



National Infrastructure Planning
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The Applicant

Your Ref:

By email only

Our Ref: EN010130

Date: 20 December 2024

Dear Mr Jenner

The Planning Act 2008 (as amended) and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended) – Rule 9

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

The Examining Authority (ExA) refers to the applicant's Change Notification dated 13 December 2024 [[REP3-050](#)] that relates to three potential amendments to the application, namely:

1. changes to the Maximum Design Parameters of the Offshore Reactive Compensation Platforms (ORCPs)
2. amendments to the draft Development Consent Order (Document 3.1) (dDCO) based on the Applicant's review of The Management of Hedgerows (England) Regulations 2024.
3. amendment to the dDCO to include within Schedule 17, Part 2 a further important hedgerow under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 which may be required to be removed

In relation to point 1 above, changes to the Maximum Design Parameters of the ORCPs, the ExA considers that this would represent a change to the application.

The ExA notes the details provided by the applicant in table 1 of the Change Notification [[REP3-050](#)] as required by guidance. The applicant has provided a statement setting out the reasons and need for making the change to the application. Also, in table 1 the applicant has provided a list of the organisations it proposes to consult with on the proposed change. The ExA does not identify any further consultees that are necessary beyond those specified in table 1. Please also note that any consultation notification should confirm that responses should be sent directly to the applicant.

The ExA stresses that should any formal Change Request be accepted by the ExA the proposed changes would be made on the basis that all the processes can be completed in the required time prior to the close of the examination and in accordance with the examination timetable [[PD-014](#)].

Should it not be possible to achieve this, then the ExA would not be in a position to take the change request into account in its recommendation to the Secretary of State as the relevant statutory procedures would not have been complied with.

In relation to points 2 and 3 above, the ExA welcomes the applicant's approach of pre-emptively highlighting its proposed changes in this manner and takes the view that these proposed changes fall within the broad description of changes to the draft DCO as articles are reviewed, drafting is improved, or requirements are developed and that they are not such substantial changes that they would warrant a formal Change Request.

Yours sincerely,

Rod Macarthur

Rod Macarthur
Lead Member of the Panel of Examining Inspectors

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