



Marine Management Organisation

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John Wheadon
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(By Email only)

MMO Reference: DCO/2019/00008
Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN010115
Identification Number: 20049306

24 July 2025

Dear John Wheadon,

Planning Act 2008, Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm Ltd, Proposed Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm Order

Secretary of State (SoS) Request for Information Submission

On 23 April 2024, the Marine Management Organisation (the 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 Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm Ltd (the Applicant) for determination of a development consent order for the construction, maintenance and operation of the proposed Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm (the DCO Application) (MMO ref: DCO/2019/00008; PINS ref: EN010115).

The Applicant seeks authorisation for the construction, operation and maintenance of the DCO Application, comprising of up to 79 wind turbine generators together with associated onshore and offshore infrastructure and all associated development (the Project).

As a marine licence has been deemed within the draft DCO, the MMO is the delivery body responsible for post-consent monitoring, variation, enforcement, and revocation of provisions relating to the marine environment. As such, the MMO has an interest in ensuring that provisions drafted in a deemed marine licence enable the MMO to fulfil these obligations.

This document comprises the MMO comments in response to the SoS request for information.

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 sincerely,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Marine Licensing Case Officer

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1. The MMO's Response to Information Request

- 1.1. On the 11 July 2025, the MMO received a letter from the SoS requesting further information to assist in reaching a determination. The SoS invited the MMO to comment on the following:

11. Natural England is invited to provide clarity on Point 5 in H – Marine Mammals in their Risk and Issues Log [REP8A-053]. Noting the advice provided during the examination of recently made offshore windfarm DCOs (such as Rampion 2 OWF), Natural England and the Marine Management Organisation are also invited to confirm their respective positions on the appropriate sensitivity scoring for cetaceans.

- 1.2. The MMO notes in REP8A-053 that Natural England (NE) did not agree that a combination of medium sensitivity and medium magnitude should result in a non-significant effect and that the Cumulative Effects Assessment (CEA) for disturbance to harbour porpoise and harbour seals should result in moderate effect. This point remained unresolved at the end of examination.
- 1.3. With regards to sensitivity scoring for cetaceans, the MMO defers to NE regarding the most appropriate scoring to be used.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Name]

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