



Environment Information Regulations

Planning advice to the Government in relation to
Hornsea Projects 1, 2 and 3 wind farms

For a Link to the FOI/EIR page visit: <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=6077>
For further information about the Joint Nature Conservation Committee visit:
<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/>

Number of EIR 201804

Request

Does the JNCC have any documents relating to its planning advice to the Government in relation to Hornsea Projects 1,2 and 3 wind farms?

Initial reply

After careful consideration, we estimate that your current request would require longer than 18 working hours, a reasonable time limit suggested by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). To avoid refusing your request under Reg 12(4)(b) could you please provide a more specific indication of the information or documents you require. For example, is there a specific phase of the Hornsea developments in which you have an interest?

Please note that JNCC advice to Government concerning Hornsea 1 is publicly available on the Planning Authority (PINS) website and the MMO website.

On the PINS website, full documentation associated with Hornsea 1 can be found at <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/yorkshire-and-the-humber/hornsea-offshore-wind-farm-zone-4-project-one/?ipcsection=docs>. You can search for documents by provider, but please note that much of the advice provided on Hornsea wind farms was joint advice between JNCC and Natural England. You therefore need to search for both Natural England and JNCC to see all the advice that was provided.

Similar documentation can be found on the same website for Hornsea 2 and Hornsea 3, but any search for these must focus on Natural England, as delegation of statutory responsibility from JNCC to Natural England had been made by that point (on 9 December 2013, under paragraph 17(c) of Schedule 4 to the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, Natural England was authorised to exercise the JNCC's functions as a statutory consultee in respect of applications for offshore renewable energy installations in offshore waters (0-200nm) adjacent to England).

On the MMO website, public documents can be searched for here: <https://marinelicensing.marinemangement.org.uk/mmofox5/fox/live/>. We again suggest that you should search for Natural England and JNCC in this system.

Clarified request

Re Hornsea Projects One and Two, the information I am particularly seeking is the recommendation (if any) to the minister from JNCC. It may have been offered jointly with Natural England. I am assuming it is just a single document.

Re Hornsea Project Three, I understand that this is still at the consultative stage and no recommendation is likely to have made at this stage.

Final reply

Thank you for your request for information and subsequent clarification, received by JNCC on 15 March 2018, which we have dealt with under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

Regarding Hornsea Project One, we would clarify that JNCC did not provide advice to ministers. The recommendations offered jointly by JNCC and Natural England are available on the IPC website as previously indicated. At the point of submission it was then the planning examiners recommendation that the Secretary of State be considered in their decision-making process. Any further advice on Hornsea One, post-consent, and Hornsea Two and Three are the responsibility of Natural England as previously advised.

Please acknowledge receipt of this email. If you do require any further detail please do not hesitate to contact us.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint please contact Kirsty Meadows (kirsty.meadows@jncc.gov.uk).

If you are still not satisfied following this, you can make an appeal to the Information Commissioner who is the statutory regulator. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Telephone: 08456 30 60 60
01625 54 57 45
www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

John Henson Webb

Communications and Corporate Governance Officer
BSc (Hons)
JNCC, Monkstone House, City Road, Peterborough, PE1 1JY
Tel: 01733 866801, Direct Dial: 0773 866844
Email: john.hensonwebb@jncc.gov.uk



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