

**RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank
South (West) Limited**

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**Dogger Bank South Offshore
Wind Farms**

**The Applicant's Responses to Beverley & North
Holderness Internal Drainage Board's Additional
Submission**

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Glossary

Term	Definition
Development Consent Order (DCO)	An order made under the Planning Act 2008 granting development consent for one or more Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).
Expert Topic Group (ETG)	A forum for targeted engagement with regulators and interested stakeholders through the EPP.
Haul Road	The track along the Onshore Export Cable Corridor used by traffic to access different sections of the onshore export cable route for construction.
Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD)	HDD is a trenchless technique to bring the offshore cables ashore at the landfall and can be used for crossing other obstacles such as roads, railways and watercourses onshore.
Onshore Development Area	The Onshore Development Area for ES is the boundary within which all onshore infrastructure required for the Projects would be located including Landfall Zone, Onshore Export Cable Corridor, accesses, Temporary Construction Compounds and Onshore Converter Stations.
Onshore Export Cable Corridor	This is the area which includes cable trenches, haul roads, spoil storage areas, and limits of deviation for micro-siting. For assessment purposes, the cable corridor does not include the Onshore Converter Stations, Transition Joint Bays or temporary access routes; but includes Temporary Construction Compounds (purely for the cable route).
Ordinary watercourse	Rivers which are not Main Rivers are called 'ordinary watercourses'. Lead local flood authorities, district councils and internal drainage boards carry out flood risk management work on ordinary watercourses.
Temporary Construction Compound	An area set aside to facilitate construction of the Projects. These will be located adjacent to the Onshore Export Cable Corridor and within the Onshore Substation Zone, with access to the highway.

Term	Definition
The Applicants	The Applicants for the Projects are RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Limited and RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Limited. The Applicants are themselves jointly owned by the RWE Group of companies (51% stake) and Masdar (49% stake).
The Projects	DBS East and DBS West (collectively referred to as the Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms).

Acronyms

Term	Definition
DCO	Development Consent Order
ETG	Expert Topic Group
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drilling
IDB	Internal Drainage Board
OCoCP	Outline Code of Construction Practice
SuD _s	Sustainable Drainage Systems
TCC	Temporary Construction Compounds

1 Comments on Beverley & North Holderness Internal Drainage Board's Additional Submission

1. The Applicant's comments on the additional submission received from Beverley & North Holderness Internal Drainage Board on the 17th December 2024 [AS-123] are provided in this section.

1.1 Beverley & North Holderness Internal Drainage Board

Table 1-1 - Applicant's Response on Beverley & North Holderness Internal Drainage Board Additional Submission

I.D.	Relevant Representation	Applicant's Comment
AS-123: 1	<p>Under the Land Drainage Act 1991 and the Boards' byelaws, the Board's prior written consent (outside of the planning process) is needed for:</p> <p>a. any connection into a Board maintained watercourse, or any ordinary watercourse in the Board's district.</p> <p>b. any discharge, or change in the rate of discharge, into a Board maintained watercourse, or any ordinary watercourse in the Board's district. This applies whether the discharge enters the watercourse either directly or indirectly (i.e. via a third party asset such as a mains sewer).</p> <p>c. works within or over a Board maintained watercourse, or any ordinary watercourse in the Board's district – for example, land drainage, an outfall structure, bridges, culverting etc.</p> <p>d. any construction, fencing or planting within 9 metres of the top of the embankment of a Board maintained watercourse.</p> <p>Please note that the Board does not, generally, own any watercourses and the requirement for you to obtain the Board's consent is in addition to you obtaining consent from any landowner or other authority to carry out the relevant works.</p> <p>The Board notes that there are compounds, haul roads and access crossings, as well as the "Onshore Cable Corridor" within the Board's district.</p>	<p>Noted - We have been discussing the Projects and the outcomes of the environmental assessments with the Beverley and North Holderness Internal Drainage Board's (IDB) previous representative Jon Church at five Expert Topic Group (ETG) meetings from September 2021 to March 2024.</p> <p>Schedule 15 (Protective Provisions), Part 4 (for the protection of the drainage authorities) of the Draft Development Consent Order (DCO) (Revision 4) [AS-130] includes specified works in, on, under over or within 9 metres of a drainage work. The Applicants have responded to comments on the definition of 'Specified works', below.</p>
AS-123: 2	<p>The Board would ask that, in due course, a standard culvert design is agreed with the Board for any access road crossings. We will then just agree individual pipe sizes for each watercourse. This will make it simpler for all parties involved.</p>	<p>All crossings which require a temporary haul road crossing are identified in the Obstacle Crossing Register (Revision 2) [AS-053].</p> <p>The Applicants would be happy to work with the IDB to agree a standard culvert design at the detailed design stage, once the Contractor has been appointed.</p>
AS-123: 3	<p>The Board would ask that the applicant uses Horizontal Directional Drilling for any cables crossing watercourses within our district.</p> <p>The Board also needs to consider how close any cables will be to our watercourses – for example, if they run parallel to a watercourse, then we must ensure that they are not too close to the bank top in the event the watercourse needs to be widened – and that they are sufficiently deep enough to not be effected when our machinery drives over them.</p>	<p>This point was discussed with Jon Church at ETG No.3 on 7th December 2023. All 'open cut' crossings have the option for a trenchless crossing, should conditions not be suitable. A crossing method statement must also be agreed with the Beverley and North Holderness IDB prior to construction, as stated in section 5.15, of the Outline Code of Construction Practice (OCoCP) (Revision 2) [AS-094]. It was also confirmed at ETG No.5 on 20th March 2024 that open cut was included in the design envelope to ensure the worst case was assessed in the Environmental Assessment, should an open cut method be agreed. At ETG No.5 Jon discussed the point further and included the following reasons why an open cut method could not be agreed including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate size of pumps; • Adequate measures to ensure silt is trapped; • Ensuring restoration is not undertaken in very wet conditions; and • Weather/flood warnings are considered.

I.D.	Relevant Representation	Applicant's Comment
		<p>Following this ETG the OCoCP (Revision 2) [AS-094] was amended in section 6.3.2.6, prior to submission of the DCO application to provide mitigation measures to address each of these points.</p> <p>With the mitigation measures outlined in section 6.3.2.6 of the OCoCP (Revision 2) [AS-094] and the requirements for the agreement of a crossing methodology, as detailed in section 5.15 in the DCO protective provisions, the Applicants do not propose to commit to all crossings by Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) or other trenchless crossing technique.</p> <p>Where a trenchless crossing methodology (e.g. HDD) is selected entry and exit points will be located at least 9m away from IDB and ordinary watercourses to ensure the ongoing maintenance of drains. No section of the Onshore Export Cable Corridor runs parallel to a water course.</p> <p>As detailed in section 5.15 of Revision 2 of the OCoCP [AS-094], the following text was added in response to comments from the Environment Agency in their relevant Representation: <i>'Crossing Method Statements will be informed by the results of the detailed geotechnical site Investigation works and will include details of the minimum depth below bed levels for the installation of cable ducts. The Crossing Method Statements will be developed with the relevant asset owner or key stakeholder such as the Environment Agency, Internal Drainage Board (IDB), Network Rail or the relevant planning authority'</i>.</p>
AS-123: 4	<p>The Board would be wanting to understand the proposed drainage strategy for any haul road and compound areas. The Board's view is that Type 3 materials are "permeable" and Type 1 is "impermeable". Any impermeable areas (even if temporary) will generally require a formal drainage strategy.</p>	<p>An Outline Drainage Strategy (Revision 2) [AS-098] is included in the DCO application. This considers operational surface water runoff and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDs) design at the Substation Zone and the pre and post construction land drainage, located within the Onshore Development Area. A draft of this was shared with the Hydrology and flood Risk ETG members prior to submission of the DCO. A separate temporary Construction Surface Water Management Plan will be prepared by the Principal Contractor(s) prior to construction and is specified in Table 3-2 and section 6.3.2.4 of the OCoCP (Revision 2) [AS-094]. This would include any temporary surface water drainage requirements for the Haul Road and Temporary Construction Compounds (TCC's). Type 1 would generally be assumed as the worse-case which is considered impermeable and would require temporary drainage alongside it. The Contractor would also consider the use of permeable Haul Road design, which is dependent on the suitability of ground conditions and predicted haul road traffic at the detailed design stage. The OCoCP (Revision 2) [AS-094] has been updated at Deadline 1 to clarify this.</p>
AS-123: 5:1	<p>The Board notes that Article 6 of the draft Development Consent Order is disapplying sections 23(b) of the Land Drainage Act 1991 – is this an error and should be the whole of section 23 as there is no section 23(b) on its own.</p>	<p>The Applicants can confirm that no amendments are required as the (b) is a cross-reference to footnote (b) - it is not a reference to section 23(b) of the Act.</p>
AS-123: 5:2	<p>The applicant is also proposing to disapply any Byelaws that the Board has made under Section 66 of the Land Drainage Act 1991.</p> <p>Instead, Article 45 states that Schedule 15 (the Protective Provisions) have effect.</p> <p>Part 4 of Schedule 15 is relevant to the Board.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

I.D.	Relevant Representation	Applicant's Comment
AS-123: 5:3	With regards to Part 4 of Schedule 15 of the draft Development Consent Order, the Board do not agree the definition of "specified work" being so limited. We would request the below, as has been agreed on other DCOs: "specified work" means so much of the authorised development as is in, on, under, over or within 9 metres of a drainage work or is otherwise likely to affect the flow of water in any watercourse."	This update has been made to the Draft DCO (Revision 4) [AS-130], at Deadline 1. However, the Applicants would refer to an 'ordinary watercourse' as defined.
AS-123: 5:4	With regards to paragraph 3(1) of Part 4 of Schedule 15, this can be amended to say: "independent review (if requested by the drainage authority)" . The Board will not necessarily require an independent review for everything.	This update has been made to the Draft DCO (Revision 4) [AS-130], at Deadline 1.
AS-123: 5:5	Article 16 relates to the discharge of surface water. The Board requests that an additional paragraph is added to state that: "Where the undertaker discharges water into, or makes any opening into, a watercourse, public sewer or drain belonging to or under the control of a drainage authority (as defined in Part 4 of Schedule 15 (protective provisions)), the provisions of Part 4 of Schedule 15 apply in substitution for the above provisions."	Article 16 (Discharge of water) of the Draft DCO (Revision 4) [AS-130] has been updated, at Deadline 1 to add the following: <i>"This article is subject to the protective provisions in Part 4 of Schedule 15 (Protective Provisions) where the undertaker discharges water into, or makes any opening into, a watercourse, public sewer or drain belonging to or under the control of a drainage authority"</i> .
AS-123: 5:6	For the avoidance of any doubt, the Board does not "own" any watercourses and we do not maintain all watercourses in our district. However, under our Byelaws, the Board's prior written consent is however needed for any discharge of water into any watercourse within our district (whether it is Board maintained or not). This request is therefore strictly on the basis that this is understood and that when it states where the drain belongs or under the control of a drainage authority, we are intending that this covers any watercourse within the district of a drainage authority.	Noted.

RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank
South (West) Limited

RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank
South (East) Limited

Windmill Business Park
Whitehill Way
Swindon
Wiltshire, SN5 6PB

RWE

MASDAR 