

10 March 2025

EN010136 – Morgan Offshore Wind Farm Generation Assets (the "Project") – Application for Development Consent

Closing Statement on behalf of Blackpool Airport (the "Airport")

1. Background

- 1.1. In its Rule 17 letter dated 3 March 2025, the Examining Authority requested that the Airport provide a "brief closing statement in response to the Applicant's contention that reference to offshore substation platforms in the requirement is unnecessary and unreasonable, and confirm that engagement is continuing on this late arising matter".
- 1.2. This statement sets out the Airport's position on the matters raised by the Examining Authority.

2. The Airport's position on offshore substation platforms ("OSP") and the dDCO requirement wording

- 2.1. As set out in the agreed statement of common ground between the Applicant and the Airport dated 27 February 2025 (the "SoCG"), the Airport's position is that all mitigation required in respect of the impacts of the Project on the Airport must be in place ahead of any above-sea development taking place. This includes the erection of any OSP. This position was accepted by the applicant of the Morecambe Offshore Wind Farm Generation Assets DCO.
- 2.2. The Airport's understanding is that the Applicant is aligned with the Airport regarding the principle of this above-sea development trigger, albeit its view is that erection of OSPs should be an exception to this. However, the Applicant has not to date presented any assessment or evidence that the OSP will not impact the Airport's operations. In the absence of any such assessment, the Airport maintains its position that this infrastructure should be referred to in the requirement wording.
- 2.3. However, as noted in the SoCG, the Airport understands that the Applicant has committed to continued engagement with the Airport on this matter, with the aim of providing technical comfort that the OSP is not a material concern for the Airport. The Airport has confirmed that, should mutually acceptable evidence to this effect be provided by the Applicant, it would consent to removal of this text from the requirement.

DWF Law LLP

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