

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 (ISH1): The Scope of the Proposed Development

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
Issue Specific Hearing 1: The Scope of the Proposed Development	Tuesday 16 July 2024 Hearing starts at 2.00pm Seating available at venue from 1.30pm and virtual Arrangements Conference from 1.30pm	Venue Cymru, Promenade, Llandudno, LL30 1BB and By virtual means using Microsoft Teams

Notification of the date, time, location and attendance instructions for ISH1 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. Scope of the Proposed Development

- a. Points of clarification about, and the rationale for, the proposed Works described in Schedule 1 of the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) [AS-010] and the Works Plan [AS-003 and AS-004] (onshore, offshore and intertidal).
- b. Flexibility in project description
 - Project parameters defined in the dDCO and assessed in the Environmental Statement.
 - Offshore array layout, spacing and micro-siting.
 - Breadth of powers sought.
 - Benefit of the Order (Article 7 of the dDCO).
- c. Commencement provisions
 - Seven year commencement period (Requirement 1(1) of the dDCO).
 - Commencement period extension provision (Requirement 1(2) of the dDCO).

- Commencement of licensable marine activities (Schedule 14 of the dDCO).
 - Definition of commencement (Article 1 of the dDCO) drawing on [Planning Act 2008: Content of a Development Consent Order for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects \(April 2024\)](#).
- d. Stages of the authorised project (Requirement 4)
- e. Approach to securing mitigation, monitoring, compensation and enhancement measures
- The Applicant's mitigation and monitoring schedule [APP-196].
 - Relationship of management plans specified within the dDCO (drawing on [APP-197] and [APP-211]).
 - Appropriate use of Articles, Requirements, deemed marine licence (DML) Conditions and management plans to control the authorised project.
 - Disapplication, other agreements, consents and licences.
- f. Relationship with National Grid's planned extension of Bodelwyddan substation and changes to overhead line arrangements in this vicinity.

4. The approach to marine licensing

- a. Interactions between the DML (Schedule 14 of the dDCO) and separate transmission assets marine licence (ML), including:
- consistency of provisions; and
 - mechanism for dealing with the physical overlap in licences.
- b. Approach to licensing decommissioning activities.
- c. DML drafting matters, to include:
- transfer of licence;
 - timescales for subsequent approvals;
 - approach to designating a disposal site; and
 - terminology and points of clarification.

5. Changes to the Proposed Development

The Applicant will be asked to confirm whether or not it intends to seek to make any changes to the scope of the Proposed Development as a result of the submissions of IPs or any changes in circumstances since submission of the application.

6. Review of issues and actions arising

7. Any other business

8. 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 hearing on the scope and details of the Proposed Development, and the principles of the Applicant's draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) is being held to address matters and questions identified by the Examining Authority through its reading of 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 to facilitate an understanding of the nature and scope of the Proposed Development. The agenda items may be followed by questions from the Examining Authority and representations from other parties.

Attendees

The ExA would find it helpful if the following parties could attend this hearing.

- **The Applicant**
- **Conwy County Borough Council (CCBC)**
- **Denbighshire County Council (DCC)**
- **Isle of Man Government (IoMG)**
- **Isle of Anglesey County Council (IACC)**
- **Natural Resources Wales Marine Licensing Team (NRW MLT)**
- **Natural Resources Wales Advisory (NRW A)**
- **National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc (NGET)**
- **Any other Interested Parties (IPs)** – with an interest in the scope of the Proposed Development.

However, this does not indicate that other parties will not be able to contribute. All Interested Parties (IP) 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. The details set out above are indicative and 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. As a guide, the ExA aims to close the hearing by approximately 5pm. 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 1 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](#).