

National Infrastructure Planning Temple Quay House 2 The Square Bristol, BS1 6PN Customer

Services: 0303 444 5000

e-mail: <u>EastAngliaOneNorth@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</u>

All Interested Parties, Statutory Parties and Other Persons

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010077

Date: 17 March 2020

Dear Sir/ Madam

Planning Act 2008 – Sections 91 and 93, and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rules 6, 9 and 13

Application by East Anglia ONE North Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the East Anglia ONE North Offshore Wind Farm Procedural Decision to Postpone Preliminary Meeting and Hearings

I am writing to you following our letter of 21 February 2020 (the Rule 6 Letter)<sup>1</sup> which provided notification of the Preliminary Meeting and initial Hearings for this Examination. Given the government advice on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation, this is the Examining Authority's (ExA's) **procedural decision to postpone the Preliminary Meeting (PM) and Hearings** in order to avoid non-essential travel and large gatherings. It follows that the PM and Hearings that were scheduled to be held at Snape Maltings from 24 to 26 March 2020 will not proceed.

This is a decision to postpone and not to cancel these events. The ExA remains appointed and we are now reviewing all Examination procedures. I will write to you again with further procedural proposals for the Examination, once that work is complete.

In this respect however, I would like to emphasise that the ExA's procedural decision in Annex G of the Rule 6 Letter seeking the preparation of Statements of Common Ground remains in effect. We urge the Applicant and Interested Parties to press ahead with the work necessary to prepare these statements, using remote and digital working methods to replace meetings as required. We also encourage the Applicant to use the additional time period before the start of Examination to continue to prepare their responses to Relevant Representations.

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010077/EN010077-001686-EA1N%20Rule%206%20Letter%20and%20Annexes%20(ExA%20Post%20Finalisation).pdf



In the meantime, please accept my apologies for any disruption consequent on this decision. However, I trust that you will appreciate that the approach we set out is fully justified by the circumstances in which we all find ourselves.

A letter in the same terms has also been sent today in respect of the Examination for the East Anglia TWO Offshore Wind Farm.

Yours faithfully

Rynd Smith

**Lead Member of the Panel of Examining Inspectors** 

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