

Dogger Bank South Examining Authority  
National Infrastructure Planning  
Temple Quay House  
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Bristol  
BS1 6PM

Our reference 005648326-01  
Your reference EN010125  
Contact Colin McAllister  
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19 March 2025

Dear Ms Dowling,

### **Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms Project**

**PINS Reference: EN010125**

### **Deadline 3 Cover Letter**

This letter summarises and explains the content of the Applicants' submissions to Deadline 3 of the Examination. Documents are described in the order requested by the Examination Timetable contained in the **Rule 8 letter** [PD-011].

### **Responses to the Examining Authority's First Written Questions**

These are provided in a single document, **The Applicants' response to Written Questions** (document ref 13.2). This document includes appendices where this permits information to be displayed more clearly. Where new information has been produced, this is presented in technical notes, and with updates to chapters. The Applicants have prioritised updating documents which are likely to be useful at the forthcoming hearings for this Deadline 3. If there is potential for further change reflecting hearings, the Applicants plan to update at Deadlines 4 or 5. Where amendments are more limited, the Applicants intend to provide the documents towards the end of the examination (Deadline 8) so that other changes can be incorporated into a single revision. This will reduce the number of documents requiring revision by the ExA and interested parties. A schedule of documents to be provided toward the end of the Examination is provided as Appendix A to this letter.

### **Updated Land Rights Tracker**

The Applicants are pleased to provide an update to document **10.4 Land Rights Tracker** showing significant progress with negotiations. Notably 50% of land interest holders have now agreed a form of option agreement pending exchange of signatures, and a further 30% have Heads of Terms in place.

## Updated Guide to the Application

**1.4 Guide to the Application** has been updated to include documents from this, and the previous deadline.

### Any further information requested by the ExA

The ExA issued a Rule 17 letter on 3 March 2025 [PD-016] in response to a late submission from Natural England. While the Applicants welcome Natural England's delayed commentary on ornithology, we note that their expected review of the draft DCO is still outstanding.

The ExA issued additional Written Questions in Annex A to their letter. The Applicants have responded to these within our main ExAQ submission, document 13.2. The response to Natural England's late submission is within the main commentary on the Deadline 2 documents, document 13.3.

### Comments on submissions received by Deadline 2

The Applicants are providing comments on the material provided by the Marine Management Organisation [REP2-061-063], Natural England [REP2-064-068 and AS-159-162], the Beverley and North Holderness Internal Drainage Board [REP2-070] and the Dogger Bank A, B & C Projcos [REP2-071] in a single document, **The Applicants' Responses to Deadline 2 Documents** (document ref: 13.3).

### Other documents

**2.18 Tree Preservation Order (TPO) and Hedgerows Plan** and **10.13 Arboricultural Survey Report, Preliminary Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Outline Arboricultural Method Statement** have been updated in line with the accepted onshore substation zone change request.

In preparation for the April hearings, the Applicants have provided tracked and clean copies of **3.1 Draft DCO** with **3.4 Schedule of Changes to the draft DCO**. This will allow the ExA and Interested Parties to refer to updated documents incorporating changes sought at Deadline 2.

**7.6.6.1 Appendix 6-1 - Onshore Cumulative Effects Assessment Methodology (Revision 2) (Clean)** and **7.8.1 ES Chapter 8 - Marine Physical Environment Figure 8-1 to Figure 8-13 (Revision 2)** have been updated in response to the ExA's written questions.

**7.11.11.6 Appendix 11-6 Unexploded Ordnance Clearance Information and Assessment** has been updated to reflect the government's policy statement on reducing marine noise, published 21 January 2025.

**7.16.1 ES Chapter 16 - Infrastructure and Other Users Figure 16-1 to Figure 16-6 (Revision 4)** has been updated to reflect the current status of nearby projects.

**10.20 Guillemot and Razorbill Compensation Site Refinement Report** has been updated with additional survey results from a potential compensation site at Worms Head, South Wales.

**10.36 Review of evidence on recovery of sandbank habitat following habitat damage** and **10.38 Benthic Ecology Technical Note** have been updated to accommodate requests made in Written Representations.

**10.37 Coastal Erosion Rate Technical Note** has been updated at the request of the Environment Agency.

The Applicants are providing a new document **13.4 Response to RSPB comments on Digital Aerial Surveys** at the request of the RSPB.

**13.5 Precaution in the Ornithology Assessment and Implications for Compensation Quantum, 13.10 Offshore Wind Leasing Round 4 – Bidders Information Day: Q&A Summary** and **13.11 Mona Offshore Wind Project Technical Note: Calculation of the Net Effects on Greenhouse Gas Emissions** respond to the ExA's written questions.

The Applicants have produced **13.6 Marine Mammal Technical note: Significance of Effect for disturbance from piling and cumulative underwater noise** and **13.7 Bed Mobility & Thermal Environment** to respond to Written Representations from Natural England.

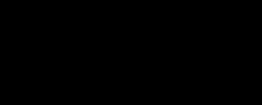
**13.8 Disposal Site Plan** is produced to illustrate the location of offshore disposal grounds, now referenced in the draft DCO.

As offered by the Applicant at Deadline 2, **13.9 The Applicants' preferred protective provisions for National Grid Electricity Transmission and National Gas Transmission** is now provided.

Finally, the Applicants feel it is important to acknowledge the North Sea incident that occurred off the east coast of England on 10 March 2025, the bravery of the affected crews and the missing crew member, sadly presumed deceased. To clarify, the highly unusual incident involving an oil tanker and a cargo ship was not in the vicinity of the proposed Dogger Bank South offshore wind farms or any operational projects in the area, however, crew from two offshore wind service vessels operating at RWE's Humber Gateway offshore wind farm were diverted to assisted 17 seafarers from the affected vessels.

Please feel free to contact me if you require any clarification regarding the above.

Yours sincerely,



Colin McAllister  
Development Project Manager  
DBS Offshore Wind Farms

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## Appendix A – planned document updates

The Applicants have prioritised updating documents which are likely to be useful at the forthcoming hearings for this Deadline 3. If there is potential for further change reflecting hearings, the Applicants plan to update at Deadlines 4 or 5. Where amendments are more limited, the Applicants intend to provide the documents towards the end of the examination (Deadline 8) so that other changes can be incorporated into a single revision. This will reduce the number of documents requiring revision by the ExA and interested parties.

Document Reference	Document Title	Revision	Deadline Proposed
3.4	Draft DCO (Revision 6)	6	3
7.8.1	ES Chapter 8 - Marine Physical Environment Figure 8-1 to Figure 8-13 - (Revision 2)	2	3
7.11.11.6	Appendix 11-6 Unexploded Ordnance Clearance Information and Assessment (Revision 3)	3	3
10.20	Guillemot and Razorbill Compensation Site Refinement Report (Redacted) (Revision 2)	2	3
10.36	Review of evidence on recovery of sandbank habitat following habitat damage (Revision 2)	2	3
10.37	Coastal Erosion Rate Technical Note (Revision 2)	2	3
10.38	Benthic Ecology Technical Note (Revision 2)	2	3
6.1	RIAA Part 2 of 4 (Benthic and Fish)	4	4
6.1	RIAA Part 4 of 4 (Offshore Ornithology)	4	4 <sup>1</sup>
7.12	Chapter 12 Offshore Ornithology	3	4 <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 6.1 and 7.12 would be submitted at Deadline 4 if updates are required but this is dependent on checks requested by Natural England (see **13.3 The Applicants' Responses to Deadline 2 Documents** for further information).

8.13	Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (Revision 3) (Clean)	3	4
8.13	Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (Revision 3) (Tracked)	3	4
8.14	Outline (Onshore) Written Scheme of Investigation (Revision 2) (Clean)	2	4
8.14	Outline (Onshore) Written Scheme of Investigation (Revision 2) (Tracked)	2	4
8.23	In Principle Monitoring Plan	3	4
7.18.18.10	Appendix 18-10 Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy (Revision 2) (Clean)	2	5
7.18.18.10	Appendix 18-10 Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy (Revision 2) (Tracked)	2	5
4.1	Statement of Reasons (Revision 5)	5	8
4.4	Funding Statement (Revision 4)	4	8
7.5	Chapter 5 Project Description (Revision 4) (Clean)	4	8
7.5	Chapter 5 Project Description (Revision 4) (Tracked)	4	8
7.8	Chapter 8 Marine Physical Environment (Revision 2) (Clean)	2	8
7.8	Chapter 8 Marine Physical Environment (Revision 2) (Tracked)	2	8
7.16	Chapter 16 Infrastructure and Other Users (Revision 4) (Clean)	4	8
7.16	Chapter 16 Infrastructure and Other Users (Revision 4) (Tracked)	4	8
7.18	Chapter 18 Terrestrial Ecology and Ornithology (Revision 6) (Clean)	6	8
7.18	Chapter 18 Terrestrial Ecology and Ornithology (Revision 6) (Tracked)	6	8
7.21	Chapter 21 Land Use (Revision 4) (Clean)	4	8

7.21	Chapter 21 Land Use (Revision 4) (Tracked)	4	8
7.24	Chapter 24 Traffic and Transport (Revision 2) (Clean)	2	8
7.24	Chapter 24 Traffic and Transport (Revision 2) (Tracked)	2	8
8.8	Design and Access Statement (Revision 3) (Clean)	3	8
8.8	Design and Access Statement (Revision 3) (Tracked)	3	8
8.9	Outline Code of Construction Practice (Revision 4) (Clean)	4	8
8.9	Outline Code of Construction Practice (Revision 4) (Tracked)	4	8
8.10	Outline Ecological Management Plan (Revision 5) (Clean)	5	8
8.10	Outline Ecological Management Plan (Revision 5) (Tracked)	5	8
8.11	Outline Landscape Management Plan (Revision 4) (Clean)	4	8
8.11	Outline Landscape Management Plan (Revision 4) (Tracked)	4	8
8.12	Outline Drainage Strategy (Revision 5) (Clean)	5	8
8.12	Outline Drainage Strategy (Revision 5) (Tracked)	5	8