

Application by Mona Offshore Wind Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Mona Offshore Wind Farm (Case ref: EN010137)

Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing (ISH2): Onshore and Offshore Environmental Matters and draft Development Consent Order (dDCO)

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
Issue Specific Hearing 2: Onshore and Offshore Environmental Matters and dDCO	Wednesday 17 and Thursday 18 July 2024 Hearing starts at 9.30am (both days) Seating available at venue from 9.00am and virtual Arrangements Conference from 9.00am	Venue Cymru, Promenade, Llandudno, LL30 1BB and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams

Notification of the date, time, location and attendance instructions for ISH2 was provided in the Examining Authority's (ExA) [Rule 6 letter dated 7 June 2024](#).

Agenda

1. Welcome, introductions, arrangements for the hearing

2. Purpose of the Issue Specific Hearing

3. Construction Matters

- a. Offshore construction matters including:
 - Pre-construction
 - Wind turbine layout
- b. The offshore export cable and landfall
- c. Onshore construction matters including:
 - Pre-commencement activities
 - Cable laying & cable corridor, including crossings [APP-083]
 - Temporary construction compounds
 - Haul roads and laydowns
 - The onshore substation
- d. Construction working hours

4. Shipping and Navigation

- a. Effects on navigational safety
- b. Effects on adverse weather routing
- c. Effects on commercial shipping operations including strategic passenger and freight routes and lifeline ferries
- d. Mitigation

5. Marine Mammals

- a. Maximum Design Scenario
- b. Significance of effects
- c. Mitigation measures

6. Commercial Fisheries and Fish

- a. Baseline data
- b. Significance of effects
- c. Mitigation measures

7. Civil and Military Aviation and Defence Interests

- a. Significance of effects on the Blackpool Airport Minimum Safe Altitude and security of mitigation
- b. Significance of effects on civil and military radar systems and security of mitigation

8. Landscape, Seascape and Visual Effects

- a. The approach to the assessment of the significance of impacts, including:
 - Approach and methodology with particular regard to Natural Resource Wales's Relevant Representation [RR-011]
 - The Maximum Design Scenario for the SLVIA
 - SLVIA Visualisations
 - The LVIA study area and the Zone of Theoretical Visibility
 - How representative viewpoints have been assessed.

9. Good Design

- a. The overall approach to good design, including:
 - Analysis, approach and vision
 - The Design Principles Document and related requirements in the dDCO (Requirement 5, 6 and 7)
 - Onshore Substation site selection, substation design principles, layout, and mitigations
 - The Design Champion and Design Guide

10. Onshore Ecology

- a. Baseline data
- b. Clarifications
- c. EIA methodology including its application
- d. Green corridors

11. Land Use and Recreation

- a. The approach to the assessment of the significance of effects, including the following:
 - Effects on soils and agricultural land quality
 - Effects on farming operations
 - Effects on recreational resources and Public Rights of Way (PRoW)
- b. The mitigation adopted to reduce the potential for impacts on land use and recreation.

12. Review of issues, dDCO implications and actions arising

13. Any other business

14. Closure of the hearing

Participation

You must register by the Procedural Deadline, **Tuesday 25 June 2024**, if you intend to participate in this hearing. Any request to participate in the hearing must include the following information:

- name and unique reference number (found at the top your letter or email from the Planning Inspectorate);
- email address (if available) and contact telephone number;
- name and unique reference number of any person/ organisation that you are representing (if applicable);
- the agenda item on which you wish to speak and a list of the points you wish to make;
- confirmation of whether you will participate virtually or in-person;
- the Examination Library reference number (with paragraph/ page number where appropriate) of any documents you wish to refer to; and
- any special requirements you may have (eg disabled access or hearing loop).

Purpose of ISH

This early Issue Specific Hearing is being held to address matters and questions about the environmental effects of the Proposed Development identified by the Examining Authority through its site inspections and reading of the application and submissions to date, including the Relevant Representations.

The Examining Authority considers that it would be expedient to examine these matters in a hearing at the outset of the Examination in order to frontload its consideration of key issues and to understand the status of agreement with relevant Interested Parties (IPs). ISH2 is an opportunity for initial exploration of the listed topics with the key parties. Further hearing time and/or written questions on these topics may be required at subsequent points in the Examination. The agenda for ISH2 may vary on the day to take account of submissions received at the Procedural Deadline.

Attendees

The ExA would find it helpful if the following parties could attend this hearing. Where attendance relates to a specific agenda item, this is noted in brackets.

- **The Applicant**
- **Conwy County Borough Council (CCBC)**
- **Denbighshire County Council (DCC)**
- **Isle of Anglesey County Council (IACC)**
- **Isle of Man Government (IoMG)**
- **Natural Resources Wales Advisory (NRW A)**
- **Natural Resources Wales Marine Licensing Team (NRW MLT)**
- **Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) (Item 4)**
- **Trinity House (TH) (Item 4)**
- **Blackpool Airport (Item 7)**
- **NATS (En Route) Plc (Item 7)**
- **MOD – Defence Infrastructure Organisation (Item 7)**
- **Joint Nature Conservation Committee (Item 5)**
- **Design Commission for Wales (Item 9)**

However, this does not indicate that other parties will not be able to contribute. All IPs are invited to attend and make oral representations on the matters set out in the agenda, subject to the ExA's ability to control the hearing.

The ExA has sought to provide sufficient detail to assist the parties to prepare for the hearing. As an indicative guide, it is anticipated that items 1 to 6 will be dealt with on day one of the hearing and items 7 to 13 will be covered on day two of the hearing. However, please be aware that the ExA may find it necessary to include additional agenda items or to amend the order in which the items are dealt with.

The event will be livestreamed and a link for watching the livestream will be posted on the [project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website](#) closer to the hearing date. IPs and members of the public who wish to observe the hearing can

therefore view and listen to the hearing using the livestream, or view and listen to the recording, after it has concluded.

Procedure at ISH

Guidance under the Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 provides that it is for the ExA to probe, test and assess the evidence through direct questions of persons making oral representations at hearings.

Participants may be legally represented if they wish, but the Examining Authority will conduct the hearing in such a way that legal representation will not be required. The Examining Authority will lead the questioning of parties making oral representations and probe, test and assess the evidence. There is usually no cross-examination of witnesses by other parties, though the Examining Authority does have the power to allow this under certain circumstances.

The hearing will finish when the Examining Authority considers that all matters have been covered and all participants have had an opportunity to make their representations. If there are additional matters to be dealt with, it may be necessary to defer some matters to written questions.

A summary of the evidence presented orally at Issue Specific Hearing 2 should be included in post-hearing submissions to be submitted by Deadline 1 in the draft Examination Timetable (7 August 2024). The Examining Authority would recommend any parties who are new to the process and wish to learn more about the background and procedures in hearings to read the Planning Inspectorate's [Advice Note 8.5, The Examination: hearings and site inspections](#).