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| S42 Additional Targeted Consultation Notification |

Dear Sir/ Madam,

**Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm–** **Amendment to Hornsea Four onshore substation (OnSS) construction and operation and maintenance access strategy.**

**Targeted Statutory Consultation under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008.**

We are writing to you as you have been identified as a consultee for the purposes of section 42(1) of the Planning Act 2008 in respect of the Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm (Hornsea Four).

We have previously consulted with you on our proposals for Hornsea Four including our formal statutory consultation on the proposed DCO application and Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) which ran between 13 August and 23 September 2019 and a subsequent Targeted Consultation which ran between 17 February and 18 March 2020.

As you will be aware Hornsea Four is located approximately 65 km east of Flamborough Head in the southern North Sea. The electricity generated from Hornsea Four will be transmitted via subsea electricity cables to the East Riding of Yorkshire coastline. 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.

This Targeted Statutory Consultation under section 42(1) of the Act is to consult with you on proposed amendments to the Hornsea Four onshore substation (OnSS) and energy balancing infrastructure (EBI) access requirements, as further detailed below and in the accompanying Supporting Information.

This statutory consultation commences on 4 August 2020 and closes at midnight on **8 September 2020.** Please see below for more information on how to view and comment on our proposed application.

**Proposed Change**

In considering responses to the statutory consultation carried out previously and as part of the ongoing design development, Hornsea Four now proposes that the permanent access for the OnSS and EBI will be taken directly from the A1079. A wider temporary access will also be located in this location in order to construct the OnSS, EBI and onshore export cable corridor. The location of the temporary and permanent access has been selected so as to route construction, and operation and maintenance traffic away from Cottingham and Dunswell. Hornsea Four also proposes to move the access 15m away from the Birkhill Wood to reduce any impacts on the ancient woodland.

The potential for the temporary OnSS and EBI construction access to become a permanent operational and maintenance access was initially identified within the PEIR (Volume 1, Chapter 3: Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives and Volume 1, Chapter 4: Project Description). In response to a number of consultation responses received from local residents, parish councils and engagement with the local highway authority, Hornsea Four now proposes that an access track will remain in situ for the lifetime of the offshore wind farm, removing the requirement to route vehicles from the south, through Cottingham.

This change was first communicated in December 2019 Consultation Summary Report and then in the May 2020 newsletter, both of which were sent via post to all residents in our consultation zone and are available for viewing on the project website:

<https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/hornsea-project-four/documents-library>

Further detail on these changes, including vehicle numbers associated with the permanent access road is enclosed in the Supporting Information.

Two maps showing the access changes are also provided. See **Map 1 and Map 2**: S42 Overview Maps of access changes

**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.

Hornsea Four is currently in the pre-application phase, with a DCO application expected to be submitted in Q4 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.

**PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED**

* Hard copy of the Targeted Statutory Consultation Plan (Please see **Map 1 and Map 2**)
* S42 Consultation Supporting Information

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

Further information regarding Hornsea Four (including the consultation information referred to above and the PEIR) can be found in the Documents Library on the Hornsea Four website: https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/hornsea-project-four/documents-library/formal-consultation

For any enquiries in relation to any documents, plans or maps relating to Hornsea Four, the PEIR and/or other consultation information please contact Orsted on 0808 169 3030 or using the email address or postal address listed below.

**RESPONDING TO THIS CONSULTATION**

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

* By email to: 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 is;

* received by Orsted no later than midnight on **8 September 2020**;
* 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/>

**NEXT STEPS**

As mentioned above, consultation under section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 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

Consent Project Manager

Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm

Freephone: 0808 169 3030