

Planning Act 2008 - section 91

Application by Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm project (Ref EN010112)

Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) dealing with matters relating to the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO): Wednesday 21 September 2022 at 10:00am.

Notification of the date, time and attendance instructions for ISH1 was provided in the Examining Authority's (ExA's) <u>Rule 6 letter</u> dated 23 August 2022. The purpose of ISH1 is also explained in that letter, in Annex F.

Date: Wednesday 21 September 2022

Seating available/ Arrangements

Conference from:

9.15am

Meeting start time: 10.00am

Venue: Virtual event (Microsoft Teams¹) and

the Studio Room, Venue Cymru, Promenade, Llandudno LL30 1BB

Access and parking: Venue Cymru operates a Pay and

Display car park at the rear of the building, with designated disabled parking bays to the left of the main entrance. Parking is also available on the Promenade which is also Pay and Display until 4pm, then it is free of charge. Further information can be

found here.

Arrangements Conference (if attending virtually)

Please join at 9:15. The Case Team will admit you from the lobby and register your attendance.

Where necessary breaks will be provided during the ISH in recognition of the fatigue associated with on-screen communication during virtual events.

¹ Full instructions on how to join online or by phone will be provided in advance of the meeting to those who register to participate
Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm project
Issue Specific Hearing 1

Agenda

1. Welcome, introductions and arrangements for the hearing

2. Articles and Schedules (including Requirements) of the dDCO [AS-014], [AS-015].

- The Applicant will be asked to provide a very brief overview of each part of the dDCO.
- The Applicant will be asked to briefly highlight changes which have been made to the dDCO since the original submission version.
- The Applicant will be asked to explain how the dDCO secures mitigation.
- The ExA will then ask questions in respect of Articles, Schedules and Requirements of the dDCO, seeking responses where appropriate from the Applicant and Interested Parties (IPs). In this respect, amongst other items, the ExA would wish to ask questions on the following:
 - o The definition of 'commence' in Article 2;
 - The application and modification of legislative provisions in Article
 7:
 - The purpose and justification for Article 43;
 - o Review of the scope of Schedule 1, Part 2, Ancillary works;
 - The implementation of Schedule 2, Requirement 2, Table 3 and Requirement 7, Table 4;
 - Potential requirements regarding skills and employment and aviation safety; and
 - Operational time limits and decommissioning.
- IPs will be invited to ask questions of clarification in relation to dDCO Articles, Schedules and Requirements.

3. Schedule 9 – Protective Provisions

 To obtain an update on progress between parties regarding protective provisions and an explanation of any important differences of view and a timescale for resolution.

4. Consents, licences and other agreements

- The Applicant will be asked to provide an update of progress and timescales for completion. The ExA will then ask questions, including discussing whether any legal agreements are proposed and if there is an indicative timescale for finalising them.
- The ExA will ask for views from the Applicant and IPs on the linkages and relationship between the dDCO and the Marine Licence and the need or otherwise for matching requirements or similar in both documents.

5. Statements of Common Ground

 The ExA will ask the Applicant to provide an update on Statements of Common Ground relevant to the dDCO.

6. Review of issues and actions arising

 The ExA will address how any actions placed on the Applicant are to be met and consider the approaches to be taken to the examination of the dDCO and any changes to it, in the light of issues raised.

7. Any other matters

8. Closure of the hearing

Notes on participation, conduct and management of the hearing

All IPs are invited to attend issue specific hearings. The event will also be livestreamed and a link for watching the livestream will be posted on the project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website closer to the event date.

Each IP is entitled to make oral representations at the Hearing. However, this is subject to the Examining Authority's (ExA) power to control the Hearing.

The ExA would find it helpful for the following attendees to participate in ISH1:

- Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm Limited (the Applicant) including representatives of the Applicant who are in a position to discuss the matters on the agenda;
- Denbighshire County Council (DCC);
- Conwy County Borough Council (CCBC);
- Isle of Anglesey County Council (IACC);
- Natural Resources Wales (NRW);
- North Hoyle Wind Farm Limited;
- Rhyl Flats Wind Farm Limited; and
- Any other Interested Parties (IPs) with an interest in the drafting of the dDCO, the implementation or discharge of proposed articles, requirements or other provisions.

Participants may be legally represented if they wish, but the hearing will be conducted to ensure that legal representation is not required. Guidance under the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008) and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 provide that it is the ExA that will probe, test and assess the evidence through direct questioning of persons making oral representations at hearings. Questioning at the hearing will be led by the ExA.

Every effort will be made to ensure that the issues will be discussed on the day that they are scheduled for. The hearing will finish as soon as the ExA deems that all those present have had their say and that all matters have been covered. If there are additional matters to be dealt with or there are submissions that take a considerable amount of time at any hearing, it may be necessary to prioritise matters and defer others to written questions.

The agenda is for guidance only. It is not designed to be exclusive or exhaustive. The ExA may add other issues for consideration, may alter the order in which issues are considered and will seek to allocate sufficient time to each issue to allow proper consideration of them. Any lack of discussion of a particular issue at a hearing does not preclude further examination of this issue, including the asking of further written questions.

All Examination documents are provided with a unique identification number for referencing purposes shown in square brackets [].

The evidence presented orally at ISH1 should be included in post-hearing submissions and submitted by **Monday 24 October 2022 (Deadline 1)**.

Contingencies

The ExA will endeavour to hear all participants. If the ISH, or parts of it, is unable to proceed, for example for technical reasons, then the ExA may adjourn incomplete business to reserved hearings later in the Examination Timetable. Notice of any adjournments will be provided on the project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

Microsoft Teams

The ISH will take place in person and virtually using Microsoft Teams. Further information about virtual events in relation to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects can be found in the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 8.6: Virtual examination events:

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/advice-note-8-6-virtual-examination-events/

Further information, including a short video regarding taking part in a Planning Inspectorate virtual event, can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's website:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/planning-inspectorate-virtual-events-guide-to-participating

Please contact the Case Team if you have any questions about using Microsoft Teams or if you would like to test your access arrangements:

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