

Date: 18th December 2019
Our Reference: AU-PM575-0004-00001



Margaret Tierney
Marine Management Organisation
Lancaster House
Hampshire Court
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE4 7YH

Via email: Margaret.Tierney@marinemanagement.org.uk

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The Dogger Bank Creyke Beck Offshore Wind Farm Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/318) (“the DCO”) as corrected by The Dogger Bank Creyke Beck Offshore Wind Farm (Correction) Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/1742) (the Correction Order) and The Dogger Bank Creyke Beck Offshore Wind Farm (Amendment) Order 2019 (S.I. 2019/838) (the Amendment Order).

Application for an amendment to the deemed Marine Licences pursuant to Section 72(3)(d) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.

Dear Margaret,

I'm writing to you on behalf of Doggerbank Offshore Wind Farm Project 1 Projco Limited and Doggerbank Offshore Wind Farm Project 2 Projco Limited (together the Projects and the Project Companies). These companies are a joint venture between SSE and Equinor, which have been set up to take forward the development of the Creyke Beck Projects (as defined by Schedule 1, Part 1 of the DCO).

The DCO which consents the Creyke Beck Projects came into force on 11 March 2015 and includes four deemed marine licences (dMLs) at Schedules 8 to 11. The dMLs were subsequently varied on 25 April 2019 (Variation 1) consequential to approval of a non-material change to the DCO and on 2 October 2019 (Variation 2) for minor changes to wording in relation to the phased discharge of conditions.

The Projcos have applied for a non-material change to the DCO to amend the stated gross electrical output capacity of up to 1.2 gigawatts for the Projects to a gross electrical output capacity of more than 100 megawatts, so that the description of the Projects no longer operates as a capacity cap. The reason for the reference to more than 100 megawatts is to make it clear that the Projects remain nationally significant infrastructure projects for the purposes of the Planning Act 2008. This application is under consideration by BEIS.

As a consequence, variations to the deemed marine licences contained within the DCO to amend the definition of “Work No. 1A” and “Work No. 1B” and to remove reference to the maximum permitted generating capacity are being sought.

The purpose of the proposed change is to enable the Projects to take advantage of technological progress in turbine design which would allow for increased electrical output (i.e. above and beyond the currently anticipated output) in order to maximise the delivery of renewable energy within the currently consented parameters (i.e. with no greater environmental effect than previously assessed). The change does not necessitate amendments to any other project parameters and is only required in order to ensure that capacity does not operate as a restriction on the Projects whilst not being a parameter itself.

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I enclose the supporting information report which forms part of the non-material change (NMC) application for the DCO. This report demonstrates that the variations requested will not give rise to any new or materially different environmental effects as compared to the existing Creyke Beck Projects consented by the DCO and deemed marine licences. The report also demonstrates that the variations required do not introduce the need for a new Habitats Regulation Assessment.

Annex 1 enclosed with this letter sets out the nature of the variations which are requested in full. Any proposed alterations to the wording of the dML conditions are shown in in bold, and the words to be removed have been shown in strike through text

It is hereby formally requested that the variations to the deemed marine licences at Schedules 8 to 11 of the DCO, as set out in the enclosed Annex 1 and explained above, be approved.

If you have any queries in respect of the information contained within this application, then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Dogger Bank Projects

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Wilson', is written over the printed name.

Jonathan Wilson

Lead Consent Manager
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