

MORGAN OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT: GENERATION ASSETS

Differences between the Morgan Generation Assets and the Mona Offshore Wind Project in abundance estimates used in the CEA

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Image of an offshore wind farm

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Glossary

Term	Meaning
Morgan Offshore Wind Project: Generation Assets	This is the name given to the Morgan Generation Assets project as a whole (includes all infrastructure and activities associated with the project construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning).

Acronyms

Acronym	Description
AEoI	Adverse Effect on Integrity
NRW	Natural Resources Wales
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report

1 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE MORGAN GENERATION ASSETS AND THE MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT IN ABUNDANCE ESTIMATES USED IN THE CEA

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1.1 Both the Morgan Offshore Wind Project: Generation Assets (the ‘Morgan Generation Assets’) and the Mona Offshore Wind Project have used available published data from project-specific documentation in their cumulative and in-combination assessments presented in the respective applications.
- 1.1.1.2 For the species assessed within the Morgan Generation Assets application documents, the main differences between the two applications are related to the use of the impact estimates and associated data from documentation that was available at the time of writing (e.g. the Mona Offshore Wind Project assessment used the Morgan Generation Assets Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) numbers as the Morgan Generation Assets application was submitted after the application for the Mona Offshore Wind Project).
- 1.1.1.3 A collaborative exercise was undertaken by the Morgan Generation Assets and the Mona Offshore Wind Project pre-application to align the population estimates and predicted impacts from other projects used in both applications. The numbers used, therefore, broadly align between the two projects for most species. However, there are differences for kittiwake in relation to displacement impacts, which are explained below.

1.2 Explanation of differences in relation to kittiwake

- 1.2.1.1 An assessment of displacement impacts has not been required for kittiwake by the vast majority of other projects considered in the cumulative and in-combination assessment, as Natural England and NRW (A) do not advise that a displacement assessment is required for this species (see Technical engagement plan appendices Part 4 (Appendix D) (APP-092) and NRW’s Written Representation (REP1-056)). Furthermore, for this species, the different offshore ornithology consultants working on the Morgan Generation Assets and Mona Offshore Wind Project have selected differing abundance estimates from project-specific documentation, for which there is a degree of variation within the submitted documents of other projects (for example different survey areas, different bio-seasons and often a lack of monthly breakdown of impacts).
- 1.2.1.2 The kittiwake numbers selected and used in the cumulative effects assessments were extracted from project-specific documentation for each of the projects considered in the cumulative assessments required. However, how each project treated the data during their own assessment has differed. As a result, there are differences in the population estimates used for kittiwake for other projects between the Morgan Generation Assets and the Mona Offshore Wind Project due to data interpretation of project-specific documentation. It should also be noted that a further consideration has been that application documents and associated documentation for some previously consented projects are often no longer in the public domain and are therefore not always accessible.
- 1.2.1.3 Whilst the processes applied by each project may differ, none of the resulting population estimates that have been incorporated into the assessments are incorrect,

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rather they provide a different realisation of the likely impact from the project under consideration.

1.3 Implications for the cumulative and in-combination assessments

1.3.1.1 The differences between the input values have not made a difference to the conclusions of the cumulative or in-combination assessments undertaken for the Morgan Generation Assets and Mona Offshore Wind Project. All cumulative effects assessments conclusions are, in Environmental Impact Assessment terms, not significant (negligible or minor) for both projects. Similarly, a conclusion of no Adverse Effect on Integrity (AEoI) in-combination with other plans and projects has been reached for all sites and features considered in the assessments for the Morgan Generation Assets and the Mona Offshore Wind Project. Thus, any differences in the abundance estimates between the two projects are not considered to materially alter the assessment outcomes.