

Application reference: EN010115

Date: 14 March 2025

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Reference: 005765486-01

Karl-Jonas Johansson
Case Manager
National Infrastructure Planning
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Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm Project – Deadline 8a

Dear Mr Johansson,

Further to the Rule 8(3) letter issued by the Examining Authority (ExA) on 29 January 2025 [PD-025], the Applicant has submitted the documents listed below for the ExA's attention for Deadline 8a.

The Applicant has enclosed its response to the rule 17 request for information issued by the Examining Authority for the attention of the Applicant dated 12 March 2025. This is included as document 10.71 (Response to Rule 17 Letter - 12 March 2025).

The Applicant has submitted Revision I of the 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order. It has not been possible to provide a validation report to support this revision. This is due to ongoing discussions with Interested Parties up to and including the day of submission for Deadline 8a, as well as submissions made at Deadline 8 (10 March 2025). The Applicant believes that it is important that the document reflect the full extent of these discussions. The Applicant will request a validation report on the version of the document submitted at this deadline, and provide it to the ExA as soon as possible.

The Applicant has additionally submitted a number of updated and additional documents at this deadline, the majority of which either respond to matters raised by interested parties in Deadline 8 submissions (which the Applicant would otherwise be unable to respond to given the remaining time in the examination) and in other cases to reflect the latest position in relation to ongoing discussions and negotiations with interested parties on outstanding

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matters. The Applicant has included details of each of the updated and additional documents submitted to aid the ExA in understanding the reason for each submission.

In particular, the Applicant has submitted a Closing Statement (10.68). This document is designed to assist the ExA and the Secretary of State with their final evaluation of the Development Consent Order application for the Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm Project. It presents the Applicant's up to date position on the Principal Issues identified by the ExA, as well as other concerns raised throughout the Examination process. The document summarises the Applicant's case, as thoroughly detailed in the application documents, hearings, and Statements of Common Ground, without introducing any new information. Additionally, it provides the Applicant's position on unresolved matters with Interested Parties and underscores the needs, benefits, and overarching justification for the Project.

Document	Reason for submission
1.3 Guide to the Application – Revision M (Tracked and Clean)	Updating the guide to reflect the Deadline 8a documents, and updating Deadline 8 documents with Examination Library reference numbers.
3.1 Draft Development Consent Order – Revision I (Tracked and Clean)	Updated to reflect ongoing discussions with Interest Parties, particularly comments from the MMO received at Deadline 8 and the Protected Provision negotiations.
3.2 Draft Explanatory Memorandum – Revision G (Tracked and Clean)	Updated to reflect revisions to the draft Development Consent Order.
5.5.6 Lesser Black Backed Gull Implementation and Monitoring Plans – Revision D (Tracked and Clean)	Updated in response to comments from Natural England at Deadline 8.
9.13 Margate and Long Sands Special Area of Conservation Benthic Mitigation Plan – Revision F (Tracked and Clean)	Updated in response to comments from Natural England at Deadline 8.
9.18.1 Working in Proximity to Wildlife in the Marine Environment – Revision B (Tracked and Clean)	Updated in response to comments from Natural England at Deadline 8.
9.21 Code of Construction Practice – Revision E (Tracked and Clean)	Updated following point 5 in the ExA's Rule 17 Letter dated 12 March 2025. Changes have also been made in response to comments received directly from Essex County Council in relation to drainage strategies. The revisions have been agreed with Essex County Council.
9.22 Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan – Revision F (Tracked and Clean)	Updated following point 4 in the ExA's Rule 17 Letter dated 12 March 2025.

9.24 Construction Traffic Management Plan – Revision F (Tracked and Clean)	Updated in response to comments received directly from Essex County Council after Deadline 8. The revisions have been proposed by and agreed with Essex County Council.
9.25 Public Access Management Plan – Revision D (Tracked and Clean)	Updated following discussions with Essex County Council on the changes proposed at Deadline 7. The revisions have been agreed with Essex County Council.
9.32 Offshore In Principle Monitoring Plan – Revision G (Tracked and Clean)	Updated in response to comments from Natural England at Deadline 8.
10.10.7 Statement of Common Ground - Environment Agency – Revision B (Tracked and Clean)	Final and signed Statement of Common Ground.
10.10.8 Statement of Common Ground - Essex County Council – Revision B (Tracked and Clean)	Final and signed Statement of Common Ground.
10.10.12 Statement of Common Ground - Historic England – Revision B (Tracked and Clean)	Final and signed Statement of Common Ground.
10.10.14 Statement of Common Ground - Marine Management Organisation – Revision B (Tracked and Clean)	Final and signed Statement of Common Ground.
10.10.17 Statement of Common Ground - National Highways – Revision C (Tracked and Clean)	Final and signed Statement of Common Ground.
10.30 Outline Sedimental Disposal Management Plan – Revision D (Tracked and Clean)	Updated in response to comments from Natural England at Deadline 8.
10.62.1 Update to 10.62 Note on dDCO drafting – Applicant's position on Protective Provisions	To provide an update on the Applicant's position on Protective Provisions. This has been provided as a separate new document as it includes tracked changes as part of the document.
10.68 Closing Statement	This document sets out the Applicant's position on issues that have been raised throughout the Examination.
10.69 Applicant's Comments on Deadline 8 Submissions	In responses to documents submitted by Interested Parties at Deadline 8.
10.70 Letter from Cornwall Wildlife Trust	Letter in support of strategic compensation measures for Auks, as set out in the Guillemot and Razorbill.

10.71 Response to Rule 17 Letter - 12 March 2025

In response to the Rule 17 letter issued by the ExA on 12 March 2025.

10.72 Draft Development Consent Order (Revision I) Including Without Prejudice Schedules

A version of the draft Development Consent Order including Without Prejudice Schedule.

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If you have any questions about our response and the submitted documents, or if there is anything further we can provide, please do not hesitate to contact the team.

Yours sincerely,



Diane Mailer

Project Lead

Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm Ltd