

# MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

## Response to Section 51 advice

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April 2024

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Image of an offshore wind farm

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

**Document status**

<b>Version</b>	<b>Purpose of document</b>	<b>Authored by</b>	<b>Reviewed by</b>	<b>Approved by</b>	<b>Review date</b>
F01	Response to S51 advice	Mona Offshore Wind Ltd	Mona Offshore Wind Ltd	Mona Offshore Wind Ltd	April 2024

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# 1 Response to Section 51 advice

## 1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1.1 On 21 March 2024, the application by Mona Offshore Wind Limited for an order granting Development Consent for the Mona Offshore Wind Farm was accepted for examination by the Planning Inspectorate. The Planning Inspectorate provided its advice on the application under section 51 of the Planning Act 2008.
- 1.1.1.2 Mona Offshore Wind Ltd ('the Applicant') has provided its responses to the section 51 advice in Table 1.1.

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**Table 1.1: The Applicants response to Section 51 advice.**

Topic	Section 51 advice	Applicants response
Adequacy of consultation	<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>	<p>The Applicant confirms that Sefton Council was contacted prior to the start of statutory consultation in 2023 (all ward councillors and the then CEO (now retired) were emailed).</p> <p>Sefton Council was also notified of the accepted application under s56 of the Act.</p>
Observation in documents	<p>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.</p>	<p>The Applicant confirms this has been corrected and a revised version of Volume 1, Chapter 4: Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives (doc F1.4/F02) has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.</p>
Observation in documents	<p>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.</p>	<p>This has been amended and the revised Explanatory Memorandum (doc C3/F02) has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.</p>
Observation in documents	<p>Book of Reference (Doc D4) Page numbers missing from 464 to 469 and no page breaking Part 2 and Part 3.</p>	<p>This has been amended and the revised Book of Reference (doc D4/F02) has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.</p>
Observation in documents	<p>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.</p>	<p>The Applicant confirms that the operational life of the onshore substation is expected to be 35 years. This correction will be included in an Errata document submitted at examination Deadline 1.</p>

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Observation in documents	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.	This has been amended and the revised Land Plan (Onshore) (doc B5/F02) has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.
Observation in documents	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	These have been amended and the revised Street Works and Access to Works Plans (doc B15/F02) has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.
Observation in documents	Temporary Stopping up of Public Rights of Way Plan (Doc B16) Missing north facing arrow.	This amendment has been made and a revised Temporary Stopping up of Public Rights of Way Plan (doc B16/F02) has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.
Observation in documents	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.	These amendments have been made and the revised Works Plans - Onshore (doc B3/F02) and draft Development Consent Order (doc C1/F02) have been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.
Observation in documents	Offshore and Intertidal (Doc B4): Scale smaller than 1:2500, the specified minimum.	The scale of this plan has been amended and the revised Works Plans -Offshore and Intertidal (doc B4/F02) has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.
Observation in documents	Crown Land Plan (Onshore) (Doc B6) Missing north facing arrow.	These amendments have been made and the revised Crown Land Plan (Onshore) (doc B6/F02) has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.  The Applicant noted that the north arrow was also missing from Special Category Land Plan (doc B7) and this has been updated and submitted as Special Category Land Plan (doc B7/F02).
Observation in documents	Application Guide (Doc A5) The guide to the application (page 3) incorrectly lists ES Volume 2 as ES Volume 1.	This amendment has been made and the revised Application Guide (doc A5/F02) has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.

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Observation in documents	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.	A full consistency check is being undertaken and these points will be included in an Errata document submitted at examination Deadline 1.
Minor errors and omissions	There are minor errors and omissions to be corrected, as reflected in Box 30 of the acceptance checklist.	A full consistency check is being undertaken and any additional points will be included in an Errata document submitted at examination Deadline 1.
Missing documents / information	There appears to be a document referred to within the application that has not been provided, namely: • Draft Development Consent Order Validation Report (Doc C2).	The Applicant has now submitted the Draft Development Consent Order Validation Report (Document reference C2).
Consistency between Onshore Works Plan and Environmental Statement figures	Para 12.1 of the Application Letter (Doc A1) states that the proposed operational access to the existing National Grid Substation from the proposed Mona Substation access from Glascoed Road has been assessed in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) but part of it is not currently shown on all the EIA figures. The Inspectorate advises the Applicant to undertake a thorough audit of the ES figures to ensure that they are consistent with the Onshore Work Plan (Doc B3). Amended ES figures should be provided, together with a list of the figures subject to amendment.	As recommended by the Planning Inspectorate, the Applicant is undertaking a review of all figures. The updated ES and other relevant application document figures, and a list of them, will be provided at examination Deadline 1.
Draft Development Consent Order and Explanatory Memorandum	We have identified some minor cross-referencing inconsistencies between the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) (Doc C2) and Explanatory Memorandum (EM) (Doc C3). For example, para 1.5.1.10 of the EM refers to Tables 2 and 3 under Requirement 2 (Schedule 2) of the dDCO. However, there is no Table 3 under Requirement 2 and the description of Table 2 in the EM is not consistent with the content of Table 2 in the dDCO. The EM should be amended to clarify the explanation of Requirement 2 and a thorough cross-check between the dDCO and EM should be undertaken to address any other inconsistencies.	The amendments have been made as noted and the revised draft Development Consent Order (doc C1/F02) and Explanatory Memorandum (doc C3/F02) have been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.
Draft Development Consent Order and Explanatory Memorandum	dDCO Schedule 1: Work No. 9 appears to erroneously refer to a connection between Work Nos. 3 and 10; it appears from the Works Plan that it should refer to a connection between Work Nos. 8 and 10. It would be helpful if this could be clarified. The end of para 1.5.1.8 of the EM states "(see paragraph 4.1.65)" but the document to which this refers is not clear. It would be helpful if this could be clarified.	The amendments have been made as noted and the revised draft Development Consent Order (doc C1/F02) and Explanatory Memorandum (doc C3/F02) have been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.

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Onshore Construction Method Statement	<p>Doc J26.15 is titled 'Outline Onshore Construction Method Statement' and is presented as an outline plan throughout. However, the list of documents to be certified in Schedule 15 of the dDCO (pursuant to Article 42) refers to Doc J26.15 as the 'Onshore Construction Method Statement' and this is also the document title that appears in the Application Guide (Doc A5).</p> <p>Requirement 9 of the dDCO states that the Code of Construction Practice must include, amongst other things, an Onshore Construction Method Statement. Since a document with that title is listed in Schedule 15, there is scope for confusion in the current drafting. The Applicant is advised to consider this inconsistency and to make any amendments to application documents that are required to clarify matters.</p>	<p>The correct reference is 'Outline Onshore Construction Method Statement' and this amendment has been made within the revised draft Development Consent Order (doc C1/F02) and the Application Guide (doc A5/F02) which have been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.</p>
Planning Policy Wales 12	<p>The Application Letter (Doc A1, para 9) and Planning Statement (Doc J2, para 1.3.4.63) note that Planning Policy Wales (PPW) 11 was superseded by PPW12 on 7 February 2024. The application does not take account of PPW12 but the Applicant states that a note will be submitted to the ExA "at the outset of the Examination" to address any changes in PPW12 of relevance to the Proposed Development.</p> <p>In order to be in the most up-to-date position from the outset of Examination, the Applicant is advised to submit an updated Planning Statement and any other application documents requiring updates in light of the publication of PPW12.</p>	<p>The Applicant will submit an updated Planning Statement to reflect PPW12 at examination Deadline 1.</p>
Hard copy application documents	<p>The Applicant is advised that once appointed, the Examining Authority may request hard copy versions of a small number of application documents to assist in its preparation for the Examination. It would be helpful and assist the examination process if any information, clarification documents or amendments made to the application documents are submitted to the Inspectorate as soon as possible to assist those who may benefit from their publication whilst preparing Relevant Representations.</p>	<p>The Applicant notes this request and has, where possible, submitted revised documents ahead of the commencement of the Relevant Representation period.</p>