



National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

25 January 2022

Dear Mr Johansson

APPLICATION BY HIGHWAYS ENGLAND FOR AN ORDER GRANTING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT FOR A47 NORTH TUDDENHAM TO EASTON (TR010038)

EXAMINATION DEADLINE 8 SUBMISSION

Deadline 8 Submission Documents

In response to Deadline 8, dated 25 January 2022, in the Rule 8 letter please find enclosed the following documents:

- Update to 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order, Revision 7 (**REP7-005**) – tracked and clean pdf versions, plus a clean Word version.
- Updated 3.3 Consents and Agreement Position Statement, Rev.1 (**REP1-006**) – tracked and clean pdf versions.
- Draft 8.10 Statement of Common Ground - Hornsea Project Three Offshore Wind Farm (**TR010038/EXAM/8.10**)
- 9.4 Draft Development Consent Order - Schedule of Drafting Changes for Deadline 8 (revised **REP7-014**).
- 9.31 Applicant's Comments on Third Party Comments at Deadline 7 (**TR010038/EXAM/9.31**)

We have also enclosed an updated 9.1 Guide to the Application, Revision 8 (**REP7-002**), in tracked and clean versions, to track the DCO application documents revision changes.

Deadline 8 Update to DCO Plans

The following updated DCO plans are also provided for the reasons outlined below:

- Updated 2.5 Rights of Way and Access Plans, Rev.2 (**AS-029**). Drawings sheets 6, 7, 9 and 14 updated to amend error in the length of stopping up beyond the physical Scheme earthworks shown along Gypsy Lane, Church Lane, Berrys Lane and Blind Lane, respectively.
- Updated 2.11 Classification of Roads Plans, Rev.2 (**AS-034**). Drawing sheets 1, 2 and 4 to 13 have been updated to reflect a request by Norfolk County Council, as the local highway authority, to classify the whole of the proposed de-trunked A47 to a Class C carriageway instead of Class B, except for the section connecting Wood Lane

junction's northern roundabout and the B1535 Wood Lane; the latter is presented as a new section R1 to R.

- Updated 2.12 Hedgerow Plans, Rev.2 (**AS-032**). Additional hedgerows added to drawing sheets 1 to 15 to correct an error that these plans did not include hedgerows from the Environmental Statement (ES) Appendix 7.6 Arboricultural Impact Assessment (**REP7-008**); the original Hedgerow Plans only reflected the hedgerows presented in ES Appendix 8.1 Botanical Survey Report (**APP-096**). Their original absence does not affect the impact assessments, as the correction is just to ensure the DCO contains the required powers to managed the vegetation removal. With regards the additional important hedgerows, these are all only for heritage reasons under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997, as those for botanical reasons were identified in ES Appendix 8.1 Botanical Survey Report (**APP-096**). For clarity, the heritage assessment and its conclusions on likely significant effects remains unaltered for the following reasons:
 1. Redefining a hedgerow as an Important Hedgerow does not automatically carry with it increased cultural heritage value/significance. The value/significance is derived from the methodology set out in the ES Chapter 6 (**APP-045**) and ES Appendix 6.1 (**APP-085**).
 2. The guidance (The Hedgerows Regulations 1997: A Guide to the Law and Good Practice) does not alter the factual characteristics of the hedgerows. The guidance deals with the interpretation of the criteria for the purposes of selection; it does not mandate an assumption of date or origin for the particular hedgerow. Therefore, it is important to note that a hedgerow that is pre-1845 is not necessarily actually pre or post-inclosure in terms of historical fact. This should be determined, as we have, through examination of the historic documents, mapping and other information, such as physical morphology and archaeological results.
 3. The cultural heritage assessment has assessed all of the hedgerows as part of the historic landscape character, and has made recommendations for design mitigation that incorporates that historic landscape as appropriate.
- Updated 6.8 Environmental Masterplan, Rev.3 (**AS-037**). Drawings sheets 8, 9, 10 and 12 have been updated to reflect the updated ES Appendix 7.6 Arboricultural Impact Assessment, Rev 1 (**REP7-008**). The changes are not significant and do not alter the assessment conclusions.

Comment on Non Material Change Consultation

The Applicant has received consultation responses from Norfolk County Council, the Environment Agency and English Heritage. There were no objections to the proposed changes to the dDCO, though Norfolk County Council, as the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), requested further details to confirm the drainage impacts of the ghost island proposals and the proposals to the east side of Berrys Lane, but are supportive of changing the Taverham Road drainage basin to a wetland; the Applicant has agreed with the LLFA that the additional information can be progressed as part of the detailed design and application for consent from the LLFA for works affecting ordinary watercourse.

The Applicant will submit to the Examining Authority, by Friday 28 January, a short report presenting the feedback received and the Applicant's response.

Comment on Report on the Implications for European Sites

The Applicant has no comments on the 'Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES) (**PD-014**), issued by the Examining Authority on 17 December 2021.'

Ørsted Hornsea Three Protective Provisions

The Applicant has reviewed the draft Protective Provisions (**REP4-021**) submitted to the Examination at Deadline 4 and sent comments and proposed changes back to Ørsted Hornsea Three for consideration. The Applicant is currently working with Ørsted Hornsea Three to finalise a co-operation agreement before the end of the examination. This co-operation agreement will negate the need for these draft Protective Provisions, so the Applicant will provide an update on the position at Deadline 9.

If you have any queries on any of these matters please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Glen Owen
Senior Project Manager
Highways England

A47NorthTuddenhamtoEastonRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk