

The Examining Authority
The Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Our ref: AN/2024/135560/07-L01
Your ref: EN010130
Date: 21 February 2025

Dear Members of the Examining Authority

Application by GT R4 Limited (trading as Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind) for an order granting development consent for the Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind Project (Generating station and transmission infrastructure)

Pursuant to Deadline 4a, the Environment Agency provides below a summary of oral representations made at Issue Specific Hearing 5, held on 12 February 2025, on Agenda item 3.3 Water Environment – Flood Risk Assessment.

The Environment Agency confirmed that the holding objections (outlined in paragraphs 13.3.1 and 13.4.1 of its Relevant Representation [[RR-018](#)]) in relation to the flood risk assessments for the Export Cable Corridor (ECC) and the Onshore Substation (OnSS) respectively are still in place.

For the ECC we are currently reviewing flood modelling relating to the noise bund. With respect to the OnSS, we are awaiting the receipt of model files regarding the 75-year climate change scenario. At the time of ISH5, we had not had an opportunity to review the revised flood risk assessments relating to these matters.

We are confident that these matters can be resolved, and at the appropriate time, we will be able to withdraw those holding objections.

Post Hearing Note: please refer to the Environment Agency's Deadline 4a submission for our comments on the Applicant's documents submitted at Deadline 4, as we have now reviewed the ECC flood risk assessment and withdraw our holding objection in respect of this. We also received the model files on 14 February 2025, in respect of the 75-year climate change scenario for the ONSS, and we are currently reviewing these.

ISH5 Action Point 1

The Environment Agency is asked to respond in writing regarding any relevant matters relating to Protective Provisions. At the time of the hearing these remained as listed in our Deadline 4 submission [[REP4-127](#)] and relate to:

1. the inclusion of works which could interfere with the beach nourishment works in

- the definition of specified works;
- 2. the inclusion of 'programmes' and 'proposals' under the definition of 'Plan'; and
- 3. the indemnity clause drafting.

However, since the hearing took place further agreement has been reached on point 3, the indemnity clause. We will discuss the outstanding matters at a meeting scheduled for 25 February 2025.

I can also advise you that we have withdrawn our request for the Applicant to amend Article 7(4) in respect of the disapplication of the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016. For the avoidance of doubt, although the wording of Article 7(4) is now agreed we cannot confirm our agreement to the disapplication of the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016, as required by section 150 of the Planning Act 2008. This is because, as noted in our Deadline 4 submission [REP4-127], there remains a possibility that further additional tie-ins to the beach agreement may be required within the Protective Provisions. When both the Protective Provisions drafting and the beach agreement are complete will we confirm our agreement to the disapplication.

Should you require any additional information, or wish to discuss these matters further, please do not hesitate to contact me at the number below.

Yours faithfully


Principal Planning Adviser, MSc, MRTPI

Direct dial 

Direct e-mail 