



Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm

Applicant's Update on the Marine Licence Submission and Progress

Deadline 1

Date: 24 October 2022

Revision: A

Document Reference: 1.14

PINS Reference: N/A



REVISION	DATE	STATUS/ REASON FOR ISSUE	AUTHOR:	CHECKED BY:	APPROVED BY:
A	October 2022	Deadline 1	RWE	RWE	RWE

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- 1 The Development Consent Order (DCO) for the Awel y Môr offshore wind farm (AyM) will provide the overarching consent for the project with the determination of a Marine Licences application dealt with separately by NRW Marine Licencing Team (NRW-MLT). The Marine Licences are required to authorise offshore works (seaward of Mean High Water Springs) in relation to the project. It has been agreed that the DCO examination and Marine Licences process should be aligned as far as possible but must run in parallel, and duplication should be avoided.
- 2 The Applicant, working with NRW-MLT, has prepared the Marine Licence Principles document [AS-023] to specify what will be included in the Marine Licences in order to allow the Examining Authority (ExA) to have visibility on the scope of the Marine Licences and the controls they will include. The ExA is able to rely on Marine Licence conditions which are not within the control of the DCO (e.g. for securing mitigations offshore) provided the Secretary of State (SoS, as the DCO decision-maker) is confident that matters will be dealt with appropriately under a separate decision-making regime. This position is endorsed by NRW-MLT.
- 3 The application to NRW-MLT was made in May 2022 and covers three Marine Licences: the generation array; the transmission system; and the connection to the Gwynt y Môr offshore wind farm (GyM). A fourth marine licence will be required in relation to the proposed trenchless cable crossing of the River Clwyd as this is a tidal river. Additional information in relation to this fourth Marine Licence will be submitted to NRW to supplement the application already made.

- 4 Details of the three marine licences relating to generation, transmission and the AyM / GyM interlink are set out in the Marine Licence Principles document [AS-023]. This document has been updated as Document 1.24 (clean) and 1.25 (tracked) of the Applicant's Deadline 1 submission to include additional information. A further revision of the document will be submitted to include details of the fourth marine licence relating to the River Clwyd crossing once the additional information has been submitted to NRW.
- 5 On 8 September 2022, in accordance with Part 4, Chapter 1, Regulation 67 (4) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, NRW-MLT published a letter setting out further information required from the Applicant to continue with the determination of the application. The information requested is principally based on the representations received by NRW-MLT in response to post-submission consultation on the Marine Licence application that ran from 22 June to 3 August 2022 for technical consultees, and from 6 July to 7 August 2022 for the general public. NRW has shared these representations with the Applicant in full.
- 6 The Applicant and NRW-MLT met on 4 October 2022 – following publication of the Rule 8 letter and the ExA's written questions on 27 September 2022 – to discuss timescales for, and alignment of, responses to the two sets of questions. It was agreed that the Applicant would provide NRW with a matrix detailing how and when NRW's requests for further information will be addressed. This will be provided to NRW ahead of the next meeting on 26 October 2022.



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