

From: [Borghart, Sven \(RWS ZD\)](#)
To: [Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind](#)
Cc: [Erfeling, Mareike \(RWS ZD\)](#)
Subject: Response to Espoo consultation for Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind
Date: 04 July 2024 13:06:22
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[EN010130-Stage2-Consultation-letter-to-the-Netherlands.pdf](#)

U ontvangt niet vaak e-mail van  [Meer informatie over waarom dit belangrijk is](#)

Dear sir / madam,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to react on the Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Development of Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind. Please find below the comments from the Netherlands at this stage of the consultation process, with inputs provided by the Dutch ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality.

- We have not been able to find whether any mitigating measures are taken for underwater noise. Whilst no direct effects of this are expected in Dutch waters, but there will be displacement potentially to Dutch waters. For this reason, it would still be good to consider at mitigating measures. Examples include the prior deployment of an Acoustic Deterrent Device (ADD) followed by a 'slow and soft' start, and measures such as a bubble curtain could also be used during pile driving.
- For birds, it is not (clearly) described whether species could be disturbed by the wind turbines during migrations.
- In the Netherlands, permits for wind turbines larger than 1000ft+ (305 meters) are not yet granted. We wonder whether there are any implications for any migratory birds, specifically due to the greater height.
- We are pleased to see that our earlier requests for a focus on commercial species and fishing gear relevant for the Dutch fleet have been further investigated. The focus on cumulative impact of wind energy and MPA measures on commercial fisheries is very important and contributes significantly to a transparent and thorough impact assessment. The Netherlands uses a similar approach but also focuses on the (cumulative) impact on the fishing communities and supply chain. The loss of specific fishing grounds may lead to an impact further on in the supply chain and/or fishing community. Further impact assessments and mitigation measures should also take these aspects into account.

We very much appreciate the systematic approach and the stakeholder process, and we would welcome the opportunity to stay involved in the remainder of the process on a regular basis.

With kind regards,



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