

Richard Allen
Lead Panel Member for the Examining Authority
Rampion 2 Offshore Wind Farm Project
National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol, BS1 6PN

28 February 2024

Via e-mail to: rampion2@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

## Written Representation on behalf of AQUIND Limited (Reference number: 20045305)

Dear Mr. Allen,

Further to the issue of the Relevant Representation (RR-031) on behalf of AQUIND Limited we have sought to engage with Rampion Extension Development Limited ("RED") in connection with the interface of the Rampion 2 Offshore Wind Farm and AQUIND interconnector. This engagement has involved:

- A draft Statement of Common Ground has been produced, but remains under discussion in connection with the proposals to address the interface of the two projects;
- AQUIND have produced a draft Co-Operation Agreement, which addresses the interface between the two projects during construction, operation and decommissioning.
- A call was held on 12<sup>th</sup> February to discuss the draft Statement of Common Ground and Co-Operation Agreement. Following this call, it is understood that:
  - The terms of the Co-Operation Agreement are agreed in principle, and are now subject to more detailed legal drafting review;
  - RED are in agreement that they will not place any Wind Turbine Generators or Offshore Substation Platforms within the area of the AQUIND Order Limits plus a further separation distance. The extent of that further separation distance from the AQUIND Order Limits remains under discussion;
  - RED are in agreement that they will not deposit any sediment within the area of the AQUIND Order Limits. The need for a further separation distance from the AQUIND Order limits also remains under discussion;
  - There will be no more than 4 cable crossings which all form part of the Offshore Wind Farm works, and crossings agreements will be required to be entered into for those before any cables associated with the Rampion 2 Offshore Wind Farm cross the AQUIND Order limits;
  - Any other cables forming part of the Offshore Wind Farm works will not be laid within the area of the AQUIND Order Limits plus a further separation distance. The extent of that further separation distance from the AQUIND Order Limits remains under discussion;
  - Each party shall provide the other with information regarding construction before submission to the MMO under the relevant marine licence to agree the content relating to interface in the interest of not adversely impacting the construction and



- operation of each project, and once agreed this shall be submitted to the MMO as part of those approvals and complied with once approved; and
- The agreement of the Statement of Common Ground dealing with the Relevant Representation is closely linked with the Co-Operation Agreement, and so the current focus is on agreeing this to allow the Statement of Common Ground to be produced to confirm the matters raised in the Relevant Representation have been satisfactorily addressed.

The parties had agreed to meet on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, but this meeting was cancelled by RED. A meeting is now proposed to be held on 4<sup>th</sup> March.

The following information was provided by RED to AQUIND on 27<sup>th</sup> February further to the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> February:

- 1. information from RED post the previous meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> February to detail the technical rationale for the proposed separation distance; and
- 2. comments on the draft Co-Operation Agreement.

AQUIND has not yet had sufficient time to review the above information in advance of Deadline 1, on 28<sup>th</sup> February.

The previously stated aim of AQUIND and RED is to resolve matters before Deadline 2 on 20<sup>th</sup> March, and AQUIND remains committed to seeking to achieve this.

Whilst AQUIND considers positive progress has been made and that it should be capable of reaching agreement on the issues with RED, it is important that agreement is reached as early as possible during the examination of the Rampion 2 Offshore Wind Farm. Should sufficient progress not have been made in advance of Deadline 2, AQUIND will provide a further update to the ExA and may submit draft protective provisions for the benefit of both projects to be included in the Rampion 2 Offshore Wind Farm DCO.

If you have any queries in relations to this, please do not hesitate to contact me on info@aquind.co.uk

Yours Sincerely,

Kirill Glukhovskoy
Managing Director

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