



The Planning Inspectorate
Yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

Section 55

Acceptance of Applications Checklist

Appendix 3 of [Advice Note Six: Preparation and submission of application documents](#)

Section 55 Acceptance of Applications Checklist

Section 55 of the Planning Act 2008 can be viewed at legislation.gov.uk, here: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/section/55>

DISCLAIMER: This Checklist is for information only and is not a formal application document. It is a non-statutory checklist for the Planning Inspectorate to complete. Completion or self-assessment by the Applicant does not hold weight at the Acceptance stage. Unless specified, **all references to the Planning Inspectorate are made in relation to functions being carried out on behalf of the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.**

Section 55(2) Acceptance of Applications				
1	Within 28 days (starting day after receipt) the Planning Inspectorate must decide whether or not to accept the application for Examination.	Date received	28 day due date	Date of decision
		22 February 2024	21 March 2024	21 March 2024
Section 55(3) – the Planning Inspectorate may only accept an application if it concludes that:		Planning Inspectorate comments		
Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c): It is an application for an order granting development consent				
2	Is the development a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project ¹ (NSIP) (or does it form part of an NSIP); and does the application state on the face of it that it is an application for a Development Consent Order ² (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008), or equivalent words? Does the application specify the development to which it relates (i.e. which category or categories in ss14 to 30 does the Proposed Development fall)?	<p>Yes</p> <p>The Proposed Development set out in Schedule 1 of the Draft DCO (Doc C1) includes development falling within the categories in s14 of the PA2008. The development is for the construction of a generating station and satisfies s15 of the PA2008; including subsection 3B.</p> <p>This is consistent with the summary provided in section 4 of the Application Form (Doc A3) which states that the application is for an NSIP.</p>		

¹ NSIP is defined generally in s14 with the detailed thresholds for each of the specified categories being set out in ss15 to 30

² Development consent is required for development to the extent that the development is or forms part of an NSIP (s31 of the PA2008)

	If the development does not fall within the categories in ss14 to 30, has a direction been given by the Secretary of State under s35 of the PA2008 for the development to be treated as development for which development consent is required?	
3	Summary: Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c)	The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Draft DCO (Doc C1) includes development for which development consent is required.
Section 55(3)(e): The Applicant in relation to the application made has complied with Chapter 2 of Part 5 (pre-application procedure)		
4	In accordance with the EIA Regulations ³ , did the Applicant (prior to carrying out consultation in accordance with s42) either (a) request the Planning Inspectorate adopt a Screening Opinion in respect of the development to which the application relates, or (b) notify the Planning Inspectorate in writing that it proposed to provide an Environmental Statement in respect of that development?	Yes On 7 April 2022 the Applicant notified the Planning Inspectorate in accordance with Regulation 8(1)(b) of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 of its intention to provide an Environmental Statement (ES) in respect of the Proposed Development. The notification was received before the start of statutory consultation on 19 April 2023. A copy of the notification letter is provided at Appendix D.23 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3.1) .
5	Have any Adequacy of Consultation Representations ⁴ been received from 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' local authorities; and if so, do they confirm that the Applicant has complied with the duties under s42, s47 and s48?	Yes On 26 February 2024, the Planning Inspectorate invited fifteen local authorities to make an Adequacy of Consultation Response (AoCR) in respect of the application. Five responses were received by the deadline.

³ Regulation 8 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (2017 EIA Regulations), or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, Regulation 6 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (2009 EIA Regulations)

⁴ Section 55(4) of the PA2008 provides that the Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the Consultation Report, and any Adequacy of Consultation Representations received

	<p>Four authorities responded confirming in their AoCR that either the Applicant had complied with its duties under s42, s47 and s48 of the PA2008 and/ or that their authority had no comments/ objections to make. These local authorities were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eryri National Park Authority (A authority)• Denbighshire County Council (B authority)• Wirral Council• Fylde Council <p>Although Wirral Council and Flyde Council confirmed compliance, it should be noted that these authorities do not fall within the definition of a host or neighbouring local authority, described as 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' authorities under s43 of PA2008.</p> <p>Host authority Conwy County Borough Council did not submit an AoCR.</p> <p>On 27 February 2024, Sefton Council submitted its AoCR detailing that it had not been consulted on the Mona Offshore Wind Farm. To confirm this, on 7 March 2024, the Inspectorate made a request under Regulation 5(5) of the APFP Regs for copies of all responses to the consultation carried out under Part 5 of the PA2008. The Applicant duly provided this information on 12 March 2024. It did not include any response from Sefton Council.</p> <p>Therefore, due to the contradictory positions of the Applicant and Sefton Council, and in the absence of substantive evidence, the position is unclear. Whilst Sefton Council was identified as a non-prescribed consultee due to the potential for visual impacts, it does not fall within the definition of a host or neighbouring local authority, described as 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' authorities under s43 of PA2008. In any event, and to ensure that it has an opportunity to become an Interested Party in the forthcoming Examination, the Applicant should ensure that Sefton Council is included in the list of persons to be notified of the accepted application under s56 of the Act.</p>
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		<p>In terms of the Adequacy of Consultation Representations from host and neighbouring authorities (s43 authorities), no concerns have been raised, and the Inspectorate is satisfied that the Applicant has complied with the duties under s42, s47 and s48.</p> <p>All AoCRs received have been carefully considered and are available to view on the National Infrastructure Planning website: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/wales/mona-offshore-wind-farm/?ipcsection=docs</p>
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Section 42: Duty to consult

Did the Applicant consult the applicable persons set out in s42 of the PA2008 about the proposed application?

6	Section 42(1)(a) persons prescribed ⁵ ?	<p>Yes</p> <p>The Applicant has provided a list of persons consulted under s42(1)(a) on 19 April 2023 at Appendix D.16 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3.1).</p> <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42(1)(a) consultees is provided at Appendix D.13.2 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3.1).</p>
7	Section 42(1)(aa) the Marine Management Organisation ⁶ ?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraph 5.2.2.3 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3) confirms the Marine Management Organisation were consulted under s42(1)(aa).</p>
8	Section 42(1)(b) each local authority within s43 ⁷ ?	<p>Yes</p>

⁵ Statutory consultees set out in Schedule 1 of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (APFP Regulations)

⁶ In any case where the Proposed Development would affect, or would be likely to affect, any of the areas specified in s42(2) of the PA2008

⁷ Definition of 'local authority' in s43(3) of the PA2008: The 'B' authority where the application land is in the authority's area; the 'A' authority where any part of the boundary of A's area is also a part of the boundary of B's area; the 'C' authority (upper tier) where the application land is in that authority's area; the 'D' authority (upper tier) where such an authority shares a boundary with a 'C' authority

		<p>Table 5.12 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3) lists the relevant local authorities that were identified and consulted under s43 and s42(1)(b) on 19 April 2023.</p> <p>The host ‘B’ authorities were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conwy County Borough Council • Denbighshire County Council <p>The boundary ‘A’ authorities were consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flintshire County Council • Gwynedd Council • Powys County Council • Wrexham County Borough Council <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42(1)(b) relevant authorities is provided at Appendix D.13.2 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3.1).</p>
9	Section 42(1)(c) the Greater London Authority (if in Greater London area)?	N/A
10	Section 42(1)(d) each person in one or more of s44 categories ⁸ ?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraph 5.2.6.8 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3) states that all persons identified under s42(1)(d) were consulted on 17 April 2023.</p> <p>Paragraphs 5.2.6.1 to 5.2.6.10 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3) summarise how the Applicant made diligent inquiry to seek to identify and consult persons with an interest in lands affected by the Draft DCO (Doc C1). The full methodology undertaken by the Applicant is provided in Appendix D.18 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3.1).</p>

⁸ Category 1: owner, lessee, tenant or occupier of land; Category 2: person interested in the land or has power to sell and convey the land or to release the land; Category 3: persons who would or might be entitled to make a relevant claim.

		A sample of the letter is provided at Appendix D.18.2 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3.1) .
Section 45: Timetable for s42 consultation		
11	Did the Applicant notify s42 consultees of the deadline for receipt of consultation responses; and if so was the deadline notified by the Applicant 28 days or more starting with the day after receipt of the consultation documents?	<p>Yes</p> <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42 consultees is provided at Appendix D.13.1, D.13.2 and D.13.3 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3.1).</p> <p>The sample letter dated 14 April 2023 confirmed that consultation commenced on 19 April 2023 and closed on 4 June 2023, providing more than the required minimum time for receipt of responses.</p>
Section 46: Duty to notify the Planning Inspectorate of proposed application		
12	Did the Applicant supply information to notify the Planning Inspectorate of the proposed application; and if so, was the information supplied to the Planning Inspectorate on or before the date it was sent to the s42 consultees? Was this done on or before commencing consultation under s42?	<p>Yes</p> <p>On 19 April 2023, the date the consultation commenced, the Applicant submitted its s46 notice to the Planning Inspectorate by email. The notice failed to deliver, and the Applicant re-submitted its s46 notice to the Planning Inspectorate on 26 April 2023. Evidence has been provided to confirm the Applicant attempted to submit its s46 notice on 19 April 2023, but due to a technical error it was not delivered on that date.</p> <p>A copy of the s46 notification letter is provided at Appendix D.21.2 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3.1) and a copy of s46 notification acknowledgement letter from the Planning Inspectorate is provided at Appendix D.21.1 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3.1).</p>
Section 47: Duty to consult local community		
13	Did the Applicant prepare a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) on how it intended to consult people living in the vicinity of the land?	<p>Yes</p> <p>A copy of the final SoCC is provided at Appendix D.1 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3.1).</p>

14	Were 'B' and (where relevant) 'C' authorities consulted about the content of the SoCC; and if so, was the deadline for receipt of responses 28 days beginning with the day after the day that 'B' and, where applicable, 'C' authorities received the consultation documents?	<p>Yes</p> <p>The Applicant sent the draft SoCC to Conwy County Borough Council and Denbighshire County Council ('B Authority') and Flintshire County Council, Gwynedd Council, Powys County Council, Wrexham County Borough Council ('C' authority). Paragraph 5.1.3.7 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3) confirms two consultation events were held, following changes in the programme; one from 7 October 2022 to 4 November 2022 on the first draft SoCC, the second on the revised draft SoCC on 9 March 2023 to 6 April 2023. The Applicant provided the required minimum time for responses to be received.</p>
15	Has the Applicant had regard to any responses received when preparing the SoCC?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Tables 5.1 and 5.2 the Consultation Report (Doc E3) provide a summary of the consultation responses from the Maritime & Coastguard Agency, Environment Agency, Gwynedd Council, Natural Resources Wales, Department of Infrastructure Isle of Man (IoM)/Territorial Seas Committee, Denbighshire County Council, and Isle of Anglesey County Council in respect of the draft SoCC and demonstrates how the Applicant had regard to their content.</p> <p>Examples of changes from the draft SoCC to the final SoCC include:</p> <p>Feedback from Denbighshire County Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only having Bodelwyddan Village Hall is not appropriate. The most likely impact of the preferred cable routes and substation are to the rural communities around St Asaph business park. • Change – Consultation events held at St Asaph Parish Church and Neuadd Owen Village Hall, in addition to the proposed event in the draft SoCC at Bodelwyddan Village Hall. <p>Feedback from Department of Infrastructure IoM/Territorial Seas Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Isle of Man is not included as public event, pop up event or consultation materials deposit location.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change – Consultation events were subsequently held in both Ramsey and Douglas. Henry Bloom Library in Douglas and Ramsey Town Library were both used as consultation materials deposit locations. <p>Feedback from Natural Resources Wales:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add the UK Chamber of Shipping, NATS En-Route Limited (NERL) safeguarding, National Federation of Fishermen’s Organisations (NFFO), Welsh Fisherman’s Association (WFA) and the North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA) to the consultation list. • Change – Included as consultees under s47 and s42 (NERL/NATS). <p>The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Applicant had regard to the responses received when preparing the SoCC.</p>
16	<p>Has the SoCC been made available for inspection on a website maintained by or on behalf of the Applicant; and has a notice been published in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land which states where and when the SoCC can be inspected?</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>The final SoCC was made available at the following locations, which are reasonably convenient having regard to the location of the Proposed Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amlwch Library, Lôn Parys, Amlwch, Anglesey LL68 9EA • Bangor Public Library, Gwynedd Road, Bangor LL57 1DT • Henry Bloom Noble Library, Douglas Borough Council, Douglas, IoM IM1 2AY • Llandudno Library, Mostyn Street, Llandudno LL30 2RP • Ramsey Library, Parliament Square, Ramsey, IoM IM8 1RT • Rhyl Library, Museum and Arts Centre Church Street, Rhyl, LL18 3AA <p>A notice stating when and where the final SoCC could be inspected was published in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Post Wales West on 19 April 2023

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Golwg on 20 April 2023 • Isle of Man Courier on 21 April 2023 <p>The published SoCC notice, provided at Appendix D.3 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3.1) states where and when the final SoCC was available to inspect.</p> <p>Clippings of the published advertisements are provided at Appendix D.3 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3.1).</p>
17	Does the SoCC set out whether the development is EIA development ⁹ ; and does it set out how the Applicant intends to publicise and consult on the Preliminary Environmental Information?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Page 10/ Section 4 of the final SoCC at Appendix D.1 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3.1) states that the development is EIA development and sets out how the Applicant intended to publicise and consult on the Preliminary Environmental Information.</p>
18	Has the Applicant carried out the consultation in accordance with the SoCC?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraphs 5.1.7 to 5.1.24.2 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3) set out how the community consultation was carried out in line with the final SoCC.</p> <p>Table 5.11 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3) sets out how the Applicant has complied with the commitments set out in the final SoCC.</p> <p>Appendices D.8 to D.15 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3.1) provide evidence that the commitments within the final SoCC have been carried out.</p>
Section 48: Duty to publicise the proposed application		
19	Did the Applicant publicise the proposed application in the prescribed manner set out in Regulation 4(2) of the (as amended) APFP Regulations 2009?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraph 5.5.3.2 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3) states:</p> <p><i>“The section 48 notice was first published in The Guardian on 12 April 2023. The remaining notices appeared in the press between 12-20 April, to coincide</i></p>

⁹ Regulation 12 of the 2017 EIA Regulations, or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, Regulation 10 of the 2009 EIA Regulations

		<p><i>with the start of the section 42 and 47 consultation period on 19 April 2023, and copies of the notice were sent to all consultation bodies (listed in Appendix D.16) on 19 April 2023.”</i></p> <p>Section 5.5.3.5 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3) displays the newspapers and dates of s48 publicity as set out below.</p> <p>A copy of the s48 notice is provided at Appendix D.22 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3.1 Part 2).</p> <p>Clippings of the published notices set out below are provided at Appendix D.22.2 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3.1 Part 2):</p>	
		Newspaper(s)	Date
a)	for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity in which the Proposed Development would be situated;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Daily Post • Golwg • Isle of Man Courier 	<p>Week 1: 12 April 2023 – Week 2: 19 April 2023</p> <p>Week 1: 13 April 2023 – Week 2: 20 April 2023</p> <p>Week 1: 14 April 2023 – Week 2: 20 April 2023</p>
b)	once in a national newspaper;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Guardian 	12 April 2023
c)	once in the London Gazette and, if land in Scotland is affected, the Edinburgh Gazette; and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • London Gazette 	12 April 2023

d)	where the proposed application relates to offshore development – (i) once in Lloyds List; and (ii) once in an appropriate fishing trade journal?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lloyds List • Fishing News 	12 April 2023 12 April 2023
20	Did the s48 notice include the required information set out in Regulation 4(3) of the (as amended) APFP Regulations 2009?	Yes The published s48 notice, supplied at Appendix D.22 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3.1 Part 2) , contains the required information as set out below:	
Information		Paragraph	
a)	the name and address of the Applicant.	7	b) a statement that the Applicant intends to make an application for development consent to the Secretary of State
c)	a statement as to whether the application is EIA development	11	d) a summary of the main proposals, specifying the location or route of the Proposed Development
e)	a statement that the documents, plans and maps were available on a website maintained by or on behalf of the Applicant. The statement must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature and location of the Proposed Development • The address of the website • The place on the website • A telephone number which can be used to contact the Applicant for enquiries in relation to the documents, plans and maps. 	16	f) the latest date on which those documents, plans and maps will be available for inspection

g)	whether a charge will be made for copies of any of the documents, plans or maps and the amount of any charge	17	h)		
				details of how to respond to the publicity	23
i)	a deadline for receipt of those responses by the Applicant, being not less than 28 days following the date when the notice is last published	25			
21	Are there any observations in respect of the s48 notice provided above?				
	No				
22	Has a copy of the s48 notice been sent to the EIA consultation bodies and to any person notified to the Applicant in accordance with the EIA Regulations ¹⁰ ?	<p>Yes</p> <p>A copy of the s48 notice was sent to the EIA consultation bodies as part of the s42 consultation, as confirmed in paragraph 5.5.3.2-5.5.3.3 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3).</p> <p>A sample of the s42 consultation letter provided at Appendix D.13.2 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3.1 Part 2) confirms a copy of the s48 notice was enclosed.</p>			
s49: Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity					
23	Has the Applicant had regard to any relevant responses to the s42, s47 and s48 consultation?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 5.7.1.4 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3) and Appendix D.25 (Doc E3.1 Part 2) set out how the Applicant had regard to the consultation</p>			

¹⁰ Regulation 13 of the 2017 EIA Regulations, or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, Regulation 11 of the 2009 EIA Regulations

		<p>responses received; including whether or not responses led to changes to the application.</p> <p>The actions informed by the consultation responses appear to be reflected in the final form of the application as submitted. Where a particular response has not led to a change in the application, it is sufficiently clear that regard was had to it.</p>
Guidance about pre-application procedure		
24	To what extent has the Applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the pre-application process' ¹¹ ?	<p>Paragraph 8 1.1.3 of the Consultation Report (Doc E3) states that the Applicant has taken into consideration all relevant statutory and other guidance. Having reviewed the application, the Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Applicant has identified and had regard to the relevant statutory guidance.</p> <p>To assist the Inspectorate in reaching this conclusion all responses to the Applicant's consultation under Part 5 of the PA2008 were requested under Regulation 5(5) of the APFP Regulations. The Inspectorate's request for these responses was made on 7 March 2024 and the Applicant provided the responses on 12 March 2024.</p>
25	Summary: Section 55(3)(e)	The Applicant has complied with Chapter 2 of Part 5 (pre-application procedure) of the PA2008.
s55(3)(f) and s55(5A): The application (including accompaniments) achieves a satisfactory standard having regard to the extent to which it complies with section 37(3) (form and contents of application) and with any standards set under section 37(5) and follows any applicable guidance under section 37(4)		
26	Is it made in the prescribed form as set out in Schedule 2 of the APFP Regulations, and does it include:	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 4 of the Application Form (Doc A3) explains why the development falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate.</p>

¹¹ The Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the extent to which the Applicant has had regard to guidance issued under s50

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a brief statement which explains why it falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate; and a brief statement that clearly identifies the location of the application site, or the route if it is a linear scheme? 	<p>Section 5 of the Application Form (Doc A3) provides a brief non-technical description of the site and section 6 provides the location of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>A Location Plan (Doc B1) has been provided.</p>												
27	Is it accompanied by a Consultation Report?	<p>Yes</p> <p>The application is accompanied by a Consultation Report (Doc E3) and Consultation Report Appendices (Doc E3.1).</p>												
28	Where a plan comprises three or more separate sheets, has a key plan been provided showing the relationship between the different sheets? ¹²	Yes												
29	Is it accompanied by the documents and information set out in APFP Regulation 5(2)?	Yes												
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;"></th> <th style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Information</th> <th style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Document</th> <th style="width: 25%;"></th> <th style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Information</th> <th style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Document</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">a)</td> <td>Where applicable, the Environmental Statement required under the EIA Regulations¹³ and any scoping or screening opinions or directions</td> <td> Environmental Statement (ES): Volume 1 Non-technical summary (Doc F1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volume 2 – Offshore Chapters (Docs F2.1 – F2.11) </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">b)</td> <td>The draft Development Consent Order (DCO)</td> <td>Draft Development Consent Order (Doc C1)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Information	Document		Information	Document	a)	Where applicable, the Environmental Statement required under the EIA Regulations ¹³ and any scoping or screening opinions or directions	Environmental Statement (ES): Volume 1 Non-technical summary (Doc F1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volume 2 – Offshore Chapters (Docs F2.1 – F2.11) 	b)	The draft Development Consent Order (DCO)	Draft Development Consent Order (Doc C1)
	Information	Document		Information	Document									
a)	Where applicable, the Environmental Statement required under the EIA Regulations ¹³ and any scoping or screening opinions or directions	Environmental Statement (ES): Volume 1 Non-technical summary (Doc F1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volume 2 – Offshore Chapters (Docs F2.1 – F2.11) 	b)	The draft Development Consent Order (DCO)	Draft Development Consent Order (Doc C1)									

¹² Regulation 5(4) of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

¹³ The 2017 EIA Regulations, or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, the 2009 EIA Regulations

c)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volume 3 – Onshore Chapters (Docs F3.1 – F3.11) • Volume 4 - Combined Chapters (Docs F4.1 – F4.4) • Volume 5 – Introductory Annexes (Docs F5.3.1 – F5.3.2) • Volume 6 – Offshore Annexes (Docs F6.1.1 - F6.10.1) • Volume 7 – Onshore Annexes (Docs F7.1.1 - F7.9.3) • Volume 8 – Combined Annexes (Docs F8.1.1 – F8.3.1) <p>Scoping Opinion (Doc J8)</p>	d)		
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30).		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with observations in s51 advice letter).
	An Explanatory Memorandum explaining the purpose and effect of provisions in the draft DCO	Explanatory Memorandum (Doc C3)		Where applicable, a Book of Reference	Book of Reference (Doc D4)
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30).		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30).

e)	A copy of any Flood Risk Assessment	ES Volume 7, Annex 2.1: Flood Consequences Assessment (FCA) (Doc F7.2.1)	f)	A statement whether the proposal engages one or more of the matters set out in section 79(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (statutory nuisances) and if so how the Applicant proposes to mitigate or limit them	Statutory Nuisance Statement (Doc J5) This addresses relevant matters set out in s79(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (statutory nuisances), including noise and vibration (Section 1.5.2), dust emissions (Section 1.5.3) and artificial light emissions (Section 1.5.4).
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30).		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes.
h)	A Statement of Reasons and a Funding Statement (where the application involves any Compulsory Acquisition)	Statement of Reasons (Doc D3) Funding Statement (Doc D1) Funding Statement Annexes part 1-3 (Doc D2)	i)	A Land Plan identifying:- (i) the land required for, or affected by, the Proposed Development; (ii) where applicable, any land over which it is proposed to exercise powers of Compulsory Acquisition or any rights to use land; (iii) any land in relation to which it is proposed to extinguish easements,	Land Plan (Onshore) (Doc B5)

			servitudes and other private rights; and (iv) any special category land and replacement land	
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes.	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30).
j)	A Works Plan showing, in relation to existing features:- (i) the proposed location or (for a linear scheme) the proposed route and alignment of the development and works; and (ii) the limits within which the development and works may be carried out and any limits of deviation provided for in the draft DCO	Works Plans - Onshore (Doc B3) Works Plan – Offshore and Intertidal (Doc B4)	k) Where applicable, a plan identifying any new or altered means of access, stopping up of streets or roads or any diversions, extinguishments or creation of rights of way or public rights of navigation	Access to Works and Street Works Access Plan – Onshore (Doc B15) Temporary Stopping up of Public Rights of Way Plan (Doc B16)
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30).	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30).

<p>l) Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) any statutory or non-statutory sites or features of nature conservation eg sites of geological or landscape importance; (ii) habitats of protected species, important habitats or other diversity features; and (iii) water bodies in a river basin management plan, together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features, habitats or bodies likely to be caused by the Proposed Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Statutory/non-statutory sites or features of nature conservation are identified on the following plans: Offshore Statutory and Non-Statutory Nature Conservation Sites (Doc B10); Onshore Statutory and Non-Statutory Nature Conservation Sites (Doc B11); ES Chapter 6 Appendix A Figures 6.2 and 6.3 (Doc F3.6); and ES Chapter 8 Annex 8.5 Figures A.1 to A.3 (Doc F6.8.5). (ii) Habitats of protected species, important habitats and other features are identified on the following plans: ES Chapter 2 Figure 2.8 (Doc F2.2); ES Chapter 4 Figure 4.4 (Doc F2.4); Offshore Statutory and Non-Statutory Nature Conservation Sites (Doc B10); Onshore Statutory and Non-Statutory Nature Conservation Sites (Doc B11); and the Tree and Hedgerow Plan (Doc B14). 	<p>m) Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying any statutory or non-statutory sites or features of the historic environment, (eg scheduled monuments, World Heritage sites, listed buildings, archaeological sites and registered battlefields) together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features or structures likely to be caused by the Proposed Development</p>	<p>Statutory/non-Statutory sites or features of the historic environment are identified on the Offshore Historic Environment Plan (Doc B12) and the Onshore Historic and Scheduled Monument Sites Plan (Doc B13).</p> <p>An assessment of effects is provided in ES Chapter 9: Marine Archaeology (Doc F2.9) and ES Chapter 5: Historic Environment (Doc F3.5).</p>
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	<p>An assessment of effects on (i) and (ii) is provided in the following ES chapters:</p> <p>Volume 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1: Physical Processes (Doc F2.1) • 2: Benthic Subtidal and Intertidal Ecology (Doc F2.2) • 3: Fish and Shellfish Ecology (Doc F2.3) • 4: Marine Mammals (Doc F2.4) • 5: Offshore Ornithology (Doc F2.5) • 8: Seascape and visual resources (Doc F2.8) • 11: Inter-related Effects – Offshore (Doc F2.11) <p>Volume 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3: Onshore Ecology (Doc F3.3) • 4: Onshore and Intertidal Ornithology (Doc F3.4) • 6: Landscape and Visual Resources (Doc F3.6) 			
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11: Inter-related Effects – Onshore (Doc F3.11) <p>(iii) The location of water bodies in a river basin management plan are identified on the Water Bodies in a River Basin Management Plan (Doc B17).</p> <p>An assessment of effects is provided in ES Chapter 2: Hydrology and Flood Risk (Doc F3.2); ES Annex 2.2: Water Framework Directive Coastal Waters Assessment (Doc F6.2.2); and ES Annex 2.4: Water Framework Directive Surface Water and Groundwater Assessment (Doc F7.2.4).</p>			
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes.	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes.
n)	Where applicable, a plan with any accompanying information identifying any Crown land	Crown Land Plan (Onshore) (Doc B6)	o)	<p>Any other plans, drawings and sections necessary to describe the development consent proposal showing details of design, external appearance, and the preferred layout of</p> <p>Outline Fisheries Liaison and Co-existence Plan (Doc J13)</p> <p>Mona Array Area Site Characterisation Report (Doc J19)</p> <p>Mona Offshore Cable Corridor Site Characterisation Report (Doc J20)</p>

			buildings, structures, drainage, surface water management, means of vehicular and pedestrian access, any car parking and landscaping	Outline Flood Management Plan (Doc J26.7) Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (Doc J26.13) Outline Highways Access Management Plans (Doc J26.16) Outline Public Rights of Way Management Strategy (Doc J27)
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30).	Are they of a satisfactory standard?	Yes.
p)	Any of the documents prescribed by Regulation 6 of the APFP Regulations:	Regulation 6(1)(b)(i) - Grid Connection and Cable Details Statement (Doc J4) Regulation 6(1)(b)(ii) - Safety Zone Statement (Doc J6)	q) Any other documents considered necessary to support the application	Mona Other Consents or Licences Required (Doc J1) Mona Planning Statement (Doc J2) Mona National Policy Statement Tracker (Doc J2.1) Mona Welsh National Marine Plan Signposting (Doc J2.2) Mona Design Principles (Doc J3) Mona Grid Connection and Cable Detail Statement (Doc J4) Mona Statutory Nuisance Statement (Doc J5) Mona Safety Zone Statement (Doc J6)

				<p>Mona Biodiversity Benefit and Green Infrastructure Statement (Doc J7)</p> <p>Mona Scoping Opinion (Doc J8)</p> <p>Mona Marine Licence principles document (Doc J9)</p> <p>Mona Mitigation and Monitoring Schedule (Doc J10)</p> <p>Mona Relationship of Offshore Plans included within the DCO (Doc J11)</p> <p>Mona Outline Offshore Operations and Maintenance Plan (Doc J12)</p> <p>Mona Outline Vessel Traffic Management Plan (Doc J14)</p> <p>Mona Offshore In-principle Monitoring Plan (Doc J15)</p> <p>Mona Outline Underwater Sound Management Strategy (Doc J16)</p> <p>Mona Measures to minimise disturbance to marine mammals and rafting birds from transiting vessels (Doc J17)</p> <p>Mona Outline Offshore Written Scheme of Investigation and Protocol for Archaeological Discoveries (Doc J18)</p>
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				<p>Mona Outline Marine Mammal Mitigation Protocol (Doc J21)</p> <p>Mona Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (Doc J22)</p> <p>Mona Outline Onshore Written Scheme of Investigation (Doc J23)</p> <p>Mona Outline Skills and Employment Plan (Doc J24)</p> <p>Mona Relationship of Onshore Plans included within the DCO (Doc J25)</p> <p>Mona Outline Code of Construction Practice (Doc J26)</p> <p>Mona Outline spillage and emergency response plan (Doc J26.1)</p> <p>Mona Outline Dust Management Plan (Doc J26.2)</p> <p>Mona Outline Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan (Doc J26.3)</p> <p>Mona Outline Communications plan (Doc J26.4)</p> <p>Mona Outline Construction Fencing plan (Doc J26.5)</p>
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				Mona Outline Construction Surface Water and Drainage Management Plan (Doc J26.6) Mona Outline Soil Management Plan (Doc J26.8) Mona Outline Site Waste Management Plan (Doc J26.9) Mona Outline Artificial Light Emissions Plan (Doc J26.10) Mona Outline Biosecurity Protocol (Doc J26.11) Mona Discovery Strategy for Contaminated Land (Doc J26.12) Mona Outline Landfall Construction Method Statement (Doc J26.14) Mona Onshore Construction Method Statement (Doc J26.15) Outline Arboriculture Method Statement (Doc J26.18)	
	Are they of a satisfactory standard?	Yes.		Are they of a satisfactory standard?	Yes.
30	Are there any observations in respect of the documents provided at Box 29 (a) to (q) above?				
	29(a) – ES Volume 1 Chapter 4 (Doc F1.4) Section 4.2.2 is repeated (and also shown on the Contents page) as Section 4.2.4.				

29(c) – Explanatory Memorandum (Doc C3)

Schedule 10 subheading is not in the same format as other subheadings in that section (paragraph 1.5.1.39). This may explain why Schedule 10 not included in the contents section.

29(d) – Book of Reference (Doc D4)

Page numbers missing from 464 to 469 and no page breaking Part 2 and Part 3.

29(e) – ES Volume 7, Annex 2.1: Flood Consequences Assessment (FCA) (Doc F7.2.1)

ES Volume 1, Chapter 3, paragraph 3.13.3.3 (Doc F1.3) states that the operational life of the onshore substation is expected to be 50 years, whereas FCA paragraph 3.1.4.1 states that the expected operational life for the onshore substation is 35 years.

29(i) – Land Plan (Onshore) (Doc B5)

Missing north facing arrow.

Inset 5 (page 10) appears to use the wrong shade of green. For clarity, this should be corrected to use the same green as that in the legend.

29(k) - Street Works and Access to Works Plan (Doc B15)

Missing north facing arrow.

The points on the plan (which are referred to in Schedule 3 and 4 of the DCO) could be slightly larger to aid comprehension.

The points on the plan (which are referred to in Schedule 5 of the DCO) could be slightly larger to aid comprehension.

29(k) - Temporary Stopping up of Public Rights of Way Plan (Doc B16)

Missing north facing arrow.

29(j) – Works Plans

Onshore (**Doc B3**): Missing north facing arrow.

Onshore (**Doc B3**): Administrative boundaries should be included.

Onshore (**Doc B3**): Work ‘22a’ is referred to as ‘22A’ in the dDCO.

Onshore (**Doc B3**): Work ‘12a’ is referred to as ‘12A’ in the dDCO.

Offshore and Intertidal (**Doc B4**): Scale smaller than 1:2500, the specified minimum.

29(n) – Crown Land Plan (Onshore) (Doc B6)

Missing north facing arrow.

Application Guide (Doc A5)

The guide to the application (page 3) incorrectly lists ES Volume 2 as ES Volume 1.

Environmental Statement (Doc F6)

Referencing inconsistencies on page 1 of the following documents: F6.5.2, F6.5.3, F6.5.5, F6.5.6, F6.8.1.

F6.5.2, for example, is referenced as ‘F.6.5.2’. A full consistency check of document references is suggested.

s51 advice has been issued to the Applicant in respect of the above matters:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/EN010137-000508>

31	Is the application accompanied by a report identifying any European site(s) to which Regulation 48 of The Conservation (Natural	Yes
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	Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 applies; or any Ramsar site(s), which may be affected by the Proposed Development, together with sufficient information that will enable the Secretary of State to make an appropriate assessment of the implications for the site if required by Regulation 48(1)? ¹⁴	<p>A Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report has been provided (Docs E1.1 to E1.5).</p> <p>The HRA Report identifies relevant European sites and the likely effects on those sites. It is considered that the information provided in the report is adequate for acceptance.</p> <p>Note: The Examining Authority will be able to ask questions during the Examination. This may result in additional information being required to inform the HRA Report and the competent authority. Depending upon the type and availability of information required it may not be possible to obtain this within the statutory timetable of the Examination.</p>
32	If requested by the Planning Inspectorate, two paper copies of the application form and other supporting documents and plans ¹⁵	No hard copies requested.
33	Has the Applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Application form guidance', and has this regard led to the application being prepared to a standard that the Planning Inspectorate considers satisfactory?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 3.1 of the Application Letter (Doc A1) explains how the Applicant has had regard to statutory guidance on the form of the application.</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Applicant has demonstrated regard to the guidance principles.</p>
34	Summary - s55(3)(f) and s55(5A)	<p>Having regard to all of the above matters, the Planning Inspectorate concludes that the application (including accompaniments) has been prepared to a standard that it considers satisfactory.</p> <p>In respect of the discrepancies identified in Box 30 of this checklist, to help facilitate an efficient and effective examination of the application, s51 advice has been provided to the Applicant in conjunction with the decision to accept the application. That advice is published on the National Infrastructure Planning</p>

¹⁴ Regulation 5(2)(g) of the APFP Regulations

¹⁵ Regulation 5(2)(r) of the APFP Regulations

		website, here: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/EN010137-000508
The Infrastructure Planning (Fees) Regulations 2010 (as amended)		
Fees to accompany an application		
35	Was the fee paid at the same time that the application was made ¹⁶ ?	The fee was received on 2 February 2024; before the application was made.

Role	Electronic signature	Date
Case Manager	Jake Stephens	21 March 2024
Acceptance Inspectors	Jessica Powis and Graham Hobbins	21 March 2024

¹⁶ The Planning Inspectorate must charge the Applicant a fee in respect of the decision by the Planning Inspectorate under section 55 of the PA2008. If the Applicant fails to pay the fee, the Planning Inspectorate need not consider the application until payment is received. The fee must be paid at the same time that the application is made

