
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

<http://www.gov.uk/naturalengland>

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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**

**ISH 5 Annex D: Natural England Comments on REP4-012 pg 43 onwards
Applicants response to ExA Q2.2.46 in relation to MEEB.**

Dated 7th February 2019

Natural England's comments on REP4-012 pg 43 onwards: Applicants response to ExA Q2.2.46 in relation to MEEB.

Natural England has reviewed this document in consultation with JNCC and we welcome the Applicant's comments regarding MEEB.

As we have previously highlighted, there is currently no Government guidance in relation to Measures of Equivalent Environmental Benefit (MEEB) and to date there have been no other cases that have reached this stage. Therefore, should the Secretary of State conclude that MEEB are required, this case would be precedent setting.

In the absence of guidance/experience to draw upon, we would recommend that discussions relating to MEEB, and the requirements thereof, include input from the SNCBs, Regulatory Agencies (i.e. MMO and BEIS) and Defra.

Consequently, Natural England are not in a position to comment more specifically on the suitability and acceptability of the Applicant's suggestions at this time, but consider the Applicant's suggestions would be a useful starting point for discussion, should the need arise.