



Planning Inspectorate

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To: The applicants, interested parties,
affected persons

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN020028

Date: 26 September 2025

Dear Sir / Madam

**Planning Act 2008 (as amended) – section 89 and The Infrastructure Planning
(Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rules 8(3) and 9**

**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**

**Procedural decision following applicants' request to make changes to the
application and notice of variation of examination timetable**

I am writing to inform you of the procedural decisions made by the Examining Authority (ExA) following the applicants' submission of a request for the ExA to accept amendments to the above application.

In making its procedural decision the ExA has considered the Planning Inspectorate's Guidance "[Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Changes to an application after it has been accepted for examination](#)" (last updated 24 March 2025).

Background

The applicants submitted their updated notice of intention to submit a request for changes to the application on 1 August 2025 [[CR1-003](#)]. This superseded their earlier notification of 23 July 2025. The ExA published its response to the applicants' updated notification on 5 August 2025 [[PD-010](#)].

In our response, we set out that the ExA would not be able to formally decide whether the resulting project following the proposed changes would be materially different until after consideration of all material including the applicants' report reviewing the Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Statement and the responses to the applicants' non-statutory consultation that had yet to be carried out. The ExA also advised that the timescale should make provision for the opportunity for interested parties to submit

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representations about the changed application and for comments to be made on any such responses within the Examination.

The change application

The applicants subsequently submitted their formal request to make changes to the application “the change application” on 8 August 2025 in their “Change Request Report [CR1-005]. This was accompanied by supporting documentation which was also published in the [Examination Library](#) [references CR1-006 to CR1-026]. A description and rationale for each proposed change (including illustrations of each change) are provided in Section 1.2 of the applicants’ Change Request Report. They are summarised in the following table:

Change	Description
1	Amendments to proposed temporary and permanent accesses at Lytham St Annes Way (B5410).
2	Identification of proposed Blackpool Airport operational access from Leach Lane.
3	Removal of proposed operational access from Squires Gate Lane into Blackpool airport.
4	Reduction to order limits at Blackpool Airport, Blackpool Road Recreation Ground and to the east of the Queensway, together with the relocation of proposed construction access and the removal of operational access to the west of Queensway.

The applicants have carried out non-statutory consultation on the proposed changes and they submitted a consultation report on 22 September 2025 [[REP5-154](#) to [REP-157](#)]. This includes the responses received to the non-statutory consultation and the applicants’ comments on those responses. The ExA has considered these responses and comments in making our decision on whether to accept the change application.

ExA’s decision and reasoning in relation to the change application

Taking into consideration the nature and scale of the proposed changes, the ExA considers that the non-statutory consultation undertaken was a reasonable and proportionate approach. Whilst acknowledging the concerns raised by some residents, we consider that it has provided for meaningful consultation and has given parties that may be affected by the proposed changes an appropriate opportunity to engage.

The ExA is of the view that the proposed development, following the proposed changes, will be substantially the same as the project which was initially applied for. In addition, the ExA is satisfied that the combined impact of the changes would not collectively result in a materially different project.

In relation to the Environmental Impact Assessment, the applicants conclude that the proposed changes do not generate new or different likely significant effects. We concur with this view. We have also concluded that the proposed changes would make no difference to the outcome of a Habitats Regulations Assessment. Furthermore, noting that additional areas of land are not required, the changes would not engage the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010.

In the light of the above and having carefully considered the information presented, including the responses to the non-statutory consultation, the ExA has decided to accept the proposed changes to the application.

Next steps and variation to examination timetable

As the ExA has decided to accept the change application, the examination will proceed by considering the 'changed application'.

The ExA is satisfied that there is sufficient time for the changes to be considered during the remaining time within the Examination. To accommodate this the following variations have been made to the examination timetable:

- A new **Deadline 5a** on **Thursday 2 October 2025** has been added to the examination timetable for the applicants to submit updated versions of the relevant application documents to reflect the accepted changed application.
- The existing **Deadline 6** on **Wednesday 22 October 2025** now also includes the opportunity for written submissions to be made on the changed application.
- The existing **Deadline 7** on **Wednesday 29 October 2025** subsequently now also includes the opportunity for comments on any submissions made at deadline 6 about the changed application.

These revisions to the timetable are set out in Annex A.

If you have any questions about the content of this letter, please contact the Planning Inspectorate's Case Team using the contact details set out at the head of this letter.

Yours faithfully

David Cliff

Lead Member of the Examining Authority

This communication does not constitute legal advice.

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Amendment to Examination Timetable

17.	Publication by the Examining Authority of: Report on the Implications for European Sites and any associated questions (if required)	Wednesday 1 October 2025
18.	Deadline 5a For receipt by the Examining Authority of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The applicants updated versions of the relevant application documents to reflect the accepted changed application 	Thursday 2 October 2025
19.	Issue specific hearing 4 – environmental, onshore and offshore matters and the draft development consent order	Tuesday 7 October 2025 at 10am
20.	Continuation of issue specific hearing 4 – environmental, onshore and offshore matters and the draft development consent order	Wednesday 8 October 2025 at 9.30am
21.	Compulsory acquisition hearing 3	Thursday 9 October 2025 at 9.30am
22.	Deadline 6 For receipt by the Examining Authority of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post hearing submissions including written submissions of oral cases Comments on the Examining Authority's Report on the Implications for European Sites and any associated questions (if required) Post hearing submissions including written submissions of oral cases Comments on the changed application Final Development Consent Order to be submitted by the applicants in the SI template and final schedule of changes Final Explanatory Memorandum Final statements of common ground including summaries of the principal areas of disagreement Applicants' final Application Guide Final Land Rights Tracker 	Wednesday 22 October 2025

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Book of Reference and schedule of changes to Book of Reference • Final policy trackers • Applicants' final report on interrelationships with other infrastructure projects • Comments on responses to the Examining Authority's further written questions (if required) • Any further information requested by the Examining Authority under Rule 17 of the Examination Rules • Comments on any further information/ submissions received by deadline 5 	
23.	<p>Deadline 7</p> <p>For receipt by the Examining Authority of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing statements • Comments on responses to the changed application • Any further information requested by the Examining Authority under Rule 17 of the Examination Rules 	Wednesday 29 October 2025
24.	The Examining Authority is under a duty to complete the examination of the application by the end of the period of six months	Wednesday 29 October 2025