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22 June 2026

**Secretary of State Second Information Request
Morecambe Offshore Wind Farm Transmission Assets**

Dear Sir,

Please find below our response to Question 30 of the Request for Information, as addressed to the Environment Agency, dated 20 May 2026.

We are satisfied that the approach taken by the applicant, which was based on the data available at the time, remains appropriate. We do not consider that the further flood data issued by the Environment Agency in its “Flood Zones plus Climate Change” series¹ (issued 27 August 2025) should be incorporated into the Flood Risk Assessment.

At the time we provided our comments on the FRA, the climate change outlines had not yet been published in the Flood Map for Planning. The current Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) is based on our existing, detailed local hydraulic models.

We would still advise that the most appropriate approach for assessing both present-day and future flood risk for this development is to continue to use our existing, detailed local hydraulic models. These models provide a more representative understanding of flood mechanisms at the site.

Climate change impacts are incorporated by applying the relevant allowances set out in the Flood Risk Assessments: Climate Change Allowances guidance. This includes uplifts for peak river flow and peak rainfall, and where relevant the applicable sea level rise allowances.

This approach ensures that the assessment is based on the best available evidence and is consistent with current guidance and good practice.

The Flood Map for Planning climate change dataset is derived using the NaFRA2 indexing methodology, which is known to overestimate flood risk in many coastal locations. In addition, the dataset does not currently include the water level information required to support site-specific flood risk assessments for climate change scenarios.

Our advice about the climate change outlines published in the Flood Map for Planning is as follows:-

“The climate change outlines published in the Flood Map for Planning show our best understanding of climate change flood risk. It often uses interpolation between available scenarios. In some cases, these are likely to be a little conservative due to limited availability of scenarios at the top end. Further work is being carried out to refine the interpolation method, which is likely to improve these estimates.”

Therefore, until such time as this ‘further work’ has been completed, the climate change outlines should be treated as high-level sensitivity testing information, helping to ensure that the potential impacts of climate change are not underestimated.

We are satisfied that the approach taken by the applicant, based on the data available at the time, remains appropriate.

If you have any questions regarding our response, please contact NIteam@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,



NIteam@environment-agency.gov.uk

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