



Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm

Statement of Common Ground 8 – Cadw

Deadline 4

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Contents

1	Introduction.....	5
1.1	Background.....	5
1.2	Approach to SoCG	5
1.3	The Development	6
2	Cadw's remit.....	7
2.1	Introduction	7
2.2	Consultation Summary	7
3	Agreements Logs.....	10
3.1	Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	11
3.2	Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage.	13

Tables

Table 1:	Consultation undertaken with Cadw pre-application.....	7
Table 2:	Position status key.....	10
Table 3:	Status of discussions relating to Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage.	11
Table 4:	Status of discussions relating to Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage.	13

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

- 1 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared between Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm Limited (hereafter referred to as 'the Applicant') and Cadw to set out the areas of agreement and disagreement between the two parties in relation to the proposed Development Consent Order (DCO) application for the Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm (hereafter referred to as 'AyM').
- 2 This SoCG covers the topics of offshore and onshore archaeology.
- 3 The need for a SoCG between the Applicant and Cadw was set out within Rule 6 letter issued by the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) on 23 August 2022.
- 4 Following detailed discussions undertaken through pre-application consultation, the Applicant and Cadw have sought to progress a SoCG. It is the intention that this document provides PINS with a clear overview of the level of common ground between both parties. This document will facilitate further discussions between the Applicant and Cadw and will be updated as discussions progress prior to and during the Examination.

1.2 Approach to SoCG

- 5 This SoCG began development during the pre-examination phase of AyM. In accordance with discussions between the Applicant and Cadw, the SoCG is focused on offshore and onshore archaeology.
- 6 The SoCG is structured as follows:
 - ▲ **Introduction:** Outlining the background to the development of the SoCG;
 - ▲ **Interested Party's remit:** Describing the remit of Cadw, the relevance of their interest in the Application, the main areas of discussion within the SoCG and a summary of consultation to date; and
 - ▲ **Agreements Log:** A record of the positions of the Applicant alongside those of Cadw as related to the topics of discussion and the status of agreement on those positions.

1.3 The Development

- 7 The Application is for development consent for the Applicant to construct and operate the proposed Awel y Môr project under the Planning Act 2008.
- 8 AyM will comprise up to 50 Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) and will include infrastructure that is required to transmit the power generated by the turbines to the offshore substation via inter-array cables, before being transmitted via export cables to the proposed onshore substation located to the west of St Asaph Business Park (SABP) and then to the existing National Grid Bodelwyddan substation.
- 9 The key offshore components of AyM will include:
 - ▲ WTGs with associated foundations and scour protection;
 - ▲ Inter-array cables and associated cable protection;
 - ▲ Up to two Offshore Substation Platforms (OSPs) with associated foundations and scour protection;
 - ▲ Up to two offshore export cable circuits and associated cable protection;
 - ▲ A meteorological mast (met mast);
 - ▲ Permanent Vessel Moorings (PVMs) and
- 10 More details on the offshore aspects of the proposed development are described in the Environmental Statement (ES) Volume 2, Chapter 1: Offshore Project Description (APP-047).

2 Cadw's remit

2.1 Introduction

- 11 Cadw is the statutory authority for the historic environment in Wales. Furthermore, Cadw is a prescribed consultee for the proposed development under Section 42 of the Planning Act and the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.
- 12 The SoCG covers technical topics of the DCO application of relevance to Cadw, comprising:
- ▲ Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage; and
 - ▲ Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage.

2.2 Consultation Summary

- 13 Table 1 This section briefly summarises the consultation that the Applicant has undertaken with Cadw including both statutory and non-statutory engagement during the pre-application and post-application phases.

Table 1: Consultation undertaken with Cadw pre-application.

DATE AND TYPE	DESCRIPTION OF CONSULTATION
10/12/2019 (Meeting)	<p>A kick-off meeting as an introduction to the AyM project, the Applicant and the Evidence Plan process. The discussion was focused on the following aspects of offshore and onshore archaeology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ The study areas and baseline environment data sources;▲ Surveys; and▲ The scope of the impact assessments proposed.
27/01/2021 (meeting)	<p>Meeting with the onshore and offshore archaeology ETG members. The aims of the meeting were to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ Provide a project update;

DATE AND TYPE	DESCRIPTION OF CONSULTATION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ Present and discuss the approach to baseline data characterisation; and ▲ Discuss initial feedback in terms of key areas of interest and the techniques proposed; and ▲ The approach to mitigation through a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI).
29/01/2021 (meeting)	<p>Follow up of a meeting on 25/01/2021 with the archaeology and cultural heritage sub-group. Further discussion was had around the viewpoints proposed in key cultural heritage sites, including Beaumaris, Bangor Peir, Colwyn Bay and Llandudno.</p>
October 2021 (statutory consultation)	<p>Statutory consultation under Section 42 of the Planning Act.</p>
01/10/2021 (meeting)	<p>The aims of this meeting were to give a project and site selection update, and to have an open discussion on the outcomes of scoping.</p>
04/11/2021 (meeting)	<p>Project update meeting following the receipt of stakeholder comments on the PEIR received during the statutory consultation and to propose how the Applicant proposed to address this feedback in the final ES. Key discussion points were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ The assessment methodology, including viewpoints and the assessment of the MDS; ▲ Seascape and landscape character areas; ▲ Designated landscapes and their special qualities; ▲ The cumulative assessment; and ▲ Mitigation
10/02/2022 (meeting)	<p>Follow up with the SLVIA ETG on the comparative wireline images circulated previously. The aim of</p>

DATE AND TYPE	DESCRIPTION OF CONSULTATION
	<p>the meeting was to present and discuss the alternative MDSs identified for assessment and to gain ETG feedback on these alternatives in terms of which comprises the worst-case for SLVIA.</p>

3 Agreements Logs

- 14 The following sections of this SoCG set out the level of agreement between the Applicant and Cadw for each relevant component of the Application identified in paragraph 12. The tables below detail the positions of the Applicant alongside those of Cadw and whether the matter is agreed or not agreed.
- 15 In order to easily identify whether a matter is 'agreed', 'not agreed' or an 'ongoing point of discussion, the agreements logs in the tables below are colour coded to represent the status of the position according to the criteria in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Position status key.

POSITION STATUS	COLOUR CODE
The matter is considered to be agreed between the parties	Agreed
The matter is neither 'agreed' or 'not agreed' and is a matter where further discussion is required between the parties, for example where relevant documents are being prepared or reviewed.	Ongoing point of discussion
The matter is not agreed between the parties, however the outcome of the approach taken by either the Applicant or Cadw is not considered to result in a material outcome on the assessment conclusions.	Not agreed – No material impact
The matter is not agreed between the parties and the outcome of the approach taken by either the Applicant or Cadw is considered to result in a materially different outcome on the assessment conclusions.	Not agreed – material impact

3.1 Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage

Table 3: Status of discussions relating to Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage.

DISCUSSION POINT	APPLICANT'S POSITION	CADW'S POSITION	POSITION STATUS
Planning and Policy	The Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage chapter of the ES (APP-057) has identified and given due regard to all appropriate plans and policies relevant to offshore archaeology and cultural heritage, insofar as relevant to Cadw's remit.	Agreed.	Agreed
Consultation	The Application Documents have had regard to matters raised by Cadw via statutory and non-statutory consultation activities in relation to offshore archaeology and cultural heritage.	Agreed.	Agreed
Assessment scope and methodology	The Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage chapter of the ES (APP-057) has identified and assessed all likely significant effects relevant to offshore archaeology and cultural heritage as identified within the Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion.	Agreed.	Agreed
	The methodologies used in the Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage chapter of the ES (APP-057) are appropriate for assessing potential impacts of AyM.	Agreed.	Agreed
	The study area defined for the assessment is appropriate for the impacts, pathways and receptors considered.	Agreed.	Agreed
	The assessment has appropriately defined the Maximum Design Scenario (MDS) for the purposes of assessment.	Agreed.	Agreed
Baseline characterisation	Sufficient primary and secondary data (including site-specific surveys) have been collated to appropriately characterise the baseline environment for the purposes of EIA within the Offshore Archaeology Desk-Based Assessment (APP-117).	Agreed.	Agreed
	The sensitivity and importance of offshore archaeological and cultural heritage receptors has been appropriately and adequately described within the Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage chapter of the ES (APP-057).	Agreed.	Agreed

DISCUSSION POINT	APPLICANT'S POSITION	CADW'S POSITION	POSITION STATUS
Mitigation measures	The mitigation measures identified within the Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage chapter of the ES (APP-057) are considered appropriate and adequate in relation to offshore archaeology and cultural heritage.	Agreed.	Agreed
Outcomes of the EIA	The potential impacts identified within the Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage chapter of the ES (APP-057) represent a comprehensive list of the potential impacts in relation to offshore archaeology and cultural heritage.	Agreed.	Agreed
	No significant adverse residual effects (in EIA terms) on offshore archaeology and cultural heritage are predicted to arise from the development of AyM.	Agreed.	Agreed
	The cumulative effects have been adequately described and the conclusions of the cumulative effects assessment are appropriate in relation to marine offshore archaeology and cultural heritage.	Agreed.	Agreed
WSI	The Outline Marine WSI (APP-304) is expected to be secured under the Marine Licence and is considered appropriate with regard to proposed monitoring and management principles.	Agreed.	Agreed
Marine Licence conditions	Should a Marine Licence for AyM be granted by NRW, the suggested mitigation measures and conditions outlined in the Schedules of Mitigation and Monitoring (APP-310 and APP-311) and the Marine Licence Principles document (AS-023) are suitable and appropriate.	Agreed.	Agreed

3.2 Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage.

Table 4: Status of discussions relating to Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage.

DISCUSSION POINT	APPLICANT'S POSITION	CADW'S POSITION	POSITION STATUS
Planning and policy	The Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage chapter of the ES (APP-069) has identified and given due regard to all appropriate plans and policies relevant to onshore archaeology and cultural heritage, insofar as relevant to Cadw's remit.	Agreed.	Agreed
Consultation	The Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage chapter of the ES (APP-069) has had regard to matters raised by Cadw via statutory and non-statutory consultation activities in relation to onshore archaeology and cultural heritage.	Agreed.	Agreed
Assessment scope and methodology	The Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage chapter of the ES (APP-069) has identified and assessed all likely significant effects relevant to onshore archaeology and cultural heritage as identified within the Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion.	Agreed.	Agreed
	The study area defined for the assessment is appropriate for the impacts, pathways and receptors considered.	Agreed.	Agreed
	The assessment has appropriately defined the Maximum Design Scenario (MDS) for the purposes of assessment.	Agreed.	Agreed
	The methods for assessing potential impacts on significance of designated heritage assets through change to their setting is appropriate.	Agreed.	Agreed
Baseline characterisation	Sufficient primary and secondary data (including site-specific surveys) have been collated to appropriately characterise the baseline environment for the purposes of EIA.	Agreed.	Agreed
	The sensitivity and importance of onshore archaeology and cultural heritage receptors has been appropriately and	Agreed.	Agreed

DISCUSSION POINT	APPLICANT'S POSITION	CADW'S POSITION	POSITION STATUS
	adequately described within the Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage chapter of the ES (APP-069).		
Mitigation measures	The mitigation measures identified within the EIA are considered appropriate and adequate in relation onshore archaeology and cultural heritage.	Agreed.	Agreed
Outcomes of the EIA	The conclusions of the assessment appropriately reflect the potential effects on onshore archaeology and cultural heritage within the study area during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of AyM.	Agreed.	Agreed
	The cumulative effects have been adequately described and the conclusions of the cumulative effects assessment are appropriate in relation to onshore archaeology and cultural heritage.	Agreed.	Agreed
	No significant adverse residual effects (in EIA terms) on onshore archaeology and cultural heritage are predicted to arise from the development of AyM.	Agreed.	Agreed
	The conclusions in relation to visual effects on setting of historic environment receptors are appropriate.	Agreed.	Agreed
Outline Onshore WSI and Outline Code of Construction Practice	The measures described in the outline Onshore WSI (APP-147) are appropriate and adequately mitigate likely significant effects identified in the EIA.	Agreed.	Agreed
	Requirement 12 of the draft DCO (AS-014) is sufficient to secure the mitigation measures described in the EIA.	Agreed.	Agreed
	The measures set out in Outline Code of Construction Practice (APP-312) are appropriate and adequately mitigate likely significant effects identified in the EIA.	Agreed.	Agreed



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