



# Marine Management Organisation

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(Email only)

MMO Reference: DCO/2022/00001  
Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN010121  
Identification Number: 20049449

10 December 2024

Dear Robert Jackson,

## Planning Act 2008, Floatation Energy, Proposed Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets

### Deadline 2 Submission

On 27 June 2024, the Marine Management Organisation (the “MMO”) received notice under section 56 of the Planning Act 2008 (the “PA 2008”) that the Planning Inspectorate (“PINS”) had accepted an application made by Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Ltd (the “Applicant”) for determination of a development consent order for the construction, maintenance and operation of the proposed Morecambe Offshore Windfarm (the “DCO Application”) (MMO ref: DCO/2022/00001; PINS ref: EN010121).

The DCO Applicant seeks authorisation for the construction, operation and maintenance of Morecambe Offshore Generation Assets. The proposal is located 30 kilometres (km) from the Lancashire coast, England. The windfarm Agreement for Lease area awarded by The Crown Estate spans 125 km squared (km<sup>2</sup>). The proposed windfarm site development area has been reduced to approximately 87km<sup>2</sup>. All project infrastructure will be located within the 87km<sup>2</sup> windfarm site. The project consists of up to 35 Wind Turbine Generators (WTG), UP TO TWO Offshore substations (OST), their associated foundations and platform link cables. Inter-array cables. Scour protection around foundations and subsea cable protection where required.

One Deemed Marine Licence (DML) is included in the draft DCO. The DML relates to offshore (WTG) and Associated Infrastructure and Associated Development.

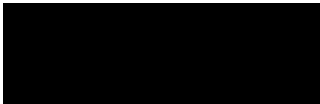
As a marine licence has been deemed within the draft DCO, the MMO is the delivery body responsible for post-consent monitoring, variation, enforcement, and revocation of provisions relating to the marine environment. As such the MMO has an interest in ensuring that provisions drafted in a deemed marine licence enable the MMO to fulfil these obligations.

This document comprises the summary of the MMO’s submission for Deadline 2.



This written representation is submitted without prejudice to any future representation the MMO may make about the DCO Application throughout the examination process. This representation is also submitted without prejudice to any decision the MMO may make on any associated application for consent, permission, approval or any other type of authorisation submitted to the MMO either for the works in the marine area or for any other authorisation relevant to the proposed development.

Yours sincerely



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## 1. Comments on National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations (NFFO) (RR-059) Fisheries Liaison and Coexistence Plan (Document Reference APP-147)

### 1.1 General Comments

- 1.1.1 Impacts to fishing operations and to other legitimate users of the sea are likely. The MMO will maintain a watching brief on any issues in relation to the Outline Fisheries Liaison and Co-Existence Plan.
- 1.1.2 The MMO defers to the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations along with standalone representatives on matters of commercial fisheries. The MMO will continue to be part of the discussions relating to securing any mitigation, monitoring or other conditions required within the DML.
- 1.1.3 The MMO notes that the MMO will not act as arbitrator in regard to compensation to fishers that may be affected by the works. This must be clear within the Outline Fisheries Liaison and Coexistence Plan.

## 2. Comments on PD1-011 Applicant's response to Relevant Representations from Marine Management Organisation

### 2.1 General Comments

- 2.1.1 The MMO acknowledge the submission of this response at Deadline 1 and has provided further comments in tabular format within Deadline 2 submission.
- 2.1.2 The MMO and Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS) Fisheries are not satisfied with some of the Applicant's responses to relevant representations and maintain that a temporal restriction on piling activities during the cod spawning season (January – April inclusive) is conditioned on the deemed marine licence (RR-047-58, RR-047-59, RR-047-60 of Table 1, of the MMO's Deadline 2 response).
- 2.1.3 The MMO notes that recent research has indicated that there may be an increase in microplastic emissions from offshore wind farms. The MMO requests that the impact of the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm on sediment bound microplastic load is scoped in for assessment and advocate for the inclusion of a suitable pre-construction survey to enable future comparison, post construction. The MMO notes that the Applicants Offshore Construction Method Statement, does not appear to include consideration of the risk to the impact of the plastic infrastructure on the environment, only the recoverability of it (RR-047-48 of Table, Deadline 2 response).
- 2.1.4 The Applicant acknowledges that the Project Environmental Management Plan (PEMP) which will include reporting requirements and is secured as a condition on the draft development consent order. The MMO reiterates the requirements for chemical use and discharge, the format and details required for all chemicals used with a pathway to the marine environment and not covered under other regulations (e.g. MARPOL (grey water, used on vessels) or in fully closed systems, should be included as part of the chemical risk assessment register (RR-047-52, Table 1 of Deadline 2). If further clarification is required prior to drafting to ensure compliance the Applicant should contact the MMO.



2.1.5 The MMO will provide further comments at Deadline 3 and throughout examination.

### **3. The MMO comments on the updated DCO/DML**

#### **3.1 Transfer of the Benefit of the Order**

3.1.1 The MMO objects to the provisions relating to the process of transferring and/or granting the deemed marine licence set out in the draft DCO at Article 7.

#### **3.2 Force Majeure**

3.2.1 The MMO does not consider the inclusion of Condition 8, Force Majeure is necessary. The MMO will provide further conditions at Deadline 3.

#### **3.3 Materially and Part 1: Paragraph 9 of the Deemed Marine Licence**

3.3.1 The MMO is currently reviewing any changes required to this Paragraph and any other sections within the DML required and will provide an update at Deadline 3.

#### **3.4 General Comments**

3.4.1 The MMO would like to advise the ExA that there are a number of Conditions in addition to those mentioned that are being reviewed and updates will be provided in due course.

### **4. Comments on Applicant's Deadline 1 Submissions**

#### **4.1 General Comments**

4.1.1 The MMO notes the Applicant has submitted a number of updated documents at Deadline 1.

4.1.2 Currently the MMO has no further comments regarding, REP1-009, REP1-017, REP1-019, REP1-021, REP1-023, REP1-025, REP1-027, REP1-029, REP-049, and REP1-060.

4.1.3 Regarding, REP1-007, REP1-031, REP1-047, REP1-055, REP1-083, REP1-085, the MMO is reviewing these documents alongside our technical advisors and will look to provide a response in due course.

4.1.4 REP1-060 Draft Statement of Common Ground with the Marine Management Organisation – the MMO will continue to discuss the SoCG with the Applicant and make comments on the draft at a future deadline.

### **5. Comments on Stakeholders' Deadline 1 Submissions**

#### **5.1 Natural England (REP1-097 and REP1-098)**

5.1.1 The MMO has reviewed Natural England's (NE) submission (document reference REP1-097).

5.1.2 The MMO notes that NE have submitted a Principal Areas of Disagreement Summary Statement (PADSS, document reference REP1-098) in place of a SoCG. The MMO note that the PADSS has outstanding issues regarding offshore ornithology, marine mammals benthic habitats and physical processes.



5.1.3 MMO hopes to see the issues raised my NE resolved.

5.1.4 The MMO notes NE have raised a number of issues regarding the DCO. The MMO will review the comments further and provide further comments in due course.

## 5.2 Historic England (REP1-094)

5.2.1 The MMO has reviewed Historic England's (HE) Written Representation (document reference REP1-095) for Deadline 1. The MMO defers to Historic England regarding matters of the historic environment.

5.2.2 The MMO notes that HE has provided comments in regard to the Draft DCO.

5.2.3 With regards to Schedule 6 Part 1 (Licensed Marine activities) 1 (4) (b) HE requests that the address of Historic England should be amended.

5.2.4 With regards to Schedule 6 Part 2 (Conditions); Pre-construction plans and documentation, HE advise that it is essential that post-consent and pre-construction archaeological evaluation informs delivery plans to avoid in-situ archaeological sites. HE would therefore expect a condition to be applied to that effect in the draft DML.

5.2.5 HE requests Condition 9 (1) (f) is revised.

5.2.6 The MMO welcome these updates.

Yours sincerely,

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...ambitious for our  
seas and coasts

