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Lower Thames Crossing Case Team
National Infrastructure Planning
Lowerthamescrossing@planninginspectorate.gov.uk
(By email only)

MMO Reference: DCO/2015/00001
National Infrastructure Planning Reference: TR010032

19 September 2023

Dear Sir or Madam,

Planning Act 2008 - Application by National Highways for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Lower Thames Crossing

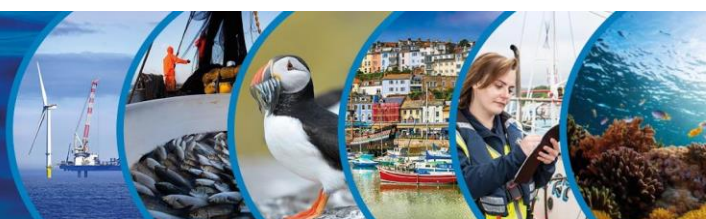
Deadline 3 Submission

On the 28 November 2022, the Marine Management Organisation (“MMO”) received notice under Section 56 of the Planning Act 2008 (the “2008 Act”) that the Planning Inspectorate (“PINS”) had accepted an application made by National Highways (the “Applicant”) for determination of a Development Consent Order for the construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed Lower Thames Crossing (the “DCO Application”).

The MMO received the Rule 8 letter on 27 June 2023. In response to this letter, the MMO submits the following which can be viewed in Annex 1:

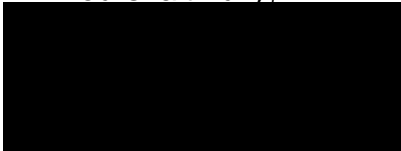
For receipt by the ExA of:

- Post-event submissions, including written submission of oral comments made at the hearings held w/c 4 and 11 Sept 2023 (if held).



This written response is submitted without prejudice to any future representation the MMO may make about the Application throughout the examination process. This response is also submitted without prejudice to any decision the MMO may make on any associated application for consent, permission, approval or any other type of authorisation submitted to the MMO either for the works in the marine area or for any other authorisation relevant to the proposed development.

Yours faithfully,



Gregg Smith
Marine Licencing Case Officer



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Annex 1

1 Post-event submissions, including written submission of oral comments made at the hearings held w/c 4 and 11 Sept 2023 (if held).

- 1.1 The MMO have reviewed the transcripts of the issue specific hearings (ISH) held the w/c 4th and 11th September and with the exception of our oral comments made during ISH5 the MMO has no further comments to make.
- 1.2 The MMO reiterates its comments from ISH5 regarding the Tunnel Boring, that the that activities associated with the construction or operation of a bored tunnel carried out under the seabed are exempt from requiring a marine licence under article 35 of the 2011 Exempted Activities Order.
- 1.3 The applicant would need to notify the MMO of their intention to carry out any exempt activity which can be done post-consent.
- 1.4 An applicant intending to rely on this exemption, would need to satisfy themselves that they meet the relevant qualifying criteria for that exemption.

