

Planning Act 2008: Proposed minor amendments to a draft development consent order post submission

THE PROPOSED DOGGER BANK TEESSIDE A & B OFFSHORE WIND FARM DEVELOPMENT (Application Reference EN010051)

On 28 March 2014 Forewind Limited (the Applicant) of 55 Vastern Road, Reading, Berkshire RG1 8BU applied to the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change (the Secretary of State) for a development consent order (DCO) under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (the Act) for the Dogger Bank Teesside A & B offshore wind farm (the Application).

The Application was accepted for examination on 23 April 2014 (Application Reference: EN010051). Examination of the Application commenced on 5 August 2014 and is scheduled to close on 5 February 2015.

The Application

1. The Application relates to the construction and operation of the Dogger Bank Teesside A & B offshore wind farm (the Project). The Project is the second stage of development of the Dogger Bank Zone in the North Sea. It comprises two offshore wind farm arrays (Dogger Bank Teesside A and Dogger Bank Teesside B) each with a generating capacity of up to 1.2 gigawatts and associated infrastructure. The proposed array of Dogger Bank Teesside A is 560km² in area and 196 kilometres at its closest point from the UK coast. The proposed array of Dogger Bank Teesside B is 593km² in area and 165 kilometres at its closest point from the UK coast. Given that the generating capacity of the Development is more than 100 megawatts, an application for development consent is required to be made to the Secretary of State under the provisions of the Act.

2. The Application seeks an order granting development consent for the construction and operation of both Dogger Bank Teesside A and Dogger Bank Teesside B. The proposals include export cables that will connect the offshore wind farm arrays to the UK on the Teesside coast between Redcar and Marske-by-the-Sea and onshore cables from the coast to the converter stations and existing National Grid substation at Lackenby, Redcar and Cleveland.

3. The DCO would, amongst other things, authorise:

Offshore

- Up to 400 wind turbines with supporting tower structures, foundations fixed to the seabed and associated support and access structures
- Up to two offshore high voltage direct current (HVDC) converter platforms with foundations fixed to the seabed
- Up to eight offshore collector platforms with foundations fixed to the seabed
- Up to four offshore accommodation or helicopter platforms with foundations fixed to the seabed and including facilities for vessels and helicopters for operations and maintenance activities
- Offshore platforms may be co-joined to create a combined platform, resulting in a combined offshore platform comprising two or more of the platform structures described above
- Up to ten offshore meteorological monitoring stations with foundations fixed to the seabed
- Subsea cables between the elements of offshore infrastructure described above
- Offshore export cables carrying electricity from the offshore HVDC converter platforms to the Teesside coast
- Ancillary works including: cable and pipeline crossing structures; protection against foundation scour and subsea damage, cable protection measures and vessel-mooring facilities.

Onshore in the Borough of Redcar & Cleveland:

- Underground cable transition joint bays at the landfall, located between Redcar and Marske-by-the-Sea on the Teesside coast
- Underground HVDC export cables running approximately seven kilometres from the landfall joint bays to the two converter stations

- Up to two converter stations located within the Wilton Complex, with associated access, fencing, landscaping and drainage
- Underground high voltage alternating current (HVAC) export cables running approximately two kilometres from the converter stations to the existing National Grid substation at Lackenby, where connection works will be carried out
- Ancillary works including: temporary working areas, permanent and temporary access roads, and service corridors.

4. The DCO will include a number of other provisions, including those which:

- Authorise the compulsory purchase of land and rights over land, if necessary, to construct and maintain the Project
- Allow all or part of the benefit and rights of the DCO to be transferred to other person(s)
- Are ancillary, incidental and consequential to the above-mentioned purposes and which provide for the permits and/or consents (including but not limited to four deemed marine licences) required in connection with the Project.

Proposed Amendments

5. The Applicant is proposing two minor amendments to the Application, the details of which are as follows:

Proposed Amendment	Reason for Amendment
Proposed Amendment No. 1 Minor amendment to the proposed order limits on part of the land located within Wilton International.	The Applicant has been made aware that the current alignment of the HVAC export cable system for the Project crosses an area of land leased to a third party, a tenant of Sembcorp Utilities (UK) Limited (Sembcorp), the freehold owner of land at Wilton International. To avoid disruption to Sembcorp's tenants, it was the intention of both parties that the works required to construct and operate the Project would remain wholly within Sembcorp's freehold ownership. Accordingly, it is proposed that the HVAC export cable system for the Project will be realigned to give effect to the parties' original intentions.
Proposed Amendment No. 2 Minor reduction to the extent of the proposed order limits on part of the land located between the roundabout of the A174/A1042 and the B1269 Fishponds Road.	To lay part of the HVDC export cable system for the Project, the Application currently proposes either open cut trenching or major horizontal directional drilling (HDD) under land which is also subject to proposed works by York Potash Ltd. The Applicant no longer considers that there is a need to undertake HDD under the above-mentioned land and, therefore, intends to seek consent for open cut trenching only, thereby reducing the extent of the order limits in this location.

6. The Project is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development for the purposes of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009. Accordingly, an Environmental Statement accompanied the Application.

7. The Applicant has prepared and submitted supplementary environmental information (the Supplementary Environmental Information) in connection with Proposed Amendment No. 1. The Supplementary Environmental Information is intended to update, and be read alongside, the information

contained in the Environmental Statement which accompanied the Application.

8. A copy of the Application (comprising the application form, its accompanying documents – including the Environmental Statement – plans and maps), together with the material prepared by the applicant in support of the above-mentioned proposed minor amendments (including the Supplementary Environmental Information) may be inspected free of charge from 16 October 2014 until the examination of the Application closes on 5 February 2015 at the locations and during the hours set out below:

Library	Opening times	Format
Marske Library Windy Hill Lane Marske-by-the-Sea Redcar TS11 7BL	Mon, Thurs and Fri – 9:00am to 12:30pm, 1:30pm to 5:00pm, Tues – 9:00am to 12:30pm, 1:30pm to 6:30pm, Wed – 9:00am to 1:00pm, Sat – 10:00am to 1:30pm Sun – CLOSED	Hard copy and DVD
Redcar Central Library Redcar & Cleveland House, Kirkleatham Street, Redcar TS10 1RT	Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri – 9:00am to 6:00pm, Thurs – 9:00am to 5:00pm, Sat – 9:00am to 12:30pm, Sun – CLOSED	Hard copy and DVD
Saltburn Library Windsor Road Saltburn-by-the-Sea TS12 1JW	Mon – 9:30am to 12:30pm, 1:30pm to 6:30pm, Tues – 1:30pm to 5:00pm, Wed, Thurs and Fri – 9:30am to 12:30pm, 1:30pm to 5:00pm, Sat – 10:00am to 12:30pm, 1:30pm to 4:00pm, Sun – 12:00pm to 4:00pm	DVD only

9. Copies of the documentation referred to in paragraph 8 of this Notice are also available online through The Planning Inspectorate's website at <http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/projects/yorkshire-and-the-humber/dogger-bank-teesside-ab/> as well as through the Applicant's website at www.forewind.co.uk. If required, copies of the documentation can be provided on request to the Applicant. Reasonable charges may apply to cover the cost of postage.

10. Any responses to the proposed minor amendments to the Application should be sent to The Planning Inspectorate by e-mail to DBTeessideAB@infrastructure.gsi.gov.uk and to the Applicant either by e-mail to info@forewind.co.uk or by post to FREEPOST RSLY-HKGK-HEBR, Forewind, Davidson House, Forbury Square, Reading RG1 3EU.

11. Any response to, or representation in respect of the proposed minor amendments to the Application must (i) be received by the Planning Inspectorate and the Applicant by no later than **5pm on 13 November 2014** (ii) be made in writing (iii) state the grounds of the response or representation and (iv) indicate who is making the response or representation, and (v) give an address to which correspondence relating to the response or representation may be sent. Responses and other representations will be made public.

**Forewind Limited
October 2014**