



# Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Ministry of Defence  
Safeguarding Department  
St George's House  
DIO Headquarters  
DMS Whittington  
Lichfield  
Staffordshire  
WS14 9PY

Your Reference: EN020028  
Interested Party Number: 20051172  
Our Reference: DIO10056890

E-mail: [DIO-safeguarding-statutory@mod.gov.uk](mailto:DIO-safeguarding-statutory@mod.gov.uk)

David Cliff  
The Planning Inspectorate  
National Infrastructure Planning  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
BRISTOL  
BS1 6PN

22 September 2025

Dear David

## **Application by Morgan Offshore Wind Limited and Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Limited for the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms Transmission Assets**

**The Examining Authority's written questions and requests for information (ExQ2) issued on 8 September 2025**

**The Examining Authority's commentary and questions on the draft development consent order issued on Monday 8 September 2025**

This letter is submitted in response to the Examining Authority's written questions and requests for information (ExQ2), and the Examining Authority's commentary and questions on the draft Development Consent Order both of which were issued on 8 September 2025. Responses are provided to those questions marked for the attention of the Ministry of Defence (Defence Infrastructure Organisation) only. The wording of those questions addressed to Ministry of Defence (MOD) have been used to structure this response, neither the text providing the context for each of those questions, or those questions directed at other parties have been replicated.

The Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) Safeguarding Team represents the MOD as a consultee in UK planning and energy consenting systems to ensure that development does not compromise or degrade the operation of defence sites such as aerodromes, explosives storage sites, air weapon ranges, technical sites or maritime defence assets and interests.

### **Examining Authority Written Questions 2**

#### **Q2: 4.1.9 – Initial objection**

**This was referred to in Q4.1.16. of ExQ1 [PD-008], as the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)/ Ministry of Defence (MOD) were initially objecting to the**

**application but was reviewing the later documentation. Please can there be an update as to their position?**

The initial objection raised in MOD's response dated 20 May 2025 on the grounds of insufficient information to be able to allow necessary assessments to be completed for the potential for the development to result in an increased risk of birdstrike and degradation of aviation safety remains extent. However, the Applicant, DIO and BAE Systems are fully engaged in discussions about the required documentation to enable a detailed assessment of any risk posed and any mitigation proposed to be completed. The MOD will update the Planning Inspectorate of any revised position as necessary.

**Examining Authority Commentary and Questions on draft Development Consent Order**

**Q1: 3.4 – Requirement 4 – Substation works**

**The applicants are of the view that it is not necessary or appropriate for BAE Systems or the DIO to be named as consultees in this requirement (Action point ISH3.22 of REP4-108)].**

**a) Does the Council and the DIO agree with the applicants view on this?**

No DIO do not agree with the applicant's view. DIO confirm that they wish to be a consultee as the development occupies statutory safeguarded zones.

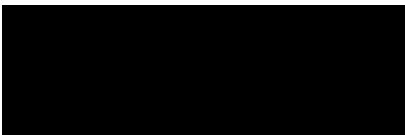
**b) For planning applications under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 regime, would the Council be required to consult BAE Systems or the DIO for similar forms of development that might affect defence interests?**

Should a development such as a substation occupy one of the safeguarding zones surrounding BAE Warton Aerodrome and trigger the consultation criteria as set out on the statutory safeguarding plan dated 2015, Fylde Borough Council are required to consult DIO in accordance with the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Safeguarded aerodromes, technical sites and military explosives storage area) Direction 2002.

I trust this adequately explains the MOD/DIO position in response to relevant questions within the Examining Authority's written questions 2 issued 8 September 2025 and the Examining Authority's commentary and questions on the draft Development Consent Order also issued 8 September 2025.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any additional information, or should you wish to discuss matters.

Yours sincerely



Assistant Safeguarding Manager  
DIO Safeguarding