



National Infrastructure Planning
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The Applicants
All Interested Parties and
Statutory Parties

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010125

Date: 16 January 2025

Dear Sir/ Madam

Planning Act 2008 – Section 89 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rules 8 and 9

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

Examination Timetable and procedure

This letter (the Rule 8 letter) provides important information about the Examination of this application. The letter includes:

- The Examination Timetable
- An invitation to submit Written Representations
- A request for Statements of Common Ground
- Information about the availability of Examination Documents
- Guidance on the use of the 'Have your say' tab on the project webpage

All documentation associated with this Examination, including a note of the Preliminary Meeting and the recording of that meeting, can be viewed under the [Documents tab](#) on the project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website ([project webpage](#)).

The Examination Timetable

We have made a Procedural Decision about the way the application will be examined. The final Examination Timetable is attached at **Annex A** to this letter.

The Examination Timetable replaces the draft timetable that was included in our [Rule 6 letter](#). In finalising the Examination Timetable, we have sought to accommodate requests and suggestions made orally or in writing to the Preliminary Meeting. These are set out in **Annex B** to this letter.

Please note that the Examination Timetable contains a number of Deadlines for receipt of information by the Planning Inspectorate. All Deadlines are at 23:59 on the date specified. Please ensure submissions arrive by the Deadline. If you do not make your submissions by the dates specified in the timetable, we may disregard them.

We request that all Interested Parties make their submissions using the [Have your say tab](#) on the project webpage on or before the applicable Deadline. **Annex D** to this letter provides further information about using the [Have your say tab](#).

If we consider it necessary to vary the Examination Timetable during the Examination, notification will be sent to Interested Parties, Statutory Parties and Other Persons invited to the Preliminary Meeting. The changes will be published on the [project webpage](#).

Written Representations

All Interested Parties are now invited to submit Written Representations and any comments on the Relevant Representations already submitted. These should be submitted by **Deadline 1, 29 January 2025** on the Examination Timetable.

Written Representations can cover any relevant matter and are not restricted to the matters set out in our [Initial Assessment of Principal Issues](#).

Any person, other than the Applicants, who submits a Written Representation must identify those parts of the application with which they agree and those parts with which they do not agree, explaining the reasons why. Interested Parties should also provide with their Written Representations any data, methodology and assumptions used to support their submissions to avoid delays in the Examination (see paragraph 009 of the [government's guidance on the examination stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects](#) for further information about Written Representations).

We have requested further types of written submissions at various points in the Examination (see **Annex A**).

Any Written Representations and any further written submissions requested during the Examination, that exceed 1500 words, should also be accompanied by a summary which should not exceed 10% of the original text. The summary should set out the key facts of the written submission and must be representative of the submission made.

Representations **must not include hyperlinks** to documents/ evidence hosted on third party websites. See the Planning Inspectorate's Advice for members of the public: [Advice for submitting representations or comments](#) for important information about making written submissions.

Examining Authority's Written Questions

Provision has been made in the Examining Timetable for the publication of our first written questions on 28 February 2025. All parties registered for [email updates](#) will receive notification of publication.

Other Procedural Decisions made by the Examining Authority

Annex B to this letter contains important details and clarifications about other Procedural Decisions we made at, or following, the Preliminary Meeting. These include:

- To accept Additional Submissions from the Applicants which were submitted on the 10 January 2025 [\[AS-129\] to \[AS-152\]](#).
- To accept an Additional Submission on behalf of Riplingham Estates Ltd and The Los Trustees [\[AS-153\]](#)
- To request a number of Statements of Common Ground.
- To undertake an Access Required Site Inspection rather than an Accompanied Site Inspection.

Format of Examination Events

Both blended (part in-person and part virtual) and fully virtual events will form part of the operating model. We remain flexible and will confirm the format of any hearings when we provide formal notification of each hearing at least 21 days in advance of it taking place.

Managing Examination correspondence

Given the volume and frequency of letters the Planning Inspectorate needs to send to Interested Parties during an Examination, we aim to communicate with people by email as electronic communication is more environmentally friendly and cost effective for the taxpayer.

If you have received a letter from the Planning Inspectorate but are able to receive communications by email, please inform the Case Team using the contact details at the top of this letter as soon as possible.

As the Examination process makes substantial use of electronic documents, it will be useful for you to become familiar with the [project webpage](#).

A [Have Your Say tab](#) is available on the website which provides a portal through which parties should make written submissions at relevant deadlines during the Examination. Further information about the 'Have your say' portal is provided at **Annex D** to this letter.

There is also a function on the project webpage called 'Get updates'. This provides you with an opportunity to register to receive automatic e-mail updates at key stages during the Examination.

Your status in the Examination

You have received this letter because you are a person or organisation who is involved in the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) process. See the Planning Inspectorate's Advice for members of the public: [National Infrastructure Projects and the people and organisations involved in the process](#) for further details.

If, having read the advice, you are still unsure about how you are involved in the process please contact the Case Team using the details at the top of this letter.

Awards of costs

All parties will normally be expected to meet their own costs. Costs can be awarded against a party who has acted unreasonably and has caused the party applying for the award of costs to incur unnecessary or wasted expense during the Examination. You should be aware of the relevant costs guidance [Awards of costs: examinations of applications for development consent orders](#).

Management of information

Information, including representations, submitted in respect of this Examination (if accepted by the Examining Authority) and a record of any advice which has been provided by the Planning Inspectorate is published on the [project webpage](#).

Please note that in the interest of facilitating an effective and fair Examination, it is necessary to publish some personal information. To find out how we handle your personal information please view our [Privacy Notice](#).

We look forward to working with all parties in the Examination of this application.

Yours faithfully

Jo Dowling

Lead Member of the Examining Authority

Annexes

- A** Examination Timetable
- B** Other Procedural Decisions
- C** Procedure to be followed at hearings
- D** Information about the 'Have your say' tab

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

Examination Timetable

The Examining Authority (ExA) is under a duty to **complete** the Examination of the application by the end of the period of six months beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting.

The Examination of the application primarily takes the form of the consideration of written submissions. The ExA will also consider any oral representations made at hearings.

Item	Matters	Date
1.	<p>Pre-Examination Procedural Deadline A</p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the Examining Authority (ExA) of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses to the Rule 6 letter [PD-002] including any written submissions on the Examination Procedure and draft Examination Timetable, including any submissions about the use of virtual methods. • Requests to be heard orally at the Preliminary Meeting including which agenda items you wish to speak on, points you want to make and why these need to be made orally rather than in writing. • Responses to Relevant Representations (RRs) (please read PD7 of Annex F of [PD-002]). • Summaries of all RR exceeding 1500 words. • Request to participate in the Compulsory Acquisition Hearing on 22 October 2024 (please read Annex E of [PD-002]). • Request to participate in Issue Specific Hearing 1 on 23 October 2024 (please see Annex E of [PD-002]). • Suggested locations for an Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI), including the reason for the nomination, issues to be observed there and whether the locations require access to private land (please see PD6 of Annex F of [PD-002]). 	8 October 2024
2.	<p>Deadline for submissions requested by Rule 17 letter dated 10 October 2024 [PD-003]</p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. 	14 October 2024
3.	<p>Deadline for submissions requested by Rule 17 letter dated 15 October 2024 [PD-004]</p>	17 October 2024

	<p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. 	
4.	Preliminary Meeting – Part 1	22 October 2024
5.	<p>Pre-Examination Procedural Deadline B</p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any information requested by the ExA in [PD-005] under Rules 9 and 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. 	29 October 2024
6.	<p>Pre- Examination Procedural Deadline C</p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responses to the updated Rule 6 letter including written submissions on the updated draft Examination Timetable. Requests to be heard orally at the resumed Preliminary Meeting including which agenda items you wish to speak on, points you wish to make and why these need to be made orally rather than in writing. Requests to participate in Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 on Tuesday 14 January 2025 (please read Annex D of this letter and respond even if you previously requested to be heard at the Compulsory Acquisition Hearing that was cancelled). Requests to participate in Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) on Wednesday 15 January 2025 (please read Annex D of this letter). Requests to participate in ISH2 on Wednesday 15 January 2025 and Thursday 16 January 2025 (please read Annex D of this letter). Applicants' suggested draft itinerary for an ASI (please see PD5 of Annex E of this letter). Local Impact Reports (LIRs) from Local Authorities (please see PD3 of Annex E of this letter). 	6 January 2025
7.	Preliminary Meeting (Part 2)	14 January 2025 at 10.00am

8.	Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 (CAH1)	14 January 2025 at 02.00pm
9.	Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) on the draft Development Consent Order (DCO)	15 January 2025 at 10.00am
10.	ISH2 on the scope of the Proposed Development including construction activities	15 January 2025 at 02.00pm
11.	Continuation of ISH2 on the scope of the Proposed Development including construction activities (if required)	16 January 2025 at 10.00am
12.	Issue by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examination Timetable. 	As soon as possible following the Preliminary Meeting
13.	Deadline 1 For receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written summaries of oral submissions made at CAH1, ISH1 and ISH2. • Any post-Hearing submissions or other documents requested by the ExA at the Hearings. • Any specific responses to points raised in oral submissions at the Hearings. • Comments on any updates to application documents submitted by the Applicants and submissions by any other Interested Parties made while the Preliminary Meeting was adjourned. • An updated draft DCO from the Applicants in clean and tracked versions. • An updated Land Rights Tracker. • An updated Guide to the Application. • Comments on LIRs. • Written Representations (WRs) including summaries if exceeding 1500 words. • Responses to the Applicants' Response to RRs [PDA-013] and [AS-048]. 	29 January 2025

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notification by Statutory Parties of their wish to be considered as an Interested Party by the ExA. • Requests to be heard at an OFH. Fully reasoned requests by Interested Parties to be heard at an Open Floor Hearing (OFH). • Requests to be heard at a CAH. Requests by Affected Persons (defined in section 59(4) of the Planning Act 2008) to be heard at a Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH). • Notification or wish to have future correspondence received electronically. • Initial Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) (see PD1 of Annex F of [PD-002] and PD2 of Annex E of this letter). • Statement of Commonality of SoCG (see PD3 of Annex F of [PD-002]). • Any further information requested by ExA Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. • Comments on any further information/submissions accepted by the ExA. 	
14.	<p>Deadline 2</p> <p>Receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses to comments on the LIRs. • Comments on the WRs. • Comments on the updated draft DCO. • Any further information requested by the ExA. Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. • Comments on any further information/submissions received by Deadline 1. 	14 February 2025
15.	<p>Publication by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ExA's First Written Questions (ExQ1). 	28 February 2025
16.	<p>Deadline 3</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses to ExQ1. • An updated Land Rights Tracker. 	19 March 2025

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An updated Guide to the Application. • Any further information requested by the ExA. • Comments on any further information/ submissions received by Deadline 2. 	
17.	<p>Dates reserved (if required) for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any Compulsory Acquisition Hearing. • Any Issue Specific Hearing. • Any Open Floor Hearing. 	Week commencing 7 April 2025
18.	<p>Deadline 4</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-hearing submissions including written summaries of oral cases and other documents requested by the ExA at the Hearings (if held). • Any specific responses to points raised in oral submissions at the Hearings (if held). • Comments on the responses to ExQ1. • The Applicants' updated draft DCO (if required). • An updated Land Rights Tracker. • Updated Book of Reference and Schedule of Changes to the Book of Reference. • Updated SoCGs. • Updated Statement of Commonality of the SoCGs. • An updated Guide to the Application. • Any further information requested by the ExA Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. • Comments on any further information/ submissions received by Deadline 3. 	25 April 2025
19.	<p>Publication by the ExA (if required) of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further Written Questions (ExQ2). 	13 May 2025
20.	<p>Deadline 5</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses to ExQ2 (if issued). 	23 May 2025

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Applicants' updated draft DCO (if required as a result of ExQ2). • Any further information requested by the ExA Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. • Comments on any further information/submissions received by Deadline 4. 	
21.	<p>Dates reserved (if required) for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any Compulsory Acquisition Hearing. • Any Issue Specific Hearing. • Any Open Floor Hearing. 	Week commencing 2 June 2025
22.	<p>Publication of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Report into the Implications for European Sites (RIES) (if required). • Any requests for information under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules (if required). 	6 June 2025
23.	<p>Deadline 6</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-hearing submissions including written summaries of oral cases and other documents requested by the ExA at the Hearings (if held). • Any specific responses to points raised in oral submissions at the Hearings (if held). • Comments on the responses to ExQ2 (if issued). • The Applicants' updated draft DCO (if required). • An updated Land Rights Tracker (if required). • An updated Guide to the Application (if required). • Any further information requested by the ExA Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. • Comments on any further information/submissions received by Deadline 5. 	13 June 2025
24.	<p>Publication of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ExA's preferred draft DCO, proposed schedule of change, or commentary on the draft DCO (if required). 	19 June 2025

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any requests for information under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules (if required). 	
25.	<p>Deadline 7</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments on the RIES and responses to any associated questions (if issued). • Comments on the ExA's preferred draft DCO, proposed schedule of changes to the draft DCO (if issued). • Comments in the responses to ExQ2 (if issued). • An updated Land Rights Tracker. • An updated Guide to the Application. • Any further information requested by the ExA Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. • Comments on any further information/ submissions received by Deadline 6. 	26 June 2025
26.	<p>Deadline 8</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final DCO. Final DCO to be submitted by the Applicants in the SI template. Applicants to provide the email notification from https://publishing.legislation.gov.uk/validation confirming the document has successfully passed validation, and the PDF version of the SI validation report obtained from the link in the notification email. The Applicants should also provide a clean (all tracking removed) standalone MS Word version of the dDCO, with no header or cover page. • Final updated BoR. Final BoR and schedule of changes to BoR. • Final SoCGs. • Final Statement of Commonality of SoCGs. • List of matters not agreed where SoCG could not be finalised. • Final Guide to the Application. • Final Examination Progress Tracker. • Final Land Rights Tracker. 	3 July 2025

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final signed and dated section 106 agreement (if required). • Closing Statements (see PD11 of Annex F of [PD-002]). • Comments on any further information received Comments on any additional information/ submissions received by Deadline 7. • Any further information requested by ExA Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. 	
27.	<p>Deadline 9</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments on any further information/ submissions received at Deadline 8. • Any further information requested by the ExA. Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. 	10 July 2025
28.	The ExA is under a duty to complete the Examination of the application by the end of the period of six months.	14 July 2025

Submission times for Deadlines

The time for submission of documents at any Deadline in the timetable is 23:59 on the relevant Deadline date, unless instructed otherwise by the ExA.

Publication dates

All information received will be published on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable after the Deadlines for submissions.

Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES)

Where an applicant has provided a No Significant Effects Report or a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report with the application, the ExA may decide to issue a RIES during the Examination. The RIES is a factual account of the information and evidence provided to the ExA on HRA matters during the Examination up to the date of the publication of the RIES, for the purposes of enabling the Secretary of State, as competent authority, to undertake its HRA. It is not the ExA's opinion on HRA matters. Comments on the RIES will be invited by the ExA and any received will be taken into account as part of the ExA's Recommendation to the Secretary of State. The ExA may also raise questions in the RIES to confirm or clarify matters that remain outstanding.

The Secretary of State may rely on the consultation on the RIES to meet its obligations under Regulation 63(3) of The Habitats Regulations 2017 and/or Regulation 28 of The Offshore Marine Regulations.

Other Procedural Decisions made by the Examining Authority (ExA)

We have made a number of Procedural Decisions following the Preliminary Meeting (PM):

1. Examination Timetable

At Pre-Examination Procedural Deadline C, a number of parties [\[PDC-001\]](#), [\[PDC-008\]](#) and [\[PDC-009\]](#) raised concerns about whether the time allowed between Deadline 1 and Deadline 2 would be sufficient to enable them to consider and comment on the submissions made at Deadline 1. The ExA has considered these requests and has accepted the Applicants' suggestion [\[PDC-001\]](#) to move Deadline 2 to the 14 February 2025 and as a result has also adopted the Applicants' suggestion to move the publication of the ExA's first written questions (ExQ1) to the 28 February 2025.

The ExA notes the request from Natural England [\[PDC-009\]](#) to delay Deadline 1 to allow them sufficient time to review and respond to the submissions made by the Applicants since the PM was adjourned. Whilst the ExA notes this request, it considers that due to the delay to the Examination caused by the adjournment of the PM, Natural England will have had seven weeks to review and comment on these documents. The ExA therefore consider that Natural England should be able to submit their comments to the deadline as timetabled on the 29 January 2025.

The ExA notes Natural England's comments regarding its involvement with a significant number of other examinations of offshore wind farms, potential conflicts between deadlines and the implications for its resources. In drafting the Examination Timetable, the ExA is mindful of these potential conflicts and wherever possible has tried to minimise any timetabling clashes within the restrictions imposed by the six-month Examination time frame. The ExA has reviewed the timetable considering Natural England's comments but cannot accommodate the changes requested.

The ExA notes the preference raised by the Applicants [\[PDC-001\]](#) to present evidence in person at Hearings. However, the ExA is also aware that the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) [\[PDC-008\]](#) and Natural England [\[PDC-009\]](#) only intend to attend hearings virtually. The ExA will be mindful of the Applicants preference when making arrangements for future hearings but reserve the right to hold these virtually should this be considered to be appropriate.

The Applicants [\[PDC-001\]](#) requested that the ExA considers moving the Hearings provisionally timetabled for the week commencing the 7 April 2025 to the week commencing the 31 March 2025. The reason given for this request is that it will be the first week of the Easter holidays for most schools and the same week is reserved for hearings for the North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Examination. Whilst the ExA recognises that the week commencing the 7 April 2025 is the school holidays for some schools, it is not a week in which there are any public or bank holidays. Regarding the potential conflict with specialists needing to attend Hearings for both projects, the ExA will work with the ExA for the North Falls Offshore Wind Farm project to try to timetable topics at different times in that week. Furthermore, as these Hearings will be either blended or virtual events, attendees will be able to dial in where required, which will minimise their attendance time and need for them to travel. The ExA is therefore not able to accommodate the suggested change.

The MMO [[PDC-008](#)] requested that where possible deadlines should not be set on a Monday. The ExA have reviewed the Examination Timetable and can confirm that there are no deadlines that fall on a Monday.

2. Examining Authority's Written Questions

Provision has been made in the Examination Timetable for the publication of the ExA's First Written Questions (ExQ1) on 28 February 2025. All parties registered for [email updates](#) will receive notification of publication.

Whilst most of the written questions will be directed at specific parties, no other party should feel inhibited or restricted in responding to any question asked, even those directed elsewhere.

Some of the questions may be directed to specific Statutory Parties that have not, at the time of writing, confirmed that they wish to become Interested Parties for the purposes of the Examination of the application.

All relevant Statutory Parties are requested to check our Written Questions carefully in order that they may identify and respond to any questions posed to them.

For the avoidance of doubt, Statutory Parties are defined as the parties listed in Schedule 1 to [The Infrastructure Planning \(Interested Parties and Miscellaneous Prescribed Provisions\) Regulations 2015](#). Statutory Parties, including relevant local authorities, that have not already registered to become an Interested Party should consider notifying the ExA of their wish to be considered as an Interested Party, under Section 89(2A)(b) of the Planning Act 2008 as soon as possible.

3. Statements of Common Ground (SoCG)

The Applicants are taking the lead in the preparation of SoCGs and it will aid the smooth running of the Examination if all Interested Parties who are participating in the preparation of SoCGs liaise and co-operate with the Applicants in respect of their production. The ExA set out in **Annex F** of the Rule 6 letter dated 24 September 2024 [[PD-002](#)] and **Annex E** of the Rule 6 letter dated 17 December 2024 [[PD-010](#)] the SoCGs requested to be submitted during the Examination of this application. Final signed versions of the SoCGs listed below are requested to be submitted **by the Applicants** at **Deadline 8, 3 July 2025**:

- SoCG between the Applicants and East Riding of Yorkshire Council
- SoCG between the Applicants and the Environment Agency
- SoCG between the Applicants and Historic England
- SoCG between the Applicants and Hull City Council
- SoCG between the Applicants and Humber Archaeological Partnership
- SoCG between the Applicants and the Marine Management Organisation
- SoCG between the Applicants and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency
- SoCG between the Applicants and National Grid Transmissions Ltd
- SoCG between the Applicants and National Grid Interconnector Holdings Limited
- SoCG between the Applicants and National Grid Electricity Transmissions Plc
- SoCG between the Applicants and Northern Powergrid
- SoCG between the Applicants and National Highways

- SoCG between the Applicants and the National Federation of Fisherman's Organisation
- SoCG between the Applicants and Natural England
- SoCG between the Applicants and Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd
- SoCG between the Applicants and The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)
- SoCG between the Applicants and The Wildlife Trusts
- SoCG between the Applicants and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
- SoCG between the Applicants and Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
- SoCG between the Applicants and Trinity House
- SoCG between the Applicants and UK Chamber of Shipping
- SoCG between the Applicants and Ørsted Hornsea Project Three (UK) Limited
- SoCG between the Applicants and Ørsted Hornsea Project Four Limited
- SoCG between the Applicants and Dogger Bank Offshore Wind Farm Project 1 Projco Limited (DBA Projco)
- SoCG between the Applicants and Dogger Bank Offshore Wind Farm Project 2 Projco Limited (DBB Projco)
- SoCG between the Applicants and Dogger Bank Offshore Wind Farm Project 3 Projco Limited (DBC Projco)

All the SoCGs listed above should cover the Articles and Requirements in the draft Development Consent Order. Any Interested Party seeking that an Article or Requirement is reworded should provide the form of words being sought.

The content of SoCGs will help to inform the ExA about the need to hold any Issue Specific Hearings during the Examination, and to enable the ExA and the Applicants to give notice of such hearings at least 21 days in advance of them taking place.

4. Changes to land interests

When the Applicants become aware that there has been a change in ownership, or a new interest in relevant land, the Applicants are requested to make the relevant person aware that they can make a request to the ExA to become an Interested Party under section 102A of the PA2008 by emailing the case team at DoggerBankSouth@planninginspectorate.gov.uk. The Examination Timetable includes various Deadlines for the submission of an updated Book of Reference and schedule of changes to the Book of Reference, which should include confirmation that relevant persons have been informed of their rights under section 102A.

5. Additional Submissions

In addition to the documentation submitted at Procedural Deadlines A, B and C, the ExA has exercised its discretion and made a Procedural Decision to accept Additional Submissions from the following:

- Two Change Requests submitted by the Applicants on 10 January 2025 [[AS-129](#)] to [[AS-152](#)]. Please note that accepting these documents does not indicate that the change requests have been accepted for Examination by the Examining Authority.
- A submission from Michael Glover on behalf of Riplingham Estates Limited and Los Trustees regarding two parcels of land [[AS-153](#)].

In relation to the Change Requests, the ExA notes the Applicant's statements at the Preliminary Meeting [[EV6-006](#)] that some related documentation is likely to be submitted at Deadline 3 ,19 March 2025. The ExA is currently considering whether to accept the Change Requests for examination. The ExA wishes to advise the Applicants that should they be accepted for examination, the ExA may request that these outstanding documents are submitted earlier than Deadline 3. The ExA will formally notify of this request in due course, if required.

6. Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI)

At the Preliminary Meeting the ExA confirmed with the Applicants that an ASI would not be required and that a walkover of the Heavy Anti-Aircraft Gun Site near to Butt Farm could be undertaken on an access required basis, which the ExA intends to carry out in due course. The ExA will therefore confirm that it will not be holding an ASI. A written note of the inspection will be placed on the project page of the National Infrastructure website as soon as possible after it has been undertaken.

Arrangements for hearings

The Examination will be principally undertaken through the exchange of written submissions. However, the Examination Timetable reserves periods of time for hearings to be held (if required).

Requests to participate at hearings

Interested Parties are required to notify the Examining Authority (ExA) in writing of their wish to take part in an Open Floor Hearing (OFH) or Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH) on or before 29 January 2025 (see **Deadline 1**).

Any request to participate in a hearing **should include** the following information:

- name and unique reference number (found at the top of any letter or email from the Planning Inspectorate);
- email address (if available) and contact telephone number;
- name and unique reference number of any person/ organisation that you are representing (if applicable);
- for blended events, confirmation of whether you will participate virtually or in-person;
- confirmation of the hearing(s) you wish to participate in, the agenda item(s) on which you wish to speak and/or brief details of the topic(s) that you would like to raise;
- for Compulsory Acquisition Hearings, the plot number(s) of the relevant land provided in the Book of Reference and the Land Plans; and
- the [Examination Library](#) reference number (with paragraph/ page number where appropriate) of any documents you wish to refer to.

The time, date and place of any confirmed hearing will be notified in writing to all Interested Parties, providing at least 21 days' notice.

Requests to participate should be made using an **Event Participation Form** which will be provided with the notification of the hearing.

Please contact the Case Team using the contact details at the top of this letter if you require any support or assistance to attend an event, either virtually or in person.

If no written requests to take part in an OFH or CAH are received by the above Deadline, we are not required to hold such a hearing, although we may choose to do so nonetheless.

We may also choose to hold Issue Specific Hearings (ISH) about topics that we think need to be explored orally. The decision to hold an ISH about a particular topic is not connected to how relevant or important we consider an issue or topic to be.

Hearing agendas

High-level agendas for hearings will be published alongside the notification on the [project webpage](#) to help inform your decision about whether to register to participate.

For Issue Specific Hearings and Compulsory Acquisition Hearings, the ExA will publish a detailed draft agenda on the project website at least five working days in advance of the hearing date. However, the actual agenda on the day of each hearing may be subject to change at the discretion of the ExA. For Open Floor Hearings, an agenda may not be published.

Procedure at hearings

The Examination of the application will principally be a written process supplemented where necessary by various types of hearings. See the Planning Inspectorate's Advice for members of the public: [The stages of the NSIP process and how you can have your say](#) for more information.

The procedure to be followed at hearings is set out in Rule 14 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. The ExA is responsible for the oral questioning of a person giving evidence and the process affords very limited scope to allow cross-questioning between parties.

Hearing livestream and recording

A link to a livestream for each hearing will be made available on the [project webpage](#) shortly before any hearing is due to open. The livestream is available to anybody who wishes to observe a hearing in real time.

All hearings are recorded, and the recordings will be made available on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable after the close of the hearing. The recordings allow any member of the public who is interested in the application and the Examination to find out what has been discussed.

Information about the Have your say tab

The [Have your say tab](#) is available on the project webpage.

You will need to enter your unique reference number ('Your ref' found at the top your postcard or email from the Planning Inspectorate) beginning either 2004, 2005, DGBS-AFP, DGBS-S57, DGBS-SP, DGBS-ISP, DGBS-APL or DGBS-OP. If you are making a submission on behalf of another person or organisation, and do not have your own unique reference number, then you should enter the unique reference number of the person or organisation you are representing. If you are not a registered Interested Party, then it is at the discretion of the Examining Authority whether or not your submission is accepted.

Submissions will be published on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable following the close of the relevant Deadline. For further information about publishing submissions please view our [Privacy Notice](#).

You will be able to submit a document (upload file), make a text representation or both. It is possible to upload multiple files for each individual submission item. Electronic attachments should be clearly labelled with the subject title and not exceed 50MB.

Submissions **must not include hyperlinks** to documents/ evidence hosted on a third-party website eg technical reports, media articles. See the Planning Inspectorate's Advice for members of the public: [Advice for submitting representations or comments](#) for important information about making written submissions. All submissions must be made in a format that can be viewed in full on the National Infrastructure Planning website. Any submissions that exceed 1500 words should also be accompanied by a summary: this summary should not exceed 10% of the original text.

You should select the relevant Deadline for your submission and then, on the next webpage, select the appropriate Submission item as described in the Examination Timetable at **Annex A** to this letter. Please ensure you make a separate submission for each Submission item and **do not duplicate your submission**. If you consider that your submission does not fit the description of any of the Submission items, then please select the Submission item 'Other' and ensure that it is titled appropriately.

If you experience any issues when using the [Have your say tab](#) please contact the Case Team using the contact details at the top of this letter and they will assist.