

Planning Act 2008 – Section 91

Application by RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Ltd and RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Ltd for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms

Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing 4 (ISH4) dealing with onshore environmental matters

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
Issue Specific Hearing 4 dealing with onshore environmental matters	Wednesday 9 April 2025 and, if required, Friday 11 April 2025 Wednesday hearing starts at 9.30am¹ Virtual Registration Process from 9.15am ² Friday hearing (if required) starts at 1.15pm Virtual registration process from 1.00pm	By virtual means using Microsoft Teams or via Telephone Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered to speak at the event.

Hearings Guidance: Please see Annex A of this Agenda

Interested parties who wish to speak at this event were required to provide notification by Friday 28 March 2025. If you haven't notified us that you wish to speak, can you please contact the case team (doggerbanksouth@planninginspectorate.gov.uk) as soon as possible.

If you wish to observe the hearing, then you do not need to register. A link to the livestream will be made available on the project page of the national infrastructure website closer to the event.

¹ If you are joining as an active participant, please follow the joining instructions for the virtual event carefully and connect to the Hearing in good time. In common with traditional hearings, the event will start on time irrespective of late arrivals, for whom access might not be possible.

² Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance of the meeting to those who have registered to speak.

Each interested party is entitled to make oral representations at hearings. However, this is subject to the power of the Examining Authority (ExA) to control the conduct and management of hearings.

The virtual event will be open 15 minutes prior to the start of the hearing to enable a prompt start. Hearings will finish as soon as the ExA deems that all those present have had their say and that all matters have been covered.

The agenda is for guidance only. It is not designed to be exclusive or exhaustive. The ExA may add other issues for consideration, may alter the order in which issues are considered and will seek to allocate sufficient time to each issue to allow proper consideration of them. Any lack of discussion of a particular issue at a hearing does not preclude further examination of this issue, including the asking of further written questions.

Every effort will be made to ensure that the issues will be discussed on the day that they are scheduled for. Should the consideration of these issues take less time than anticipated, the ExA may conclude the hearing as soon as all relevant contributions have been made and all questions asked and responded to.

If there are additional matters to be dealt with or there are submissions that take a considerable amount of time, there may be a need to continue the session for longer on the day or resume the hearing on Friday afternoon. Alternatively, it may be necessary to prioritise matters and defer others to further written questions.

Purpose of hearing on onshore environmental matters:

The purpose of the hearing is to examine onshore environmental matters, in particular:

- **geology and ground conditions;**
- **land use and agriculture;**
- **landscape character and visual (including good design);**
- **hydrology and flood risk;**
- **noise and vibration;**
- **onshore historic environment; and**
- **onshore ecology.**

Agenda

Title of meeting	Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms Issue Specific Hearing 4 with onshore environmental matters
Date	9 April 2025 and, if required, 11 April 2025
Time	9 April 2025 at 9.30am; and, if required, 11 April 2025 at 1.15pm
Venue	Virtual event
Attendees	Invitees

- 1. Welcome, introductions, arrangements for the Hearing**
- 2. Geology and ground conditions/ Land use and agriculture**
 - 2.1 Updates to Chapters 19 and 21
 - Assessment definitions
 - Clarifications
 - 2.2 Loss of agricultural land use
 - 2.3 Proposed onshore export cable burial depth
 - 2.4 Future mineral resource assessment
 - 2.5 Designated sites
 - Natural England impact risk zones
 - Skipsea Drain Local Geological Site
 - Burton Bushes Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- 3. Landscape character and visual amenity (including good design)**
 - 3.1 Effects from construction compounds
 - 3.2 Landscape mitigation hierarchy, with particular reference to compensatory measures
 - 3.3 Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Figures - Viewpoint 1 [\[REP2-024\]](#): choice of location and representation of the worst case scenario for sensitive receptors
 - 3.4 Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Figures - Viewpoint 3 [\[REP2-024\]](#): potential for additional mitigation
 - 3.5 Outline Landscape Management Plan [\[REP2-031\]](#)
 - 3.6 Implications of ash die back on existing woodland screening
 - 3.7 Good design: architectural review, amendments to the Design and Access Statement [\[REP2-027\]](#)
- 4. Hydrology and flood risk**
 - 4.1 Flood risk datasets
 - The new national flood risk assessment

- The Environment Agency 2013 River Hull and Holderness Drain Flood Mapping Study
- 4.2 Mitigation for the displacement of flood water
- 4.3 Watercourse crossings
 - Crossing methodology for internal drainage board watercourses
 - Temporary watercourse crossings
- 4.4 Drainage matters
 - Surface water discharge rates and volumes
 - Delivery of all drainage features within the onshore export cable corridor order limits

5. Noise and vibration

- 5.1 Construction working hours: clarification on the requirements for section 61 consent and information provided as part of the Outline Code of Construction Practice (outline CoCP)

6. Onshore historic environment

- 6.1 Effects on heritage assets from construction
- 6.2 Decommissioning effects
- 6.3 Anti-aircraft gunsite scheduled monument near to Butt Farm:
 - lighting
 - significance of effects
 - mitigation
 - enhancements
 - cumulative effects
- 6.4 Effects on Catfoss Hall, the Black Mill and Cobble Hall

7. Onshore ecology

- 7.1 The extent of proposed temporary hedgerow and tree removal including effects on local wildlife sites and proposed mitigation
- 7.2 Potential effects of trenchless crossing techniques on Bentley Moor Wood ancient woodland

8. Any other business

9. Action points

10. Close of Hearing

Attendees

All interested parties are welcome to attend the hearing. However, the ExA considers that representatives for the following parties should consider attending because the ExA believes that the material that they have submitted raises issues that may need to be explored at the hearing:

- The applicants
- Beverley and North Holderness Internal Drainage Board
- Representatives from the East Riding of Yorkshire Council who deal with/ represent:
 - Lead Local Flood Authority
 - conservation/ heritage
 - landscape
 - minerals
 - ecology
 - noise
- The Environment Agency
- Historic England

The applicants are requested to have people with the following expertise to assist the hearing:

- Geology
- Landscape and visual
- Land use and agricultural land
- Heritage assets
- Ecology
- Noise

This list may also assist interested parties in preparing for the hearing.

Conduct and Management of Hearings

The Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 provide that the ExA that will probe, test and assess the evidence at hearings through direct questioning of persons making oral representations. Questioning at this hearing will therefore be led by the ExA. Cross questioning of the person giving evidence by another person will only be permitted if the ExA decides it is necessary to ensure representations are adequately tested or that a person has had a fair chance to put their case. Parties wishing to make a representation will be invited to do so at the ExA's discretion.

The ExA will begin the hearing with opening comments and introductions, then will run through housekeeping matters and explain how the hearing will be conducted. The ExA's expectation is that each hearing session will typically last for one to two hours. However, the actual duration will depend on the progress made on the day and will be subject to the ExA's powers of control over the conduct of the hearing.

The agenda may be amended by the ExA at the start of the hearing or throughout its course. Furthermore, the ExA may wish to raise matters arising from oral submissions, relevant representations and written representations, and pursue lines of inquiry that are not listed on the agenda in the course of the discussion.

The hearing is being held at the discretion of the ExA to discuss matters that it considers to be important and relevant to the effective and robust examination of the application. Consequently, the business of the hearing will be limited to the matters identified in the agenda or otherwise raised by the ExA.

Active participation is at the invitation and discretion of the ExA. Oral submissions must address the matters and questions identified on the hearing agenda or raised by the ExA at the hearing. Oral submissions on other subject matters or from persons who have not been invited to speak by the ExA may only be heard at the discretion of the ExA, who may decide that such matters are not heard in the interests of relevance, efficiency or fairness.

A recording and transcript of the hearing will be published by the Planning Inspectorate on the project page of the national infrastructure website³ and any interested party may make a written submission on the specific matters either included in the agenda or arising at the hearing by **Deadline 4, 25 April 2025**.

³[Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms - Project information](#)