

Thanet Extension Project Team Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, c/o the Planning Inspectorate Marine Licensing Lancaster House Hampshire Court Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 7YH T +44 (0)300 123 1032 F +44 (0)191 376 2681 www.gov.uk/mmo

Our reference: DCO/2016/00003

Your reference: EN010084

## By email only:

ThanetExtension@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

04 December 2019

To Whom It May Concern,

# Planning Act 2008, Vattenfall Wind Power Limited, Proposed Thanet Extension Offshore Wind Farm

The MMO is an interested party for the examination of Development Consent Order (DCO) applications for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) in the marine area. Should consent be granted for the project, the MMO will be responsible for monitoring, compliance and enforcement of Deemed Marine Licences (DML).

On 30 July 2018, the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) received notice under section 56 of the Planning Act 2008 (the "PA 2008") that the Planning Inspectorate ("PINS") had accepted an application made by Vattenfall Wind Power Limited (the "Applicant") for a development consent order (the "DCO Application") (MMO ref: DCO/2016/00003; PINS ref: EN010084), for the construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed Thanet Extension Offshore Wind Farm (TEOWF). The MMO provided multiple representations on the proposed scheme throughout the Examination process.

Further to the letter dated 21 November 2019 requesting further information and comments on behalf of the Secretary of State for the proposed development. Please find the Marine Management Organisation's (MMO) response below.

This written representation is submitted without prejudice to any future representation the MMO may make about the DCO Application. This representation 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

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#### 1. Fish Spawning

- 1.1 The MMO notes the Secretary of State is considering inclusion of a new condition in respect of piling works, to mitigate the impacts of underwater noise on herring and sole spawning.
- 1.2 The MMO supports the condition and related definitions as drafted and believe this will provide the necessary mitigation required, whilst providing means for variation, if appropriate.

## 2. Saltmarsh Mitigation

- 2.1 The MMO supports the inclusion of Requirement 13 with regard to the Saltmarsh Mitigation, Reinstatement and Monitoring Plan however advises this should also be included as a condition on the deemed Marine Licence (dML).
- 2.2 Saltmarsh falls within the intertidal zone and as such under the MMO's regulatory remit, though it is acknowledged this area is also subject to terrestrial consents. If the DCO is consented the MMO can only enforce conditions that are included on the dML.
- 2.3 Please note that the condition on the dML should provide for approval of the Plan by the MMO in consultation with Natural England and should fall within appropriate parameters for approval e.g. as provided for in Schedule 11, condition 15, unless otherwise agreed by the MMO.
- 2.4 The MMO understands Natural England are equally supportive of inclusion of a relevant condition on the dML and defer to their expertise on appropriateness of the wording in addressing their prior representations.