

From: [Lowe, Emma](#)
To: [Mona Offshore Wind Project](#); [Stephens, Jake](#)
Cc: [Winterton, Andrea](#); [Morrison, Peter](#); [Phillips, Nia](#); [Gwyn, Emyr](#); [Williams, Sion M.](#)
Subject: Project ref EN010137, Unique ref 20048445, NRW Response to Rule 6 Letter for Procedural Deadline
Date: 25 June 2024 14:49:26
Attachments: [REDACTED]

Project Reference Number: **EN010137**

Unique Reference Number: **20048445**

Dear Jake,

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru (CNC) / Natural Resources Wales (NRW) are writing in response to the Rule 6 letter that was issued on Friday 7 June 2024. Please find below NRW's position with regard the Preliminary Meeting (PM); Issue-Specific Hearings (ISH) 1 and 2, and the Open-Floor Hearings (OFH).

Please note that this email highlights the positions of NRW Advisory (NRW (A)) as the Statutory Nature Conservation Body (SNCB) and NRW Marine Licensing Team (NRW (MLT)) as the Regulator. The position of both NRW functions (advisor and regulator) on the PM; ISHs, and OFHs is made clear within the body of the response.

The Preliminary Meeting

NRW (A) and NRW MLT **both wish to** register as an attendee to the Preliminary Meeting being held on Tuesday July 16 2024. Both NRW (A) and NRW (MLT) will attend virtually.

Names and email address of case officers:

NRW (A): Nia Phillips (Senior Marine Advisor: Offshore Renewable Energy Programme) [REDACTED] [\[REDACTED\]@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)

Sion Williams (Senior Development Planning Advisor: Development Planning Advice Service) [REDACTED] [\[REDACTED\]@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)

NRW (MLT): Peter Morrison (Lead Specialist Advisor: Marine Licensing) [REDACTED] [\[REDACTED\]@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)

Team Email addresses: Please also copy team email addresses into any relevant correspondence.

NRW (A) Marine: marine.advice@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

NRW (A) North Planning: northplanning@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

NRW (MLT): marine.licensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

Both NRW (A) and NRW MLT are in support of the timetable put forward by the Examining Authority (ExA) and of the initial assessment of principal issues.

Neither NRW (A) or NRW (MLT) wish to raise any matters at the PM. As NRW does not wish to raise any matters at the PM, we will attend in an "observing only" capacity. However, we reserve our position if we consider it appropriate to respond to matters raised by other Interested Parties (IP).

Issue Specific Hearings 1 and 2 and the Open Floor Hearing

NRW MLT

NRW MLT **wish to** register as an attendee to ISH 1 on the afternoon of Tuesday 16 July 2024. Attendance will be virtual.

Given the interactions between the deemed marine licence (dML) and the separate transmission assets marine licence (ML), NRW MLT anticipate participating in discussion on Agenda Item 4: *The Approach to Marine Licensing*.

NRW MLT also **wish to** register attendance at ISH 2 on Wednesday 17 and Thursday 18 July 2024. Again, attendance will be virtual. As there are no matters arising specifically relating to Marine Licensing, we are happy to attend in an “observing only” function unless a question directly arises.

NRW MLT do not consider it necessary to attend the OFH on Friday 19 July and therefore **do not** wish to register as an attendee.

NRW (A)

NRW (A) will **not** be registering to attend ISH 1 **or** ISH 2 on Tuesday 16 July, Wednesday 17 July and Thursday 18 July 2024, **or** the OFH on Friday 19 July 2024.

Our decision to not attend the ISHs is due to the first set of hearings taking place prior to Deadline 1, specifically the deadline for receipt by the ExA of Written Representations (WRs) and Statements of Common Ground (SoCGs). NRW (A) consider that the time period in which the hearings are taking place is critical in terms of finalising WRs (including consideration of the Applicants response to our Relevant Representations (RR)) and SoCGs for submission into the examination. NRW’s WR will form the main body of evidence to the examination of the case.

Furthermore, we consider that NRW’s RR were sufficiently detailed to inform the examination at this stage, and therefore, currently, we do not have further information to provide at either ISH.

NRW (A) will consider its attendance at future hearings if necessary and appropriate, at that point in time.

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Other Matters - Statements of Common Ground (SoCGs) with the Applicant.

NRW (A) will continue to engage with the Applicant throughout examination to identify matters agreed and not agreed as far as possible. Nonetheless, we have taken the decision that we will only be reviewing the first and last iterations of any SoCG with the Applicant – one towards the beginning of the process in its draft and initial form, and the final iteration where we will be able to reflect on progress made for all of the points of agreement / disagreement considered throughout the course of the examination, captured via the SoCGs.

This decision has been made in order to ensure that we are able to direct our focus on further written submissions, questions put forward to NRW (A) by the ExA, responses to other Interested Party submissions, responses required under Rule 17, and future hearings.

We have discussed this approach with the Applicant who have confirmed their support to this approach.

We hope that the above is helpful.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself, Nia, Sion and Peter should you require any further

information.

Kind Regards,

Emma Lowe

Emma Lowe

Uwch Gynghorydd Morol / Senior Marine Advisor

Tîm Cyngor a Rheoli Ardal Forol / Marine Area Advice and Management Team



Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a byddwn yn ymateb yn Gymraeg, heb i hynny arwain at oedi.

Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.

