From: <u>Trakos, Amy</u>

To: Cottam Solar Project; West Burton Solar Project; Gate Burton Solar Project

Cc:

Subject:

Cottam Solar/West Burton Solar/Gate Burton Energy Park Projects - Marine Management Organisation

Date: 01 November 2023 10:50:54

Attachments: image001.png

image002.png

Good Morning

I hope this email finds you well.

In my capacity as the Sector Lead for Coastal Energy, I am contacting you regarding the above-mentioned projects.

I have had previous communications with Pinsent Masons LLP (who is acting for the developer on all three projects) with regards to the Gate Burton project and you will likely be aware that the MMO has submitted responses to all deadlines and have maintained our position that unless we are provided anything different from the applicant with regards to the methodology (something that is marine licensable and not covered by an exemption, as is currently the case with the borehole element of the proposed activities) we are of the opinion that a Deemed Marine License is not required and could not be included as part of the dDCO due to the fact that no activities are marine licensable.

Having looked at the other two projects, it appears that the methodology and activities are exactly the same as Gate Burton and therefore we are of the same opinion as above for these also, that as there are no marine licensable activities, a deemed Marine License shouldn't be included.

I have now seen the first set of Examiners Questions for Cottam Solar which were published yesterday and can see that the MMO has no questions. However, my team will send a response before the deadline, explaining that we will continue to monitor, should anything develop with regards to marine licensable activities.

The ExA's third set of written questions of 25th October 23, regarding the Gate Burton project include a question to the applicant, for which we will of course monitor the applicant's response, but it is positive that our position now appears to be fully understood:

Q.3.6.1: Article 44 and Schedule 9 Draft Marine Licence: 1) Confirm that the methodology proposed in the draft Marine Licence is the worst-case scenario and explain why other potential scenarios would not be worst case scenarios or would not be used and how this would be controlled or restricted. 2) Given that the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) maintain its position that the matters proposed are covered by an exemption and they do not support the inclusion of a dML in the dDCO there are two options a) remove the provisions; or b) seek to maintain the provisions in the dDCO. Confirm your intentions and if b) provide further justification for the inclusion of the dML including identifying other DCO's where an exemption has applied and a dML has been included in a made DCO. Furthermore, justify each of the suggested conditions in the dML and the basis on which such conclusions are reached.

I hope it has been helpful to outline our position on all three projects and should you wish to discuss further, I am of course happy to.

Kind Regards

Amy

Amy Trakos

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■ My pronouns are she/her

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