

**Application by Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm project**  
**The Examining Authority's second written questions and requests for information (ExQ2)**  
**Issued on 23 January 2023**

The following table sets out the Examining Authority's (ExA's) second written questions and requests for information – ExQ2. If necessary, the examination timetable enables the ExA to issue a further round of written questions in due course. If this is done, the further round of questions will be referred to as ExQ3.

Questions are set out using an issues-based framework derived from the Initial Assessment of Principal Issues provided as Annex C to the Rule 6 letter of 23 August 2022 [PD-007]. Questions have been added to the framework of issues set out there as they have arisen from representations and to address the assessment of the application against relevant policies.

Column 2 of the table indicates which Interested Parties (IPs) and any Other Persons each question is directed to. The ExA would be grateful if all persons named could answer all questions directed to them, either providing a substantive response or explaining why the question is not relevant to them. This does not prevent an answer being provided to a question by a person to whom it is not directed, should the question be relevant to their interests.

Each question has a unique reference number which starts with a number (indicating that it is from an ExQs round of that number) and then has an issue number and a question number. For example, the first question on 'General and cross topic issues' in this round of questions is identified as ExQ2.0.1. When you are answering a question, please start your answer by quoting the unique reference number.

Responses should be sent to the [mailbox](#) for the Examination. If you are responding to a small number of questions, answers in an email or a letter will suffice. If you are answering a larger number of questions, it will assist the ExA if you use a table based on this one to set out your responses. An editable version of this table in Microsoft Word is available on request from the Case Team.

Responses are due by **Deadline 5: Monday 6 February 2023**

**Abbreviations used**

<b>A</b>	Article
<b>AIL</b>	Abnormal Indivisible Load
<b>AIS</b>	Air Insulated Substation
<b>ALAR</b>	Abnormal Load Assessment Report
<b>ALC</b>	Agricultural Land Classification
<b>AONB</b>	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
<b>ATR</b>	Active Travel Routes
<b>AyM</b>	Awel y Môr
<b>BEIS</b>	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
<b>BoR</b>	Book of Reference
<b>CA</b>	Compulsory Acquisition
<b>CCBC</b>	Conwy County Borough Council
<b>CEA</b>	Cumulative Effects Assessment
<b>Cefas</b>	Centre for the Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Sciences
<b>CSIP</b>	Cable Specification and Installation Plan
<b>DAERANI</b>	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Northern Ireland
<b>dDCO</b>	Draft Development Consent Order
<b>DCC</b>	Denbighshire County Council
<b>DCO</b>	Development Consent Order
<b>ECC</b>	Export Cable Corridor
<b>ECoW</b>	Ecological Clerk of Works
<b>EDR</b>	Effective Deterrent Radius
<b>EM</b>	Explanatory Memorandum
<b>EPR</b>	Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016
<b>ES</b>	Environmental Statement



<b>ExA</b>	Examining Authority
<b>FCA</b>	Flood Consequence Assessment
<b>FCC</b>	Flintshire County Council
<b>FMfP</b>	Flood Map for Planning
<b>FRAP</b>	Flood Risk Activity Permit
<b>FS</b>	Funding Statement
<b>FTE</b>	Full Time Equivalent
<b>FWNP</b>	Future Wales – The National Plan 2040
<b>GC</b>	Gwynedd Council
<b>GCN</b>	Great Crested Newts
<b>GIS</b>	Gas Insulated Substation
<b>GyM</b>	Gwynt y Môr
<b>HDD</b>	Horizontal Directional Drilling
<b>HRA</b>	Habitats Regulations Assessment
<b>INNS</b>	Invasive Non-Native Species
<b>IoACC</b>	Isle of Anglesey County Council
<b>JNCC</b>	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
<b>km</b>	kilometres
<b>LIR</b>	Local Impact Report
<b>LPA</b>	Local Planning Authority
<b>LWS</b>	Local Wildlife Site
<b>LVIA</b>	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
<b>m</b>	metres
<b>MDS</b>	Maximum Design Scenario
<b>MHWS</b>	Mean High Water Springs
<b>NATS</b>	National Air Traffic Services



<b>NE</b>	Natural England
<b>NS</b>	NatureScot
<b>NHWF</b>	North Hoyle Wind Farm
<b>NO<sub>x</sub></b>	Nitrogen Oxides
<b>NPS</b>	National Policy Statement
<b>NRW</b>	Natural Resources Wales
<b>NRMM</b>	Non-Road Mobile Machinery
<b>NSIP</b>	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
<b>NT</b>	National Trust
<b>NWWT</b>	North Wales Wildlife Trust
<b>oACMP</b>	outline Air Quality Management Plan
<b>oCCP</b>	outline Construction Communications Plan
<b>oCoCP</b>	outline Code of Construction Practice
<b>oCMS</b>	outline Construction Method Statement
<b>oNVMP</b>	outline Noise and Vibration Management Plan
<b>oLEMP</b>	outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan
<b>oPPEIRP</b>	outline Pollution Prevention and Emergency Incident Response Plan
<b>oPAMP</b>	outline Public Access Management Plan
<b>oSWMP</b>	outline Site Waste Management Plan
<b>oSMP</b>	outline Soil Management Plan
<b>OnSS</b>	Onshore Substation
<b>oPPIERP</b>	outline Pollution Prevention and Emergency Incident Response Plan
<b>PA2008</b>	Planning Act 2008
<b>PAH</b>	Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons
<b>PPW</b>	Planning Policy Wales
<b>PEIR</b>	Preliminary Environmental Information Report



<b>PRoW</b>	Public Rights of Way
<b>PTS</b>	Permanent Threshold Shift
<b>R</b>	Requirement
<b>RFWF</b>	Rhyl Flats Wind Farm
<b>RIAA</b>	Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment
<b>RR</b>	Relevant Representation
<b>RSPB</b>	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
<b>SAC</b>	Special Area of Conservation
<b>Sch</b>	Schedule
<b>SGLP</b>	Special Category Land Plans
<b>SLVIA</b>	Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
<b>SoCG</b>	Statement(s) of Common Ground
<b>SoS</b>	Secretary of State
<b>SoR</b>	Statement of Reasons
<b>SNP</b>	Snowdonia National Park
<b>SuDS</b>	Sustainable Drainage Systems
<b>TAN</b>	Technical Advice Note
<b>TP</b>	Temporary Possession
<b>TPO</b>	Tree Preservation Order
<b>TSUPRoW</b>	Temporary Stopping Up of Public Rights of Way Plan
<b>TTS</b>	Temporary Threshold Shift
<b>UKCP18</b>	UK Climate Projections 2018
<b>UXO</b>	Unexploded Ordnance
<b>VP</b>	Viewpoint
<b>WBFGW</b>	The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
<b>WTG</b>	Wind Turbine Generator

## The Examination Library

References in these questions set out in square brackets (e.g. [APP-010]) are to documents catalogued in the Examination Library. The Examination Library can be found [here](#).

The Examination Library will be updated as the examination progresses.

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**ExQ2: 23 January 2023**

**Responses due by Deadline 5: Monday 6 February 2023**

<b>ExQ2</b>	<b>Question to:</b>	<b>Question</b>
<b>0. General and Cross Topic Questions</b>		
0.1	Applicant	<b>Equalities Impact Report</b> In respect of the conclusions reached, please clarify the difference between the conclusions of 'no impacts' and 'unlikely to be any impacts'.
0.2	Applicant	<b>NPS Tracker</b> Please update the NPS Tracker in respect of draft NPS EN-1, EN-3 and EN-5.
0.3	Applicant	<b>Examination Library</b> Please advise upon your approach to the Examination Library and documents with errors and/or anomalies identified during Awel y Môr marine licence application. For example, Manx vessels being accidentally omitted from Table 3, Commercial Fisheries [APP-054] - Applicant's response to ML-IoM-47, Applicant's Response to Marine Licence Application Consultation Comments [REP3a-014].
0.4	Applicant	<b>Hierarchy of Documents</b> Please advise if there is a ranking hierarchy approach to documents. For example, the Applicant's Schedule of Monitoring [APP-311] does not appear to outline any monitoring for offshore ornithology, however condition number 34 in the Marine Licence Principles [REP2-022] suggests there will be offshore ornithology monitoring. Will the Marine Licence Principles document take precedence and does it have a higher-ranking order than the Schedule of Monitoring?



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0.5	Applicant	<p><b>Port(s)</b></p> <p>In response to ExQ1.18.25 [REP1-007] reference is made that the Applicant “<i>continues to engage with port operators in undertaking a review of available ports and to understand the suitability of ports to support the Project's operations base</i>” and in response to ExQ1.20.2 “<i>continues to engage with port operators in undertaking a review of available ports and to understand the suitability of ports to support the construction of the Project's works</i>”.</p> <p>Please outline your position regarding the need for potential port infrastructure works to facilitate the Proposed Development, the undertaking of an impact assessment and the likely significant effects.</p>
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0.6	Applicant	<p><b>Mona and Morgan Offshore Wind Farms</b></p> <p>The Applicant’s Written Summary of Oral Representations at ISH2 [REP3a-004] notes that Mona Offshore Wind Farm was provided with a Scoping Opinion in June 2022 and that it now constitutes a ‘Tier 2’ project in line with the Planning Inspectorate’s Advice Note 17. This note states that a [cumulative effects] “assessment should be provided for all...Tier 2” development where possible and that “such an assessment should be carried out with reasonable effort and clearly documented in the ES for example using the format described in Matrix 2 (Appendix 2)”</p> <p>The ExA note that [REP3a-004] states that there would need to be a defined project with sufficient information in order to undertake a meaningful assessment and considers that the Scoping Opinion does not consider a project boundary that has been refined beyond the offshore area tendered and does not include any certainty on the export cable corridor, landfall and onshore cables and substation so the scheme is not sufficiently defined at this stage.</p> <p>However, the ExA also note that the publicly available Scoping Report details the maximum number of turbines proposed and their maximum tip height, rotor diameter, and construction details and that consultation has taken place on three potential landfall locations and seven potential substation locations (all in the vicinity of Bodelwyddan). The ExA also note that the proposed Morgan Offshore Wind Farm submitted a scoping report to the Secretary of State in June 2022, with a subsequent Opinion published in July.</p> <p>Please provide further justification for your decision not to undertake a cumulative effects assessment.</p>
0.7	Applicant	<p><b>Mares Interconnect</b></p> <p>Mr Hussey [REP3-033] notes that the proposed Mares Connect project is also proposed to connect into the National Grid substation at Bodelwyddan. Please outline your considerations of this project and any cumulative assessment which may need to take place.</p>

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0.8	Applicant, Gwynedd Council (GC), Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services	<b>Wales Coastal Path</b> <b>To all parties:</b> The ExA are aware of the imminent re-routing of the Wales Coast Path through the Penrhyn Estate. Will this change to the route of the footpath have any implications for effects upon landscape, seascape, and Penrhyn Hall and it's registered Park and Garden? <b>To GC:</b> Do you have further information over the location of the proposed re-routing?
0.9	Denbighshire County Council (DCC)	<b>Policy</b> Your LIR [REP1-056] makes reference to a number of planning policies and, whilst finding some effects of the Proposed Development to be negative, does not appear to specify any conflict with these policies. Please clarify your position in this respect.
0.10	Applicant	<b>Commercial Fisheries</b> Please summarise your approach to the Joint Fisheries Statement November 2022.
0.11	Applicant	<b>Hynet Carbon Dioxide Pipeline</b> The ExA note that the application for the above proposed NSIP was accepted for examination on 31 October 2022. Please comment on whether this proposed development has any implications or requires any assessment as part of this examination.
0.12	Applicant	<b>General</b> Please provide a list of all references to made Development Consent Orders. Please also provide an update to this list at Deadline 8.

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0.13	Applicant	<b>Other Consents</b> Should the Other Consents and Licences document [APP-037] be updated to include: planning permission for the NGET substation extension; and consent from the Crown Estate for lease of the offshore cable corridor (and any consent required from North Hoyle and Rhyl Flats Offshore Wind Farms in this regard)?
0.14	Applicant	<b>Schedule of Mitigation and Monitoring</b> Should the Schedule of Mitigation [REP2-024] be renamed the 'Schedule of Mitigation and Monitoring' following the combining of these documents? In addition, please ensure this document refers to updated documents as necessary.
0.15	Applicant	<b>General</b> Has there been any further information submitted as part of the Marine Licence application which is relevant to or which updates any information provided as part of the DCO application? so, please submit such information to the Examination.
0.16	Applicant	<b>General</b> Please could you clarify (with relevant examples including the significance of effects) of receptor led effects where interaction between habitat loss and disturbance effects may lead to effects of greater significance than the effects considered in isolation [APP-060, Table 10]
<b>1. Aviation</b>		
1.1	Applicant, NATS	Please provide any further update on the progress of the Radar Mitigation Contract.

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<b>2. Biodiversity, Ecology and Natural Environment</b>		
2.1	Applicant	<b>General</b> Please provide a response to the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) comments to ExQ1.2.102 [REP1-057] that NIEA's Ornithology Team should be consulted regarding any additional Seabird Considerations related to any additional European / Ramsar sites or qualifying features which have not been included in the Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment (RIAA) [APP-027].
2.2	NRW, DCC, CCBC, RSPB, NWWT	<b>General</b> Please advise if you have any issues with the potential mitigation measures in the Schedule of Mitigation [REP2-024] and Marine Licence Principles (REP2-022), and if issues exist, please reference with explanation and evidence to justify.
2.3	Applicant	<b>General</b> Further to your response to ExQ1.2.6 [REP1-007], please provide a response to how environmental net gain will be achieved as referenced in draft National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3) paragraph 2.23.3.
2.4	Applicant	<b>General</b> Please outline how you have considered the following key principles of positive planning for nature conservation in Technical Advice Note 5: Nature Conservation and Planning (2009): a) working in partnership with others; and b) to deliver environmental objectives.
2.5	DCC	<b>General</b> Please clarify your position regarding achieving net gain to biodiversity interest in response to paragraph 15.5 of your LIR [REP1-056].

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2.6	Applicant	<b>General</b> Please could you summarise the ES and RIAA [APP-027] impact assessment approach for Isle of Man's Designated Sites.
2.7	Applicant, NRW	<b>General</b> Please could the Applicant and NRW give a progress update on European Protected Species (EPS) Licences likely to be required for the Proposed Development.
2.8	Applicant	<b>General</b> With reference to the Applicant's response to ExQ1.2.9 [REP1-007], please outline how the Proposed Development meets the Welsh National Marine Plan: a) paragraph 162, and the statement " <i>Protecting and enhancing biodiversity can maintain or build ecosystem resilience and improve the quality of the wider environment</i> "; and b) policy ENV_01: Resilient marine ecosystems.
2.9	Applicant	<b>General</b> Please describe, with relevant evidence, your approach to the United Nations Environmental Programme Convention on Biological Diversity of 1992 for Article 8 In-situ Conservation: a) (c) Regulate or manage biological resources important for the conservation of biological diversity whether within or outside protected areas, with a view to ensuring their conservation and sustainable use; b) (d) Promote the protection of ecosystems, natural habitats and the maintenance of viable populations of species in natural surroundings; and c) (e) Promote environmentally sound and sustainable development in areas adjacent to protected areas with a view to furthering protection of these areas.
2.10	Applicant	<b>General</b> Please describe, with appropriate evidence, your approach to Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework relevant goals and targets.

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2.11	RSPB	<b>Offshore – Ornithology</b> With reference to your Written Representation additional references [REP2-058], please summarise the key issue(s) relevant to the proposed Awel y Môr development.
2.12	Applicant, NRW	<b>Offshore – Ornithology</b> RSPB Written Representation additional references [REP2-058] includes marine environmental research considering displacement of red-throated divers ( <i>Gavia stellata</i> ) from offshore wind farms and refers to " <i>significant effect could be detected up to 10–15 km away. The telemetry data further indicated that the displacement distance decreased with decreasing visibility. The displacement distance was also shorter during the day than during the night, potentially as a response to aviation and navigation lights of the wind farms</i> ".  Please comment on the above italics statement and its relevance to the behaviour of red-throated divers at Liverpool SPA and effects on any conservation objectives.
2.13	Applicant	<b>Offshore - Ornithology</b> Please outline your approach to airborne noise and any potential mitigation measures for offshore ornithology during construction, operation, and decommissioning.
2.14	Applicant	<b>Offshore – Ornithology</b> With reference to National Infrastructure Planning Advice Note Twelve: Transboundary Impacts and Process please summarise your approach to transboundary impact assessment and to Arklow Bank Phase 2 proposed development.
2.15	Applicant	<b>Offshore - Ornithology</b> Please clarify the reason for N/A mitigation measure statement in Offshore Ornithology Table 63 - Summary of effects [APP-050] if mitigation measures vary from high to low in Offshore Conclusion Table 3 – Summary of predicted effects on Offshore Ornithology [AS-028].

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2.16	Applicant	<b>Offshore – Ornithology</b> Please outline and provide relevant evidence for: a) the avoidance rate input for gannet in its collision risk modelling; and b) the density of birds input in its collision risk modelling.
2.17	NRW, RSPB, Applicant	<b>Offshore – Ornithology (Collision Risk Modelling)</b> <b>For NRW and RSPB</b> a) Please advise if you have any issues related to collision risk modelling parameters bird survey data; species data; turbine data; windfarm data; and avoidance rate. If any issues remain, please provide relevant evidence to justify.  Could the <b>Applicant</b> provide relevant evidence to: b) explain the potential effect on its impact assessment if the collision risk model utilised an avoidance rate for gannet of 98%; and c) explain the potential effect on its impact assessment due to different foraging and behaviour of gannets during the breeding season.
2.18	Applicant, NRW	<b>Offshore - Ornithology</b> a) Please confirm if gannet collision risk modelling without macro avoidance is necessary; and b) respond to RSPB comments in its Written Representation [REP1-090] that a reduction to base line densities in the gannet collision risk modelling (to account for macro avoidance of wind farms) should be avoided as it has not been formally adopted by the SNCBs.



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2.19	NRW	<b>Offshore - Ornithology</b> Do you consider that the outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza has any implications for the Applicant's assessment of effects on seabird colonies in the ES and the RIAA [APP-027]?
2.20	NRW, RSPB	<b>Offshore - Ornithology</b> Please comment on the Applicant's response to Written Representations [REP2-002] regarding Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (page 212) and Population Viability Analysis for gannet.
2.21	RSPB	<b>Offshore - Ornithology</b> Please give an update regarding previous disagreement with the Applicant on: a) assessment of no adverse effect on integrity of Liverpool Bay SPA (project alone and in- combination with other plans and projects), for its feature red-throated diver; b) assessment for Manx Shearwater from Copeland Islands SPA, Irish Sea Front SPA, Glannau Aberdaron ac Ynys Enlli/Aberdaron Coast and Bardsey Island SPA, Skomer, Skokholm and the Seas off Pembrokeshire/Sgomer, Sgogwm a Moroedd Penfro SPA; c) scoping out of collision impacts for Manx Shearwater at Copeland Islands SPA, Irish Sea Front SPA, Rum SPA, St Kilda SPA, Glannau Aberdaron ac Ynys Enlli/Aberdaron Coast and Bardsey Island SPA, and Skomer, Skokholm and the Seas off Pembrokeshire/Sgomer, Sgogwm a Moroedd Penfro SPA; d) assessment for gannets from Grassholm SPA, Ailsa Craig SPA, Saltee Islands SPA; and e) use of avoidance rates in gannet collision risk modelling  If you consider your points have not been resolved in the Applicant's response to Written Representations [REP2-002] please provide relevant evidence and justification.

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2.22	Applicant	<b>Offshore – Ornithology</b> Please describe your approach to baseline data for Manx shearwater related to: a) nocturnal activities; b) slope-soaring flight heights and wind strength; and c) behavioural changes due to illuminated structures/support vessels. Please summarise the Manx shearwater impact assessment approach related to these three components.
2.23	RSPB	<b>Offshore - Ornithology</b> In your Written Representation [REP1-090], you raise a number of concerns about the methodology used to assess effects on gannets. Please describe, with appropriate supporting evidence, the methods which you think should be used.
2.24	Applicant	<b>Offshore – Ornithology</b> Please outline any potential biases in: a) the survey and analysis methods; b) potential response of birds to disturbance arising from the survey; c) spatial autocorrelation approach; d) reason for grid (rather than transect) survey design; and e) quality control and quality assurance.
2.25	Applicant, NRW	<b>Offshore – Ornithology</b> Please summarise your current position and highlight any remaining issues regarding potential impacts of the Proposed Development on the breeding seabird features of the Pen-y Gogarth/ Great Orme’s Head Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).
2.26	Applicant	<b>Offshore – Ornithology</b> Please summarise the method used to assess stable age structure for species and provide relevant evidence to justify the approach.

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2.27	Applicant	<b>Offshore – Ornithology</b> Following completion of the array detailed design please could you advise on the potential effect on the assessment and collision risk model.
2.28	Applicant	<b>Offshore – Marine Mammals</b> Please describe how you assessed the potential effects of wave action arising from construction activities in the array and offshore cable corridor areas.
2.29	Applicant	<b>Offshore – Marine Mammals</b> With reference to Table 6, Offshore Conclusions [AS-028] please clarify the nature of the decommissioning work associated with PTS and disturbance impact.
2.30	Applicant, NRW	<b>Offshore – Marine Mammals</b> a) With reference to your response to ExQ1.2.29 [REP1-007] that typically for offshore wind farm projects across the UK there is a requirement to measure underwater noise during the installation for the first four piles for same foundation type, or a representative number of piles locations or four largest piles, please can the <b>Applicant</b> clarify how the results of this underwater noise monitoring approach correlates with piling into the seabed with different sediment distribution and thickness, bedform, and bedrock types. b) Could <b>NRW</b> please described its approach including parameters to underwater noise monitoring during piling for marine mammals.
2.31	Applicant	<b>Offshore – Marine Mammals</b> Please confirm if the Marine Mammal Mitigation Protocol (MMMP) [APP-107] would provide mitigation for cumulative PTS unless accredited industry related guidance and evidence suggests otherwise.
2.32	NRW	<b>Offshore – Marine Mammals</b> Please give an update regarding your position to Cumulative Effects Assessment clarification note [REP2-028] and outline any areas of concern.

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2.33	Applicant, JNCC	<b>Offshore – Marine Mammals</b> Please summarise your current position on JNCC response to the ExA's First Written Questions [REP1-069] that it was concerned about the distances predicted for Minke whale (range between 2.6km and 10km) as low frequency noise produced during piling has the potential to propagate further through the water column.
2.34	Applicant, NRW	<b>Offshore – Marine Mammals</b> Although NRW does not explicitly rule out the approach of applying a D/R curve from a more sensitive species to the less sensitive species of the Minke whale it does not recommend this approach given that there are other threshold options available [REP1-080 page 26]. Please summarise your current position on the potential effects on the modelling, the impact assessment and mitigation of Minke whales as a result of other threshold options available.
2.35	NRW	<b>Onshore - Mitigation</b> Further to the Applicant's response to your comments to ExQ1.2.5 [REP2-003], please confirm if the Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (oLEMP) [REP2-010] (and the associated draft DCO Requirement) would secure biodiversity enhancements with respect to Great Crested Newts (GCN).
2.36	Applicant	<b>Onshore - Mitigation</b> Further to your Response to ExQ1.2.71 & 1.2.72; and Table 5, Onshore Conclusions [APP-074]: a) please explain how you would assess and validate that the proposed mitigation is sufficiently mature and established; and b) where reference is made to " <i>implementation of mitigation measures</i> " please explain how you would assess and validate the outcome of an implemented mitigation measure.

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2.37	NRW	<p><b>Onshore - Mitigation</b> Please clarify your response to ExQ1.2.5 in [REP1-080] “<i>Although mitigation has been presented for the offshore marine environment, we are not aware of any particular opportunities presented for enhancement for biodiversity and geological conservation interests</i>”, and whether you agree or disagree with the oLEMP [REP2-010] (paragraph 152).</p>
2.38	Applicant	<p><b>Onshore - Mitigation</b> Paragraph 73 of the oLEMP [REP2-010] states that reinstated habitats will be subject to an initial aftercare period of up to 3 years following reinstatement, to be extended (if required), if reinstatement is not deemed to have been successful, and paragraph 158 of the oLEMP refers to monitoring of the mitigation/compensation/enhancement habitats will be undertaken in years 1-3 (to coincide with the aftercare and implementation period), with further monitoring subject to approval of the final LEMP and agreed management structure.</p> <p>The ExA notes that Norfolk Boreas and Norfolk Vanguard (excluding OnSS for screening) had a landscaping maintenance period of 10 years after planting. Please explain with evidence the reason for initial aftercare/ monitoring duration lasting up to 3 years.</p>
2.39	Applicant	<p><b>Resilience of ecological networks and ecosystems</b> Further to your response to ExQ1.2.4 [REP1-007] and your written summary of oral submission at Issue Specific Hearing 3 [REP3a-005] please:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) explain how you assessed the condition of ecosystems (including their structure and functioning);</li><li>b) describe your approach to rehabilitate and restore degraded ecosystems;</li><li>c) explain how you assessed the connections between and within ecosystems; and</li><li>d) outline if there would be any opportunities for any fragmented areas/ routes to be reconnected to bring benefit to species utilising the network.</li></ul>

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2.40	Applicant	<b>HRA</b> Please could you describe your approach to the plan-level HRA for The 2017 Offshore Wind Extensions and in particular the cable route protocol, with reference to the 'Cable Route Protocol 2017 Offshore Wind Extensions Plan' (The Crown Estate, 28 August 2019).
2.41	NRW	<b>HRA</b> Please confirm whether you agree with the Applicant's assessment that the Proposed Development (alone and in combination with other plans and projects) would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of any European site(s); and in light of the written representation from the RSPB [REP1-090], please explain why you do not consider that the Proposed Development would have implications for the conservation objectives of the Liverpool Bay Special Protection Area (SPA).
2.42	NRW	<b>HRA</b> The Applicant's RIAA [APP-027] excludes likely significant effects from collision-related mortality on Manx shearwater. Please explain why you agree with the Applicant on this point?
2.43	Isle of Man	<b>HRA</b> Please advise if the Clarification Note on Predicted Impacts Apportioned to Isle of Man Designated Sites [REP3-009] addresses the points raised in your response to ExQ1.2.102 [REP2-052]. Please outline any remaining issues and provide relevant evidence.
2.44	Applicant	<b>HRA</b> Paragraph 233, RIAA [APP-027] outlines the UXO:TTS-onset approach and the assessment to assess disturbance from UXO detonation to harbour porpoise within the SACs screened in is referenced in paragraph 235. Please summarise the UXO:PTS onset approach and assessment for cetaceans, and refer to relevant key paragraphs in the RIAA.
2.45	Applicant	<b>HRA</b> Please describe your RIAA [APP-027] approach to migrant birds from Isle of Man such as Hen harrier, Arctic tern and Little tern.

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2.46	Applicant	<b>HRA</b> With reference to RIAA [APP-027] please summarise the cetaceans telemetry assessment and connectivity between Isle of Man Marine Nature Reserves, and the Proposed Development.
2.47	JNCC	<b>HRA</b> In light of the Written Representation from the RSPB [REP1-090], please explain why you do not consider that the Irish Sea Front SPA should be included in the Applicant's RIAA [APP-027]?
2.48	Applicant	<b>HRA</b> Please provide further information such as project name(s) regarding EnBW and BP 1 and 2 - Round 4 as referenced in Table 10 and Table 56 of the RIAA [APP-027].
2.49	Applicant	<b>HRA</b> Please explain the reason for including Mona and Morgan within Table 41, but not within Table 36 of the RIAA [APP-027]
<b>3. Compulsory Acquisition (CA) and Temporary Possession (TP)</b>		
3.1	Applicant	<b>Order limits</b> Please clarify the reason for excluding Plot 26 from the Order limits and identify any implications for doing so.
3.2	Applicant	<b>Plots</b> There appears to be an unlabelled plot between Plots 458 and 459 on the last sheet of the Land Plans (which is named Sheet 1 of 1 but which should be named Sheet 1 of 10). Please rectify these issues and identify any implications.

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**Responses due by Deadline 5: Monday 6 February 2023**

3.3	DCC	<p><b>Special Category Land – open space</b> DCC did not provide a response to many of ExQ1 which were directed to DCC. ExQ1.3.31 was directed to DCC and was as follows:</p> <p><i>Section 11.2 of [APP-021] sets out that any granting of development consent would not be subject to special parliamentary procedure given that 'open space' within the Order land, when burdened with the order right, will be no less advantageous than it was before to (a) the persons in whom it is vested, (b) other persons, if any, entitled to rights of common or other rights, and (c) the public, in accordance with s132(3) of PA2008. Please confirm whether you are satisfied with this conclusion.</i></p> <p>Please confirm whether you are satisfied with the Applicant's conclusions on this matter.</p>
3.4	Applicant	<p><b>Works</b> The Works Plan [REP1-032] identifies a number of 'Temporary Mitigation Areas'. If temporary, please explain in detail the reasons for seeking permanent rights over the relevant plots.</p>
3.5	Applicant	<p><b>Works</b> Sheet 5 of 11 of the Works Plan [REP1-032] shows a widening of Work No. 11. Please explain the reason for this noting that there are no trenchless crossing compounds shown here in Figures 8 and 9 of the Onshore Project Description [APP-062].</p>



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3.6	Applicant	<p><b>Land Plans and s122 of PA2008</b></p> <p>The ExA needs to be confident that the Applicant is only seeking to acquire land that is required for the proposed development, is required to facilitate or is incidental to it and that there is a compelling case in the public interest for the land to be acquired compulsorily (s122 PA2008).</p> <p>Regarding Plot 417, Figures 2 and 7 of the outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP) [REP2-010] show no proposals for much of the proposed temporary construction compound (TCC) area and some areas adjacent to this. Furthermore, paragraph 71 of the oLEMP states that 'At the OnSS TCC, grassland will be reinstated to its previous state following construction', suggesting a reverting back to agricultural use. It is also understood that other areas of Plot 417 would be used for landscape / biodiversity enhancement purposes in addition to mitigation and compensation purposes. In addition, the ExA notes the concerns of the landowner in respect of the amount of land to be acquired and the resulting viability of the farm.</p> <p>On the basis of the above, please: a) provide a detailed explanation for seeking to permanently acquire the totality of land within Plot 417 rather than, for example, acquiring TP (or perhaps rights) over certain parts and handing them back to the landowner for ongoing agricultural use; and b) clarify whether a lesser degree of landscape / biodiversity enhancement would be sufficient to meet any policy requirements in this respect.</p>
3.7	Davis Meade Property Consultants on behalf of Mr JB and Mrs E Evans	<p><b>Land for OnSS</b></p> <p>The ExA notes concerns regarding the degree of permanent land take and the future viability of the Faenol Broper farm business. Are you able to provide an indication of the degree of land take which would, in your view, negate such a concern?</p>
3.8	Rhyl Flats Wind Farm Limited (RFWF)	<p><b>Wake effects</b></p> <p>The Applicant provided its view on the matter of wake effects in respect of RFWF in response to ExQ1.3.27 [REP1-007]. Do you agree with the points raised, and if not, do you have any substantive evidence of your own to support your concern on this matter?</p>

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3.9	North Hoyle Wind Farm (NHWF) Limited	<b>Protective provisions</b> You indicate that should a crossing agreement not be reached with the Applicant, protective provisions may be needed within the dDCO. Are you able to provide any wording for these for the consideration of the Applicant and ExA?
3.10	SP Energy Networks	<b>Protective provisions</b> Noting your D3 submission [REP3-029], the Applicant included revised protective provisions within Schedule 9, Part 4 of its revised dDCO at D3 [REP3-006]. Please confirm whether the protective provisions are satisfactory and if so, whether you intend to withdraw your objection.
3.11	Applicant	<b>The Crown</b> Further to your response to ExQ1.3.34, please: a) provide an update on the Agreement for Lease with the Crown Estate; and b) indicate whether you envisage any impediments to the granting of the lease, for example, in respect of concerns raised by NHWF and RFWF?
3.12	Applicant	<b>The Crown</b> Please: a) provide an update on negotiations with relevant Crown authorities in respect of s135 of PA2008; b) confirm whether any impediments to their consent are envisaged; and c) set out any implications for the Proposed Development should consent not be forthcoming?
3.13	The Welsh Ministers, Secretary of State for Wales, National Assembly for Wales, and The King's Most Excellent Majesty in Right of His Crown (Crown Estate)	<b>The Crown</b> Consent is required for provisions in the DCO relating to Crown land or rights benefiting the Crown in accordance with s135(2) of PA2008. The Applicant indicates it is in discussions with all relevant Crown authorities in this respect [REP3-005]. Please confirm when you expect any consent to be forthcoming and whether you envisage any impediment to such consent.

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3.14	Applicant	<b>S127 and s138 of PA2008</b> Within the negotiations document [REP3-005] please: a) clearly differentiate between those statutory undertakers to which s127 of PA2008 applies and those to which s138 of PA2008 applies; b) following on from this, the extent to which any necessary tests set out in s127(3)(a) or (b), s127(6)(a) or (b) and s138(4) of PA2008 would be met; and c) clarify whether reference to acquisition of both land and rights relating to Network Rail, National Grid and Dŵr Cymru Cyfyngedig is correct.
3.15	Applicant	<b>Negotiations</b> The negotiations document [REP3-005] notes that it sets out the latest status of negotiations with landowners and occupiers. The ExA notes that, for example, the occupier of Plot 261 as shown in the Book of Reference (BoR) [REP2-011] (who is also the lessee, tenant or occupier of other plots) does not appear in [REP3-005]. Please explain such a discrepancy and investigate whether there might be any others.

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3.16	Applicant	<p><b>Negotiations</b></p> <p>In response to ExQ1.3.12 [REP1-007], the Applicant indicates that it does not intend to acquire any rights from Category 2 parties (i.e. those within Part 3 of the BoR and also shown in Part 1 or the BoR) and as such, details of negotiations with these parties (with the exception of some statutory undertakers) are not necessary. Please further justify your position on this matter, or update the negotiations document [REP3-005] with Category 2 parties, noting that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) TRB Limited and Wild Ground are identified as having interests in Plots 416 and 417, which are proposed for outright CA;</li><li>b) There are many organisations and individuals listed in Part 3 of the BoR [REP2-011] (and Part 1 as Category 2 parties) as having interests / rights, which para 10 and Part 3 identify would be 'extinguished, suspended or interfered with' (including, to highlight a small number of examples, Rhyl &amp; Conwy Wildfowlers Club (Plot 257), EE Limited (Plot 17), WGIF (Jersey) Trustee I Limited (Plot 399), Cornerstone Telecommunications Infrastructure Limited (Plot 16), North Wales Fire Authority (Plot 400), Wild Ground (Plot 414) and individual game rights (i.e Plot 428) and access rights (i.e Plot 185));</li><li>c) Article 22 of the dDCO provides for the extinguishment or suspension of certain private rights; and</li><li>d) The ExA should be satisfied that the Applicant has sought to negotiate with all parties whose land or rights would be affected, whether permanently or temporarily.</li></ul>
3.17	Network Rail Infrastructure Limited, National Grid Electricity Transmission plc and Dŵr Cymru Cyfyngedig / Welsh Water	<p><b>Negotiations</b></p> <p>The Applicant's negotiations document [REP3-005] indicates that discussions are ongoing with the parties and that agreement will be reached before the end of the Examination. Please confirm whether you are of the same view and provide detailed reasons should you consider otherwise.</p>

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3.18	Natural Resources Wales (NRW)	<b>Negotiations</b> The Applicant's negotiations document [REP3-005] states that protective provisions are not required for NRW (as a statutory undertaker) as Plot 26 has been removed from the Order limits. Please confirm whether you are in agreement with this.
3.19	Applicant	<b>Funding Statement</b> Appendix 2 of the Funding Statement [AS-018] states that "The width of the area over which permanent rights will be required for the onshore cables is typically 21 metres". Given this, please explain why the Land Plans indicate the 'Acquisition of Permanent Rights' (blue land) over the whole of the cable route width, which is greater than 21 metres.
3.20	Applicant	<b>Funding Statement</b> In response to ExQ1.3.38 [REP1-007], the Applicant indicated it would update the Funding Statement [AS-018] as necessary. Has any further information been made available, or has there been any changes, such as in interest rates or land values, to necessitate this?
3.21	Applicant	<b>CA Schedule</b> Glyndwr University submitted a relevant representation on behalf of Glyndwr Innovations Limited [RR-035]. Noting that Glyndwr University is included in the BoR, should it also be included in the CA Schedule [REP2-007]?
3.22	Applicant	<b>CA Schedule</b> Should entry No 12 of the CA Schedule [REP2-007] include the word 'permanent' as well as 'temporary' (i.e. regarding Plot 344)?  Are references to Plots 333, 337, 338, 340, 342, 344, 345 in this entry correct, given this Affected Party does not appear in the BoR under these plot numbers?

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3.23	Applicant	<b>CA Schedule</b> In entries 7 and 8 of the CA Schedule [REP2-007] it is stated that “With regards to plots 438, 439, 442, 445, 447, the Applicant enjoys rights of access over these plots.”, and further sets out that such rights would not be interfered with. Please: a) clarify whether reference to ‘the Applicant’ here is correct; and b) whether the non-interference with the rights includes throughout all stages of the Proposed Development.
3.24	Applicant	<b>CA Schedule</b> An updated CA Schedule [REP2-007] was not provided at D3. Please provide an updated version for D5 and all subsequent deadlines and include all relevant entries for the ‘status of objection’ column, for ease of reference, even if this overlaps with entries in the negotiations document [REP3-005].
3.25	Applicant	<b>Cwybr Fawr</b> The Applicant’s DL3a submission [REP3a-003] states that a trenchless crossing at Cwybr Fawr is not warranted. This seems to conflict with Statement of Reasons (SoR) paragraph 20 [REP1-047] in respect of Plots 242 and 247 which suggests flexibility for such a crossing is necessary. Please: a) clarify your position with supporting detailed reasons; and b) update any relevant documents as necessary (ie SoR, Land Plans etc.).
3.26	Applicant	<b>Cwybr Fawr</b> Please: a) provide justification for the specific location and size of Work No 16A, noting the concerns of submission [AS-045] in respect of it; b) confirm whether any additional survey work could be undertaken at this stage to determine whether there is scope to locate the cable route as close to the A525 as possible, as suggested in [AS-045]; and c) clarify the length of time the relevant land at Cwybr Fawr would be unusable.
3.27	Applicant	<b>TP</b> Notwithstanding the response to ExQ1.3.14 and associated Appendix B [REP1-007], TP relating to Rhyl Golf Club (Plot 22) appears to be extensive given its only purpose would be to provide access to Work No 5. Please further justify the extent of TP relating to Rhyl Golf Club.

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3.28	Applicant	<b>Construction compounds</b> Please confirm whether the intention is to use the proposed construction compound near Rhyl Golf Club and the one near the North Wales Bowls Centre or whether these are options?
3.29	Applicant	<b>Access</b> How would access to private properties be maintained during construction and where is such provision made for in the dDCO?
3.30	Applicant	<b>General</b> Section 10.1.4 of the SoR [REP1-047] suggests the access rights are required for the operational phase. However, pages 17 / 18 of the BoR [REP2-011] suggests the access rights are required for all phases. Please clarify and ensure consistency in all sections of the SoR and BoR.
3.31	Applicant	<b>Plot 26</b> Plot 26 is shown under entry 2 (SP Manweb) of the CA Schedule [REP2-007]. Should this be deleted given the removal of Plot 26 from the Order land?
3.32	Applicant	<b>CA Schedule</b> Should Dŵr Cymru / Welsh Water be included in the CA Schedule [REP2-007]?
3.33	Applicant	<b>Statement of Reasons</b> The SoR [REP1-047] provides limited information to justify the outright CA of Plot 416. Please provide detailed justification.
3.34	Applicant	<b>CA Schedule</b> In the CA Schedule columns 8 and 9 [REP2-007], please identify / separate out the plots subject to: CA of land (pink); CA of rights and TP of land (blue); and TP of land only (yellow). In addition, please identify for each relevant entry, the rights sought (i.e. as set out in section 10 the SoR [REP1-047]).
<b>4. Construction</b>		

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4.1	DCC, CCBC and NRW	<b>Staging of Onshore Works</b> At Deadline 3 the Applicant submitted 'Staging of Onshore Works' [REP3-017] document. Please provide comments in respect of the suitability of the suggested staging approach.
4.2	Applicant	<b>Construction – Management Plans</b> Paragraph 62 of section 3.17 of [REP2-043] states that " <i>As part of the ongoing process for ensuring that impacts due to the construction of the onshore works are minimised, a monitoring strategy will be agreed between the Applicant and DCC as part of the Final CoCP. Each contractor will be required to comply with the final CoCP and the Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) will be required to monitor compliance and report breaches.</i> " Please confirm what would be the monitoring strategy for Contractors undertaking the pre-commencement works?
4.3	Applicant	<b>Construction – Management Plans</b> Could the Applicant confirm if the requirements in section 2.3 Construction of Temporary Construction Compounds in [REP2-018] apply to the pre-commencement works such as site clearance, archaeological investigations ground investigation?
4.4	Applicant	<b>Landfall - Cofferdam</b> Please can the Applicant confirm whether a temporary cofferdam is to be constructed at the landfall and whether piling is to be used?
4.5	Applicant	<b>Temporary Construction Compounds (TCC)</b> In respect of the TCC, paragraph 12 of [REP2-018] states that " <i>Each compound would be removed at the end of the project and the land reinstated to its former condition as far as reasonably practicable.</i> "  Please confirm whether the level of reinstatement would be agreed with the relevant landowner in advance?



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4.6	NRW	<p><b>Cable Route Crossings</b></p> <p>The Applicant confirmed on page 30 of [REP2-002] that the outline Construction Management Plan (oCMS) had been updated to “clarify that any non-trenchless cable route crossings options or culverted haul road would be closely monitored to quickly identify whether channel deformities were starting to occur so that appropriate action could be taken. The oCMS has also been updated to include potential bank stabilization mitigation and additional information on watercourse crossings”.</p> <p>Noting paragraphs 3.2.2 and 3.8.2 of your Relevant Representation [RR-015] are you satisfied that such amendments alleviate your concerns?</p>
4.7	Applicant	<p><b>Excavated Material</b></p> <p>With reference to the Applicant’s response to ExQ1.10.8(c) [REP1-007] “<i>The proposed substation will use a combination of cut and fill earthworks to achieve a levelled platform</i>”, please could the Applicant elaborate on its previous response to ExQ1.4.9. Excavated Material. Reference to cut and fill balance implies that excavated material would be used as general fill material; please clarify if this is the case? Please also clarify if excavated material requiring processing to meet particular properties specification would be undertaken at the OnSS, or would it be classed as unsuitable and deemed as waste to be taken off site?</p>
<b>5. Good Design</b>		
5.1	Applicant	<p><b>Design Commission for Wales</b></p> <p>The written summary of oral submissions to Issue Specific Hearing 3 (ISH3) [REP3a-005] states that the Applicant notes points raised by the Welsh Government that the Design Commission for Wales may be useful for the design review process. Please confirm how the Design Commission are planned to feed into the Design Review process and confirm this within the Design Principles Statement (DPS) [REP3-013], if necessary.</p>

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5.2	Applicant	<p><b>The choice of Gas Insulated or Air Insulated Substation (GIS or AIS)</b></p> <p>The written summary of oral submissions to ISH3 [REP3a-005] states that from a landscape and visual perspective there are advantages and disadvantages associated with each of the above options. However, the summary of advantages and disadvantages appears to infer that, overall, a GIS option provides more benefits in terms of landscaping and visual perspectives over an AIS option, despite a longer time required for screening to be achieved. The ExA notes that GIS buildings could also potentially assimilate more into the local rural landscape than the increased visual clutter associated with AIS installations. A choice of AIS or GIS at this stage could also provide more information to local people.</p> <p>Please comment on the above and provide further justification and/or update the DPS if necessary on your choice of OnSS insulation technology.</p>
5.3	Applicant	<p><b>SF6 Gas</b></p> <p>The written summary of oral submissions to ISH3 [REP3a-005] notes that SF6 gas free Gas Insulated Substations are being developed. Please provide any further details of known timescales when such a technology might be available and affordable.</p>
5.4	Applicant	<p><b>Land use</b></p> <p>Has any thought been given to other potential 'uses' of land adjacent to proposed OnSS after construction – for example as an extension to the adjacent nature reserve or for the incorporation of a public access footpath of similar recreational opportunities?</p>
5.5	Applicant	<p><b>Site selection</b></p> <p>The written summary of oral submissions to ISH3 [REP3a-005] contains a useful summary of the site selection process undertaken previously detailed. A similar summary could be usefully incorporated into the DPS to tell the 'story' of the site and help interested parties understand why the proposed OnSS site has been chosen as part of the design process. Please consider if you think this to be necessary and update the DPS if appropriate.</p>

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5.6	Applicant	<p><b>Design review</b> Discussions at ISH3 took place around the design review process and details such as how often the panel would meet and what mechanisms would be created to ensure that their recommendations would be acted upon. This is noted in the Action Points for the hearing [EV-018i].</p> <p>Please provide such details in a revised version of the DPS or provide justification for not doing so.</p>
5.7	Applicant, DCC	<p><b>DCC and design requirements</b> At ISH3 it was stated that it was likely that DCC would need to procure some external support when considering discharging the relevant requirements of the DCO relating to Design and that potentially this would be agreed between the Applicant and DCC. Please provide further information on this matter, including if necessary updating the DPS to confirm.</p>
<b>6. Draft Development Consent Order (dDCO)</b>		
<b>Questions / comments relate to dDCO Revision I [REP3a-016] (clean) / [REP3a-017] (tracked)</b>		
<b>Articles (A)</b>		
6.1	Applicant	A2 and A13 - please amend 'Street Works Access Plan' to 'Street Works and Access Plan'
6.2	Applicant	A2 – should 'm2' refer to 'square metres' rather than 'metres squared'?
6.3	DCC, Applicant	<p>A2 –</p> <p>To the <b>Applicant</b>: While noting the contents of paragraphs 3.8-3.11 of [REP3a-005], please respond to the comments of DCC made at Deadline 3 regarding onshore and pre-commencement works [REP3a-020] and amend the dDCO if necessary.</p> <p>To <b>DCC</b>: Please provide your comments on paragraphs 3.8-3.11 of [REP3a-005].</p>

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6.4	DCC	Your LIR [REP1-056] raised concerns around the provisions of Part 3 (Streets) of the dDCO. The Applicant responded to these concerns [REP2-004]. Please confirm whether you are satisfied with the response, and if not, provide detailed reasons for this, highlighting the particular areas / articles of concern.
6.5	Applicant	A13 – The wording for this article appears to provide quite wide powers. Please provide further justification for these powers, with reference to any precedent if appropriate.
6.6	Applicant	A21 – Reference to precedents used would be useful in the Explanatory Memorandum (EM).
6.7	Applicant	A27(8) – this article still appears to make provision for the compulsory acquisition of rights in respect of land identified for temporary possession only (i.e. Schedule 6 land). As such, the ExA's concerns as set out in ExQ1.3.15 remain. In addition, unlike the DCOs referred to by the Applicant, there is no crossover between Schedule 6 and Schedule 7 (rights land) in this instance. Furthermore, para 129 of the Statement of Reasons [REP1-047] states that Schedule 6 plots will not be subject to compulsory acquisition.  a) Please comment and amend A27(8) as necessary. b) Is the wording for the wider A27 based on precedent?
6.8	Applicant	A33 – should this be made subject to A34?
6.9	Applicant	A34 – Please provide further justification for the powers granted by this article with reference to precedents if relevant. An update to the EM if necessary would also be useful.
6.10	Applicant	A35 – This article appears similar to one used in the Able Marine Energy Park DCO but does not contain the same levels of detail in subsections (2) or (3). Should the article be expanded to contain such detail and the EM altered to refer to precedent?
6.11	Applicant	A37 - change all references to 'Her Majesty' to 'His Majesty'.

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<b>Schedules (Sch), including Requirements (R)</b>		
6.12	Applicant	Sch 1, Work No.6 – add a comma between '5' and '6A'.
6.13	Applicant	Sch1, Part 1 – The Applicant indicated in its response to ExQ1.6.44 that it had amended reference to the 'Works Plan' to the 'Location Plan' above Table 1 (as it is the Location Plan which contains the co-ordinates). However, this does not appear to have been actioned. Please rectify.
6.14	Applicant	Sch 1, Part 1 - Please confirm the scope of works (including any protective measures) at the existing/retained pond on the south side of the proposed OnSS. Sch 1, Part 1 Work No 35 refers to ecological and environmental works, but also includes works such as drainage works including connections to existing drainage and creation of new sustainable drainage including attenuation pond(s), and utilities connections.
6.15	Applicant	Sch 2, R2, Table 2 - please ensure consistency of terms i.e. 'wind turbine generators' rather than just 'turbine' or 'wind turbines'.
6.16	Applicant	Sch 2, R2, Table 2 – this sets out the minimum distance between wind turbine generators. Where is this measurement taken from and should this be specified?
6.17	Maritime and Coastguard Agency	Sch 2, R3 – at D2 the Applicant responded to your request to be included as a consultee in R3 (aviation) (pg 63 of [REP2-002]). Please confirm whether you are satisfied with this response, and if not, provide reasons.
6.18	Applicant	Sch 2, R3(2) – missing full stop – please add.
6.19	Applicant	Sch 2, R6(h) – check punctuation – is there an erroneous comma between 'below' and 'ground'?
6.20	Applicant	Sch 2, R8 (1) - is there an erroneous ':' after the word 'appropriate'?

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6.21	Applicant	Sch 2, R8 (2) - The ExA notes the Applicant's response to ExQ6.29c in respect of a scheme of maintenance. Nonetheless, without such details, how can the ExA be confident that adequate provision had been made to ensure new planting has the best chance of establishment and survival?
6.22	Applicant	Sch 2, R9(2) - The ExA notes the continued concerns of DCC regarding the time period provided for in this requirement. Noting that the relevant assessments consider landscape and visual effects at 15 years and that the Norfolk Boreas and Norfolk Vanguard DCOs made provision for considerably greater time periods than 5 years, would the Applicant be willing to increase the time period specified in R9(2).
6.23	Applicant	Sch 5 - please amend 'Street Works Access Plan' to 'Street Works and Access Plan'.
6.24	Applicant	Sch 2, R15(1) - should this specify '... between <i>the hours of</i> 0700 and 1900...' for clarity and consistency?
6.25	Applicant	Sch 7 - dependent on consideration of ExQ2.3.4 above, should this schedule make specific reference to 'Temporary Mitigation Areas'?
6.26	Applicant	Sch 9 (protective provisions) - Planning Inspectorate Advice Note 15 states that full justification should be included in the EM for protective provisions. Please update the EM to provide such justification with reference to agreed bespoke provisions with relevant undertakers where appropriate.

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6.27	Applicant	<p>Sch 9 (protective provisions) - Planning Inspectorate Advice Note 15 states that:</p> <p>"If Protective Provisions for more than one protected party are included in a single Schedule, SI drafting requires the numbering of the paragraphs to follow sequentially throughout the Schedule and not re-start at '1' with each part (as with all textual Schedules in several parts). This approach should be adopted in the draft DCO submitted with the application and in each amended draft submitted during the Examination where Protective Provisions are changed."</p> <p>Please amend this schedule to align with good practice or amend to a separate schedule for each protected party.</p>
6.28	Applicant	Sch 9, Part 2 (and contents page) – should '(dc)' be '(DC)' for consistency with other parts of the dDCO?
6.29	Applicant	Sch 13, Table 1 – please provide a clear subheading for this table. Additionally, should this be 'Table 5' given that there are already Tables 1-4 elsewhere in the dDCO?
6.30	Applicant	Sch 13 – please ensure this is kept updated with correct references and versions.
6.31	Applicant	Sch 13, item 6 – should this specify all outline code of construction practice appendices given that many have been revised?
6.32	Applicant	All dDCO tables - Please include the lines for columns and rows of all tables for ease of reading.
<b>Explanatory Memorandum (EM)</b>		
6.33	Applicant	The track changed version of the EM submitted at D1 [REP1-053] does not appear to have been based on the application version [APP-019] (with potential implications for the D1 clean version [REP1-017]). Please comment and make any necessary corrections.
6.34	Applicant	Your response to ExQ1.6.51 suggested that the EM has been amended as per the question regarding Article 27. This does not appear to be the case. Please rectify.

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7. Flood Risk and Water Quality		
7.1	Dŵr Cymru/Welsh Water	<p><b>Deadline 1 Submission</b> In response to the documentation submitted at Deadline 1 ([REP1-058] to [REP1-061]) are you satisfied with the responses provided by the Applicant at [REP2-005]? If not, please give reasons.</p>
7.2	Applicant, NRW	<p><b>Flood Risk Activity Permits (FRAP)</b> The ExA notes in the onshore SoCG [REP3-021] that the disapplication of FRAP remains an unresolved matter and that NRW does not consent to the disapplication.</p> <p>Please can both parties advise if discussions regarding this issue are ongoing or is this the NRW final position?</p>
7.3	Applicant, NRW	<p><b>Water Quality (Freshwater)</b> Noting the Applicants response at D3a [REP3a-003] in respect of the WFD and watercourse crossing options, can the <b>Applicant</b> and <b>NRW</b> please provide an update regarding discussions between both parties.</p> <p>Additionally, please can <b>NRW</b> advise whether they are satisfied with the suggestion by the Applicant that further information is to be deferred until post-consent '<i>when it can be prepared on the base of detailed design and further ground investigations</i>' (row 5, page 11 of [REP3a-003]).</p>
7.4	NRW	<p><b>Flood Consequence Assessment (FCA)</b> Noting the comment made in Written Representation [REP1-080] regarding the omission of assessment of works located within C2 (as identified in the Development Advice maps in TAN15), the Applicant provided an updated version of the FCA for the Onshore ECC at Deadline 1 [REP1-042].</p> <p>Please confirm whether you are satisfied with the revised FCA? If not, please give reasons.</p>



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7.5	Applicant	<p><b>Onshore ECC - Topographic Surveys</b> Section 3.1 of [REP1-042] states that detailed topographic surveys of the onshore infrastructure works area have not yet been undertaken. Please confirm when these surveys are scheduled and how findings will be considered in terms of the existing assessment?</p>
7.6	Applicant	<p><b>Substation Preliminary Outline Drainage Strategy – Management of Foul Water</b> Section 4.1 of [REP1-045] states that no intrusive ground surveys have been undertaken. Please confirm when these surveys are scheduled and how findings will be considered in terms of the proposed Drainage Strategy?</p>
7.7	Applicant, NRW	<p><b>Western Wales River Basin Management Plan 2021-2027</b> Please confirm whether the updated Western Wales River Basin Management Plan and associated data [REP1-080] has resulted in any changes to the findings of the WFD compliance assessment?</p>
7.8	DCC and CCBC	<p><b>Landfall and Coastal Erosion</b> The ExA are aware that there is a programme of coastal defence works in the area proposed for landfall to protect the surrounding areas from storms and the impact of climate change. In view of this are DCC and CCBC content with the level of detail provided in respect of proposed works at the landfall or is further detail, potentially in the form of a landfall construction method statement, considered necessary?</p>
<b>8. Historic Environment</b>		
8.1	Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services	<p><b>ISH2</b> Please provide any comments, should you wish to, on the Applicant’s summary of your views from ISH2 [REP3a-004].</p>
8.2	Welsh Government	<p><b>Legal update</b> Please provide an update on the progress of the Historic Environment (Wales) Bill 2023, including a likely date when Royal assent is expected.</p>

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<b>9. Land Use</b>		
9.1	DMPC on behalf of Mr and Mrs HE Hughes	<b>Tree Loss</b> Noting the comments made in the Written Representation (WR) on behalf of Mr and Mrs HE Hughes [REP1-101] and the response made by the Applicant at [REP2-002], are you satisfied that the Proposed Development would not impact on the required level of tree coverage to qualify for the proposed Welsh Government Sustainable Farming scheme?
9.2	Applicant and DMPC on behalf of Mr and Mrs HE Hughes	<b>Severance</b> In the WR on behalf of Mr and Mrs HE Hughes [REP1-101], concern was raised in respect of temporary severance and subsequent ability to farm. At [REP2-002] the Applicant noted these concerns and confirmed ongoing discussions regarding this matter were underway. Please can both parties provide an update in respect of this issue.
9.3	Applicant and DMPC on behalf of Mr and Mrs HE Hughes and Mr JB and Mrs E Evans	<b>Burial Depth</b> In response to answers to ExQ1.9.3 ([REP1-102] and [REP1-104]) the Applicant confirmed at [REP2-003] that discussions regarding the depth of necessary infrastructure and cables were ongoing and it is likely a minimum burial depth of 0.9m may be achieved. Please can both parties provide an update in respect of this issue.
9.4	Applicant	<b>Well Management</b> Noting the request by the Applicant regarding the well on Faenor Broper land (row 4, page 221 of [REP2-002]), has further information been provided by DMPC on behalf of Mr JB and Mrs E Evans in respect of the well infrastructure?

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9.5	Welsh Government	<p><b>Soil Resources</b> Noting your comments made in respect of ExQ1.9.1 and ExQ1.9.8 [REP1-097], the Applicant responded at [REP2-003] stating that <i>“the Post 1988 Agricultural Land Classification (Wales) Surveys show there have been extensive surveys undertaken to the south and east of Rhyl, to the northwest of Bodelwyddan and around St Asaph Business Park. The ALC determined by these surveys is reflected in the Predictive ALC data and the Applicant considers this represents sufficient information to inform the EIA with permanent loss of up to 5Ha of land predicted to be BMV associated with the OnSS.”</i></p> <p>Please confirm whether this approach satisfies your concerns?</p>
9.6	Applicant	<p><b>Agricultural Land Classification</b> In response to ExQ1.9.7, the ExA notes the information provided in Appendices R and S [REP1-007]. Please update the table in Appendix R to include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) name of holding;</li> <li>b) a brief description of the holding e.g. type of farming, if under any management scheme etc; and</li> <li>c) what part of the Proposed Development the land is required for e.g. TCC, ECC etc.</li> </ul>
9.7	Welsh Government	<p><b>Outline Soil Management Plan (oSMP)</b> In response to ExQ1.9.9, 9.10, 9.11, 9.13, 9.14, 9.15 and 9.17 [REP1-097], concerns were raised by the Welsh Government regarding the content of the oSMP. Revisions to the oSMP have been made by the Applicant and submitted into the Examination at Deadline 2 [REP2-033]. Do the amendments satisfy your concerns?</p>
9.8	Applicant	<p><b>oSMP</b> Paragraphs 7,12, 13 and 14 of the oSMP [REP2-033] refer an agricultural liaison officer whereas paragraph 40 of the same document refers to an agricultural land officer. Please clarify the difference in roles, if any.</p>

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9.9	Applicant	<p><b>Cwybr Fawr Partnership</b></p> <p>In conclusion to a number of ExQ1 [AS-045], Rostons on behalf of Mrs H Proffitt, Mrs J Johnson, Mrs S Archdale and Mrs R Hughes stated that <i>“Whilst it has been made clear during numerous site meetings that we do not want to have the cable and associated infrastructure laid over our land, if it is to be so then the impact can be greatly mitigated by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>a) The route being positioned as close to the property boundary alongside the A525 as possible;</i></li><li><i>b) Directional drilling the entire length; and</i></li><li><i>c) Removing or significantly reducing the size of the construction compounds.”</i><p>Please provide a response to each of these suggestions.</p></li></ul>
<b>10. Landscape and Visual</b>		
10.1	Applicant	<p><b>Hedgerows</b></p> <p>The dDCO (Sch 10, Part 1) provides for the removal of hedgerows 118a to 118b and 121a to 121b. Please:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) clarify the reasons for this, noting that if for visibility splay purposes, the relevant operational access would be used only once or twice a year (pg 53 of [REP1-001];</li><li>b) highlight where on plan [REP3a-010] point 121a is or add it if necessary; and</li><li>c) where the replacement of these hedgerows would be secured, noting that this is shown on Figure 2 of the oLEMP but does not appear to be provided for in the relevant work numbers within the dDCO.</li></ul>
10.2	Applicant DCC	<p><b>Screening</b></p> <p>The ExA notes that the purpose of the woodland planting in the southwestern area of the OnSS site is to assist with the screening of the proposed substation for the occupiers of properties along Glascoed Road. Noting comments made by Interested Parties during ISH3: a) has any consideration been given to how this might affect any current open views over the landscape from these properties; and b) would there be the opportunity for the occupiers of residential properties in the vicinity of the ONSS site (i.e. those along Glascoed Road and at Faenol Broper) to comment on landscape proposals for the wider OnSS site?</p>

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<b>11. Marine and Coastal Physical Processes</b>		
11.1	Applicant	<b>Central Prestatyn Coastal Defence Scheme</b> In response to Denbighshire County Council Relevant Representation [RR-001]it was stated that <i>"The Applicant is liaising with the Central Prestatyn Coastal Defence Scheme, is confident that both schemes can co-exist and, will keep the ExA informed as discussions progress."</i> Please provide an update in respect of such discussions.
<b>12. Marine – Commercial Fisheries, Shipping and Navigation</b>		
12.1	Applicant	<b>Commercial Fisheries</b> Please explain how mitigation has been designed to enhance any potential medium and long-term positive benefits to the fishing industry and commercial fish stocks.
12.2	Applicant	<b>Commercial Fisheries (Safety Zones)</b> In your response to ExQ1.12.14 [REP1-007] you state that you <i>"intends to apply to the SoS for safety zones once the final number and precise location of the offshore infrastructure is decided"</i> and ExQ1.4.23 [REP1-007] <i>"the Safety Zones may extend beyond the Order Limits"</i> . Please summarise your approach to assessing the potential effects of safety zones on commercial fishing.
12.3	Isle of Man	<b>Commercial Fisheries</b> Please respond to the Applicant's replies to IoM's responses [REP3-002] to ExQ1.12.5b, 1.12.5c and 1.12.6.

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12.4	Applicant	<b>Commercial Fisheries</b> With reference to Carl Davies' Deadline 1 Submission [REP1-098] responding to ExQ1.18.8 and your response to this [REP2-003] please summarise the potential impact on: a) commercial fish and shellfish catches – the extent of area beyond the windfarm footprint when piling of foundations takes place; b) finfish species and shellfish catches - affected by piling and displacement effects; and c) gradual recovery for some species, but perhaps not for others.
12.5	Applicant, NRW	<b>Commercial Fisheries</b> Please provide an update on emerging solutions to ecological engineering for cable and scour protection with biodiversity in mind.
12.6	Applicant	<b>Commercial Fisheries</b> Table 7, Offshore Conclusions [AS-028] references to: a) Displacement from AyM array, and Displacement from AyM offshore ECC; <i>“leading to gear conflict and increased fishing pressure on adjacent grounds”</i> . Please confirm the activity that causes this displacement. b) Please confirm the activity associated with <i>“Additional steaming to alternative fishing grounds for vessels that would otherwise fish within the AyM area”</i> . c) Please define the fishing grounds reference in <i>“Increased vessel traffic within fishing grounds as a result of changes to shipping routes and maintenance vessel traffic from AyM leading to interference with fishing activity”</i> .
12.7	Applicant	<b>Shipping &amp; Navigation (Safety Zones)</b> In your response to ExQ1.4.23 [REP1-007] <i>“the Safety Zones may extend beyond the Order Limits”</i> please summarise your approach to assessing the potential effects of safety zones on shipping and navigation including potential effects on recognised sea lanes.

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12.8	Applicant	<b>Shipping &amp; Navigation</b> Please summarise your approach to navigation risk assessment cumulative and in-combination risks associated with the Proposed Development and other proposed developments in the same area of sea.
12.9	Applicant	<b>Shipping &amp; Navigation</b> Please explain the measures to be adopted (including how it would be secured) to ensure cable protection infrastructure would not reduce (by no more than 5%) the surrounding depth referenced to Chart Datum.
12.10	Applicant	<b>Shipping &amp; Navigation</b> Please outline the process and parties involved (including how it is secured) to agree the detailed design array layout, and whether construction could commence in the array area prior to an agreed detailed design array layout with relevant stakeholders.
12.11	Applicant	<b>Shipping &amp; Navigation</b> Please clarify if the Proposed Development would minimise negative impacts to as low as reasonably practicable (ALARP) and summarise your approach to securing mitigation.
12.12	Applicant	<b>Shipping &amp; Navigation</b> Please summarise your strategy towards shipping and navigational monitoring during the Proposed Development construction phase.
<b>13. Marine - Natural</b>		
13.1	Applicant	<b>Mitigation</b> NRW's written submission for Deadline 3 [REP3-026] notes their agreement with your proposed approach to post-construction monitoring of secondary scour, with a monitoring plan conditioned as part of any Marine Licence granted. Please update the Schedule of Mitigation [REP2-024] to reflect this.

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13.2	Applicant	<b>Marine Biosecurity Plan</b> The commitment to a freestanding and separate Marine Biosecurity Plan in [REP2-002] is noted. NRW advise that such a plan should be secured by both the Marine Licence and the DCO given jurisdictional overlap. However, the dDCO does not as yet contain such security. Please update the dDCO as necessary.
<b>14. Public Health and Nuisance</b>		
14.1	Applicant	<b>Impact of Noise and Vibration on Businesses</b> Glyndwr University on Behalf of Glyndwr Innovations, raised concerns about the potential impact of noise and vibration from the project on the operation of their business located on St Asaph Business Park [RR-035]. Please provide an update on any discussions with Glyndwr University or Glyndwr Innovations on this issue.
14.2	Glyndwr University (on behalf of Glyndwr Innovations Limited)	<b>Impact of Noise and Vibration on Businesses</b> Please provide a response to question ExQ1.14.11 [PD-006] and an update on any discussions with the Applicant.
<b>15. Other Projects and Proposals</b>		
Questions relating to this topic area can be found in Section 0, General and Cross Topic questions.		
<b>16. Project Description and Site Selection</b>		
No questions relating to this topic area in this round of questions.		
<b>17. Seascape, Landscape and Visual</b>		
17.1	Applicant	<b>Landscape enhancements</b> Please provide an update on discussions / negotiations around potential landscape enhancements to designated areas.



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<b>18. Socio-Economic</b>		
18.1	Welsh Government, DCC and CCBC	<b>Local Content</b> In response to ExQ1.18.26 [REP1-007] the Applicant stated they “ <i>would have significant concern about a proportion of local content being secured through the DCO</i> ”. Noting this response and the requirement of the Applicant to submit a Supply Chain Plan in order to be eligible to apply for a Contract for Difference, do you still consider it necessary to secure a percentage of local content for jobs from within the North Wales region during the construction and/or operational phase? If so, please provide a realistic target figure and how this could be secured.
18.2	Applicant	<b>Supply Chain Plan</b> In response to paragraph 13.4-13.7 of Denbighshire County Council Local Impact Report [REP1-056] and the Welsh Government Response to ExQ1.18.4 [REP1-097], it was confirmed that you have been proactively undertaking activities to include and maximise the use of local suppliers wherever possible and that you are fully aware and supportive of the benefits of local content and that there are opportunities to maximise higher levels of local sourcing. Please provide an overview of activities undertaken to date.
18.3	Applicant, DCC, CCBC, IoACC	<b>Requirement 20 – Skills and Employment Strategy</b> Is it necessary to include Requirement 20 in the Schedule of Mitigation [REP2-024]?
18.4	Applicant and Mr Carl Davies	<b>Scour Protection and Lobster Hatcheries</b> The reply to Mr Carl Davies’ response to ExQ1.18.8 at Deadline 2 [REP2-003] by the Applicant is noted by the ExA.  Please can both parties provide an update in respect of any further discussions regarding scour mitigation and possible lobster hatcheries.

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18.5	Welsh Government	<b>Community Linguistic Statement</b> Noting the reply by the Applicant to the Welsh Government response to ExQ1.18.12 [REP2-003], are you satisfied that the Community Linguistic Statement has adopted an appropriate and proportionate approach? If not, please provide further detail.
18.6	Applicant	<b>Draft Skills and Employment Strategy</b> In reply to the Welsh Government response to ExQ1.18.12 [REP2-003], it is stated you will consider the Welsh Language when consulting on the draft Skills and Employment Strategy. Please expand on how this consideration will be implemented in practice?
18.7	CCBC	<b>10-year Regeneration Plan for Llandudno</b> In response to ExQ1.18.4 [REP1-054] reference was made to a 10-year regeneration plan for Llandudno. Please provide either a copy or link to this plan.
18.8	Applicant	<b>Visitor Displacement</b> In response to ExQ1.18.27 [REP1-054], CCBC stated that " <i>Whilst it was noted in Chapter 4, Volume 3 of the ES that there is opportunity for these visitors to be displaced by younger visitors, there is no evidence to support this.</i> " Please confirm whether such evidence exists?
18.9	Applicant	<b>Cwybr Fawr Partnership</b> In response to ExQ1.18.6 [AS-045], Rostons on behalf of Mrs H Proffitt, Mrs J Johnson, Mrs S Archdale and Mrs R Hughes, stated that in respect of the livery " <i>The cable route and working area is located directly through 6 of the principle horse paddocks, these will be unusable during the works and the horses cannot be stabled permanently, all other land is agricultural use. As such the horses will be moved off-site to alternative livery yards and once settled on a new yard, it is unlikely that they will return.</i> " Please confirm how long the 6 paddocks will be unusable due to construction works?

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18.10	Applicant	<b>Cwybr Fawr Partnership</b> In response to ExQ1.18.6 [AS-045], Rostons on behalf of Mrs H Proffitt, Mrs J Johnson, Mrs S Archdale and Mrs R Hughes, stated that in respect of the touring pitches " <i>The hardstanding touring pitches are approximately 60m from the construction compound, and will be severely affected by the dust and noise from the site, while the grass pitches are located adjacent to the compound and will not be viable while the compound is in use.</i> " In light of the above, has consideration been given to further mitigation measures in this location?
18.11	Welsh Government, DCC and CCBC	<b>Equalities Impact Report</b> Please confirm whether you are satisfied with the assessment approach adopted and conclusions as detailed within the Equalities Impact Report [REP3-010]. If not, please explain your reasons.
<b>19. Tourism and Recreation</b>		
19.1	DCC	<b>Outline Public Access Management Plan (oPAMP)</b> The comments in the DCC Local Impact Report (LIR) in respect of the draft oPAMP are noted. At D1 [REP1-036] and D2 [REP2-041] the Applicant submitted revised versions of the oPAMP. Do the revised versions of the oPAMP deal satisfactorily with your requests/concerns? If not, please explain your reasons.
19.2	Applicant	<b>Recreational Diver Safety</b> Noting the Marine Licence Principles document [REP2-022] and the mitigation measures embedded into the project design (Table 23 of the Tourism and Recreation ES Chapter [APP-065]), please confirm have recreational divers will be informed of the commencement of construction works and where necessary, maintenance works during operation?

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19.3	Applicant	<p><b>Eryri National Park (NP), Anglesey Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)</b></p> <p>What specific consideration has been given to the effect on the special quality indicators of the NP and the two AONBs in terms of tourism and recreation activities during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development?</p>
<b>20. Traffic and Transport</b>		
20.1	Applicant	<p><b>Access Routes to the Proposed Substation Site</b></p> <p>It is noted from your response to EXQ1.20.16 [REP1-007], that in the early stages of the project there were four potential access routes to the proposed site of the sub-station considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) One immediately to the north of the crematorium off Glascoed Road the B5381;</li><li>b) One to the east via St Asaph Business Park;</li><li>c) One to the north-east, via a minor road off Ffordd William Morgan to the north of St Asaph Business Park; and</li><li>d) One to the south-west off Glascoed Road.</li></ul> <p>The first two of these, the access route immediately to the north of the crematorium and from the east via St Asaph Business Park were discounted in an internal evaluation before the remaining two from the north-east and south-west were consulted on in the PEIR. Please explain the reasons for discounting these access routes.</p>

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20.2	Applicant	<p><b>Access Routes to the Proposed Substation Site</b></p> <p>Your response to ExQ1.20.16 [REP1-007] indicated that the choice between the remaining two access routes, from the northeast and southwest, was finely balanced and following consultation, a Black, Red, Amber Green (BRAG) constraint analysis, with Black meaning hard constraint to Green meaning no material constraint was conducted following consultation, resulting in the selection of the access route from the southwest off Glascoed Road.</p> <p>With regard to this BRAG analysis you reference Figure 26 of Volume 1, Chapter 4, Site Selection and Alternatives of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report. Please provide a copy of this Figure and outline the analysis process and its conclusions.</p>
20.3	Applicant	<p><b>Dangerous Loads</b></p> <p>It is noted from paragraph 196 of Volume 3, Chapter 9: Traffic and Transport of the ES [APP-070] that it is not proposed to prepare an ALAR until after any consent is granted. It has therefore been assumed that the route from Junction 26 of the A55 to the proposed site of the sub-station via the B5381 Glascoed Road is acceptable based on the ALAR prepared for the GyM offshore windfarm sub-station. Please provide a copy of the report on which this assumption has been based.</p>