

The Planning Inspectorate
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JNCC Reference: OIA-9313
Date: 08/03/2023

**Application by Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm Limited for an Order Granting
Development Consent for the Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm project**

We write with respect to the Examining Authority's third written questions and requests for information (ExQ3), issued 1 March 2023.

Our response is in relation to Question 2.1 and we have reviewed the document provided by the applicant (REP4-008). The following comments relate to the outline provided for a UXO specific marine mammal mitigation protocol; we defer to NRW for all other plans discussed in this document.

The applicant has not sought to license UXO clearance in their application although it was considered in the ES. As previously advised, we agree with this approach as too little information is available at this stage to effectively consider potential impacts from UXO clearance. Should clearance be required, it will be subject to a marine licence application, at which stage we anticipate a full impact assessment will be undertaken and a mitigation plan agreed with regulators and SNCBs.

We are content with the outlined mitigation plan provided for UXO clearance. For the benefit of the applicant, we highlight that we would expect detailed information regarding the clearance methods proposed to be included in the marine licence application and at least a summary of this in the mitigation plan so any mitigation personnel employed on the campaign are clear on what works are planned. We also highlight the importance of communication between mitigation personnel and vessel crew to ensure any actions required are undertaken in a timely manner.

Please contact me with any questions regarding the above comments.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Canning

Senior marine mammal adviser

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