

Meeting note

File reference EN010080
Status Final

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Date 18 May 2017

Meeting with DONG Energy (Hornsea Project Three)

Venue Telecon

Attendees The Planning Inspectorate:

Kay Sully (Case Manger)

Helen Lancaster (Senior EIA and Land Rights Advisor)

Karl-Jonas Johansson (Case Officer)

DONG Energy:

Stuart Livesey (Project Development Manager, DONG Energy)

Sophie Banham (Consents Manager, DONG Energy)

Hornsea Project Three project update meeting

Emily Woolfenden (Consultation Manager, DONG Energy)

Meeting objectives

Circulation All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

The Applicant and the Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) case team introduced themselves and their respective roles. The Inspectorate continued by outlining its openness policy and ensured those present understood that any issues discussed and advice given would be recorded and placed on the Inspectorate's website under s51 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008). Further to this, it was made clear that any advice given did not constitute legal advice upon which the Applicant (or others) can rely.

Project update

The Applicant gave a brief overview of activities since the last meeting.

Consultation update

The consultation summary report for the March 2017 consultation events is being compiled. It was confirmed that the report would be circulated to the Inspectorate with the latest project newsletter.

The Applicant briefed the Inspectorate on its meeting with the relevant parish councils and stated that the meetings were well received and that a second round of parish council meetings will be held in August, prior to the next set of proposed Community Consultation events. *Post meeting note - The event details have now been published on the website and are listed in June newsletter.*

The potential consultation overlaps between Norfolk Vanguard and Hornsea Project Three was discussed and the applicant confirmed that it is in regular contact with the developer of Norfolk Vanguard to minimise the risk of consultation clashes and therefore stakeholder confusion/fatigue.

The applicant is working towards issuing the PEIR to be available for consultation at the end of July. Drafts of the Evidence Plan and the Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment will also be available.

Surveys

Work on surveys continues:

- Currently undergoing a procurement exercise for the benthic surveys;
- Initial geophysical surveys have been completed with further surveys in the nearshore planned for later in the summer. An application for a Marine Licence has been made to the Marine Management Organisation to carry out a geotechnical survey in the nearshore which includes samples within the Cromer Shoals Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ); and
- Onshore ecological surveys are ongoing.

Evidence Plan

An updated version of the Evidence Plan has been circulated to the steering group members. The next steering group meeting and a workshop on MCZs will take place on 22 May with HL chairing both sessions. Other expert working group meetings planned include the offshore ornithology group. Hornsea Project Three have also met with the Joint Nature Conservation Committee and Natural England to discuss effects on the North Norfolk Sandbanks and Saturn Reef Special Area of Conservation.

Transboundary

Meeting with Rijkwaterstaat (Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment) is scheduled at the end of May.

Booster stations

The Applicant explained that the requirement of the HVAC booster station/s is depending on whether the electrical current transmitted will be exported as HVAC (high voltage alternating current) or HVDC (high voltage direct current). If HVAC is used, then the project will require an onshore and/or offshore booster stations. Options for the onshore HVAC booster station location (if required) were presented to the public at the March 2017 consultation events. The Inspectorate informed the Applicant that it had been contacted by a member of the public regarding the booster stations and advice would be published on the Inspectorate's website. The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that it was aware of the concerns raised and that they would be addressed in the PEIR.

General

The Inspectorate advised that an Advice Note on the Water Framework Directive will be published shortly, likely at the end of June.

Specific decisions / follow up required?

- The Applicant to liaise with the Inspectorate regarding rescheduling the next meeting
- The Applicant to send the Inspectorate its March 2017 Consultation Summary Report. Post-meeting note This was issued on 22/06/201. A copy of which can be found on the applicant's website; http://www.dongenergy.co.uk/hornseaproject3.