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Services:
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Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010130

Date: 30 September 2024

Dear Mr Jenner

Application by GT R4 Limited (trading as Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind) for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind Project

Planning Act 2008 – Section 89(3)

Procedural Decision following submissions received from the Applicant at the Procedural Deadline on 19 September 2024

I am writing on behalf of the Examining Authority (ExA) under section (s) 89 (3) of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) to set out the ExA's Procedural Decisions on the following matters:

1. Documents prepared in support of the introduction of the Offshore Restricted Build Area (ORBA) and Revision to the Offshore Export Cable Corridor (ECC Revision);
2. Documents updated to (i) reflect minor changes due to small reductions to the areas of land required and amendments to the rights sought, and (ii) account for recently identified proposed Public Rights of Way (PRoWs) and an additional pipeline crossing; and
3. New or updated documents in response to comments made by Interested Parties (IPs) in Relevant Representations (RRs).

The ExA notes that list items 1. and 2. above contain new information which may constitute a change to the Application; the ExA has not made a decision to accept the changes set out by the Applicant. At this stage the ExA has made the Procedural Decision to request that the Applicant provides all of the information that relates to any changes that it wishes to make, collated and summarised within a Change Notification which aligns closely to the Planning Inspectorate's [Guidance for Applicants on changes to an Application after it has been accepted for Examination](#) (formerly Advice Note 16).

The ExA also notes that the Applicant has submitted new information and updates to existing information in response to comments received in RRs.

The ExA takes the view that by submitting information which may be subject to a Change Request alongside revisions to current application documents and new information in response to comments from IPs, the Applicant has introduced an unwelcome level of complexity. The ExA has therefore made the Procedural Decision to request the Applicant to submit a schedule detailing the following:

- Which of the suite of documents submitted by the Applicant on 19 September 2024 represent either new evidence or revisions to existing evidence submitted as part of the original application, and which make **no reference at all** to any of the proposed changes (ie. the ORBA/revised ECC/recently identified public rights of way and an additional pipeline crossing/reduction in areas of land required); and
- Which of the suite of documents submitted by the Applicant on 19 September 2024 refer, either directly or indirectly, to any of the proposed changes (either offshore or onshore) and which would therefore represent either new evidence or revisions to existing evidence submitted as part of the original application if accepted by the ExA following a formal Change Request by the Applicant.

The Applicant is requested to provide this information as soon as practicable, but in any event no later than 8 October 2024 in order to allow for the possibility of further discussion at the Preliminary Meeting. Please send all information requested in this letter to the project mailbox: outerdowsingoffshorewind@planninginspectorate.gov.uk .

Timely receipt of this updated evidence is essential to ensure all persons with an interest in the application will have the opportunity to consider their response based on evidence that comprehensively describes the Proposed Development as currently accepted for Examination purposes. In particular, the ExA is keen to avoid a situation whereby Interested Parties make submissions, including Written Representations at Deadline 1, that relate to a potential Change Request that has not yet been formally submitted by the Applicant.

If you have any queries on these matters, please do not hesitate to contact our office using the contact details at the head of this letter.

Yours sincerely,

Rod MacArthur

Rod MacArthur
Lead Panel Member for the Examining Authority

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