



# Planning Inspectorate

## Application by Morgan Offshore Wind Limited and Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms Transmission Assets

### Issue Specific Hearing 1

Dates: 30 April 2025 to 1 May 2025

| No                                     | Party                 | Action   | Deadline        |
|--|-----------------------|--|-----------------|
| <b>Agenda item 3 – relevant policy</b> |                       |  |                 |
| 1.                                     | Applicants            | Update planning statement clarifying applicants' position as to the application of section 104 Planning Act 2008 (PA2008).   | Deadline 1 (D1) |
| 2.                                     | Applicants            | Update or provide an addendum to the Planning Statement commenting on recent changes to planning policy including the consultation on the National Policy Statements (including a comment on transitional arrangements) and updates to the National Planning Policy Framework.   | Deadline 2 (D2) |
| 3.                                     | Applicants            | Submit the Clean Power 2030 action plan  | D1              |
| 4.                                     | Fylde Borough Council | Provide an update on their Local Plan and also comment on the current planning policy position for Preston City Council and South Ribble Borough Council.  | D1              |
| 5.                                     | Applicants            | Ensure that policy trackers are kept updated throughout the examination.   | Ongoing         |
| <b>Agenda item 4 - site selection</b>  |                       |  |                 |
| 6.                                     | Applicants            | Comment on the two court cases referred to by the Examining Authority as to how to treat the assessment of alternatives and how material the alternative option of the Stanah substation is for the project. The two cases are R (on the application of Save Stonehenge World Heritage Site Ltd) v Secretary of State for Transport in 2025 and R (on the application of Langley Park School) v Bromley LBC in 2009. | D1              |
| 7.                                     | Applicants            | Provide a practical example on how consultation is taken into account in the BRAG (Black, Red, Amber, Green) process to refine a route. In addition, a BRAG appraisal was carried out for land including the Green Belt. Explain why an amber appraisal rating was used for the  | D1              |



|  |                                  |  |    |
|--|----------------------------------|--|----|
|  |                                  | Green Belt constraint in the context of national Green Belt policy.  |    |
| 8.   | Applicants                       | Submit the Holistic Network Design (HND July 2022) summary report emphasising any key points relevant to the Examination.  | D1 |
| 9.   | Applicants                       | Submit the Parliamentary statement concerning the Hillside Technology Zone close to the grid connection at Stanah and written statement from Michael Shanks MP together with the subsequent written question.  | D1 |
| 10.  | Applicants                       | Explain the rationale for 8km radius search area in relation to the onshore substations as shown in Figure 4.2 of volume 1, Annex 4.3 (AS-028).  | D1 |
| 11.  | Applicants                       | Provide a clarification concerning their response to Fylde Council's Relevant Representation (RR-0705), concerning a sequential test relating to land which is not Green Belt has been undertaken to aid the site selection process.                         | D1 |
| 12.  | Applicants                       | Provide clarification on their site selection for the substations and the choice for separate sites.   | D1 |
| <b>Agenda item 5 - scope of the proposed development</b> |                                  |  |    |
| 13.  | Applicants                       | Confirm how many car parking spaces at the North Beach car park will remain available whilst the construction compound is in place [Work Nos 38A and 38B). The expectation is that this will be more than 75.  | D1 |
| 14.  | Applicants                       | Provide an indicative plan setting out a) the position of exit pits at landfall; b) the indicative positions and heights of cofferdams; and c) an indicative layout of the beach works including proposed crossing points and restrictions on public access. | D1 |
| 15.  | Applicants and Blackpool Council | Engage with each other concerning the use of Starr Gate and provide an update.   | D2 |
| 16.  | Applicants                       | Provide an explanation as to the timings for the cable pull at landfall.   | D1 |
| 17.  | Applicants                       | Provide a time estimate for the construction works on either side of the care home.  | D1 |



## Planning Inspectorate

|     |            |   |    |
|-----|------------|---|----|
| 18. | Applicants | Provide a note as to the likely time duration and the extent of the impacts on the Blackpool Road recreation ground.  | D1 |
| 19. | Applicants | Provide details of the agreement with National Grid for connection at Penwortham and also the correspondence requiring one project to connect to the west and the other to the east.  | D1 |
| 20. | Applicants | Provide a note explaining the footprints for the two onshore substations which also compares the size and footprint of the Morgan and Morecambe application with other DCO applications with examples being the applications at Dogger Bank A and B and Hornsea One and Two and also Moor Vannin D. | D1 |
| 21. | Applicants | Clarification on the AOD heights for both substations including the lightning rods.   | D1 |
| 22. | Applicants | Applicants to review the Project Description chapter [AS-024] to provide clarification about “maximum” design parameters and reduce some of the adjectives which suggest wider flexibility. Provide examples and explain how the approach aligns with the Rochdale Envelope.                        | D1 |
| 23. | Applicants | Clarify the position over phasing and under what circumstances more than one stage could be progressed. Confirm where in the draft DCO this is covered.   | D1 |
| 24. | Applicants | Provide an indicative programme which shows sequential construction with a 4 year gap, to be included in any update to the project description chapter.   | D1 |
| 25. | Applicants | Explain in outline terms how the applicants have sought to avoid potential environmental and community impacts in the co-ordinated design with regard to the approach taken to the number and location of the proposed substations, along with policy justification.                                | D1 |
| 26. | Applicants | Provide a high-level note setting out the benefits that will be realised through the collaboration of the applicants for the proposed development as required by NPS policy.  | D1 |
| 27. | Applicants | Clarify if the proposed construction periods of 36 months and 30 months for   | D1 |



|   |                               |  |    |
|---|-------------------------------|--|----|
|   |                               | the separate projects is controlled in any way.  |    |
| 28.   | Applicants                    | Provide a note explaining the consequences of separate companies promoting the two wind farms and comment on the differences between this project and other projects (including the Sheringham and Dudgeon DCO) in terms of the composition of the applicants' corporate structure.  | D1 |
| 29.   | Applicants                    | Provide an update on other similar projects in the area on a similar timeline and provide an updated cumulative effects assessment at D1. The applicants will also provide an update of any other DCO applications.  | D1 |
| 30.   | Applicants                    | Provide a justification for Saturday afternoon working and if this was not approved whether this will result in any extension of the overall construction programme. If no extension results, an explanation as to why not will be provided.   | D1 |
| 31.   | Applicants                    | Provide a schedule of benefits for the local community as the main documents (such as the Planning Statement and the Statement of Reasons) currently concentrate on national with little reference to local benefits. Engagement will take place with Blackpool and Fylde Councils and also the newly formed Transmission Assets Steering Group. | D1 |
| <b>Agenda item 6: Scope and contents of the applicants' assessments</b> |                               |  |    |
| 32.   | Applicants                    | Submit a technical note which explains the relationship between the proposed removal of high order unexploded ordnance clearance from the deemed marine licence in the draft DCO and the requirements for restrictions during fish spawning seasons.   | D1 |
| 33.   | Applicants<br>Natural England | Provide an update on discussions with Natural England on mitigation to ensure there is no adverse effect on the integrity on the Liverpool Bay Special Protected Area (SPA) and the Ribble and Alt Estuary SPA.  | D1 |



## Planning Inspectorate

|     |                              |  |    |
|-----|------------------------------|--|----|
| 34. | Applicants                   | Provide the applicants' without prejudice Stage 2 Measures of Equivalent Environmental Benefits (MEEB) case for the Fylde Marine Conservation Zone.  | D1 |
| 35. | Applicants                   | Provide an analysis relating to the Abnormal Indivisible Load swept path as an appendix to the Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (APP-211).   | D2 |
| 36. | Applicants                   | Confirm the road geometry viability of the highway network links for two-way HGV traffic to Lancashire County Council by D1 before submission to the examination by D2.  | D2 |
| 37. | Applicants                   | Explain where water for construction of the proposed development will be sourced. If this is to be brought to site by tankers on any or all sections of the works then clarify whether these movements have been taken into account in construction trip generation assumptions (APP-115).   | D1 |
| 38. | Applicants                   | Commitment 37 restricts vehicle movements associated with the operation and maintenance of the proposed development to 07:00 and 23:00 hours. Provide an explanation for such long hours and why the work cannot be restricted to between 09:00 and 17:00 with an exception for emergencies. | D1 |
| 39. | Applicants                   | Explain the site selection for the mitigation areas and biodiversity benefit areas including additional detail on those areas such as target species.  | D1 |
| 40. | Applicants                   | In relation to bird strike provide an update with reasons of why safeguarding assessments are not being provided.  | D1 |
| 41. | BAE Systems                  | Provide an update on any progress with the various matters listed in their closing submission to this Examination which were outstanding as at 10 March 2025 of the connected Morgan Offshore Wind project.  | D1 |
| 42. | Blackpool Airport            | Provide a technical note on the CA-791 process.  | D1 |
| 43. | National Farmers Union (NFU) | Provide a list of the parties that the NFU represents for this Project.  | D1 |



## Planning Inspectorate

|     |   |  |    |
|-----|---|--|----|
| 44. | Applicants  | Submit the Applicants' response to the additional submission by the NFU (PDA-041).   | D1 |
| 45. | Applicants  | Provide a note explaining how the applicants' soil surveys meet the tests at paragraph 5.11 of NPS EN-1 and give examples of other DCO projects that have taken the same approach as the applicants.   | D1 |
| 46. | Applicants  | Provide a series of plans showing the distribution of land holdings within the order limits.   | D1 |
| 47. | Applicants  | Provide clarification in response to points raised by the NFU on post construction landowner drainage requirements.  | D1 |
| 48. | Applicants  | Report the progress of discussions with the Lead Local Flood Authority in relation to their relevant representation, as presented during item 6(e).  | D1 |
| 49. | Applicants  | Report on progress of discussions with the Environment Agency in relation to their relevant representation, as presented during item 6(e) of ISH1.   | D1 |
| 50. | Applicants  | Provide a clear annotated version of the tithe base map together with explanations concerning the Quaker Burial Ground (Appendix G(10) of APP-097) compared against Sheet 13 of Part 1 of 2 of the Works Plans - Onshore and Offshore (AS-014), including provision of the related Work Nos.   | D1 |
| 51. | Fylde Borough Council and other Local Authorities | Local authorities to highlight any additional heritage assets to the applicants in advance of the submission of their Local impact Reports.  | D1 |
| 52. | Applicants  | Provide a note explaining why a more localised report limited to the Fylde area is not necessary. Additionally, how the applicants' assessment of the potential impact on tourism on the extended area of the northwest of England as set out within Volume 4, Chapter 2: Socioeconomics of the Environmental Statement (APP-141) is applicable and whether this accords with The Infrastructure Planning (EIA) Regulations 2017. Reconsider the assessment that | D1 |



## Planning Inspectorate

|  |                   |   |    |
|--|-------------------|---|----|
|  |                   | the impact on tourism during construction and operation is “negligible” when the area covered is so wide rather than being focused on the local area. |    |
| 53.  | Local Authorities | Provide evidence of where projects of this kind have had an impact on the tourism economy.  | D1 |
| <b>Agenda Item 7 - Draft Development Consent Order</b> |                   |   |    |
| 54.  | Applicants        | Provide page numbers for the table of contents to the draft DCO.  | D1 |