

Date: 07 August 2026
Our ref: 552907
Your ref: EN020032



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BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear John Wheadon,

Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

Application by Morgan Offshore Wind Limited, Morecambe Offshore Wind Limited (“the Applicant”) for an Order granting Development Consent for the proposed Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farm Transmission Assets (“Project”)

The following constitutes Natural England’s formal statutory response to the Secretary of State’s Request for Information (RFI) dated 08 July 2026. The information below is in response to questions outlined in Part 2 of the RFI.

Natural England has been invited to comment upon:

Responses to the second information request [C2-001].

Natural England provided a response to Part 1 of the third RFI request on 22 July 2026. We have no further comments relating specifically to documents submitted at the second RFI.

Outlined below are outstanding issues that have not been progressed since the close of Examination which Natural England wishes to bring to the Secretary of States attention.

Benthic and Subtidal Ecology and MEEB

As noted during Examination (REP2-062), and most recently in our response to question 22 of the RFI issued 12 March 2026 (C1-016), the Applicant’s most recent updates to documents at Deadline 6 and Deadline 7 did not include any refinement to the impacts with regards to lasting habitat loss/change within Fylde MCZ.

Our view remains unchanged from the detailed advice provided at Deadline 2 during Examination (Appendix J, REP2-062), that we do not agree with the approach taken to determine the maximum design scenario (MDS) for lasting habitat change/loss due to the placement of cable protection. The approach taken assumed that MDS for cable protection requirements could occur wholly within a single feature type, either the subtidal mud or subtidal sand feature. We advised that an accurate MDS and realistic Worst-Case Scenario (WCS) for each feature should be presented and highlighted the importance of providing this information to inform compensation requirements for Measures of Equivalent Environmental Benefit (MEEB).

Without further refinement of the MDS for lasting habitat change/loss we continue to advise that MEEB is required to compensate for lasting habitat loss/change for both features, subtidal sand and subtidal mud, to the maximum extent of 26,400m² and 30,400m² for each feature respectively from the placement of cable protection within Fylde MCZ.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted signature]

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Cheshire to Lancashire Area Team