

# Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind

## (Draft) Statement of Common Ground with Trinity House

### Deadline 1

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## Acronyms & Definitions

### Abbreviations / Acronyms

Abbreviation / Acronym	Description
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government
DCO	Development Consent Order
dML	deemed Marine Licence
ECC	Export Cable Corridor (offshore ECC or indicative onshore ECC)
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ES	Environmental Statement
GT R4 Limited	GT R4 or GT R4 Limited, the incorporated joint venture development Co.
GW	Gigawatt
NRA	Navigational Risk Assessment
ODOW	Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind (the Project)
ORBA	Offshore Restricted Build Area
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground
UK	United Kingdom

### Terminology

Term	Definition
Baseline	The status of the environment at the time of assessment without the development in place.
Deemed Marine Licence (dML)	A marine licence set out in a Schedule to the Development Consent Order and deemed to have been granted under Part 4 (marine licensing) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.
Development Consent Order (DCO)	An order made under the Planning Act 2008 granting development consent for a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).
Effect	Term used to express the consequence of an impact. The significance of an effect is determined by correlating the magnitude of the impact with the sensitivity of the receptor, in accordance with defined significance criteria.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	A statutory process by which certain planned projects must be assessed before a formal decision to proceed can be made. It involves the collection and consideration of environmental information, which fulfils the assessment requirements of the EIA Regulations, including the publication of an Environmental Statement (ES).
Environmental Statement (ES)	The suite of documents that detail the processes and results of the EIA.
Impact	An impact to the receiving environment is defined as any change to its baseline condition, either adverse or beneficial.

Term	Definition
Landfall	The location at the land-sea interface where the offshore export cables and fibre optic cables will come ashore.
Mitigation	Mitigation measures are commitments made by the Project to reduce and/or eliminate the potential for significant effects to arise as a result of the Project. Mitigation measures can be embedded (part of the project design) or secondarily added to reduce impacts in the case of potentially significant effects.
Offshore Export Cable Corridor (ECC)	The Offshore Export Cable Corridor (Offshore ECC) is the area within the Order Limits within which the export cables running from the array to landfall will be situated.
Onshore Infrastructure	The combined name for all onshore infrastructure associated with the Project from landfall to grid connection.
Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind (ODOW)	The Project.
Order Limits	The area subject to the application for development consent, The limits shown on the works plans within which the Project may be carried out.
Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)	The PEIR was written in the style of a draft Environmental Statement (ES) and provided information to support and inform the statutory consultation process during the pre-application phase.
Receptor	A distinct part of the environment on which effects could occur and can be the subject of specific assessments. Examples of receptors include species (or groups) of animals or plants, people (often categorised further such as 'residential' or those using areas for amenity or recreation), watercourses etc.
Statement of Common Ground	A statement of common ground is a written statement produced jointly between The Applicant and another Interested Party setting out the areas of agreement and /or disagreement between parties.
The Applicant	GT R4 Ltd. The Applicant making the application for a DCO. The Applicant is GT R4 Limited (a joint venture between Corio Generation (and its affiliates), Total Energies and Gulf Energy Development (GULF)), trading as Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind. The Project is being developed by Corio Generation, TotalEnergies and GULF.
The Project	Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind, an offshore wind generating station together with associated onshore and offshore infrastructure.

## Reference Documentation

Document Number	Title
APP-070	Chapter 15 Shipping and Navigation
APP-071	Navigation Risk Assessment (NRA)
PD1-081	Environmental Report for the Offshore Restricted Build Area (ORBA) and Revision to the Offshore Export Cable Corridor (ECC)
PD1-090	Review of Offshore Restricted Build Area Impact on Shipping Displacement and Collision Risk PD1-090

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind (ODOW)

1. Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind ('The Project') is a proposed offshore windfarm comprising both offshore and onshore infrastructure, including an offshore generation station (windfarm) located approximately 54km from the Lincolnshire coastline, export cables to landfall, onshore cables, connection to the electricity transmission network and ancillary and associated development.
2. The Project will have a total installed capacity of 1.5GW which is roughly equivalent to the annual electricity consumption of over 1.6 million UK households.

## 1.2 Purpose of this Statement of Common Ground (SoCG)

3. Trinity House is the General Lighthouse Authority in England. In addition, it provides marine navigation aids and is responsible for marking and dispersing wrecks which are a danger to navigation.
4. This SoCG has been prepared by the Applicant and Trinity House to identify topics that are relevant to Trinity House's remit and state whether relevant matters are agreed, not agreed or still in discussion. If relevant, where matters are not agreed, an explanation is provided as to whether these matters are of consequence or not.
5. This SoCG has been prepared with due regard to the Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the examination stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (2024).

## 1.3 Consultation

6. The Applicant has engaged with the Trinity House during the pre-application process, through statutory consultation carried out under section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 and bilateral engagement.
7. During the Phase 2 consultation held by the Applicant in June/July 2023 Trinity House provided comments on the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR).
8. Table 1 sets out a summary of the bilateral consultation undertaken during the pre-application process.

Table 1: Summary of Consultation undertaken pre-application

Date of Engagement	Engagement	Topic
10 <sup>th</sup> of January 2022	Meeting	Shipping and Navigation
15 <sup>th</sup> of September 2023	Meeting	Shipping and Navigation

## 1.4 Topics addressed in this Statement of Common Ground

9. Table 2 sets out the topics addressed in this SoCG. The topics referred to are referenced against the relevant chapter of the Environmental Statement (ES) or other DCO application plans and documents.

Table 2: Topics Included in this SoCG

Topic	Application Documents and references
Shipping and Navigation	Chapter 15 Shipping and Navigation (APP-070) Navigation Risk Assessment (APP-171)

## 1.5 Identification of items agreed/not agreed/in discussion

10. This SoCG sets out the relevant topics and identifies them as agreed, not agreed or in discussion using a colour coding system. The colour coding system used throughout the document is summarised in Table 3.

Table 3: Colour coding system

Classification	Meaning
Agreed	Agreement has been reached between the parties
In discussion	This matter has not been 'agreed' or 'not agreed' but discussions are continuing, or information is to be provided with the intention of reaching agreement.
Not Agreed	This matter has not been agreed and discussions are not currently on-going.



## 2 Statement of Common Ground

### 2.1 Shipping and Navigation

11. The Applicant has assessed potential impacts of the Project on shipping and navigation during the construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning phases as set out in Chapter 15 Shipping and Navigation (APP-070) and the NRA (APP-171) as supplemented by the Environmental Report for the Offshore Restricted Build Area (ORBA) and Revision to the Offshore Export Cable Corridor (PD1-081) and Review of Offshore Restricted Build Area Impact on Shipping Displacement and Collision Risk (PD1-090) .
12. Table 5 sets out areas of agreement (common ground), areas where discussions are ongoing and areas where it has not been possible to reach agreement and discussions are no longer being pursued relating to shipping and navigation.

Table 4: Areas of common ground in respect of aviation

Ref	ODOW Position	Trinity House Position	Status
Baseline			
TH1	The description of baseline conditions in terms of shipping and navigation presented in the ES (APP-070), NRA (APP-171), Environmental Report for the Offshore Restricted Build Area and Revision to the Offshore Export Cable Corridor (PD1-081) and Review of Offshore Restricted Build Area Impact on Shipping Displacement and Collision Risk (PD1-090) is accurate and adequately captures relevant aspects.	Agreed	Agreed

Ref	ODOW Position	Trinity House Position	Status
TH2	The vessel traffic survey data collection is suitable for Trinity House’s requirements for the assessment. This applies to the ES (APP-070), NRA (APP-171), the Environmental Report for the Offshore Restricted Build Area and Revision to the Offshore Export Cable Corridor (PD1-081) and the Review of Offshore Restricted Build Area Impact on Shipping Displacement and Collision Risk (PD1-090).	In discussion	In discussion
TH4	The approach to the assessment is also deemed appropriate for the purposes of predicting changes to the baseline environment.	Agreed.	Agreed
<b>Consultation</b>			
TH5	Trinity House has been adequately consulted on shipping and navigation and is content with the approach and outcomes of the consultation process.	Agreed.	Agreed

Ref	ODOW Position	Trinity House Position	Status
TH6	Trinity House is content that their comments raised during the consultation process have been addressed. This includes via the significant amendments to the array area made post PEIR (as detailed in Chapter 4 Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives (APP-059)), noting any residual impact is further reduced by the introduction of the ORBA.	In discussion	In discussion
TH7	The introduction of the ORBA and the revision of the offshore export cable corridor (as detailed in PD1-081) are both positive developments from a shipping and navigation perspective.	Agreed.	Agreed
<b>Assessment and Methodology</b>			
TH8	The potential hazards (impacts) identified in the ES (APP-070) and NRA (APP-171) adequately capture the potential effects on shipping and navigation.	Agreed.	Agreed
TH9	Appropriate legislation, planning policy and guidance relevant to shipping and navigation has been taken into account as set out in Section 15.1 of Chapter 15 Shipping and Navigation (APP-070).	Agreed.	Agreed

Ref	ODOW Position	Trinity House Position	Status
TH10	Based on the information provided within the ES Chapter (APP-070) and NRA (APP-171) it is agreed that all in isolation hazards (impacts) identified are broadly acceptable or tolerable (not significant in EIA terms) with the mitigation measures and required monitoring in place.	Agreed.	Agreed
TH11	Based on the information provided within the ES Chapter (APP-070) and NRA (APP-171) it is agreed that all cumulative hazards (impacts) identified are broadly acceptable or tolerable (not significant in EIA terms) with the mitigation measures and required monitoring in place.	Agreed.	Agreed
DCO/dML condition wording			
TH12	The wording of DCO/dML conditions relevant to Trinity House is appropriate.	Trinity House are reviewing the DCO / dML and where needed will liaise with the Applicant to agree final wording.	In discussion

### 3 Signatures

The above statement of common ground has been prepared by Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind and Trinity House and is agreed on the date below.

Signed for Trinity House	
Name	
Position	
Date	
Duly authorised for and on behalf of Trinity House	

Signed for Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind	
Name	
Position	
Date	
Duly authorised for and on behalf of Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind	

## References

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (2024) Planning Act 2008: Guidance for the examination of applications for development consent.