

## S42 Consultation Notification

12 August 2019

Your ref. Hornsea Four S42  
Our ref. S42\_0259136

Dear Sir/ Madam,

### Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm

### Statutory Consultation under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 13 of Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017

We are writing to consult with you on a proposed offshore wind farm, Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm (hereafter referred to as Hornsea Four) that Orsted Hornsea Project Four Ltd (hereafter referred to as Orsted) is proposing to develop. Hornsea Four is located in the southern North Sea and comprises a maximum of 180 wind turbine generators.

You have been identified as a consultee for the purposes of section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 and/or Regulation 13 of Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. The statutory consultation commences on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2019 and closes on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019**. Please see below for more information on how to view and comment on our proposed application.

The offshore wind turbines will be located in the "array area", which has a total area of 600 km<sup>2</sup> and is located approximately 65km east of Flamborough Head on the Yorkshire coast.

The electricity generated from Hornsea Four will be transmitted via subsea electricity cables. The Hornsea Four offshore cable corridor extends from the southwestern boundary of the array area in a west-south-westerly direction to the East Riding of Yorkshire coastline (See Statutory Consultation Plan).

From the East Riding of Yorkshire coast, underground onshore cables will connect the offshore wind farm to an onshore high voltage direct current (HVDC) converter station or a high voltage alternating current (HVAC) substation, which in turn, will connect to the existing Creyke Beck National Grid substation, located to the north of Cottingham. The mode of transmission will be either HVDC, HVAC or a combination of the two. Depending on the mode of transmission, a HVAC booster station may be required (onshore and/or offshore). The onshore cable corridor search area currently comprises an 80m wide corridor within which a 60m onshore cable corridor permanent easement will be located.

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## **THE DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER APPLICATION**

As the proposed generating capacity of Hornsea Four exceeds 100 megawatts (MW) it is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project as defined by Section 15(3) of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) (the Act), for which Orsted must apply for a Development Consent Order (DCO). If the DCO application is accepted, the Planning Inspectorate will then process and examine the application and then make a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. The final decision on the DCO application will be made by the Secretary of State.

The DCO application will contain full details of Hornsea Four and will be accompanied by an Environmental Statement prepared under Section 37(3) of the Act and in accordance with the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the Regulations).

The proposed DCO will include powers for Orsted to construct, operate, maintain and decommission Hornsea Four, including Deemed Marine Licence(s). The proposed DCO will also seek the compulsory acquisition of land and rights over land, including the power to take temporary possession of land to construct and maintain Hornsea Four.

In accordance with section 48 of the Act, Orsted must publicise the proposed application. A copy of that notice is enclosed with this letter in accordance with Regulation 13 of the Regulations.

Hornsea Four is currently in the pre-application phase, with a DCO application expected to be submitted in Quarter 1 of 2020. Under the Act, Orsted is required to carry out consultation on the proposed DCO application before submission and will have regard to the responses received in the final design of Hornsea Four, and in the assessment and mitigation of its environmental impacts. A Consultation Report explaining how Orsted has had regard to responses will be submitted as part of the DCO application.

This consultation includes:

- Consultation with prescribed bodies, host and neighbouring authorities and any persons with an interest in land affected by Hornsea Four (under Section 42);
- Consultation with the local community near Hornsea Four (under Section 47); and
- General public consultation on Hornsea Four (under Section 48).

Orsted has prepared a Preliminary Environment Information Report (PEIR) (which is a draft version of the Environmental Statement). The PEIR sets out the preliminary findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) undertaken to date and forms the basis of this statutory consultation. A non-technical summary of the PEIR has also been prepared. The purpose of the PEIR is to enable consultees to understand the likely environmental effects of Hornsea Four and to help inform consultation responses.

Consultees are invited to consider the proposed application for Hornsea Four and the information provided in the PEIR and Orsted is keen to receive your comments on Hornsea Four and the PEIR.

It should be noted that the EIA is an on-going process and the project design for Hornsea Four continues to evolve. For example, the enclosed Statutory Consultation Plan includes several modifications and additions to for temporary road works at access points to and from the Export Cable Corridor and local highways that are currently being assessed by Hornsea Four. Although the assessment of these options is not included in the PEIR, Hornsea Four welcomes your comments on these potential road works.

## **PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED**

- Hard copy of the Onshore and Offshore Statutory Consultation Plans.
- Hard copy of notice publicised in accordance with Section 48 of the Act. This notice includes details of public consultation events and locations where the consultation material can be inspected free of charge.
- A link to the Hornsea Four website (<https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/en/Hornsea-Project>) where materials can be downloaded.
  - Statutory Consultation Plan/s;
  - Full PEIR including a Non-Technical Summary, Introductory Chapters, offshore chapters, onshore chapters, Introductory Chapter Annex's, offshore chapter annex's, onshore chapter annex's;
  - Impacts Register;
  - Commitments Register;

- Draft Development Consent Order (DCO) and Deemed Marine Licences; and
- Outline protocols, plans and strategies.

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The above consultation materials are available on USB upon request.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

Documents, plans and maps showing the nature and location of Hornsea Four, including the PEIR (with a non-technical summary) for Hornsea Four, can be accessed free of charge during the Consultation from 13 August 2019 until 23 September 2019. Details of the venues, including opening times are provided in the Notice enclosed with this letter.

The consultation documents will also be available at public exhibitions from the 02 to 07 September 2019, details for which are provided in the Notice enclosed with this letter.

Further information regarding Hornsea Four can be found on the Hornsea Four website: <https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/en/Hornsea-Project-Four>

## RESPONDING TO THIS CONSULTATION

Orsted welcomes your comments on Hornsea Project Four and the PEIR. Any responses to, or other representations in respect of, Hornsea Four and/or the PEIR should be sent to Orsted:

- By email to: [hornseaprojectfour@orsted.co.uk](mailto:hornseaprojectfour@orsted.co.uk) or;
- By post to:  
Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm  
Orsted, 5 Howick Place, London, SW1P 1WG

Orsted requests that any response or representation in respect of the proposed DCO must be;

- received by Orsted no later than **23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019** to be considered;
- be made in writing (email/letter);
- state the grounds of the response or representation;
- indicate who is making the response or representation; and
- provide an address to which any correspondence relating to the response or representation may be sent.

Please note that responses and other representations will be recorded in the Consultation Report and may be made public.

Guidance on the pre-application process and the Act can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's website:  
<http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/>

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## NEXT STEPS

As mentioned above, consultation under section 42 of the Act and Regulation 13 of the Regulations is a formal part of the pre-application process for a DCO. Hornsea Four will have regard to comments received during the consultation period and a Consultation Report explaining how Hornsea Four has had regard to responses will be submitted as part of the DCO application.

If you have any questions regarding the process or content of this consultation, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully



Julian Carolan  
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Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm

Freephone: 0808 169 3030