



Maritime &
Coastguard
Agency

Maritime and Coastguard Agency
UK Technical Services Navigation
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National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
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Bristol, BS1 6PN

www.gov.uk/mca
24th February 2025

Your ref: EN010115

Interested Party reference number: 20048260

Dear Sir/Madam

Application by Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm Limited (Ltd) for an Order Granting Development Consent for a new offshore windfarm, Five Estuaries, with up to 79 wind turbine generators, offshore substation Platforms and electricity transmission infrastructure.

Examination Timetable – Deadline 7 – The Examining Authority's (ExA's) written questions and requests for information, the ExA's Third Written Questions (ExQ3).

Thank you for inviting the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) to provide additional information to the Examining Authority. We would like to submit the following response to the third written questions (ExQ3) at Deadline 7:

DCO.3.14: Condition 4 (Maintenance of the authorised development) of Schedule 11 (Deemed marine licence – Transmission Assets)

'Further to the ExA's request for further information sought in [PD-024] and in the event of a minimum dredging depth parameter for the Deep Water Routes (DWRs) being incorporated into any made DCO, comment on any changes for the drafting of Condition 4 of Schedule 11, most particularly in respect of subsection (3), that might be necessary to ensure there would be no inconsistency between the water depths required in the DWRs and the parts of the authorised development that would be outside the DWRs.'

MCA Response

The wording of the condition requested by the MCA in written representation (REP1-065) is:

'4(3) 'the undertaker must not reduce water depth by more than 5% of navigable depth referenced to chart datum unless agreed with the MMO and MCA in writing.'

It was acknowledged that this condition would be amended in order to reflect the need to maintain depth in the DWRs. MCA requested from an early stage in consultations that any changes to depth in the DWRs would have to be discussed with the agency and the MMO.

Following extensive consultation on the part of the applicant with the other IPs listed in the required response column, broad agreement has been reached on the depths to be maintained in the DWRs

through the Navigation Installation Plan (NIP) and Cable specification and installation plan (CSIP). We welcome the applicant's commitment to not reduce navigable depth in the DWRs and the commitment of a specified maintained depth (and cable burial depth) as agreed with the relevant stakeholders.

Therefore, we agree and are content with the wording suggested by the applicant regarding Schedule 11, Part 2, Condition 4 Subsection (3) (REP6-008) and that this identifies areas in which navigable depth cannot be reduced by any extent.

Yours Faithfully,



Vaughan Jackson
Offshore Renewables Project Lead
UK Technical Services – Navigation