

## RESPONSES TO EXAMINING AUTHORITY'S QUESTIONS 10/04/2025 Action Points arising from Issue Specific Hearing 4 on 9 April 2025 ON BEHALF OF THE HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND (HISTORIC ENGLAND)

Interested Party Ref No: 20050154

Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farm Projects (Reference No. EN010125)

**Application by** 

**RWE / MASDAR** 

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Historic England's remit and reasons for participating in the examination of the DCO application for the Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farm (EN010125) ("the Proposal") were set out in our Written Representation [REP1-059]. We continue to be involved in discussions with the Applicants to resolve the outstanding points of difference between us and an updated Statement of Common Ground is under discussion.
- 1.2 For brevity, the scheduled monument known as 'heavy anti-aircraft gunsite, 350m west of Butt Farm' (1019189) is referred to as the 'Butt Farm Gunsite' in the answers provided.
- 2.0 HISTORIC ENGLAND'S RESPONSES TO THE ACTION POINTS
- 2.1 Action Point No. 31.

Explain whether they consider that the proposed development would result in loss of significance of the scheduled monument near to Butt Farm?

Historic England refers to the assessment of the impact of the Onshore Converter Station on the significance of the Butt Farm Gunsite provided in answer to question HE1.7 at WQ1 [REP3-043] and at paragraph 4.7 of our WRs [REP1-059]. In our assessment, the impact of the Proposal equates to 'less than substantial harm' to the significance of the monument. Historic England's published guidance on 'setting' accords with the glossary of the NPPF and NPS EN-1 (footnote 231), both of which are clear that 'setting' referrers to the surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. The setting of the Butt Farm Gunsite contributes to its significance by virtue of its currently open aspect. The proposed Onshore Converter Station will be a large, prominent feature in the view and landscape when seen from the Butt Farm Gunsite, and will diminish the experience of being on the scheduled site.

## 2.2 Action Point No 32

Provide more information on the nature of their concerns regarding potential for cumulative effects [REP3-043] on the scheduled monument near to Butt Farm and suggest how they could be addressed.

Historic England has been mindful that a number of energy infrastructure projects are contemplated for the region and wished to raise, at an early stage, the possibility of cumulative impacts occurring in the event that future projects are located close to infrastructure associated with the Proposal. Given the absence of detailed proposals for future developments at this stage, we are not able to comment further on the extent of any cumulative impacts or how they could be addressed.