

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

Agenda for issue specific hearing 2:

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
Issue specific hearing 2 (ISH2) Environmental, onshore and offshore matters	Tuesday 29 July 2025, Hearing starts at 10.00am Continuing Wednesday 30 July 2025 at 9.30am Registration and seating available at venue from 9.00am and virtual registration process from 9.00am (on both days)	Churchill Suite, Mill Farm Sports Village, Fleetwood Road, Wesham, Preston, PR4 3JZ and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams

Agenda

- 1. Welcome, introductions, arrangements for the hearing**
- 2. Purpose of the issue specific hearing**
- 3. Environmental, onshore and offshore matters**

Item 1	General matters a) Update on statements of common ground b) Updated documents and errata sheet
Item 2	Landscape character, visual effects and green belt a) Landscape and visual effects of proposed substations b) Proposed landscape mitigation and management measures c) Good Design, including applicants' Outline Design Principles d) Green Belt considerations
Item 3	Aviation a) Update on and consideration of outstanding issues regarding Blackpool Airport b) Update on and consideration outstanding issues regarding BAE Warton Aerodrome c) Similarities between Blackpool Airport and Warton Aerodrome issues

Item 4	Onshore ecology (including Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Outline Ecological Management Plan b) Mitigation areas suitability c) BNG strategy (indicative areas, unclear metrics, aviation conflicts) d) Survey gaps (peat, habitat) e) Lytham St Annes Dunes SSSI f) EPS Licencing g) Ecological commitments (clarity and wording) h) HRA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - passage waterbirds and functionally linked land, non-breeding waterbirds - mitigation/ restriction for the passage period Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/ Ramsar - Fairhaven Saltmarsh - phasing of works
Item 5	Offshore ecology (including HRA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Benthic Ecology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - whether all potential impacts have been assessed - removal of all infrastructure at decommissioning - amount of design detail - mitigation for NERC priority habitats - Stage 2 Marine Conservation Zone assessment/ Measures of Equivalent Environmental Benefit b) Fish and Shellfish Ecology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Electromagnetic Fields (EMF) c) Marine Mammals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) clearance d) Habitats Regulations Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - offshore ornithology - vessel movements and maintenance in winter
Item 6	Hydrology and flood risk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Outline Operational Drainage Management Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - drainage viability: cable depth vs drain depth – explanation and mitigation - risk and preservation of drainage functionality – test on a specific location - SuDS standard compliance, standards 6 and 7 b) Update on negotiations with interested parties c) Outline Hydrogeological Risk Assessment of Lytham St Annes Dunes SSSI
Item 7	Land use and recreation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Extent of impacts on Blackpool Road Recreation Ground b) Position of the coffer dams and impact on the RNLI c) Loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land d) Impacts on agriculture and farming e) Public rights of way
Item 8	Noise and vibration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Outline construction noise and vibration management plan

	-noise mitigation measures test on a specific location b) Operational noise limits - noise limits enforcement and monitoring mechanisms c) Sensitive receptors – clarity around definition and mapping d) Construction working hours
Item 9	Socio economic effects a) Outline Employment and Skills Plan b) Review of assessment on tourism c) Impact on local businesses such as the Wrea Green Equitation Centre
Item 10	Traffic and transportation a) Accesses b) Routes c) Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan d) Sustainability
Item 11	Historic Environment a) Onshore archaeological evaluation, including trial trenching b) Quakers Wood Burial Ground c) Outline onshore and intertidal written scheme of investigation
Item 12	Other matters a) Update on cumulative effects assessment b) Interrelationship with Orsted East Irish Sea Transmission infrastructure

4. Review of actions arising

5. Closure of the hearing

Purpose of ISH

This issue specific hearing is being held to address specific issues and questions identified by us through our reading of submissions to date and following our site inspections. We consider that the matters set out in this agenda would benefit from questioning by the Examining Authority (ExA) and oral representations.

The ExA has sought to provide sufficient detail in this agenda to assist the parties to prepare for the hearing. The details set out above are indicative and the ExA may find it necessary to include additional agenda items or to amend the order in which the items are dealt with.

As well as this and other hearings, the ExA will continue to consider written submissions including those at subsequent deadlines, noting that there are also other matters, not included in this agenda, that are also relevant to our examination.

Attendees

The ExA would find it helpful if the following parties could attend this hearing:

- The applicants
- BAE Systems

- Blackpool Airport
- Blackpool Borough Council
- Environment Agency
- Fylde Borough Council
- Lancashire County Council (including Highway Authority and Local Lead Flood Authority)
- Marine Management Organisation
- National Farmers' Union
- Natural England
- Orsted East Irish Sea Transmission Ltd
- Preston City Council
- South Ribble Borough Council
- Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside
- Any other interested party with an interest in the topics to be covered in the hearing

However, this does not indicate that other parties will not be able to contribute. All interested parties (IP) are invited to attend and make oral representations on the matters set out in the agenda, subject to the ExA's ability to control the hearing.

Anyone wishing to attend the hearing in person, who has not already advised the case team of this, should do so as soon as possible.

The event will be livestreamed and a link for watching the livestream will be posted on the [project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website](#) closer to the hearing date. IPs and members of the public who wish to observe the hearing can therefore view and listen to the hearing using the livestream, or view and listen to the recording, after it has concluded.

Registration process

Parties who have registered to speak (both in person and virtually) will receive a joining instruction email shortly before the hearing which will include a link to the virtual event on Microsoft Teams, and a telephone number should they need to participate by telephone. To enable the hearing on Tuesday 29 July 2025 to start on time at **10.00am** and on Wednesday 30 July 2025 to start on time at **9.30am** those attending virtually should join promptly at **9.00am** on both days to ensure that all virtual attendees can complete the registration process in good time.

Documents

The documents referred to by the ExA during the hearing may include the following:

- Baseline Bird Technical Report [REP3-060]
- Draft Development Consent Order [REP3-010]
- Environmental Statement Volume 4, Chapter 2: Socio-economics [APP-141]
- Green Belt Technical Note [REP3-069]
- Interim trial trenching report [REP3-017]
- Outline Highway Access Management Plan [REP3-024]

- Onshore Biodiversity Benefit Statement [REP2-020]
- Outline Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan [APP-196]
- Outline Code of Construction Practice [REP3-019]
- Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [REP2-016]
- Outline contaminated land and groundwater discovery strategy [APP-207]
- Outline Design Principles [APP-209]
- Outline Ecological Management Plan [REP3-022]
- Outline Hydrogeological Risk Assessment of Lytham St Annes Dunes SSSI [REP3-061]
- Outline Landscape Management Plan [AS-050]
- Outline Marine Mammal Mitigation Protocol [REP2-026]
- Outline Operational Drainage Management Plan [APP-215]
- Outline Public Right of Way Management Plan [AS-020]
- Outline Wildlife Hazard Management Plan [REP3-065]
- Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1)
- Site Selection of the Environmental Mitigation and Biodiversity Benefit Areas [REP2-046]
- Planning Statement [REP1-032]
- Public Rights of Way Plan [REP3-004]
- Statutory Nuisance Statement [APP-237]
- Surface and groundwater management plan [APP-202]
- Technical Note: Landscape and Design Matters [REP3-064]
- Works Plans [REP3-005, REP3-006, REP3-007 & REP3-008]

Procedure at ISH2

Guidance under the Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 provides that it is for the ExA to probe, test and assess the evidence through direct questions of persons making oral representations at hearings. Questioning at the hearing will be led by the ExA. Cross questioning of a person giving evidence by another person will only be permitted if the ExA decides it is necessary to ensure representations are adequately tested or that an IP has had a fair chance to put its case.

A summary of the evidence presented orally at ISH2 should be included in post-hearing submissions to be submitted by deadline 4 in the Examination Timetable (8 August 2025).