



Planning Inspectorate

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To: All Interested Parties

Our Ref: EN010130

Date: 14 January 2025

Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rule 13 and 16

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

Notification of hearings and accompanied site inspection

The examination timetable at annex A of the Examining Authority’s (ExA) Rule 8 Letter, dated 17 October 2024, included reserved dates for hearings and an accompanied site inspection.

Hearing arrangements

The ExA is now writing to advise you that the following hearings will be held under sections 91, 92 and 93 of the Planning Act 2008. The hearing(s) will be blended events, with participants attending either in person or virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Hearing	Date	Start time	Location
Issue specific hearing on onshore environmental matters and the Development Consent Order (ISH5)	Wednesday 12 February 2025	Registration and seating available from: 09:30am Virtual Registration Process from: 09:30am Event start: 10.00am	All hearings will be blended events at: Nineteen33 Suite, Boston United Football Club, The Jakemans Community Stadium, Pilgrim Way, Boston, PE21 7NE and By virtual means using Microsoft

			<p>Teams</p> <p>Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered</p>
Issue specific hearing on offshore environmental matters (ISH6)	Thursday 13 February 2025	<p>Registration and seating available from: 09:30am</p> <p>Virtual Registration Process from: 09:30am</p> <p>Event start: 10.00am</p>	<p>All hearings will be blended events at:</p> <p>Nineteen33 Suite, Boston United Football Club, The Jakemans Community Stadium, Pilgrim Way, Boston, PE21 7NE</p> <p>and</p> <p>By virtual means using Microsoft Teams</p> <p>Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered</p>
Any outstanding matters that could not be fully covered at ISH5 or ISH6 (ISH7)	Friday 14 February 2025 (morning only)	<p>Registration and seating available from: 09:30am</p> <p>Virtual Registration Process from: 09:30am</p> <p>Event start: 10.00am</p>	<p>All hearings will be blended events at:</p> <p>Nineteen33 Suite, Boston United Football Club, The Jakemans Community Stadium, Pilgrim Way, Boston, PE21 7NE</p> <p>and</p>

			<p>By virtual means using Microsoft Teams</p> <p>Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered</p>
<p>NOTE: If any of the above hearings are no longer required then notification will be published as soon as practicable on the project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website, providing reasonable notice to Interested Parties of the decision to cancel.</p>			

Applicant’s notification duties

The applicant is reminded of its duty to notify and publicise hearings under Rule 13(6) and 13(7) of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.

Purpose of hearings

Please refer to the Planning Inspectorate’s Advice for members of the public: [The stages of the NSIP process and how you can have your say](#) for information about the purpose of open floor, issue specific and compulsory acquisition hearings.

Joining instructions for hearings will be issued by the Case Team via email shortly before the hearing dates.

Please contact the Case Team if you require any support or assistance to attend any hearing, either virtually or in person.

If you simply wish to observe any of the hearings then you can either:

1. Watch a livestream of the event - a link to the livestream will be made available on the project webpage shortly before the event is scheduled to begin.

and/or

2. Watch the recording of the event which will be published on the project webpage shortly after the event has finished.

Alternatively, you can attend the physical event at the venue to observe the proceedings; however, to ensure there is adequate seating capacity at the venue we request that you register your attendance to observe only by Wednesday 5 February 2025 using [the Event Participation Form](#). Please note that it may not be possible to participate on the day if you have not registered your wish to speak by **Wednesday 5 February 2025**.

Attendees

The ExA would find it helpful if the following parties could attend:

- Lincolnshire County Council
- East Lindsey District Council
- Boston Borough Council
- South Holland District Council
- Natural England
- Marine Management Organisation
- The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)
- 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
- Defence Infrastructure Organisation
- NATS En Route LTD
- Ørsted interested parties

Hearing agendas

The agendas and any detailed arrangements for the hearings will be published on the [project webpage](#) at least five working days before the hearings. However, the actual agenda on the day of each hearing may be subject to change at the ExA's discretion.

Procedure at hearings and post hearing submissions

The procedure to be followed at hearings is set out in the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.

Participation in a hearing will be subject to the ExA's powers of control. It is for the ExA to determine how the hearing will be conducted, including the time allowed at the hearing for the making of a person's representations. The hearing will be managed in the interests of ensuring fair access for all parties, and to ensure that the submissions of all invited persons are fully heard within the allotted time. For issue specific hearings interested parties (IPs) may be invited to make oral representations at the hearing on the specific issues being examined at the hearing as set out in the agenda.

All hearings are recorded. The recordings and transcripts will be made available on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable following the hearing. The recordings allow any member of the public who is interested in the application and the examination to find out what has been discussed at a hearing. It is therefore important to note that anyone speaking at the hearing will need to introduce themselves, including any organisation or groups that they represent, **each time they speak** to ensure that someone listening to the recording after the hearing is clear who was speaking.

As the recordings are retained and published, they form a public record that can contain personal information to which the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) applies. Please refer to our [Privacy Notice](#) for further information. Participants must do their best to avoid making public any information which they would otherwise wish to be kept private and confidential. If there is a need to refer to such information, it should be in written form. Although this will also be published, personal and private content can be redacted or removed before it is made publicly available. Any person who is unclear on this point should ask the Case Team for guidance before they place personal and private information into the public domain. The Planning Inspectorate's practice is to publish the recordings and transcripts and retain them for a period of five years from the Secretary of State's decision on the Development Consent Order (DCO). If you actively participate in the hearing, it is important that you understand that you will be recorded and that the recording and transcript will be made available in the public domain.

The evidence presented orally at hearings should be included in post-hearing submissions and submitted at the relevant deadline in the Examination timetable.

Accompanied site inspection

The ExA is also writing to advise you that an accompanied site inspection (ASI) will be held under Rule 16 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 on the following date:

Event	Date	Time	Meeting Place
Accompanied site inspection (ASI1)	Tuesday 11 February 2025	Meeting time for safety briefing from the applicant and introduction by the ExA: 12.15pm Departure time: 12.30pm	Lawrence Lane car park to the rear of The White Hart Hotel Boston PE21 8QD what3words: ///chain.stews.hosts

The ExA's final itinerary for the ASI will be published on the project webpage at least five working days prior to the ASI. This itinerary will be drafted taking account of suggested locations submitted by interested parties, the applicant's draft itinerary submitted at Deadline 2 [[REP2-048](#)] and any comments on the applicant's draft itinerary submitted at Deadline 3.

Please note that the ExA's inspection of sites is not an opportunity to provide any oral representations on the project or to discuss evidence. It is an opportunity for the ExA to look at the physical features that can be seen on, or from, the sites. Participants may be invited by the ExA to point out specific features or sites of interest.

Participants are asked to assemble promptly as the ExA will not wait for parties who are not present at the start time. A mobile number for the Planning Inspectorate Case Team will be provided in the final version of the ASI1 itinerary for attendees to contact if needed.

Transport

The applicant will provide transport for the ExA, the Case Team and the applicant's own team from the starting point to the various sites, and back. If preferred, attendees can use their own transport. Please note that allocating a place in the vehicles provided by the applicant cannot be guaranteed as it will depend on numbers of seats available. If you are using your own transport, please ensure you make advance arrangements for parking at the various locations if required.

Clothing and personal protective equipment

It will be necessary for all parties to wear appropriate sturdy footwear and weather-proof clothing. All parties are advised to bring and wear high visibility jackets, if they have them, when walking on the public highway. Alternatively, you will be required to wear the high visibility jackets provided by the applicant.

Refreshments

Please note that refreshments will not be provided and therefore parties should bring their own as appropriate.

Cancellations

Please note that in the unlikely event that the ASI is cancelled we shall endeavour to contact attendees beforehand, but we ask that you regularly check the [project webpage](#) of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Registration and requests to participate in the hearings or accompanied site inspection

Please register using the [Event Participation Form](#) by Wednesday 5 February 2025 if you intend to participate in the hearings and/or accompanied site inspection and provide all the information requested.

If you have any difficulty completing the form please contact the Case Team.

Please note that by attending the event either in person or online you are agreeing to be filmed for the purposes of the online live stream of the event and the recording of the event which will get published on the [project webpage](#). A limited number of seats will be available for observers who wish not to be filmed at the event. Please contact the case

team to notify them if you prefer not to be filmed at the event. A transcript of the event will also be published on the [project webpage](#) after the event.

Any request to participate in a hearing should include the following information:

- Name and unique reference number (found at the top of any letter or email from the Planning Inspectorate);
- email address (if available) and contact telephone number;
- name and unique reference number of any person/organisation that you are representing (if applicable);
- for blended events, confirmation of whether you will participate virtually or in-person;
- confirmation of the hearing(s) you wish to participate in, the agenda item(s) on which you wish to speak and/or brief details of the topic(s) that you would like to raise;
- for compulsory acquisition hearings, the plot number(s) of the relevant land provided in the Book of Reference and the Land Plans; and
- the Examination Library reference number (with paragraph/page number where appropriate) of any documents you wish to refer to.

For any requests to attend the ASI1, please ensure you provide telephone contact details (preferably mobile telephone) so that we can contact you should the ASI1 run late or need to be cancelled with minimal notice. A contact number for the Case Team will be provided in the final version of the itinerary.

Please also let us know if you require any assistance to attend the ASI1, e.g., any mobility needs that may affect transportation.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Case Team outerdowsingoffshorewind@planninginspectorate.gov.uk .

Yours faithfully

Rod Macarthur

Rod Macarthur
Lead Member of the Panel of Examining Inspectors

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