Raywood, Simon

From: Minahan, Paige <

Sent: 27 August 2024 13:19

To: Morgan Offshore Wind Project

Cc: Cooper, Adam; Winterton, Andrea; Marine Area Advice and Management Team **Subject:** FAO: Susan Hunt, Project ref EN010136, Unique ref 20049491, NRW Response to

Rule 6 Letter for Procedural Deadline

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Project Reference Number: **EN010136**

Unique Reference Number: 20049491

Dear Susan Hunt,

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru (CNC) / Natural Resources Wales (NRW) are writing in response to the Rule 6 letter that was issued on Monday 5 August 2024. Please find below NRW's position with regard to the Preliminary Meeting (PM); Issue-Specific Hearings (ISH) 1.

Please note that this email highlights the positions of NRW as the Statutory Nature Conservation Body (SNCB). The position of NRW's function on the PM and ISH is made clear within the body of the response.

The Preliminary Meeting and Issue Specific Hearing.

NRW do not wish to raise any matters at the PM. As NRW does not wish to raise any matters at the PM, we will not be attending.

NRW consider that NRW's RR was sufficiently detailed to inform the examination at this stage. Overall, NRW intend to rely on written representations only to input to the examination process and therefore will not be attending Issue specific Hearing 1, and do not plan to attend further hearings.

NRW are widely in support of the timetable put forward by the Examining Authority (ExA) and of the initial assessment of principal issues, however we wish to raise concerns specifically around Deadline 5 (Appendix E). Given this deadline falls over the Christmas period, NRW have concerns with available staff resource during this time. NRW encourages the ExA to consider reviewing this deadline and potentially delaying it to later in the month.

Other Matters - Statements of Common Ground (SoCGs) with the Applicant

NRW will continue to engage with the Applicant throughout examination to identify matters agreed and not agreed as far as possible. At present a meeting is scheduled with the Applicant to discuss our approach to SOCGs Thursday 19 September 2024. Similarly to the approach for Mona Offshore Windfarm, NRW will propose to only review the first and last iterations of any SoCG with the Applicant – one towards the beginning of the process in its draft and initial form, and the final iteration where NRW will be able to reflect on progress made for all of the points of agreement / disagreement considered throughout the course of the examination, captured via the SoCGs.

This decision has been made in order to ensure that we are able to direct our focus on further written submissions, questions put forward to NRW by the ExA, responses to other Interested Party submissions and responses required under Rule 17.

We will discuss this approach with the Applicant and will inform the ExA once confirmation of support of this approach has been provided.

We hope that the above is helpful.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself and Adam should you require any further information.

Kind Regards,

Paige Minahan

Uwch Swyddog Cynghori Morol / Senior Marine Advisory Officer
Tîm Cyngor a Rheoli Ardal Morol / Marine Area Advice & Management Team
Rhif ffôn / Hi/Hithau / She/Her

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a byddwn yn ymateb yn Gymraeg, heb i hynny arwain at oedi.

Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.

