

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

The Examining Authority's written questions and requests for information (ExQ1)

Issued on 6 November 2024. Responses to be submitted at Deadline 2, on 27 November 2024

Please find below answers to the Examining Authority's written questions from the Environment Agency (EA) [ref no. 20049058].

Ref No.	Question	EA response
	Draft Development Consent Order	
Q1 DCO 1.4	<p>Part 2, Article 7</p> <p>The ExA notes the Principal Areas of Disagreement Summary Statement (PADSS) submitted by the Environment Agency (EA) [PD1-104] noting that agreement has yet to be reached over the wording of Protective Provisions which would allow the EA to agree to the disapplication of the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016 in relation to flood risk activity permits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an update on negotiations over the wording of the relevant Protective Provisions and include an anticipated target date for completion and submission of agreed Protective Provisions into the Examination 	<p>The Environment Agency is having productive discussions with the Applicant on this matter, and we hope to conclude these negotiations before the end of the Examination period.</p>
	Noise and Vibration	
Q1 NV 1.3	<p>Noise Bund Assessment</p> <p>Could the EA clarify its position on the Noise Bund Assessment, as mentioned in Paragraph 7.8 of the Written Representation [REP1-048]?</p>	<p>The Environment Agency has reviewed the Applicant's Noise Bund hydraulic modelling, which is supporting evidence for the Flood Risk Assessment. The modelling has assessed if the presence of the noise bund (the landraising) will interfere with flood flow routes and/or</p>

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		<p>increase the risk of flooding (to 3rd parties) elsewhere in the area – i.e. assessing compliance with the flood risk Exception Test (EN-1 paragraph 5.8.7), and paragraph 5.8.12 which states “There should be no net loss of floodplain storage and any deflection or constriction of flood flow routes should be safely managed within the site”. The Environment Agency has queries regarding the modelling, which need to be addressed, and these were sent directly to the Applicant on 15 November 2024. We are currently awaiting a response to these, so we are not yet able to confirm if the modelling is fit for purpose. Until these queries are resolved, the FRA could be subject to change.</p>
Q1 NV 1.4	<p>Noise Bund Hydraulic Modelling Report With reference to Table 5, EA14 of the Draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) between the Applicant and the Environment Agency [REP1-026], could the EA provide their stance on the Noise Bund Hydraulic Modelling Report [PD1-075] to [PD1-079]?</p>	Please see Q1 NV 1.3 above.
Water Environment		
Q1 WE 1.5	<p>Flood Risk in the Fosdyke Area In the Relevant Representation (RR) submitted by Anthony Kindred [RR-084], a concern was raised about the Fosdyke Flooding, and the RR submitted by Lisa Kindred [RR-085] raised a concern about flooding due to damage to existing drainage dykes. The Applicant emphasises that the Flood Risk Assessment [APP-211] confirms that the Proposed Development is not expected to have any impact on the Flood</p>	<p>Although the Environment Agency is not yet able to confirm that the Flood Risk Assessment is wholly compliant with national planning policy requirements, it has received sufficient information to be assured that, subject to the mitigation measures in the Outline Code of Construction Practice and associated documents, the works around Fosdyke Bridge should not increase the risk of flooding in that area.</p>

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	<p>Risk of the Fosdyke Area during construction and operation. The Applicant also highlights that the high-level parameters for the crossing of drains are included in the Outline Code of Construction Practice and will be secured through the DCO.</p> <p>With reference to the RR, as well as the Applicant's response to Relevant Representations in RR-084.004 and RR-085.006 of [PD1-071], do you find the Applicant's conclusions regarding the Flood Risk of the Fosdyke area to be satisfactory? If not, please explain your view with evidence to support it.</p>	