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Applicant

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010115

Date: 27 February 2025

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Dear Sirs

## **The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended) – Rule 17**

### **Application by Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm Project**

#### **Requests for further information**

The applicant is requested to respond to the Examining Authority's (ExA) various requests for information.

#### **1. Generating capacity for the proposed development**

In [\[REP2-039\]](#) in responding to ExA written question GC.1.03 you advised that the installed generating capacity for the proposed development would be close to 1.0 gigawatt (GW). The applicant is no doubt aware that with respect to the matter of wake loss the ExA requested East Anglia Two Limited submit an estimate for the annual generating output (in megawatt hours (MWh) or GW hours) for the East Anglia Two Offshore Wind Farm with and without the proposed development [\[PD-031\]](#). In considering the wake loss case being made by East Anglia Two Limited it would assist the ExA to have similar estimated generating output information for the proposed Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm. You are therefore requested to submit an estimate for the annual generating output for the proposed development in MWh or GWh.

In responding to this request for further information you should: a) identify the load factor relied on for deriving the estimate for the generating output for the proposed development; and b) provide the workings for the calculation.

## 2. Coordination Document [\[APP-263\]](#)

The applicant has advised in sections 2.2 and 4.1 of the “*Coordination Document*” [\[APP-263\]](#) of the intention for a jointly authored updated coordination document to be submitted following the submission of the application for the proposed North Falls Offshore Wind Farm (North Falls).

The ExA considers that the Coordination Document should now be updated and submitted as a revised examination document, with an emphasis on explaining how both projects’ mitigation measures would be coordinated (ie addressing the matters referred to in paragraph 4.1.4 of [\[APP-263\]](#)). That is because the examination for the Five Estuaries application is drawing to a conclusion, while the proposals for North Falls have crystallised, given the application for that project was submitted over six months ago and in some instances there are differences of approach.

## 3. Revised Ground Water Risk Assessment

Further to the receipt of the revised version of the “*Ground Water Risk Assessment*” (Revision B) at Deadline 6 [\[REP6-017\]](#), the ExA notes that the applicant commented in [\[REP6-001\]](#) that:

*“There has been significant restructuring of this document from Revision A, including addition of appendices, making a tracked version of the document difficult to read. As such a tracked version has not been submitted but can be produced on request.”*

The ExA considers that the submission of a tracked version of [\[REP6-017\]](#) is unnecessary. However, the ExA considers a summary of the changes incorporated into [\[REP6-017\]](#) as compared with the originally submitted version of this document [\[APP-159\]](#) should be submitted to assist other interested parties’ and the ExA’s understanding of the extensive revisions that were made at Deadline 6. Accordingly, the applicant should submit a summary of the revisions made to the Ground Water Risk Assessment in [\[REP6-017\]](#). That summary should also include an explanation as to why a significantly amended document has been submitted at such a late stage in the examination.

## 4. Designing the onshore substation zone

The ExA in [\[PD-030\]](#) requested the applicant to provide information about the design review of the onshore substation zone undertaken by the Design Council. The applicant’s response is provided in [\[REP6A-003\]](#) and following the submission of that document the ExA seeks the submission of the following further information:

- a) The second and third project reviews undertaken by the Design Council, respectively in March/April and June 2024, postdate the submission of the Five Estuaries application. The applicant should explain how the second and third design review rounds informed the formulation of the proposals for the onshore substation zone included in the application for the proposed Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm.
- b) Identify the information that was presented to the Design Council when it undertook its first review of the proposals for the Five Estuaries and North Falls Offshore Wind Farms in December 2023. In responding to this request for information, the applicant should submit copies of any equivalent versions of Drawings 1 to 4 now included in the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [\[REP6-026\]](#).

- c) Within [REP6A-003] and the “*Onshore Substation Design Principles Document*” [REP6-018] there is reference to the Five Estuaries and North Falls projects working together to develop a “*Design Guide*”. Explain how it is intended compliance with the previously mentioned Design Guide would be secured in any development consent order that might be made.

The responses to these requests for further information should be submitted no later than Examination **Deadline 8** (10 March 2025).

Yours faithfully

*Grahame Gould*

**Grahame Gould**  
**Lead Member of the Panel of Examining Inspectors**

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