

[REDACTED]

From: Dogger Bank South <DoggerBankSouth@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Sent: 29 August 2023 18:04
To: [REDACTED]@rws.nl
Cc: Dogger Bank South <DoggerBankSouth@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>; Blackmore, Ted <[REDACTED]@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Request for information from The Netherlands on Dogger Bank South

Dear Mr Borghart,

Thank you for your email. Apologies for the delay in our response.

The Developer (RWE) is responsible for preparing the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The Developer asked the Secretary of State to state in writing its opinion as to the scope and level of detail of the information to be provided in the Environmental Statement (known as the 'Scoping Opinion').

The [Scoping Opinion](#) for Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms was adopted by the Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) in September 2022, following a statutory scoping notification and consultation exercise undertaken by the Planning Inspectorate.

A notification/consultation exercise was subsequently undertaken by the Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) in respect of its transboundary duties under Regulation 32 of the EIA Regulations 2017 and as a signatory to the Espoo and Aarhus conventions, with a letter issued by the Planning Inspectorate to the Netherlands (the contacts on the UNECE website) in February 2023. We received a response from the Netherlands confirming it wished to participate in the procedure under Regulation 32, which is [published here](#).

The Developer is also required to consult various statutory bodies with responsibility for different aspects of the environment and take account of their views in the final Environmental Statement, which will form part of the evidence considered during the examination of the Proposed Development. The Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 12 (Transboundary Impacts and Process) (<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>) advises Developers to undertake their own consultation with governmental divisions and interest groups within relevant EEA State(s) and/or other relevant states (those that are parties to the Espoo or Aarhus Conventions). Developers are advised to undertake such consultation to ensure that potential issues and concerns regarding transboundary effects are addressed, where possible, before the planning application is submitted. This helps avoid issues arising during the Examination stage. Therefore, if the Planning Inspectorate is of the view that a proposed project is likely to have a significant effect on the environment in an EEA State(s) and notifies/consults EEA States as part of the procedure under Regulation 32, in line with Advice Note 12 Developers may include those EEA States in their consultations. The Planning Act 2008 requires Developers to have regard to consultation responses.

In terms of getting involved with the Terms of Reference of the EIA, we would suggest that you contact the Developer directly (dbs@rwe.com) noting that they are responsible for preparing the EIA. The Developer's statutory consultation, including the presentation of the

Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) concluded in July 2023. However, we are aware that the Developer is currently undertaking an additional statutory consultation which concludes on 15th September 2023, with details available here: [Localised Supplementary Statutory Consultation - Dogger Bank South - Statutory consultation](#).

The Developer has confirmed their current intention is to submit the application in Quarter 1 of 2024. If the application is accepted for examination, your State would have an opportunity to make representations on the application and its transboundary impacts. As the Netherlands has confirmed to the Planning Inspectorate it wishes to participate in the procedure under Regulation 32, you will be consulted on the application for the Proposed Development, including the Environmental Statement.

The Inspectorate's [Advice Note 8 series](#) provides further advice on the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project process, including on how to register and become an 'interested party'.

In relation to contact details for the Planning Inspectorate, our Customer Services number linked in your email is correct (0303 444 5000) – apologies you were unable to reach us. We would advise you to email any future queries to the Dogger Bank South project mailbox (DoggerBankSouth@planninginspectorate.gov.uk). Alternatively, you may contact the case manager for Dogger Bank South, Ted Blackmore, directly on 07780 267428.

I hope this assists but if you have any further questions, please let us know.

Kind regards,
Emma



Emma Cottam | Senior EIA Advisor
The Planning Inspectorate
T [REDACTED]



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This communication does not constitute legal advice.

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From: Borghart, Sven (ZD) <[REDACTED]@rws.nl>
Sent: 16 August 2023 11:27
To: Dogger Bank South <DoggerBankSouth@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: Request for information from The Netherlands on Dogger Bank South

Dear National Planning Inspectorate of the United Kingdom,

My name is Sven Borghart and I represent the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water management. I am responsible for gathering input from experts at the public authorities in The Netherlands for the consultation process of Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farm project. In preparation of gathering this input from our experts, I would kindly like to ask for clarification on two questions:

- Do I understand correctly that the phase this project is in the scoping phase of the Environmental Impact Assessment? This then means the Terms of Reference for the EIA are not yet defined and finalised, nor that the EIA has started yet, correct?
- May I ask to elaborate a bit on how possible inputs from The Netherlands might be accounted for with regards to finalising the Terms of Reference of the EIA that will be undertaken? How does this process work in the UK?

I tried reaching the Planning Inspectorate by phone on several numbers indicated on the [contact page of your website](#), but I was not able to reach any. Is something wrong on my end or are these inactive numbers?

As our response is expected by September 15, which is rather soon, I would be very grateful if anyone is able to swiftly provide an answer to my questions.

Thank you very much for your help.

With kind regards,



Sven Borghart
Advisor North Sea

Rijkswaterstaat Zee en Delta
Department Network Development and Vision

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