

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 4:

Hearing	Date and time	Location
Issue specific hearing 4 (ISH4) Environmental, onshore and offshore matters and the draft development consent order (DCO)	Tuesday 7 October 2025 Hearing starts at 10.00am Continuing Wednesday 8 October 2025 at 9.30am Registration and seating available at venue from 9.00am and virtual registration process from 9.00am (on both days)	Village Hotel, East Park Drive, Blackpool FY3 8LL and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams

Agenda

Item 1	Introductions, arrangements and purpose of the hearing
Item 2	Statements of common ground (SoCG) Update on SoCG submissions
Item 3	Noise a) Operational noise - outstanding concerns b) Construction noise - outstanding concerns c) Outline Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan d) Commitments
Item 4	Landscape and visual matters a) Update on recent negotiations and matters outstanding b) Outline Design Principles c) Landscape strategy and Outline Landscape Management Plan d) Outline Arboricultural Method Statement and related matters e) Cumulative effects assessment
Item 5	Transportation and traffic a) Acceptability of HGV Routes and Accesses – Update b) Construction accesses - Ballam Road

	c) Any access related issues arising from changed application
Item 6	Socio-economic and land use <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Blackpool Road recreation ground b) Local authorities comments on the Local Tourism assessment submitted at deadline 5 c) Employment and Skills Plan d) Use of the Freckleton bridleway e) Wrea Green Equitation Centre f) Outstanding agricultural land-use/farming matters
Item 7	Onshore ecology/biodiversity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Update on outstanding issues under discussion with Natural England relating to Onshore Ecology and Onshore and Intertidal Ornithology b) Peat compensation strategy for worse-case scenario c) Onshore Biodiversity Benefit Statement and Biodiversity Benefit Supporting Statement d) Outline Ecological Management Plan e) Commitments
Item 8	Aviation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Update on positions of parties further to deadline 5 submissions b) Consideration of the applicants' Bird Strike Policy Note and compliance with relevant policy, including National Policy Statement (NPS) EN-1 c) Consideration of the Outline Wildlife Hazard Management Plan (including Appendices A and B) d) Comments on the proposed requirement 27 (wildlife hazard management plan) of the draft development consent order (DCO) e) Concluding comments, including matters relating to Secretary of State decision making
Item 9	Offshore ecology <p>Update on outstanding issues under discussion with Natural England relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benthic ecology (including Measures of Equivalent Environmental Benefit Plan and draft DCO Compensation Schedule) • Fish and shellfish ecology • Marine Mammals
Item 10	Draft development consent order <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Articles, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article 6 (Benefit of the order) • Article 8 (Defence to proceedings in respect of statutory nuisance) • Article 10 (Power to alter layout etc. of streets) • Article 14 (Access to works)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 29 (Temporary use of land for carrying out the authorised project) Article 35 (Felling or lopping of trees and removal of hedgerows) Article 47 (Inconsistent planning permissions) Other outstanding matters relating to articles <p>b) Schedules 2A and 2B (Requirements), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> R1 (Time limits) R4 (Substation works) R5 (Detailed design parameters onshore) R6 (Provision of landscaping) R7 (Implementation and establishment of landscaping) R9 (Traffic and transport) R10 (Highway accesses) R12 (Ecological management plan) R14 (Construction hours) R16 (Restoration of land used temporarily for construction) R18 (Control of noise during the operational stage) R20 (Operational drainage management plan) R25 (Onshore collaboration) R26 (Biodiversity benefit) R27 (Wildlife Hazard Management Plan) Other outstanding matters relating to requirements <p>c) Schedule 10 (Protective provisions)</p> <p>d) Schedule 12 (Approval of matters specified in requirements)</p> <p>e) Schedules 14, 15, 16 and 17 (Marine Licences), including any outstanding issues raised by Natural England and the Marine Management Organisation</p> <p>f) Schedule 18 (Documents to be certified)</p> <p>g) Without prejudice benthic compensation schedule</p>
Item 11	Control and management documents <p>a) Any outstanding comments on outline Code of Construction Practice</p> <p>b) Outline Communications Plan</p> <p>c) Outline Onshore Written Scheme of Investigation</p>
Item 12	Other <p>Application of NPS – EN1 (section 4.2) policy on critical national priority for low carbon infrastructure</p>
Item 13	Review of actions arising
Item 14	Close of hearing

Purpose of ISH

This issue specific hearing is being held to further consider specific issues and questions identified by us through our reading of submissions to date including those recently made at deadline 5. We consider that the matters set out in this agenda would benefit from further 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.

The ExA will continue to consider written submissions, 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 Borough Council
- Defence Infrastructure Organisation
- Fylde Borough Council
- Lancashire County Council
- National Farmers Union
- Preston City Council
- South Ribble Borough Council

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 7 October 2025 to start on time at **10.00am** and on Wednesday 8 October 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:

- Draft development consent order [REP5-011]
- Biodiversity Benefit Supporting Statement [REP5-145]
- Environmental Statement Commitments Register [REP5-026]
- Local Tourism Assessment [REP5-142]
- Onshore Biodiversity Benefit Statement [REP5-076]
- Outline Arboricultural Method Statement [REP5-144]
- Outline Code of Construction practice [REP5-045]
- Outline Communications Plan [REP5-047]
- Outline Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan [REP5-054]
- Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [REP5-067]
- Outline Design Principles [REP5-065]
- Outline Ecological Management Plan [REP5-069]
- Outline Employment and Skills Plan [REP5-084]
- Outline Hydrogeological Risk Assessment for Lytham St Anne's Sand Dunes [REP5-102]
- Outline Landscape Management Plan [REP-062]
- Outline Onshore and Intertidal Written Scheme of Investigation [REP5-071]
- Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan [REP5-058]
- Outline Wildlife Hazard Management Plan [REP5-107]
- Project description [REP5-025]
- Review of Cumulative Effects Assessment and in-Combination Assessment [REP5-100]
- Technical Note: Bird Strike Policy Note [REP5-133]
- Without prejudice benthic compensation schedule [REP5-109]

Procedure at ISH4

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 ISH4 should be included in post-hearing submissions to be submitted by deadline 6 in the Examination Timetable (Wednesday 22 October 2025).