National Infrastructure Planning Temple Quay House 2 The Square Bristol, BS1 6PN Customer Services: 0303 444 5000

Email:

<u>DoggerBankSouth@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</u>

To: All Interested Parties Our Ref: EN010125

Date: 8 May 2025

Dear Sir/ Madam

Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rules 4 and 13

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

Change to the appointment of the Examining Authority and notification of hearings

Change to the Examining Authority

On 11 September 2024 the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government appointed Jo Dowling as lead member of the Examining Authority [PD-001]. Unfortunately, for personal reasons, Ms Dowling is no longer able to continue in her role as lead member of the Examining Authority (ExA) and has submitted her resignation under s66(3) of the Planning Act 2008. The Planning Inspectorate has considered the skill sets required for the ExA and, on behalf of the Secretary of State under delegated powers, has decided to appoint me as a replacement lead member of the ExA with effect from 22 April 2025 [PD-019]. My name is Adrian Hunter and the other members of the ExA remain as Helena Obremski, Laura Shorney, Matt Tandy and Claire Beloe. A copy of the appointment notice can be viewed under the documents tab on the project webpage of the National Infrastructure Project website (project webpage).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms Dowling for all her work on the project.

Notification of hearings

The examination timetable at Annex A of the ExA's Rule 8 letter, dated 16 January 2025, included reserved dates for hearings.



We are now writing to advise you that the following hearing will be held under sections 91, 92 and 93 of the Planning Act 2008. The hearing will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Hearing	Date	Start time	Location
Issue Specific Hearing 6 (ISH6) on	Thursday 5 June 2025	Virtual registration process from: 9.00am	By virtual means using Microsoft
wake loss, radar and	June 2025	process from, 9.00am	Teams
other environmental		Event start: 9.30am	
matters			Full instructions on
			how to join online or
			by telephone will be
			provided in advance
			to those who have
			pre-registered

NOTE: If the above hearing is no longer required then notification will be published as soon as practicable on the <u>project webpage</u> of the National Infrastructure Planning website, providing reasonable notice to Interested Parties of the decision to cancel.

Applicants' notification duties

The Applicants are reminded of their duty to notify and publicise hearings under rule 13(6) and 13(7) of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.

Purpose of hearings

Please refer to The Planning Inspectorate's Advice for members of the public: <u>The stages of the NSIP process and how you can have your say</u> for information about the purpose of open floor, issue specific and compulsory acquisition hearings.

Registration and requests to participate in hearings

Please register using the <u>event participation form</u> by Friday 30 May 2025 if you intend to participate in the hearing and provide all the information requested. If you have any difficulty completing the form please contact the case team.

Please note that by attending the event online you are agreeing to be filmed for the purposes of the online live stream of the event and the recording of the event which will get published on the <u>project webpage</u>. Please contact the case team to notify them if you prefer not to be filmed at the event. A transcript of the event will also be published on the <u>project webpage</u> after the event.

Any request to participate in a hearing should include the following information:

- name and unique reference number (found at the top of any letter or email from The Planning Inspectorate);
- email address (if available) and contact telephone number;
- name and unique reference number of any person/ organisation that you are representing (if applicable);



- confirmation of the hearing you wish to participate in, the agenda item(s) on which
 you wish to speak and/ or brief details of the topic(s) that you would like to raise;
 and
- the examination library reference number (with paragraph/ page number where appropriate) of any documents you wish to refer to.

Please note that it may not be possible to participate on the day if you have not registered your wish to speak by **Friday 30 May 2025.** Joining instructions for the hearing will be issued by the case team via email shortly before the hearing date.

Please contact the case team if you require any support or assistance to attend the hearing, either virtually or in person.

If you simply wish to observe the hearing then you can either:

- **1.** Watch a livestream of the event a link to the livestream will be made available on the project webpage shortly before the event is scheduled to begin; and/or
- **2.** Watch the recording of the event which will be published on the project webpage shortly after the event has finished.

Attendees

We would find it helpful if the following parties could attend:

- The Applicants
- Defence Infrastructure Organisation (MoD)
- East Riding of Yorkshire Council
- Environment Agency
- Ørsted Hornsea Project Three (UK) Limited and Ørsted Hornsea Project Four Limited (Ørsted IPs)
- Dogger Bank Offshore Wind Farm Project 1 Projco Limited, Dogger Bank Offshore Wind Farm Project 2 Projco Limited, and Dogger Bank Offshore Wind Farm Project 3 Projco Limited (Projco IPs)

Hearing agenda

The agenda and any detailed arrangements for the hearing will be published on the <u>project</u> <u>webpage</u> at least five working days before the hearing. However, the actual agenda may be subject to change at our discretion.

Procedure at a hearing and post hearing submissions

The procedure to be followed at the hearing is set out in The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.

Participation in the hearing will be subject to the ExA's powers of control. It is for the ExA to determine how the hearing will be conducted, including the time allowed at the hearing for the making of a person's representations. The hearing will be managed in the interests of ensuring fair access to the hearing for all parties, and to ensure that the submissions of all invited persons are fully heard within the allotted time. For Issue Specific Hearings,



Interested Parties (IPs) may be invited to make oral representations at the hearing on the specific issues being examined, as set out in the agenda.

All hearings are recorded. The recordings and transcripts will be made available on the <u>project webpage</u> as soon as practicable following the hearing. The recordings allow any member of the public who is interested in the application and the examination to find out what has been discussed at a hearing. It is therefore important to note that anyone speaking at the hearing will need to introduce themselves, including any organisation or groups that they represent, **each time they speak** to ensure that someone listening to the recording after the hearing is clear who was speaking.

As the recordings are retained and published, they form a public record that can contain personal information to which the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) applies. Please refer to our 'Privacy Notice' for further information. Participants must do their best to avoid making public any information which they would otherwise wish to be kept private and confidential. If there is a need to refer to such information, it should be in written form. Although this will also be published, personal and private content can be redacted or removed before it is made publicly available. Any person who is unclear on this point should ask the case team for guidance before they place personal and private information into the public domain. The Planning Inspectorate's practice is to publish the recordings and transcripts and retain them for a period of five years from the Secretary of State's decision on the development consent order (DCO). If you actively participate in the hearing, it is important that you understand that you will be recorded and that the recording and transcript will be made available in the public domain.

The evidence presented orally at hearings should be included in post hearing submissions and submitted at the relevant deadline in the <u>examination timetable</u>.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the case team DoggerBankSouth@planninginspectorate.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully

Adrian Hunter

Adrian Hunter Lead member of the panel of Examining Inspectors

This communication does not constitute legal advice.

Please view our 'Privacy Notice' before sending information to The Planning Inspectorate.

