

The Planning Act 2008

Application for Development Consent for Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind (Generating Station)

Case Ref: EN010130

The Examining Authority's Note of an Unaccompanied Site Inspection on Day Two: Thursday 23 May 2024

Background

The Examining Authority ('the ExA') undertook an Unaccompanied Site Inspection (USI) to support the examination of an application for development consent for the proposed Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind (Generating Station) ('the application') on Thursday 23 May 2024.

The ExA carried out its USI from publicly accessible land (roads, footpaths and bridleways). No inspections were undertaken on private land, and advance permission to enter land was not required so these inspections could be undertaken on an unaccompanied basis.

The USI was undertaken in order to view the locations of the proposed landfall, cable route, compounds, onshore substation site, and other elements of the proposed scheme in the context of the existing highway network and the surrounding area.

Particulars of the USI

The USI was undertaken by: Mark James, Gavin Jones, Gaurav Joshi, Rod MacArthur and Claire Megginson

The USI was undertaken by car and on foot. Weather conditions were dry and sunny with a temperature of circa 15 degrees centigrade.

Visibility: Good.

The USI commenced at approximately 09:15 and finished at approximately 13:50. A list of the locations visited is attached in Annex A, an overview of the inspection route is attached in Annex B.



Annex A: Details of locations visited on the Unaccompanied Site Inspection on Day Two: Thursday 23 May 2024

The Viewpoints visited today included Seascape Viewpoints as identified in Chapter 17: Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment of the Environmental Statement [<u>APP-072</u>].

The ExA drove from Boston via the A16 to Viewpoint 5 on Anderby Road within the Lincolnshire Coastal Country Park. The ExA left the car in the car park of Chapel Six Marshes and walked on to the beach area to observe the seascape viewpoints. From the beach, the ExA saw the wind turbines of the existing projects and visualised the offshore location of the Proposed Development, including the proposed platforms shown in Viewpoint 5 figure of <u>APP-107</u>. The ExA then walked towards the Landfall area along the beach for about a mile. The ExA arrived at the southern boundary of the Landfall Order limits, near to the Wolla Bank parking area and observed the approximate location of the Primary Construction Compound 1, Transition Joint Bay Area and Landfall Trenchless Works Area. The ExA then walked to Wolla Bank and noted the approximate location of the Sea Bank Clay Pits SSSI, the Anderby Marsh and Wolla Bank Reedbed Local Nature Reserves and the King Charles III Coastal Path. The ExA then returned to Chapel Six Marshes on foot while observing the seascape views.

Walk 1, Chapel Six Marshes to Landfall.



The Planning Inspectorate

The ExA drove from Chapel Six Marshes to Wolla Bank through Roman Bank and towards Anderby Creek while observing the Landfall Trenchless Work Area. The ExA then took a right turn on Moggs Eye to arrive at Marsh Yard car parking area and observe the seascape view and the approximate location of the Triton Knoll Landfall site. The ExA travelled to Viewpoint 6 (APP-107) Lincolnshire Wolds via Alford. The ExA stopped the car between Rigsy and Haugh along the road and walked towards the Viewpoint location to observe the seascape in the context of the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

Walk 2, Viewpoint 6 Lincolnshire Wolds.



The ExA then travelled back towards Mumby through Alford using the B1149 and the A52. The ExA took a left turn on to Bracken Lane from the A52 and stopped the car at the end of Bracken Lane to observe the approximate location of the temporary closure of the Public Right of Way and Cable Installation Compound 18. The ExA then drove turning left after Bracken Lane towards Sloothby Lane and arrived on South Ings Lane. The ExA turned left after the Slackholme Lane End bus stop. The ExA stopped at the proposed temporary vehicular access track location (Work No 18) to observe the approximate location of the Public Right of Way temporary closure and temporary diversion. The ExA then returned to South Ings Lane, turned left towards Marsh Road and arrived on Ingoldmells Road, where the ExA crossed the proposed Cable Corridor and took a left turn on to Younger's Lane. The ExA stopped the car on Younger's Lane near to Newfield Farm Fishing Lakes and observed the proposed Enabling Access Location, Cable Installation Compound 61, observing that enabling works appear to have commenced on land with extant planning consent for the siting of up to 62 static caravans. In addition, the ExA observed the location of nearby houses. The ExA then drove on Middlemarsh Road towards Church Lane and joined the A52 returning to Boston while observing the Order limits of the Proposed Development.



Annex B: Overview of the Unaccompanied Site Inspection route (Day Two)

