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Environmental Protection

REGULATION 32 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2017 - PLANNING ACT 2008

NOTIFICATION OF INFORMATION ABOUT DEVELOPMENT LIKELY TO HAVE SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN AN EEA STATE

PROPOSED OUTER DOWSING OFFSHORE WIND

GTR4 Limited (trading as Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind) has formally notified the Secretary of State, of its intention to submit an Environmental Statement.

The 1.5GW wind farm would be located in the southern North Sea, 54km from the Lincolnshire Coast, England. Key offshore components would include: up to 100 wind turbines; up to seven offshore platforms, which may include an offshore converter substation and offshore High Voltage Alternating Current booster substation (depending on the transmission system); an offshore accommodation platform; a Reactive Compensation Station (RCS) (if required); subsea array cables; offshore interconnector cables; and cable protection. Electricity would be exported from the wind farm via up to six subsea export cables, which are currently anticipated to make landfall along the Lincolnshire coastline in England, between Saltfleetby All Saints in the north and Chapel St Leonards in the south. Onshore, the export cables would be installed following a route between the landfall and the onshore substation and then to the National Grid Electricity Transmission System (NGET) substation. The location for the grid connection point and onshore substation has not yet been determined. Two locations are however indicated for the grid connection point: the 'Lincolnshire Node', to the north of the search area; and Weston Marsh, to the south of the search area. Key onshore infrastructure include: up to six onshore export cables buried in trenches, either directly or in a cable duct; a RCS (if required); and one onshore substation. Information about the Proposed Development and about its likely significant effects is available in the scoping report and the Secretary of State's scoping opinion which are available electronically on the Planning Inspectorate's website: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/east-midlands/outer-dowsing-offshore-wind-generating-station/?ipcsection=docs>

Based on the current information provided by the Applicant to the Secretary of State, and applying a precautionary approach, the Secretary of State is of the view that the Proposed Development is likely to have significant effects on the environment in Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, the Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden. In accordance with Regulation 32 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (EIA Regulations) the Secretary of State has provided information to the above mentioned EEA States about the Proposed Development and its likely significant effects. This notice has been reissued to correct a typographical error in respect of the generating capacity of the Proposed Development. The above EEA States have been notified of the correction and asked to indicate by 24 August 2023 whether or not they wish to participate in the procedure for examining and determining the application under the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008) and Regulation 32 of the EIA Regulations.

The Proposed Development is currently at the pre-application stage of the process. The Applicant has not yet submitted an application to the Secretary of State. If the application is accepted for examination, the application will be examined in public and subject to the provisions of the PA 2008, the examination must be completed within a period of six months. Further information about how to participate in the examination procedure under the PA 2008 and the way in which the Secretary of State will notify and consult EEA States in accordance with Regulation 32 of the EIA Regulations is available on the Planning Inspectorate's website: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>

Following examination of the application and having taken the environmental information into consideration, the decision maker may refuse or grant development consent. If development consent is granted, this may be subject to requirements which, if necessary, will secure measures to avoid, reduce or offset the major adverse effects of the Proposed Development.

Date: 13 July 2023

Signed by the Planning Inspectorate for and on behalf of the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

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