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To all Interested Parties, Statutory Parties  
and Other Persons invited to the  
Preliminary Meeting

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010121

Date: 17 March 2025

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Dear Sir/Madam

**The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended) –  
Rule 8(3)**

**Application by Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Ltd for an Order Granting  
Development Consent for the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets**

**Change to Examination Timetable (including the cancellation of the hearings  
scheduled for the week commencing 31 March 2025)**

I write further to our Rule 8 letter of 30 October 2024 (Examination Library reference:  
[\[PD-010\]](#)) where we set out the timetable for the examination of the above project.

This included information about hearings and the submission of information at deadlines.

As part of our continuing management of the case and its timetable, and in particular as a number of statutory advisors have been unable to attend hearings, we have reviewed the timetable to the end of the examination.

We have concluded that having hearings in the week commencing 31 March 2025 would be disproportionate to the issues remaining, but that we will require additional information, principally to deal with those points that we would have raised in the hearings.

We therefore intend to issue a further set of written questions on Tuesday 25 March 2025 (ExQ3).

The questions will be published at the same time as our publication of the Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES) and any associated questions and our commentary on, or schedule of changes to, the draft DCO.

In order to ensure fairness, that is to allow the responses to ExQ3 to be received, considered and where necessary responded to, we consider that there should be an

additional deadline before the end of the examination, **deadline 5A, Tuesday 8 April 2025** for responses to ExQ3.

In providing this additional deadline, we would encourage parties, where possible, to submit any documents at that deadline that would otherwise have needed to wait until deadline 6 (15 April 2025). In this we are particularly thinking of signed Statements of Common Ground, or Natural England's comments on the appropriate calculations for the compensation quanta which it has indicated would be provided at D6. These, hopefully, would allow matters to be resolved more expeditiously and within the overall examination timetable.

This letter is therefore to advise interested parties that we have made a procedural decision to amend the examination timetable to this effect. This is:

- (a) to cancel the hearings scheduled for the week commencing 31 March 2025;
- (b) to indicate that the ExA will publish its additional written questions (ExQ3) on 25 March 2025;
- (c) for parties to respond to these additional written questions (ExQ3) by a **new deadline, 5A, on Tuesday 8 April 2025**; and
- (d) for the opportunity then to respond to those submissions at the existing deadline 6 on 15 April 2025.

Appendix A to this letter sets out the revised timetable.

Can I thank parties for their co-operation in meeting these deadlines.

Yours sincerely

*Robert Jackson*

Robert Jackson  
**Lead Panel Member of the Examining Authority**

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**Examination Timetable (as revised - 17 March 2025)**

The Examining Authority (ExA) is under a duty to **complete** the Examination of the application by the end of the period of six months beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting.

The Examination of the application primarily takes the form of the consideration of written submissions. The ExA will also consider any oral representations made at hearings.

Alterations to the original timetable as shown in ~~strike through~~ for deletions and in **red** for additions.

Item	Matters	Date
1.	<b>Pre-Examination Procedural Deadline A</b> Deadline for receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written submissions on the Examination Procedure, including any submissions about the draft Examination Timetable</li> <li>• Comments on Relevant Representations (RRs) (Appendix G)</li> <li>• Summaries of all RRs exceeding 1500 words</li> <li>• Submission of Pre-examination Progress Tracker (Appendix G)</li> <li>• Receipt of matters requested in Rule 9 letter of 4 September 2024 <a href="#">[PD-006]</a> (apart from those items referred to in Appendix G item 10).</li> <li>• Requests to be heard orally at the Preliminary Meeting including which agenda items you wish to speak on</li> <li>• Requests to participate in the Open Floor Hearing (OFH1) on <b>Wednesday 23 October 2024</b></li> <li>• Requests to participate in the Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) on <b>Thursday 24 October 2024</b></li> <li>• Suggested locations for site inspections for consideration by the ExA, including justification, and whether such locations can be seen from public land or require private access</li> </ul>	<b>Tuesday 15 October 2024</b>
2.	<b>Preliminary Meeting</b>	<b>Wednesday 23 October 2024 2:00pm</b>

3.	<b>Open Floor Hearing (OFH1)</b> (if required)	<b>Wednesday 23 October 2024 5:00pm</b>
4.	<b>Issue Specific Hearing (ISH1)</b> ISH1 on the Scope of Development and Interrelationship with other Infrastructure Projects, the Development Consent Order (DCO) and Explanatory Memorandum (EM)	<b>Thursday 24 October 2024 10:00am</b>
5.	Issue by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examination Timetable</li> <li>• Any Written Questions deemed necessary arising from ISH1 (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>As soon as possible following the Preliminary Meeting</b>
6.	<b>Deadline 1</b> For receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post-hearing submissions for ISH1, including written submissions of oral cases and comments on any oral submissions put at the hearings</li> <li>• Declarations of use of Artificial Intelligence in preparation of any submissions to date</li> <li>• Written Representations (WRs) including summaries if exceeding 1500 words</li> <li>• Summaries of all RRs exceeding 1500 words (if not provided at the pre-Examination Procedural Deadline)</li> <li>• Responses to RRs (if not provided at the pre-Examination Procedural Deadline)</li> <li>• Initial Statements of Common Ground (SoCGs) and Statement of Commonality (or as combined with the Progress Tracker)</li> <li>• Submission of Report on interrelationship with other infrastructure projects</li> <li>• Outstanding information from the Applicant in response to Rule 9 letter of 4 September 2024 <a href="#">[PD-006]</a></li> <li>• Requests by Interested Parties to be heard at a Further Open Floor Hearing (OFH)</li> <li>• Notification by Statutory Parties of their wish to be considered as an IP by the ExA</li> <li>• Notification of wish to have future correspondence received electronically</li> </ul>	<b>Tuesday 26 November 2024</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on any further information/ additional submissions accepted by the ExA</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010</li> </ul>	
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>Deadline 2</b></p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on WRs</li> <li>• Responses to any written questions arising from ISH1 (if supplied)</li> <li>• Applicant's Progress Tracker / Statement of Commonality</li> <li>• Applicant's further update to the draft DCO and EM</li> <li>• Applicant's further update to the Guide to the Application</li> <li>• Any other updated documents and statements from the Applicant deemed necessary following responses at Deadline 1 (if required)</li> <li>• Comments on any other submissions received at Deadline 1.</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010</li> </ul>	<b>Thursday 12 December 2024</b>
<b>8.</b>	<p><b>Publication by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written Questions (ExQ1)</li> </ul>	<b>Wednesday 18 December 2024</b>
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>Deadline 3</b></p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responses to ExQ1</li> <li>• Comments on the Applicant's further update to the draft DCO and EM</li> <li>• Comments on the progress tracker / Statement of Commonality</li> <li>• Any other updated documents, including the Guide to the Application, and statements from the Applicant deemed necessary following responses at Deadline 2 (if required)</li> <li>• Comments on any other submissions received at Deadline 2</li> </ul>	<b>Wednesday 22 January 2025</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010</li> </ul>	
<b>10.</b>	<b>Dates reserved for:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further Issue Specific Hearings (if required)</li> <li>Open Floor Hearing (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>Week commencing 3 February 2025</b>
<b>11.</b>	<b>Deadline 4</b> For receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post-hearing submissions including written submissions of oral cases (if required)</li> <li>Applicant's mid-Examination Progress Tracker / update to the Statement of Commonality</li> <li>Mid-Examination Report on interrelationship with other infrastructure projects</li> <li>Applicant's update to the draft DCO and EM</li> <li>Any other updated documents, including the Guide to the Application, and statements from the Applicant deemed necessary following responses at Deadline 3 (if required)</li> <li>Comments on any other submissions received at Deadline 3</li> <li>Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010</li> </ul>	<b>Tuesday 18 February 2025</b>
<b>12.</b>	<b>Publication by the ExA of:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further Written Questions (ExQ2) (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>Thursday 27 February 2025</b>
<b>13.</b>	<b>Deadline 5</b> For receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responses to ExQ2 (if required)</li> <li>Any other updated documents, including the Guide to the Application, and statements from the Applicant deemed necessary following responses at Deadline 4 (if required)</li> <li>Comments on any other submissions received at Deadline 4</li> <li>Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010</li> </ul>	<b>Tuesday 11 March 2025</b>

14.	<b>Publication by the ExA of:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES) and any associated questions (if required)</li> <li>ExA's commentary on, or schedule of changes to, the draft DCO (if required)</li> <li>ExA's additional written questions (ExQ3)</li> </ul>	Tuesday 25 March 2025
<del>15.</del>	<del>Reserve dates for:</del> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>Further Hearings (if required)</del></li> </ul>	<del>Week commencing 31 March 2025</del>
15A	<b>Deadline 5A</b> For receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responses to the ExA's Rule 8 and additional written questions (ExQ3).</li> </ul>	Tuesday 8 April 2025
16.	<b>Deadline 6</b> For receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>Post-hearing submissions including written submissions of oral cases (if applicable)</del></li> <li>Comments on responses to ExQ2 (if provided)</li> <li>Comments on the RIES (if provided)</li> <li>Comments on the ExA's commentary on, or schedule of changes to, the draft DCO (if provided)</li> <li>Comments on any submissions received at Deadline 5A</li> <li>Finalised Statements of Common Ground</li> <li>Final Statement of Commonality/ Close of Examination Progress Tracker</li> <li>Applicant's Summary and Signposting document with summary of areas of disagreement</li> <li>Summary and Signposting documents from Interested Parties regarding matters that they have previously raised during the Examination and have not been resolved to their satisfaction (if desired)</li> <li>Final Report on interrelationship with other infrastructure projects</li> <li>Final draft DCO to be submitted by the Applicant in the SI template with the SI template validation report together with final draft EM</li> <li>Final Guide to the Application</li> <li>Any other updated documents, including the Guide to the Application, and statements from the</li> </ul>	Tuesday 15 April 2025

	<p>Applicant deemed necessary following responses at Deadline 5 (if required)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on any further information/ submissions received by Deadline 5</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010</li> </ul>	
<b>17.</b>	<p>The ExA is under a duty to complete the Examination of the application by the end of the period of six months.</p> <p>Please note that the ExA may close the Examination before the end of the six-month period if it is satisfied that all relevant matters have been addressed and discussed.</p>	<b>Wednesday 23 April 2025</b>

### **Submission times for Deadlines**

The time for submission of documents at any Deadline in the timetable is 23:59 hours on the relevant Deadline date, unless instructed otherwise by the ExA.

### **Publication dates**

All information received will be published on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable after the Deadlines for submissions.

### **Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES)**

Where an applicant has provided a No Significant Effects Report or a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report with the application, the ExA may decide to issue a RIES during the Examination. The RIES is a factual account of the information and evidence provided to the ExA on HRA matters during the Examination up to the date of the publication of the RIES, for the purposes of enabling the Secretary of State, as competent authority, to undertake its HRA. It is not the ExA's opinion on HRA matters. Comments on the RIES will be invited by the ExA and any received will be taken into account as part of the ExA's Recommendation to the Secretary of State. The ExA may also raise questions in the RIES to confirm or clarify matters that remain outstanding.

The Secretary of State may rely on the consultation on the RIES to meet its obligations under Regulation 63(3) of The Habitats Regulations 2017 and/ or Regulation 28 of The Offshore Marine Regulation.