1 An overview of the approach to the assessment including the definitions of receptor sensitivity, magnitude of impact, and significance of effect [AS-111].
- 13.2 The approach to land and soil restoration including the associated timeframes.
- 13.3 Impacts to Agri-environmental Stewardship Schemes including the associated impact assessment.
- 13.4 An overview of the potential for encountering ground contamination and the scale of remediation measures to mitigate the risk to groundwater and groundwater resources that may be required.

14 Traffic and Transport

- 14.1 The approach to the assessment of driver delay effects and sensitive junction capacity modelling with specific regard to junctions 1-13.
- 14.2 An overview of the extent of proposed public road improvements and public road closures.
- 14.3 The requirement for the proposed emergency beach access.
- 14.4 The requirement and extent of the proposed haul roads.

15 Noise and Vibration

- 15.1 An overview of the approach to the assessment of construction phase noise.
- 15.2 Potential effects from construction noise at the landfall location and along the cable corridor, with particular regard to the use of HDD and requirement for TCC.
- 15.3 Potential effects from construction road traffic noise on residential receptors along Eske Lane.

16 Action Points arising from the Hearing

17 Any other business

18 Close of Hearing

Attendees:

All Interested Parties are welcome to attend the Hearing. However, the ExA considers that representatives for the following parties should consider attending because the ExA believes that the material that they have submitted raises issues that may need to be explored at the Hearing:

- The Applicants
- East Riding of Yorkshire Council in its role as the Local Planning Authority
- East Riding of Yorkshire in its role as the Highways Authority
- Any other public authority affected by the Proposed Development
- Natural England
- The Marine Management Organisation
- The National Federation of Fisherman's Association
- The Ministry of Defence (Defence Infrastructure Organisation)
- Historic England
- National Highways
- Hull City Council
- Ørsted Hornsea Project Three (UK) Limited
- Ørsted Hornsea Project Four Limited
- CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang LLP on behalf of DBA Projco, DBB Projco and DBC Projco

The Applicants are requested to have people with the following expertise to assist the Hearing:

- Drafting of the DCO
- Landscape and Visual
- Land Use and Agricultural Land
- Infrastructure and Other Uses
- Heritage Assets, including Archaeology
- Flood Risk, Drainage and Geomorphology
- Commercial Fisheries
- Traffic and Transport
- Terrestrial Ecology
- Marine Processes
- Air Quality
- Noise
- Marine ecology (EIA and HRA) (excluding ornithology)

This list may also assist other Interested Parties in preparing for the Hearing.

Conduct and Management of Hearings

The Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 provide that the ExA will probe, test and assess the evidence at hearings through direct questioning of persons making oral representations. Questioning at this Hearing will therefore be led by the ExA. Cross questioning of the person giving evidence by another person will **only** be permitted if the ExA decides it is necessary to ensure representations are adequately tested or that a person has had a fair chance to put their case. Parties wishing to make a representation will be invited to do so at the ExA's discretion.

The ExA will begin the Hearing with opening comments and introductions, then will run through housekeeping matters and explain how the Hearing will be conducted. The ExA's expectation is that each hearing session will typically last for one to two hours. However, the actual duration will depend on the progress made on the day and will be subject to the ExA's powers of control over the conduct of the Hearing.

The agenda may be amended by the ExA at the start of the Hearing or throughout its course. Furthermore, the ExA may wish to raise matters arising from oral submissions, Relevant Representations and Written Representations, and pursue lines of inquiry that are not listed on the agenda in the course of the discussion.

The Hearing is being held at the discretion of the ExA to discuss matters that it considers to be important and relevant to the effective and robust examination of the application. Consequently, the business of the Hearing will be limited to the matters identified in the agenda or otherwise raised by the ExA.

Active participation is at the invitation and discretion of the ExA. Oral submissions must address the matters and questions identified on the Hearing agenda or raised by the ExA at the hearing. Oral submissions on other subject matters or from persons who have not been invited to speak by the ExA may only be heard at the discretion of the ExA, who may decide that such matters are not heard in the interests of relevance, efficiency or fairness.

A recording and transcript of the Hearing will be published by the Planning Inspectorate on the project page of the national infrastructure website⁴ and any Interested Party may make a written submission on the specific matters either included in the agenda or arising at the Hearing by **Deadline 1, 29 January 2025**.

⁴ [Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms - Project information \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](https://www.planninginspectorate.gov.uk)