

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

Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing (ISH):

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
Issue Specific Hearing on Onshore Environmental Matters (ISH3)	Thursday 5 December 2024 Hearing Starts at 10:00 Virtual Registration Process from 09:30	By virtual means using Microsoft Teams

Agenda

1. Arrangements for the Hearing

The ExA would find it helpful if the parties set out in Table 2 below could attend this Hearing.

However, this does not indicate that other parties will not be able to contribute. All Interested Parties (IP) are invited to attend and make oral representations on the matters set out in the Agenda, subject to the ExA's ability to control the Hearing.

The ExA has sought to provide sufficient detail to assist the parties to prepare for the Hearing. The details set out below are indicative and the ExA may find it necessary to include additional Agenda items or to amend the order in which the items are dealt with.

Anyone wishing to speak during the Hearing, who has not already advised the Case Team of this, should do so as soon as possible.

The event will be livestreamed and a link for watching the livestream will be posted on the [project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website](#) closer to the Hearing date. IPs and members of the public who wish to observe the Hearing can therefore view and listen to the Hearing using the livestream, or view and listen to the recording, after it has concluded.

Every effort will be made to ensure that the issues will be discussed on the day that they are scheduled for. Should the consideration of these issues take less time than anticipated, the ExA may conclude the Hearing as soon as all relevant contributions have been made and all questions asked and responded to.

If there are additional matters to be dealt with or there are submissions that take a considerable amount of time, there may be a need to continue the session for longer on the day. Alternatively, it may be necessary to prioritise matters and defer others to further written questions.

Registration Process

Parties who have registered to speak will receive a Joining Instruction email shortly before the Hearing which will include a link to the virtual event on Microsoft Teams, and a telephone number should they need to participate by telephone. To enable the Hearing to start on time at **10:00** those attending virtually should join promptly at **09:30** to ensure that all virtual attendees can complete the Registration Process in good time.

Procedure at ISH

Guidance under the Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 provides that it is for the ExA to probe, test and assess the evidence through direct questions of persons making oral representations at Hearings. Questioning at the Hearing will be led by the ExA. Cross questioning of a person giving evidence by another person will only be permitted if the ExA decides it is necessary to ensure representations are adequately tested or that an IP has had a fair chance to put its case.

2. Purpose of the Issue Specific Hearing

Please note:

In order to ensure timely publication of the agenda, this has been drafted before the receipt of submissions for Deadline 2. As a consequence, the ExA may need to adjust the agenda at the meeting to allow for responses received at Deadline 2.

The purpose of the Hearing is to examine onshore environmental matters. A more detailed summary of matters which the ExA proposes to address is set out below:

3. Matters for discussion

Table 1

3.1	Welcome and Introductions
3.2	Landscape and Visual Effects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscape study area • Construction phase effects and mitigation • Tree and hedgerow removal, replanting and management
3.3	Design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments and observations relating to the Applicant's approach to design, to cover: landfall design, cable corridor

	<p>design, substation design and the offshore wind farm infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments and observations relating to the robustness of the design review process established by the Applicant in order to secure the highest possible design quality. • If the proposed principles for good design and the design outcomes for: landfall design, cable corridor design, substation design and the offshore windfarm infrastructure, are adequately defined and committed • The Applicant's proposed iterative design development process post consent (if consent is granted), engagement with parties, and how that could be secured
3.4	<p>Seascape and Visual Effects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seascape effects of Offshore Reactive Compensation Platforms (ORCPs) and related mitigation
3.5	<p>Historic Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline assessment, archaeological field evaluation and mitigation • Non designated farmsteads • Human remains
3.6	<p>Traffic and Transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction Traffic Impacts • Onshore Traffic and Transport Assessment • Assessment of cumulative traffic impacts during construction of Outer Dowsing with other proposed developments
3.7	<p>Onshore Ecology and Ornithology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates on progress on outstanding issues identified by Natural England, including in its Risk and Issues Log submitted at Deadline 1 [REP1-064], updated advice on onshore ecology [REP1-062] and ornithology [REP1-066] and any related submissions from Natural England at Deadline 2. • Biodiversity Net Gain • Lincolnshire County Council's request for an Ecological Steering Group, Environment Compliance Officer and Ecology Enhancement Fund
3.8	<p>Land Use, Geology and Ground Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) and soil surveys • Working width of the cable corridor • Cable burial depth • Potential effects on agriculture and soils during construction and / or operation and related mitigation, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dust contamination

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stone contamination ○ Agricultural drainage ○ Severance ○ Soil heating ○ Organic farming ○ Ground stability and earth movement, including the potential effects of climate change on this ○ Soil aftercare and restoration
3.9	Actions arising from the Issue Specific Hearing
3.10	Any other matters arising.

4. Next Steps

5. Closing

Attendees

Table 2

Agenda Item 3.2 Landscape and Visual Effects	Agenda Item 3.3 Design	Agenda Item 3.4 Seascape and Visual Effects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant, including a representative with an expertise in landscape architecture • Lincolnshire County Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant, including a representative with an expertise in architecture and design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant, including a representative with an expertise in landscape architecture
Agenda Item 3.5 Historic Environment	Agenda Item 3.6 Traffic and Transport	Agenda Item 3.7 Onshore Ecology and Ornithology
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant • Lincolnshire County Council • Historic England 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant • Lincolnshire County Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant • Lincolnshire County Council • East Lindsey District Council • Boston Borough Council • South Holland District Council
Agenda Item 3.8 Land Use, Geology and Ground Conditions		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant 		

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lincolnshire County Council (LCC)• East Lindsey District Council• Boston Borough Council• South Holland District Council• Interested Parties represented by Brown and Co LLP• Interested Parties represented by Hub Rural Ltd• Interested Parties represented by Fraser Dawbarns LLP• Fred Grant Co• Lincolnshire Association of Agricultural Valuers Land Interest Group• Savills (UK) Limited• T.H. Clements & Son Limited• Will Barker & Co• Woodlands Farm (Kirton) Limited and Andrew Peter Dennis		
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