

The Examining Authority
The Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Our ref: AN/2024/135560/03-L01
Your ref: EN010130
Date: 24 October 2024

Dear Members of the Examining Authority

Application by GT R4 Limited (trading as Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind) for an order granting development consent for the Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind Project (Generating station and transmission infrastructure) - Summary of Written Representations

The Environment Agency has reviewed the Applicant's response to its Relevant Representations, together with various additional submissions on matters within its remit and jurisdiction. The Environment Agency's Written Representations provide an update on the outstanding issues which required further discussion/negotiation. In Summary:

1. The Development Consent Order (DCO) – The Environment Agency has been included as a consultee to the DCO Requirements requested and we continue to work with the Applicant on the wording of Protective Provisions to enable us to disapply the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 for flood risk activities (Article 7). We are also continuing negotiations with the Applicant regarding a legal agreement relating to beach nourishment works during the construction period.
2. Marine Physical Processes - further information and assessment in relation to this topic is requested, as the data used is not considered adequate - additional advice on this matter is provided.
3. Water Framework Directive - the Applicant has now included mitigation to resolve our concerns in respect of protecting Bathing Water quality and this has been secured in relevant documents. The Environment Agency is satisfied with the assessment undertaken in respect of issues within its remit and jurisdiction.
4. Groundwater Protection - the Applicant has committed to submitting a Water Quality Management and Mitigation Plan, which we are confident will assist in protecting groundwater. However, we still require further information on how the revised Groundwater Risk Assessment is secured.
5. Flood Risk - we have reviewed the revised Flood Risk Assessments submitted, and we are currently reviewing hydraulic modelling unpinning certain aspects of these. Comments regarding outstanding matters of concern are included in

respect of flood risk sensitivity, decommissioning, stockpiling within the floodplain, bunding, potential impacts on third parties and climate change.

In summary, progress has been made in resolving some of the issues raised by the Environment Agency. However, we continue to maintain the holding objections to the Project and confirm that the Principal Areas of Disagreement [PD1-104] have still to be resolved.

Yours sincerely

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Principal Planning Adviser

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