



Maritime &
Coastguard
Agency

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Ref: EN020026

Interested party Ref: F3ACFEEBF

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Via email: SouthEastAngliaLink@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Dear Planning Inspectorate

Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) Response to the Sealink Rule 6 letter

We apologise for the late response to the Rule 6 letter and, we hope that this response will be considered by the Planning Inspectorate.

The MCA has an interest in the works associated with the marine environment within the UK Exclusive Economic Zone, and the potential impact on shipping, safe navigation, access to ports and harbours, and any impact on our search and rescue obligations.

In the Rule 6 letter, the MCA notes that there are no shipping and navigation related principal issues or any proposed offshore matters which may address the shipping and navigation element of the project. The MCA would expect this to be included, considering the scale of the project offshore. The MCA has already raised a number of issues which need to be addressed by the applicant in our registration as an Interested Party.

The topic of Shipping and Navigation is pertinent to the examination as it forms part of many of the MCA's considerations of the project including:

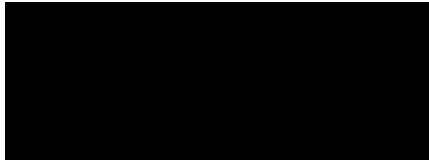
- potential impacts to multiple other operators in Sunk Area due to the region being highly constrained with dense maritime traffic, specialist pilot boarding arrangements, and the presence of deep-draught vessels
- simultaneous operations with other Windfarm projects to avoid cumulative impacts and navigational risks
- Navigable water depth and protective measures as any depth reduction in areas where deep-draught vessels operate must be reviewed

- future vessel draught considerations
- impacts from Electromagnetic Deviation in nearshore areas.

The MCA would also like to comment on the timing of the deadline for the First Written Questions which will be published on 17th December 2025, and which will be due on 7 January 2026. These dates fall during the Christmas period when we have less staff availability which could impact our ability to respond by the deadline. It would be helpful if the deadline for the First Written Questions could therefore be extended.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,



Marine Licensing Project Lead
UK Technical Services Navigation