

Date: 22 January 2025
Our ref: Case: 18251 Consultation: 480575
Your ref: EN010121



National Infrastructure Planning
The Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Hornbeam House
Crewe Business
Park Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Robert Jackson,

Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets

The following constitutes Natural England's formal statutory response for Examination Deadline 2.

1. Natural England's Deadline 3 Submissions

Natural England has reviewed the documents submitted by the Applicant at Deadlines 1 and 2. We are submitting the following detailed responses:

- EN010121 480575 Morecambe Generation NE Risk and Issues Log Deadline 3
- EN010121 480575 Morecambe Generation NE Appendix H NE comments on the examiners written questions [PD_011]
- EN010121 480575 Morecambe Generation Appendix B8 Natural England's comments on Offshore Ornithology Deadline 3
- EN010121 480575 Morecambe Generation Appendix D1 Natural England's comments on marine mammals Deadline 3

2. "In progress" issues

There are now several issues for which the Applicant has provided significant further information through technical notes and other documents. We would like to reiterate that many of these will be readily resolvable once updates are made to the relevant ES chapters, assessments in reports and relevant named plans; this is indicated in the Risk and Issues log entries.

3. Impacts to bats

In response to the Examiners written question 1HRA3 in [PD_011], Natural England has provided advice on screening for impacts to bats. This has been captured as a new issue in a separate tab of the Risk and Issues log.

4. Underwater Noise

Natural England draws the ExAs attention to the publication of [DEFRA's new measures to curb underwater noise and accelerate renewable](#) energy (21 January 2025), alongside this a Marine Noise Policy paper and UXO guidance were also published. This is likely to have implications for all offshore windfarms going through examination. Therefore, once we have considered the documents in full, we will provide updated nature conservation advice, where appropriate, for this Application, at the next appropriate deadline.

For any queries relating to the content of this letter please contact me using the details provided below.

Yours sincerely,

Laurence Browning

Marine Senior Officer, Cumbria Team

E-mail: [REDACTED]@naturalengland.org.uk

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Annex 1: Natural England's Response to the Applicant's Documents Submitted at Deadline 3 Relevant to our Remit

PINS Document Reference	Document Name	Natural England's Response/Position Summary
Marine Mammals		
REP2-026	9.32 Outline Underwater Sound Management Strategy – Revision 02 (Volume 9) (UWSMS)	Natural England's response to this document is provided in Appendix D2 and updates to the Risk and Issues log.
REP2-023	6.9.1 Outline Vessel Traffic Management Plan – Revision 02 (Volume 6) (VTMP)	Natural England's response to this document is provided in Appendix D2 and updates to the Risk and Issues log.
REP2-019	6.5.1 Draft Marine Mammal Mitigation Protocol – Revision 02 (Volume 6) (MMMP)	Natural England's response to this document is provided in Appendix D2 and updates to the Risk and Issues log.
REP2-017	5.5.1 Schedule of Mitigation – Revision 02 (Volume 5)	Natural England's response to this document is provided in Appendix D2 and updates to the Risk and Issues log.
REP2-021	6.6.1 Offshore Operations and Management Plan – Revision 02 (Volume 6) (OOMP)	Natural England's response to this document is provided in Appendix D2 and updates to the Risk and Issues log.
Offshore ornithology		
REP1-080	9.22 Offshore Ornithology Technical Note 1_EIA	Natural England's response to this/these document(s) is provided in Appendix B8 and updates to the Risk and Issues log.
REP1-081	9.23 Offshore Ornithology Technical Note 2_HRA	
REP2-023	6.9.1 Outline Vessel Traffic Management Plan – Revision 02 (Volume 6) (VTMP)	Natural England's response to this document is provided in Appendix B8 and updates to the Risk and Issues log.

General		
REP2-003	3.1.1 Draft Development Consent Order - Revision 03 (Volume 3) (Tracked)	Natural England has provided an update in our Risks and Issues log in relation to this document.
Marine Geology, Oceanography and Physical Processes and Marine Sediment and Water Quality		
REP2-009	5.1.7.1 Environmental Statement Chapter 7: Marine Geology, Oceanography and Physical Processes - Revision 03 (Volume 5) (Tracked)	Natural England has provided an update in our Risks and Issues log in relation to these documents.
REP2-011	5.1.8.1 Environmental Statement Chapter 8: Marine Sediment and Water Quality - Revision 03 (Volume 5) (Tracked)	
Benthic Ecology		
REP2-013	5.1.9.1 Environmental Statement Chapter 9: Benthic Ecology - Revision 02 (Volume 5) (Tracked)	Natural England has provided an update in our Risks and Issues log in relation to this document.