



# Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm

## Category 7: Addition Information

### Safety Zone Statement

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# Contents

1	Summary .....	7
2	Introduction.....	9
3	Safety Zone Statement .....	10
4	Scope of Awel y Mor DCO Application .....	12
	Offshore .....	13
5	Safety Zone Application .....	14
6	Conclusion .....	18

# Figures

Figure 1: AyM Order Limits.....	11
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# Tables

Table 1: Coordinates of proposed <i>Work no.1</i> .....	12
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# Glossary of terms

TERM	DEFINITION
The array	The area where the wind turbines will be located.
AyM	The Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm project.
Environmental Statement (ES)	A document reporting the findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in accordance with the EIA Regulations.
Export Cable Corridor (ECC)	The area(s) where the export cables will be located.

TERM	DEFINITION
Development Consent Order (DCO)	An order made under the Planning Act 2008 granting development consent for a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) from the Secretary of State (SoS).
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report. The PEIR was written in the style of a draft Environmental Statement (ES) and formed the basis of statutory consultation. Following that consultation, the PEIR documentation was updated into the final ES that accompanies the applications for the Development Consent Order (DCO) and Marine Licences.
Order Limits	The extent of development including all offshore and onshore works areas.

## Abbreviations and acronyms

TERM	DEFINITION
AyM	Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm
BEIS	Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy
DCO	Development Consent Order
ECCs	Export cable corridors
ES	Environmental Statement
GyM	Gwynt y Môr offshore wind farm
HVAC	High voltage alternating current
MHWS	Mean High Water Spring
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure project

TERM	DEFINITION
OSPs	Offshore Substation Platforms
PINS	The Planning Inspectorate
WTG	Wind Turbine Generator
SoS	Secretary of State

## Units

UNIT	DEFINITION
km	Kilometer
m	meter
kV	Kilovolt
MW	Megawatt

# 1 Summary

- 1 Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm (AyM) is a proposed sister project to Gwynt y Môr Offshore Wind Farm (GyM) which is located off the coast of north Wales and has been operational since 2015. AyM will comprise an array of offshore Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) in Welsh waters with an overall capacity greater than 350 Megawatts (MW) and therefore constitutes a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under Section 15(3B) of the Planning Act 2008. Such projects require a Development Consent Order (DCO) to be granted by the relevant UK Secretary of State (SoS); in this case, the SoS for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). Marine planning is a matter which is devolved to the Welsh Government, and therefore marine licences are also required under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. The Applicant is seeking these consents through parallel applications to the SoS for BEIS and Welsh Government, respectively.
- 2 Section 95 of the Energy Act 2004 allows for the creation of safety zones where there is a renewable energy installation proposed to be constructed in water adjacent to Great Britain.
- 3 Regulation 6(1)(b)(ii) of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedures) Regulations 2009 (the APFP Regulations) requires the applicant of an offshore generating station to submit a statement to accompany an application for Development Consent Order (DCO) as to whether applications will be made for safety zones. This Safety Zone Statement has been prepared in accordance with the APFP Regulations.
- 4 This statement outlines the legislative requirements relating to applications for safety zones for offshore WTGs under section 95 of the Energy Act 2004, the approach that will be taken by Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm Limited (the Applicant) to the safety zone application and the scope of the works for which the DCO is being sought.

- 5 The safety zone application provides all of the information required by paragraph 3 of Schedule 16 to the 2004 Act and Regulation 3 of the Electricity (Offshore Generating Stations) (Safety Zones) (Applications procedures and Control of Access) Regulations 2007 (the 2007 Regulations).
- 6 In accordance with Section 95 of the Energy Act 2004, the safety zone application will be made to the SoS for BEIS (the 'Secretary of State').
- 7 The safety zone application would be made once the final number and precise location of the offshore infrastructure has been determined. An application for safety zones is likely to be made during 2026.
- 8 The Applicant's application would be for safety zones of 500 m around structures during construction, 50 m around structures which are installed but awaiting further works or commissioning, and 500 m from structures undergoing major maintenance works. These zones will be necessary to ensure the safety of the wind turbines and other infrastructure, individuals working thereon, construction vessels and other vessels navigating in the area whilst works take place.

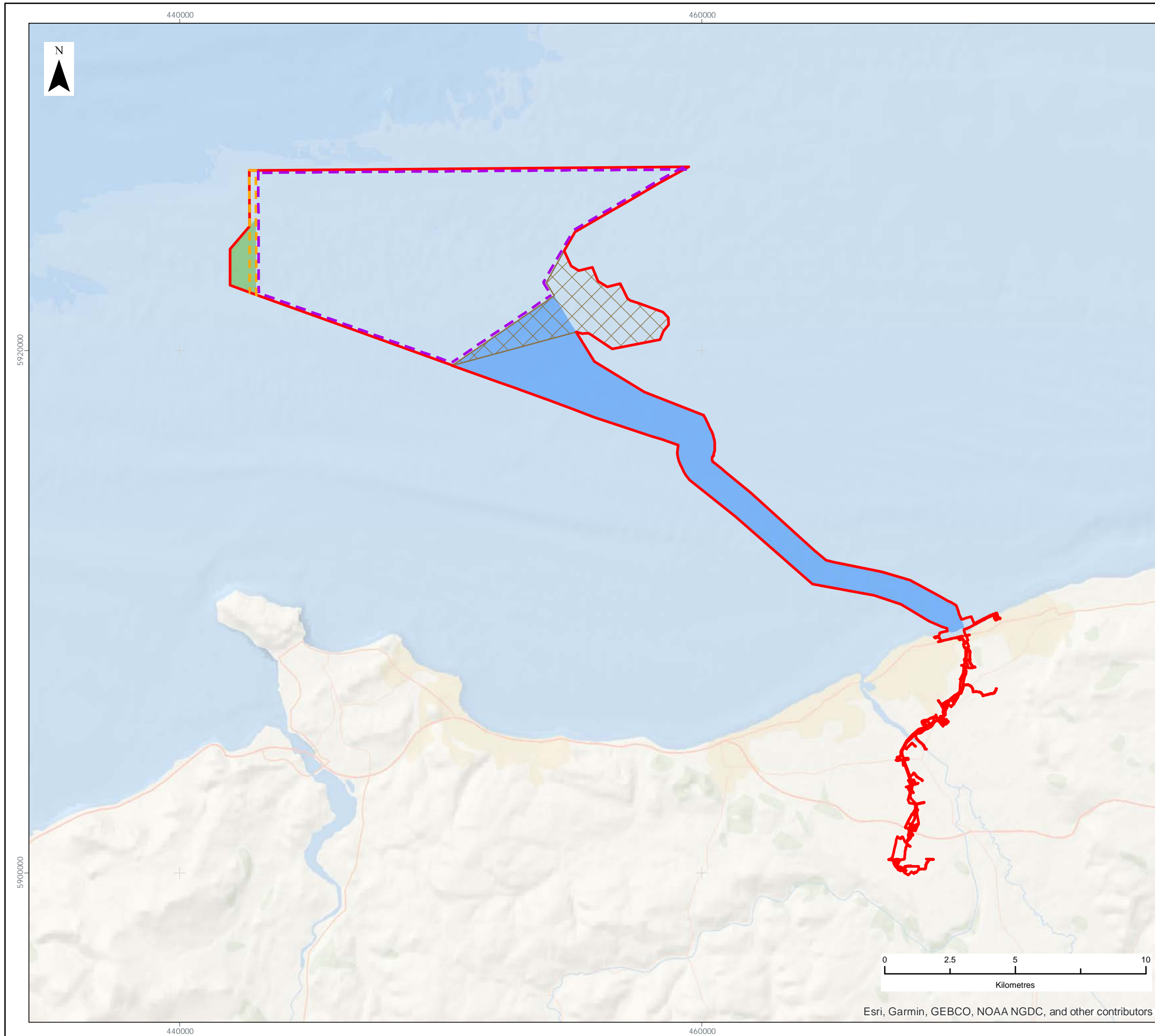
## 2 Introduction

- 9 This statement accompanies an application for AyM.
- 10 AyM is a proposed sister project to the operational GyM off the north-east coast of Wales. AyM will comprise up to 50 WTGs and all associated infrastructure required to transmit the electricity generated to shore, as well as all infrastructure required to operate and maintain the wind farm. The transmission voltage will be up to 400 kV, with a maximum of two export circuits, and will use High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC) technology. At AyM, offshore WTGs will be connected via subsea cables to Offshore Substation Platforms (OSPs) that will transform the voltage and transmit the power generated via subsea cables within the offshore Export Cable Corridor (ECC) to shore east of Rhyl.
- 11 AyM will consist of an offshore generating station(s) in Welsh Waters with a capacity of greater than 350 MW and therefore is a NSIP, as defined by Section 15(3) of the Planning Act 2008. As such, there is a requirement to submit an application for a DCO to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) to be decided by the Secretary of State.
- 12 Regulation 6(1)(b)(ii) of the APFP Regulations requires the applicant for a DCO for an offshore generating station, to provide a statement as to whether an application will be made for safety zones in respect of that offshore generating station. As such, this statement has been prepared pursuant to Regulation 6(1)(b)(ii).



### 3 Safety Zone Statement

- 13 The Applicant intends to apply for a standard 500 m safety zone, as per the definition in Regulation 2 of the 2007 Regulations, around each of the WTGs, OSPs and the met mast while construction works are ongoing (identified by the presence of a large construction vessel).
- 14 Safety zones of 50 m may be sought for pre-commissioned structures at which construction activity may be temporarily paused (and therefore the 500 m safety zone has lapsed as there is no longer a construction vessel on site) such as installed monopiles without transition pieces or where construction works are completed but the wind farm has not yet been commissioned.
- 15 It is anticipated that the application will also request a standard 500 m safety zone for major maintenance works during the operational phase of the project. This is in order to ensure the safety of the WTGs, OSPs, the met mast, the individuals working thereon, the wind farm related vessels and other vessels navigating in the area while works take place.
- 16 "Major maintenance works" are defined by Regulation 2 of the 2007 Regulations as works relating to any renewable energy installation which has become operational, requiring the attachment to, or anchoring next to, such an installation of a self-elevating platform, jack-up barge, crane barge or other maintenance vessel.



**LEGEND**

- Order Limits
- Array Area
- Offshore Export Cable Corridor
- Other Wind Farm Infrastructure Zone
- Subsea Infrastructure and Temporary Works Area
- GyM Interlink Zone

Data Source:

PROJECT TITLE:  
*AWEL Y MÔR OFFSHORE WINDFARM*

FIGURE TITLE:  
**The AyM Order Limits**

VER	DATE	REMARKS	Drawn	Checked
1	15/09/2021	For Issue for PEIR	BPHB	RM
2	03/03/2022	For Issue For ES	BPHB	RM

FIGURE NUMBER:  
**Figure 1**

SCALE: 1:150,000    PLOT SIZE: A3    DATUM: WGS84    PROJECTION: UTM30N



Esri, Garmin, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

## 4 Scope of Awel y Môr DCO Application

- 17 The AyM DCO seeks consent for the following works, as set out in Schedule 1 Part 1 of the DCO (insert document ref) and repeated below:
- 18 Work No.1-
- an offshore wind turbine generating station with a gross electrical output capacity of over 350 megawatts, comprising up to 50 wind turbine generators each fixed to the seabed by a foundation, and further comprising (b) to (f) below;
  - up to two offshore substation platforms each fixed to the seabed by a foundation;
  - one meteorological mast fixed to the seabed by a foundation;
  - floating buoys;
  - installation of subsea cables to the Gwynt y Môr Offshore Wind Farm; and
  - a network of subsea inter-array cables between (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) including cable crossings;
- 19 seaward of MHWs within the area delineated by the co-ordinates in the Table 1 below—

Table 1: Coordinates of proposed *Work no.1*

Point	Latitude	Longitude
AM	53° 25' 17.755" N	3° 44' 43.879" W
AN	53° 25' 57.179" N	3° 47' 53.309" W
AO	53° 26' 42.823" N	3° 51' 33.278" W
AP	53° 26' 45.641" N	3° 51' 46.880" W
AQ	53° 26' 54.174" N	3° 52' 28.086" W
AR	53° 27' 38.881" N	3° 52' 29.291" W
AS	53° 28' 07.642" N	3° 51' 49.081" W
AT	53° 29' 04.923" N	3° 51' 50.621" W
AU	53° 29' 08.520" N	3° 51' 50.717" W
AV	53° 29' 14.612" N	3° 51' 50.880" W
AW	53° 29' 16.731" N	3° 51' 50.937" W
AX	53° 29' 16.812" N	3° 51' 44.230" W
AY	53° 29' 16.893" N	3° 51' 37.376" W

Point	Latitude	Longitude
AZ	53° 29' 26.671" N	3° 36' 37.688" W
BA	53° 29' 07.091" N	3° 37' 36.682" W
BB	53° 28' 41.909" N	3° 38' 47.993" W
BC	53° 28' 31.364" N	3° 39' 17.852" W
BD	53° 28' 05.013" N	3° 40' 32.272" W
BE	53° 27' 41.331" N	3° 40' 54.541" W
IL	53° 27' 01.865" N	3° 41' 31.636" W
IM	53° 26' 45.454" N	3° 41' 14.509" W
CB	53° 26' 01.020" N	3° 40' 28.140" W

20 and associated development within the meaning of section 115(2) (development for which development consent may be granted) of the 2008 Act comprising—

### Offshore

- 21 *Work No. 1A* – Installation of a subsea cable circuit to the Gwynt y Môr Offshore Wind Farm including alteration of existing scour protection and cable protection and cable crossings.
- 22 *Work No.2* – Installation of up to two subsea cable circuits between Work No. 1 and Work No. 3 including cable ducts (if required) and cable crossings.
- 23 *Work No. 2A* – Cofferdam works including piling and creation of pits for trenchless installation techniques.

## 5 Safety Zone Application

- 24 In accordance with Section 95 of the Energy Act 2004, the safety zone application will be made to the Secretary of State as AyM will have a capacity of over 350 MW. However, in making his decision on the application, the Secretary of State must consult with the Welsh Ministers as AyM is located wholly within Welsh Waters.
- 25 Paragraph 3 of Schedule 16 to the Energy Act 2004 requires that the following information should be included within a written application for safety zones in respect of an offshore generating station:
- ▶ a map showing:
    - the place where the relevant renewable energy installation is to be, or is being, constructed, extended, operated or decommissioned; and
    - the waters in relation to which any declaration applied for will establish a safety zone;
  - ▶ a description of the installation and its proposed or existing location and dimensions (including an explanation of how much of it is (or is expected to be) visible above the water line and how much below it), supported by drawings;
  - ▶ a description of how the installation operates (or is to operate);
  - ▶ a description of the location (or proposed location) of:
    - any electric line used (or proposed to be used) for the conveyance of electricity to or from the installation;
    - any connection to such an electric line;
    - a description of the location (or proposed location) of any offshore sub-station housing connection equipment;
    - where the zone is sought in respect of more than one relevant renewable energy installation, the proposed or existing distances between such installations; and
    - details of any navigational marking that has been specified for use with an installation of the description in question by a general lighthouse authority;
  - ▶ whether the zone relates to the construction, extension, operation or decommissioning of the relevant renewable energy installation;
  - ▶ whether the applicant seeks the declaration of a standard safety zone, or if not, what dimensions are sought for the zone;

- ▲ a description of those works or operations in respect of which the zone is being applied for and their estimated date and duration;
- ▲ whether the applicant proposes that the area of the zone will vary and any factors or determinations by reference to which the applicant proposes that such variation may take place;
- ▲ whether the zone relates to major maintenance works in respect of a relevant renewable energy installation which has become operational;
- ▲ a statement setting out what steps, if any, the applicant proposes to take to monitor vessels and activities within the zone;
- ▲ except where the Secretary of State has notified the applicant that it is not required, an up-to-date shipping traffic survey for the waters comprising the zone; and
- ▲ an assessment of the extent to which navigation might be possible or should be restricted, and whether restrictions would cause navigational problems, within or near waters where the relevant renewable energy installation is to be, or is being, constructed, extended, operated or decommissioned, as the case may be.

26 The Applicant's safety zone application will contain the information required by Paragraph 3. The application will be for the standard 500 m safety zones around each of the WTGs, OSPs and the met mast for the construction phase and for major maintenance works during the operational phase and may also be for safety zones of 50 m sought for pre-commissioned structures to cover the period between construction and operation.

27 In addition to the above information, Regulation 3 of the 2007 Regulations requires the following to be provided as part of the application:

- ▲ For any proposed renewable energy installation:
  - A description of the installation and its proposed location and dimensions supported by drawings;
  - A description of how the installation will operate;
  - A description of the location of:
    - Any electric line; and
    - Any connection to such an electric line;
  - The location of any offshore sub-station housing connection equipment; and

- Details of any navigational markers.
  - ▲ In relation to the proposed safety zone:
    - Whether the zone relates to the construction, operation or decommissioning or the proposed installation;
    - Whether the applicant seeks a declaration of a standard safety zone, or if not, what dimensions are sought for that zone;
    - A description of those works or operations in respect of which the zone is being applied for;
    - Whether the applicant proposes the zone will vary and the details of that variance;
    - Whether the zone relates to major maintenance works once the installation has become operational;
    - What steps the applicant will take to monitor vessels and activities within the zone; and
    - Unless it is not required, an up-to-date shipping traffic survey for the waters comprising the zone; and
  - ▲ An assessment of the extent to which navigation might be possible or should be restricted and whether restrictions would cause navigational problems near where the proposed installation is to be constructed.
- 28 Pursuant to section 95(2) of the Energy Act 2004, the purposes for which the Secretary of State may consider it appropriate to issue such a notice are for the purposes of securing the safety of:
- ▲ the renewable energy installation or its construction, extension or decommissioning;
  - ▲ other installations in the vicinity of the installation or the place where it is to be constructed or extended;
  - ▲ individuals in or on the installation or other installations in that vicinity; or
  - ▲ vessels in that vicinity or individuals on such vessels.

29 At this time, the Applicant considers that a robust case can be made in its application for the issue of a notice securing safety zones for the purposes set out. During construction, zones will be sought for protection of the project as a renewable energy installation during construction. During both construction and major maintenance, safety zones will be sought for the protection of individuals working on the installation and vessels both related to the works and operating within the vicinity of works.



## 6 Conclusion

- 30 The application for the safety zone(s) will be made to the Secretary of State once the final layout of offshore infrastructure is decided. If it is considered appropriate to do so, the Secretary of State may issue a notice declaring that such areas as are specified or described in the notice are to be safety zones.



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