
From: Brown, Emma [mailto:Emma.Brown@naturalengland.org.uk]
Sent: 08 February 2019 17:22
To: Hornsea Project Three
Subject: Hornsea Project Three Deadline 6 Submissions

Good Afternoon,

Please find Natural England's Written Submissions for Deadline 6 of the Hornsea Project Three Offshore Windfarm examination attached.

This includes our written summaries of the Offshore Ecology and DCO Issue Specific Hearings, along with several Annexes which are provided in response to requests made by the Examiner.

Please note Natural England are not providing a response to the Examiners' questions relating to Markham's Triangle MCZ within this submission.

Natural England has reviewed the relevant documents in consultation with JNCC and have prepared a response but we have subsequently received an email from the Applicant offering further clarification. Unfortunately it has not been possible for us to consider this new information in time for today's deadline, but we intend to give this further consideration and provide a response in due course.

Kind regards,

Emma

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Please note I currently work Monday - Thursday

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THE PLANNING ACT 2008

THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATION PROCEDURE) RULES 2010

HORNSEA PROJECT THREE OFFSHORE WIND FARM

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN010080



NATURAL ENGLAND

WRITTEN SUBMISSION FOR DEADLINE 6

**ISH5 Annex F: Natural England's Response to the Applicant's response to ExA
Q2.2.25**

[Ornithology: SPA Breeding Seasons]

Dated 07th February 2019

Natural England's Response to Applicants response to ExA Q 2.2.25 as requested at ISH5

Natural England note that at the first Issue Specific Hearing it was requested that we provide details of the Personal Communication (pers comm) from RSPB and the Phenology Report (authored by Mike Babcock, RSPB) evidenced to support the definition of seasonal extents for the species presented in Table 7.1 of Natural England's Written Representation, and we confirmed that we were able to submit the pers comm from RSPB but that the 'Phenology report' would need to be supplied by RSPB. (REP3-101)

Natural England submitted an email chain pertaining to the pers comm from RSPB colony managers regarding Flamborough and Filey Coast SPA breeding seasons that informed NE's advised breeding seasons (Appendix 3, REP3-075). Natural England apologise that the embedded attachment within the email correspondence was accessible Appendix 3 (REP3-075). This contained a summary of the pers comm from a telecall held on July 8th 2018. This was submitted at deadline 5 and we hope this addresses the majority of the applicant's outstanding queries on this subject.

It should be noted that the email chain and associated attachment is the written summary of the pers. comm between NE and RSPB which occurred on a telecall (dated July 8th 2018).

The applicant has also requested the following information (in their response to Q 2.2.25 Deadline 4),

- How the information for gannet presented in Appendix 3 of Natural England's Deadline 3 submission was interpreted to provide seasonal definitions;
- Information in relation to the seasonal definitions defined in Natural England's Written Representation's for kittiwake and how this information was interpreted to define seasonal extents;
- Information in relation to the seasonal definitions defined in Natural England's Written Representation's for guillemot and how this information was interpreted to define seasonal extents;
- Information in relation to the seasonal definitions defined in Natural England's Written Representation's for razorbill and how this information was interpreted to define seasonal extents;
- Information in relation to the seasonal definitions defined in Natural England's Written Representation's for puffin and how this information was interpreted to define seasonal extents; and
- How does all of the information relate to Hornsea Three especially when considering the limited connectivity suggested by the foraging range of certain species.

NE advise that this information has been supplied (for gannet, kittiwake and puffin) in Table 7.1 of Natural England's Written Representation (REP1-211) and within Appendix 3 (REP3-075), and associated attachment (REP5-026).

Natural England have not challenged the seasonal definitions used by the applicant (and matching Furness 2015) for Guillemot and Razorbill and hence have not supplied any further information on seasonal definitions for these species.

Natural England is uncertain how to address the Applicant's query of 'how does all the information relate to Hornsea Three, especially when considering the limited connectivity suggested by the foraging range'. The applicant has concluded (APP-054, 5.2.3 RIAA Annex 3 - Phenology, Connectivity and Apportioning) that there is connectivity between Hornsea Project 3 and breeding gannets, kittiwakes and puffins at FFC SPA. We have provided a full response within our written representation and response to the examiners first round of questions (REP1-211, Section 7 Annex C: Natural England Detailed Advice on Ornithology and REP1-212, Q1.2.51 regarding our approach to defining breeding seasons at FFC SPA, which is a necessary step to inform the HRA process required for these species at FFC SPA.