



## Trawsgrifiad Gwrandawriad

<b>Prosiect:</b>	Fferm Wynt Alltraeth Mona
<b>Grandawriad:</b>	Gwrandawriad Mater Penodol 1 (ISH1) – Rhan 1
<b>Dyddiad:</b>	16 Gorffennaf 2024

**Sylwer:** Bwriad y ddogfen hon yw i gynorthwyo Partion â Buddiant, nid yw'n air am air.

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## Hearing Transcript

<b>Project:</b>	Mona Offshore Wind Farm
<b>Hearing:</b>	Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) – Part 1
<b>Date:</b>	16 July 2024

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FULL TRANSCRIPT (with timecode)

00:00:05:09 - 00:00:15:13

Okay. Good afternoon everybody. Ananda. It is now 2:00 in time for this hearing to begin. And I just confirm that everybody can hear me, okay?

00:00:17:12 - 00:00:28:24

And I also ask if everybody in the room can turn any devices or phones to silent, please as well. Could I just check with Mr. Stevens that our live streaming and recording commence commenced??

00:00:31:13 - 00:01:03:20

I'd like to welcome you all to this issue. Specific hearing. Issue specific hearing one on the scope of development in relation to the application made by Marina Offshore Wind Limited, who we will refer to as the applicant for an order granting development consent for the Marina offshore wind farm. My name is Caroline Jones. I'm a chartered town planner. I'm a planning inspector. I'm employed by the Planning Inspectorate, and I've been appointed by the Secretary of State to be the lead member of the panel to examine this application. I'm just going to ask my fellow panel members to introduce themselves.

00:01:05:08 - 00:01:17:21

Good afternoon. My name is Julie Ducasse, and I'm a chartered town planner with a predominantly appellate background, including major energy and transmission infrastructure.

00:01:19:14 - 00:01:28:00

Good afternoon Panama. My name is Graham Hobbins, and I'm a chartered civil engineer with a background in major energy and rail infrastructure.

00:01:30:08 - 00:01:37:15

Good afternoon. My name is Jessica Powis. I'm a chartered town planner and an examining inspector, and I've been appointed as a member of this panel.

00:01:39:09 - 00:01:51:15

From the Pope. Good afternoon. I'm Jason Rowlands. I'm a chartered civil engineer and a chartered environmentalist with a background in major energy and highway infrastructure.

00:01:53:05 - 00:02:29:13

Thanks, everyone. So together, we constitute the examining authority for this application, and we will be reporting to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and net zero, with a recommendation as to whether the Development Consent order should be. Should be made. The hearing today is going to follow the agenda that was published on the National Infrastructure Planning website on the 14th of June. It would be really helpful if you had a copy of this in front of you. The agenda is for guidance only and we may add other considerations or issues as we progress. We'll conclude this hearing as soon as all relevant contributions have been made and all questions asked and responded to.

00:02:29:15 - 00:03:00:29

But if the discussions cannot be concluded, then it might be necessary for us to prioritise matters and defer other matters to further written questions or action points that we set. Likewise, if you cannot answer the questions being asked today or require more time to get the information, then just just indicate that you need to respond to us in writing on that matter. This is a blended event, and that means that we've got people here in person in the meeting, as well as people joining us on the Microsoft Teams platform. It's being both live streamed and recorded for those people observing or participating through teams.

00:03:01:01 - 00:03:24:00

Can I just ask that you stay muted throughout just to minimize any background noise? And if you do wish to speak, either use the hands up function or turn your camera on so that we can see you. For anybody who is watching on the live stream, I also need to let you know that when we adjourn proceedings this afternoon for any breaks, you will need to refresh your browser page to watch the resumed hearing, and we'll remind you of this at the point we adjourn.

00:03:26:03 - 00:04:05:09

The recording of today's hearing will be made available on the moon at Offshore Wind Farm section of the National Infrastructure Planning website, as soon as practicable after this hearing has finished. So with this in mind, please can we ask everybody to speak clearly, stating your name and who you are representing each time before you speak. The digital recording is the only official record that we have of today's proceedings. A link to the Planning Inspector's privacy notice was provided in our rule six letter, and we are going to assume that everybody here today has read that and familiarize themselves as to how we collect the personal data of our customers in accordance with the principles set out in the data protection laws.

00:04:06:23 - 00:04:31:29

As this event is recorded and published, it's really important that you don't add any information to the public record that you would wish to be kept private or confidential. Please do speak to Mr. Stevens, the case manager, if you have any questions about this. We will look to take a break mid afternoon today, but we are looking at closing no later than 5:30 p.m.. Does anybody have any problems with that?

00:04:34:21 - 00:04:52:00

Just deal with a few preliminary matters. The toilets are located just out of these doors and to your left. There are no planned fire alarm tests this afternoon, so if it does go off, please leave the room and either enter down the stairs to the right or the stairs down the front and out of the front of the building.

00:04:54:09 - 00:04:57:03

Can I just check if we have anybody from the press here today?

00:05:01:00 - 00:05:33:19

Thank you. So turning to language, we do have translation facilities available for this hearing. Mr. Rawlins on the panel is a native Welsh speaker. Mr. Stevens, the case manager in Melbourne. Evans, who are also here today. They can speak Welsh to the rest of the panel. We will do our best to pronounce places and names, but we apologize in advance for any mistakes that we do make. And please do feel free to correct us. With that in mind, we are welcoming contributions in both Welsh and English. Do we have anybody with us this afternoon which wishes to address us in Welsh?

00:05:35:27 - 00:05:37:07

Not seeing any hands?

00:05:41:10 - 00:06:14:09

Okay, we'll move on to introductions. Then I'm going to ask those of you who are participating in today's meeting to introduce yourselves. In the interest of expediency, could I just ask that of any party or organization has more than two people participating this afternoon that for the time being, just introduce the main parties and then you can introduce people as and when they're going to speak further down the line. Um, and I state your organization's name. Could you introduce yourself stating who you are, who you represent, and how you wish to be addressed? I'll start with the applicant first, please.

00:06:15:03 - 00:06:40:21

Rhonda. Good afternoon. Uh, my name is Liz Dunn. I'm a partner at Burgess Salmon, and I am representing the applicant, Mona Offshore Wind Limited. Um, we do have a number of people here this afternoon to participate and assist with this, uh, with this hearing. Um, I suggest as people come up to the table, it may take a bit of time to move chairs around and get people up to the table, but if they do speak, then they introduce themselves. When they do.

00:06:40:23 - 00:06:41:15

That, I.

00:06:41:17 - 00:06:46:11

Will introduce Paul Carter, who is the consent manager at BP, who is on my.

00:06:46:15 - 00:07:13:19

Right, and, uh, Emma Chappell, who is an associate, um, at a graduate consultant. Sorry, at Texas Tech who is going to be doing the projections. So again, if anybody wants documents projected this afternoon, if you can let Emma know the application reference number, she will project those up onto the screen. I assume it's okay for other people other than the examining authority to request documents to.

00:07:13:21 - 00:07:18:12

Be put up? Yeah, we'll we'll let you know when when we do and also when to take down as well.

00:07:18:14 - 00:07:19:00

Thank you.

00:07:21:24 - 00:07:28:03

Okay. Um, Mr. Thomas, on behalf of Conway County Borough Council.

00:07:30:24 - 00:07:45:08

Thank you. Um, my name is Kelly Thomas, principal planning officer. Um, I'm here at essentially, uh, don't intend to make any representations, but he really has eyes and ears for the process.

00:07:45:21 - 00:07:57:02

And just in case, for anybody who wasn't watching or wasn't here this morning, I asked if you were representing, um, both yourself and Denbighshire county councillors. Is that the case also for this afternoon?

00:07:57:15 - 00:08:03:22

It will be the case that I can, uh, act as eyes and ears for both authorities. Thank you.

00:08:07:01 - 00:08:10:18

Do we have Mr. Edwards for ESP? Manweb?

00:08:12:11 - 00:08:23:13

Yes. Thank you. Stephen Edwards, senior planner at SP Energy Networks, which manages the licensed area of SP. Manweb.

00:08:23:24 - 00:08:55:01

Okay. Just while I have you, Mr. Edwards, can I just clarify something with you just in relation to something that you put in your procedural deadline submission. Um, there's SP, Manweb and there's SP energy networks. And I know you raised a concern that get this right that SP energy networks hadn't been consulted. But having looked at it it appears that SPE Moneyweb were did you could you just clarify the difference between the two and who it is you represent?

00:08:56:20 - 00:09:26:15

Yes. Thank you. Um, I think it's sort of interchangeable. So forgive, uh, everyone for, um, on the utility side, uh, how it's structured, um, it doesn't much matter. Uh, if it has to be Manweb or ESP energy networks, ESP. Manweb is the asset owner and the license owner. Okay. Um, ESPN networks is all the employees who look after the license.

00:09:26:25 - 00:09:27:10

Okay.

00:09:27:12 - 00:10:05:12

Um, preferably espionage networks, because I work for espionage networks, and we oversee that responsibility for ESP. Manweb. Okay. Um, the, um, I think the more so it wasn't because, uh, a letter might have been addressed to recipe Manweb and didn't make its way to me. Right. In planning, in espionage networks, it's more a case of letters not arriving. Um, so I think, um, I just need to make that point about, uh, apology for being later and engaging.

00:10:05:22 - 00:10:10:10

Uh, but that's because some correspondence has not made its way through.

00:10:10:12 - 00:10:21:20

Okay, I understand. I think the important thing is, as long as the applicant and yourselves now have the correct line of communication for any matters progressing, that's the most important thing.

00:10:22:17 - 00:10:26:12

That is done on behalf of the applicant. Yes, we are in direct communication now. Okay.

00:10:27:04 - 00:10:28:18

Thank thank you for clarifying that.

00:10:31:15 - 00:10:36:12

That's all I have for in in the room. Is there anybody else in the room who wishes to speak today?

00:10:39:04 - 00:10:46:17

Okay, I'll move on to our virtual attendees. Um, can I start with the Welsh Government, please?

00:10:51:24 - 00:11:14:24

Good afternoon. I am Halide Cressy. I'm head of renewable energy policy at Welsh government. But here, um, providing an overview for the Welsh Government or representing any, uh, policy. And we can bring with us any fish other officials you might require as the sessions proceed.

00:11:15:21 - 00:11:23:08

Thank you very much. Welcome. Miss Cressy, um, do we have a representative for Natural Resource Wales, please?

00:11:26:12 - 00:11:45:22

Hi. Peter Morrison, speaking on behalf of NRW mineral licensing role. Um, I won't be able to speak on behalf of our wider function advisory function. So it's just myself here and, um. Yeah, we particularly focus in on any points of clarification around the relevant reps.

00:11:46:20 - 00:11:48:21

Thank you, Mr. Morrison, and welcome.

00:11:50:09 - 00:11:55:14

Do we have a representative for our no more offshore wind farm Limited?

00:11:57:01 - 00:12:18:03

Good afternoon, Madam Oliver Spencer. I'm a solicitor representing a small offshore wind farm. Limited's only more offshore wind farm is a proposed development off the coast of North Wales that was consented last year, and is connecting into the bottle with a substation. I'm joined by a colleague, but in accordance with your comments earlier, I'll introduce him as and when maybe required today. Thank you.

00:12:18:15 - 00:12:19:27

Thank you, Mr. Spencer.

00:12:23:03 - 00:12:25:15

And do we have Mr. Bibby?

00:12:35:15 - 00:12:41:08

Do we have any, Miss Staples? Sorry. Apologies, Miss Staples.

00:12:42:29 - 00:12:52:03

Thank you. Delay again, I think. Yes. Louise Staples for the National Farmers Union. And I think I can confirm that Mr. Bibby won't be joining us this afternoon. He'll be joining tomorrow.

00:12:52:21 - 00:12:54:12

Okay. Thank you for letting us. Thank you.

00:13:01:07 - 00:13:04:14

Do I have anybody else online that wishes to speak?

00:13:11:16 - 00:13:17:05

Okay. Does anybody have any comments they they wish to make under this agenda item before we move on.

00:13:20:00 - 00:13:53:12

Okay. We'll move on to the purpose of the issue specific hearing here today. The hearing is going to be a structured discussion which will be led by the examining authority. We are familiar with what you have already submitted to us. So you don't have to repeat at length anything that you've already put to us in writing. Submissions carry equal weight, regardless of the format which they are put to us. If you do refer to any documents, it would be helpful if you can give the correct examination library reference number. And if I could just ask people to try to avoid using acronyms, we will be guilty of it as well.

00:13:53:23 - 00:14:25:16

Um, just that people who who will be watching might not be as familiar with those terms as we are. The hearing, um, on this hearing, on the scope of development is being held to ensure that we, as an expert and any interested parties can fully understand the applicant's proposals. Just before we move into the agenda, we just like to explain a little bit that some of the the matters that we're going to raise this afternoon, or because the explanatory memorandum lacked sufficient detail for us to properly understand it.

00:14:25:18 - 00:14:56:07

So just as an action at the start of this hearing, we would ask if you could just go back and maybe revisit the explanatory memorandum as a whole and just ensure that the purpose and effect of each provision is fully explained. Um, so obviously we do need a justification for every article and requirement explaining why it's appropriate in the specific case, and that should be proportionate to, you know, the novelty or controversy of that particular provision. Um, precedents alone from other DCS CEOs.

00:14:56:09 - 00:15:11:06

Isn't sufficient justification. It's fine to quote presidents, but what we really need to know is why the circumstances in this case require that particular provision. Um, because there might have been unique circumstances in those cases which we are not aware of.

00:15:13:03 - 00:15:15:17

So if that's just if we could ask for that by, um.

00:15:16:05 - 00:15:21:24

Deadline one is done on behalf of the applicant. Yes. We will review the expansion memorandum.

00:15:26:18 - 00:16:01:23

Finally, just a little point of clarification because we know we have some people with us this afternoon who are representing affected persons. Can we just ask that people don't stray into compulsory acquisition matters this afternoon or any evidence for the rest of this week? Because the hearings that we are holding this week or not for that purpose, we will be having a compulsory acquisition hearing in October, potentially in December, and that will be the most appropriate time to raise any of those matters. But you can, of course, make a written submissions during the course of the examination at any time, at the appropriate deadlines on any of those matters.

00:16:01:25 - 00:16:12:13

But if we do feel we're straying into that territory, that we might interject just because we've got a lot to cover this afternoon, Does anybody have anything to raise on what I've just outlined?

00:16:15:16 - 00:16:20:01

In that case, I will hand over to Mr. Rowlands, who'll be introducing item three.

00:16:23:12 - 00:16:24:10

List on on behalf of the.

00:16:24:12 - 00:16:55:06

Applicant before you do that. Sorry, I should have probably raise this in the introduction session. And I think it's just picking up on a point that you made. The applicant will do its best to respond to very detailed questions about matters and documents and drafting and things like that, but without having had a detailed list of what those points are. There may be things where we need a bit of time to. We've tried to anticipate what we think, you might ask, as best as possible. Um, but there may be things that we do need to check and respond to.



00:16:55:15 - 00:17:27:15

Um, I just ask that you and all those other parties understand that we are trying to help, and we are trying to provide that clarification where we can. If we can't do it straight away, I'd suggest that we might be able to respond at the end of the hearing. So perhaps if there's a little bit of time where if there's a very specific point, we haven't been able to have time because it's going to make things quite, um, slow potentially, and a bit clunky if, if we are taking time to respond. So we're happy to do that either at the end of the hearing or even tomorrow morning at the start of the next hearing.

00:17:27:17 - 00:17:48:12

If there are matters that we can clarify and deal with in the morning, and then I think as a sort of backstop, um, in hearing summaries, although, I mean, we're very keen to to clarify and sort of get rid of points if we can, but as I say, um, uh, without knowing what they are, um, we may not be able to do that immediately. Just on the hoof.

00:17:48:15 - 00:17:57:23

That's absolutely fine. Um, if you need to take a bit of time and come back to us later, that's. That's fine. But hopefully you'll find them not too, too onerous. And you might be able to help us today.

00:17:59:08 - 00:17:59:28

Mr. Rollins?

00:18:00:10 - 00:18:37:25

Sure. Uh, we are very keen to, uh, share with you as quickly as possible these particular threads. Um And, hopefully by talking you through these particular examples will give you maybe a better understanding of where we're coming from. So, um, yeah, this part of the agenda is seeking to clarify matters on the work plans and work numbers in the draft development consent order. So I would like to start with the onshore substation, uh, which is workplan sheet number 11.

00:18:37:27 - 00:18:48:08

So would it be possible briefly just to have as dash 003 on the screen. And if you could go to sheet plan number 11.

00:19:05:20 - 00:19:08:04

It was probably the last one. Yeah.

00:19:10:21 - 00:19:11:18

Yeah. That one.

00:19:13:03 - 00:19:21:15

And then if you could maybe zoom to generally the area where the onshore substation is. So.

00:19:25:19 - 00:19:27:05

Yeah, around that area.

00:19:31:13 - 00:19:32:02

That's fine.

00:19:33:22 - 00:20:05:09

And if you can just maybe pan a little bit. Yeah. Okay. So this is to do with the hatching. So um, you'll see this areas where the hatching overlaps. So if you were looking at, say, there's a purple green hatching near work plan areas 24 and 27. So that's just north of the substation. If you can maybe I don't know if you can take your cursor across and look at 24 and 27 that area.

00:20:05:13 - 00:20:19:16

So there's different hatching there that's not replicated in the legend. So we're not sure there. For example this what happens there where you've got the purple green hatching.

00:20:21:00 - 00:20:55:19

That lays down on behalf of the applicant. What you're seeing there is the overlay of the different work areas on top of each other. So what you have, um, underneath. Um, so let me try and explain this. Um, so you have work number 24, which is the solid green area. Yep. Then you have work number 23, which is the turquoise area. On top of that is work number 20 uh nine, which is the access area that goes up to uh Glasgow Road.

00:20:55:21 - 00:21:08:21

And then you also have overlaying that work number 25 which is the 400 kV line. So what you're seeing where you get the crosshatch is the overlay of a number of different works areas.

00:21:09:24 - 00:21:23:18

I thought so, but when you look at the Legion and you look for that particular green, uh, purple hatch area, it's not distinguished in the in the Legion. Um, there's other areas on that sheet where.

00:21:25:11 - 00:21:59:23

It's done on behalf of the applicant. Um, you wouldn't normally indicate where there's an overlap area where there's a number of, um, where there are a number of overlapping work areas. You'd normally review that by reference to being able to see each of the areas on top of each other. You wouldn't, for example, where that hatch area is, do a legend which says that is work number 24, 25 and 27. You would that would not be a normal, uh, nominal actual for to have or an identification for those plans.

00:21:59:26 - 00:22:04:29

Possibly a means of explaining it. Then in the in somewhere that's appropriate.

00:22:06:18 - 00:22:29:08

Because when you look at the particular work plan, you automatically think there must be a legend associated with the different types of hatching. So I think it would be useful even if it's just a note somewhere. Um, explaining. That way you've got different hatchlings on top of each other that it is what you've just described to me now.

00:22:32:02 - 00:22:38:09

I'm presuming you'll put that in your post hearing submissions anyway, because we've asked the question. So if it's explained in there that that will suffice.

00:22:38:18 - 00:22:41:04

Yes, ma'am. It is done on behalf of the applicant. Yes.

00:22:42:06 - 00:23:31:09

Thank you. Um, can we now take off the, uh, work plan? So I'll be referring predominantly now to, uh, work and in person schedule one of the draft development consent order, and that's PDA dash 003 predominantly. Pages 33 to 49 and parties might find it useful to have those pages at hand. So, uh, for work plan area uh, 22 uh, which is the creation of the substation platform area, the work number in the draft development Development Consent Order relates to drainage works, and it makes a mention to new sustainable drainage.

00:23:32:03 - 00:23:42:18

So the question is, um, what what does the applicant mean by new sustainable drainage for that particular works area?

00:23:43:13 - 00:23:43:28

Is new.

00:23:56:18 - 00:23:57:03

At Phil.

00:23:57:05 - 00:24:27:14

Williamson. And on behalf of the applicant. Um, so the identification of new suds. Uh, a new, new, new sustainable drainage. Sorry. Acronyms. Um, on work. Work number 22 is primarily to tie in the drainage scheme that will be designed that connects into work number 23, which is the permanent sustainable drainage pond to deal with the drainage coming off the substation platform, which as you said, is 22. Okay.

00:24:27:16 - 00:24:31:07

Yeah, that makes sense. Thank you for clarifying that point.

00:24:33:06 - 00:24:37:09

If we can move on to, uh, for work number 22 way.

00:24:38:24 - 00:24:50:27

Um, um, no reference has been made to 22 way to drainage infrastructure and telecommunication equipment. So is this correct?

00:24:53:20 - 00:25:33:23

It's done on behalf of the applicant. Um, that's because it's within work number 22. So where where work areas overlap each other. Um, you start with the, the base area. So the wider area. Um, it's the point we were making earlier around the, the overlap of areas. There will as far as we've avoided as far as possible, there will be areas where work areas have to overlap. And and what the applicant has sought to do is made those as clear as possible. So work number 22 is the substation platform area, which as you can see is wider than work number 22 A and that is that will have the services and utilities in that.

00:25:33:25 - 00:25:55:19

That is why they're within work number 22. And work number 22 a as it says in the in the draft development consent order is effectively the substation sitting on top of that. So it's the equipment that sits as part of the substation. But the the, the platform, the foundation, the utilities are all in 20 and work number 22.

00:25:56:13 - 00:25:57:21

That's clear. Thank you.

00:26:01:24 - 00:26:15:28

For work number 23 B where you've got temporary construction compound and lay down area. Um is there any reason why you haven't been able to specify a maximum area?

00:26:18:18 - 00:26:54:15

List done on behalf of the applicant. Um, we've reviewed this actually, in light of in advance of the hearing and recognize that, um, the relationship between work number 23 and 24 is not particularly clear. And there are there is a temporary construction compound mentioned in each of them. Work number 24 has the maximum area size of that, but not in work number 23. It is the intention that there is a construction compound and laydown area of up to 150,000m<sup>2</sup>, which is referenced in work number 24.

00:26:54:17 - 00:27:26:21

That actually goes across work number 23 and 24. It We recognize that we need to make that clearer. Um, it may be some changes to the drafting of the, uh, of the description of the works or even, dare I say it, putting another layer overlay over the top of those two areas to identify what the temporary construction compound area would be. Um, so so, uh, yes, sir. There's a single compound, um, which will include a number of different things.

00:27:26:27 - 00:27:34:15

Uh, and it is the same compound in 23 and 24. And the maximum area that's in 24 covers both of those.

00:27:35:27 - 00:28:00:15

Thank you. That covers that particular point for work area shown on worksheet number 11. Would there be any modification to existing electricity transmission lines? And has this then been identified in relevant work numbers and similar for other work areas along the cable corridor.

00:28:01:18 - 00:28:37:28

List on on behalf of the applicant? Um, the answer to the first question around um, does this application include the move, the relocation of existing overhead lines? No it doesn't. Those are, uh, National Grid works, um, that, uh, we understand will be done as part of the broader woodland extension. They are not part of this application, and they're not part of the applicants. They are the 400 kV lines, the national grid lines. Um, and they are not they're not our project and we're not intending to move them, uh, in terms of other, um, other overhead lines.

00:28:38:01 - 00:28:54:14

Um, it's it's, uh, I might have to defer to someone else, but I don't believe we're intending or we have identified any that at this stage need relocating, but that is subject to detailed design on the cable corridor.

00:28:54:22 - 00:29:03:08

Okay. I'm just highlighting in terms of the work numbers, what's included and currently appears. It's not it's.

00:29:03:10 - 00:29:05:26

Not included and it's deliberately not included.

00:29:05:28 - 00:29:06:18

Okay. Okay.

00:29:08:14 - 00:29:16:27

Um, can the applicant explain why it requires temporary construction? Compound in work number 25.

00:29:25:09 - 00:29:53:27

Please, Don, on behalf of the applicant. Um, this also fits into what we were talking about. Work number 23 and 24. We don't actually need a temporary construction compound in 25. Um, I think this is a result of the overlap between work number 25 and 24. Essentially, it is the same single compound. So again, I should sorry, I should have picked that up when we talked about 23 and 24. But that will also be removed from 25. Okay.

00:29:56:10 - 00:30:14:12

For um, yeah. Work number 27 refers to access during construction, including works to the public highway and visibility space. Um, so the question is, is this access only required for construction?

00:30:23:00 - 00:30:54:20

Uh, Phil Williamson, on behalf of the applicant. Uh, so work number 27 is the is the construction, sorry, the construction access for the onshore substation. The initial at the north end of work number 27, you'll see the bell mouth and visibility splay, and that will only be in place for the purposes of construction. Um, the the access road, the temporary construction access road does go from the bell mouth all the way down to the onshore substation platform at work number 22.

00:30:55:09 - 00:31:25:21

However, where there is, there is overlap with the operational, uh, onshore substation access road, which goes from the um, where you see work number 28, um, from there south to the onshore substation platform. So work number 27 overlaps with work number 29. I hope that answers your question in that, um, there is that is that will be removed post construction. So 27 will be removed.

00:31:26:01 - 00:31:38:06

Okay. However it will override. However, the permanent onshore substation access operational onshore substation access road will remain which will follow a similar alignment which is identified in work number 29.

00:31:38:23 - 00:31:47:10

Okay. Yeah. That's clear. Um, as part of works uh, number 27, you're looking to, um.

00:31:49:08 - 00:32:24:03

improve the visibility. So that could involve, um, taking down and taking down a boundary features. And that is purely obviously for the construction following, uh, the, uh, construction. And then when you go on to operation the, the boundary wall that you have taken down for visibility for work. Number 27, what would then happen to that redundant, this ability to play? Would you be looking to rebuild if it's not required?

00:32:31:01 - 00:33:04:03

Yeah. Pool costs are on behalf of the applicant. So um, yes, the visibility display would be, um, as required for construction traffic. Once that's removed, we would then be using for operational purposes the existing access to the existing National Grid substation, where the bell mouth is obviously designed suitably for traffic, suitable for a substation to use operationally. So any, um, uh, visibility spray work that has taken place purely for construction would be reinstated and it would be back to how it was for the current or existing national grid access.

00:33:04:18 - 00:33:05:23

Thank you for clarifying.

00:33:14:12 - 00:33:18:13

Work number 30 refers to permanent access.

00:33:20:18 - 00:33:30:08

So does this mean that it is utilising utilizing existing access, or would there be works undertaken on the access?

00:33:35:21 - 00:34:09:07

Hillary Williamson on behalf of the applicant. Uh, so, uh, work number 30 is the existing national grid access. Um, the work number 30 will be used partly for construction purposes for that onshore. For the onshore project. And that is to establish the work number 28 heading north to the Belle Mouth on

work number 27. So construction traffic will use the existing access, establish that that area work number 28 and then head up.

00:34:09:09 - 00:34:27:29

Once that bell mouth and access is established, construction traffic will no longer use work number 30 and construction traffic will use the bell mouth established. Once construction is completed, Work number 30 will be used as our operational access to access the onshore substation. Okay.

00:34:28:13 - 00:34:29:13

Okay. Thank you.

00:34:31:05 - 00:34:44:18

Um, work number 31. Um, can I check that the landscaping that I have there is temporary files. Ecological and environmental works are permanent.

00:34:47:23 - 00:35:00:19

Is done on behalf of the applicant. Yes. The works in work number 31 are, um, are temporary. They are predominantly, um, great crested newt relocation areas during construction.

00:35:01:01 - 00:35:05:29

Okay, so ecological and environmental works are temporary as well. Okay. Yeah.

00:35:10:00 - 00:35:11:26

Work number 33.

00:35:14:20 - 00:35:25:10

Can the applicant explain the difference between permanent landscaping reference in work 33? While worker number 32 is called landscaping.

00:35:51:08 - 00:36:02:19

Lasdun, on behalf of the applicant, um, we will review that. We think they're both the same thing. So it's just that the word permanent has been added in for those works, whereas they're both intended to be permanent. But we will check that. Yeah.

00:36:02:21 - 00:36:16:21

That's great. Just a term of phrases isn't it. Okay. Um, and then in its, are you able to explain why the land needs to be reprofiled in work number 33?

00:36:31:09 - 00:37:02:03

That Phil Williamson, on behalf of the applicant. Uh, so we have identified within the landscape and visual resources impact assessment. I don't know if the chapter referenced. So we'll get the app reference for you. Um, that um, in order to mitigate the, um, operational effects of the onshore substation, that landscape planting and landscape screening is required. And the work number 33 and the Van Reprofiling.

00:37:02:05 - 00:37:12:09

Included within that is to help raise the land on the western side of the onshore substation, so that planting can be established at a higher level than currently is.

00:37:12:24 - 00:37:15:25

Okay. Thank you for that explanation. Okay.

00:37:18:09 - 00:37:32:07

Can we now move on to onshore and intertidal. And that's a yes dash 004 um, is it possible to put a, um, sheet? Uh, one, please.

00:37:37:09 - 00:37:39:27

So I us 004

00:37:41:12 - 00:37:42:13

and sheet number one.

00:37:57:14 - 00:38:10:13

Previous one. Yeah. Offshore. Previous. No. But you were. You were. Yeah. You were on the right one. You at the right one. You just so quick you went past. Yeah okay. Okay.

00:38:15:27 - 00:38:17:15

That one? Yeah. Great.

00:38:21:03 - 00:38:34:00

So, uh, where you have work number two. Um, can the applicant just briefly summarize the reason for this wide funnel shape, which extends southward?

00:38:35:18 - 00:39:15:06

The list done on behalf of the applicant. Um, uh, so this is probably worth also addressing the fact that there's a complete overlap between work number two and work number one. So work number one is the is where the wind turbines will be located and the offshore substation platforms and the interconnector and inter array cable so that that forms the generating aspect of the project at this stage because detailed design hasn't been undertaken. The applicant doesn't know where the offshore substation platforms are going to be located, and therefore where work number two, which is the export cables, are going to come out from.

00:39:15:08 - 00:39:50:12

So rather than assuming it's going to be somewhere at the safest way to do it, and it's preceded in pretty much every in fact, every single offshore wind farm order is to, uh, is for work number two, which is the export cables, um, and potentially the offshore substation platforms to overlap completely with work number one. Um, the reason the area is as wide as it is where you come on the boundary of work number one into work number two is again, because at this stage the applicant hasn't done design.

00:39:50:14 - 00:40:22:07

So we don't know where the offshore substation platforms are going to be. The cables will the export cables. There's up to four export cable circuits, one of each which will connect to an offshore substation platform. They could start off and putting my hands up in the air, but they could start off at any point along along the array, and then they will funnel together to form a single cable corridor. Um, and that's why there is that fan, um, at the top of work. Number two. Sorry. At the point at which work number two.

00:40:22:13 - 00:40:25:11

No work number one ends, and we're going to work number two.

00:40:25:13 - 00:40:34:21

Okay. So, uh, the generation, uh, assets could also be in work number two for the offshore platforms.

00:40:35:16 - 00:40:56:17

Lays down on behalf of the applicant. Now the generation assets will only be within work number one. So that's the wind turbines, possibly the offshore substation platforms and the cables that connect them, the transmission assets. Our work number two in an offshore context. And they could be within any of the areas shown grey there.

00:40:57:15 - 00:40:58:00

Okay.

00:41:03:26 - 00:41:15:02

Go anywhere. Don't leave it. Okay. Okay. Thank you. Um, we'll go back on to, uh, onshore now. So back onto ace dash 003.

00:41:21:18 - 00:41:26:08

Um, is it possible for you to put worksheet number two up briefly on the screen?

00:41:39:10 - 00:41:39:25

Okay.

00:41:43:11 - 00:41:56:17

So, um, can the the applicant explain, um, why under work number three, why he needs access to the intertidal area?

00:42:08:09 - 00:42:44:23

Hilary Williamson, on behalf of the applicant. And the reason that accessing is included in in work number three. I need to give you some wider context, because it actually ties in with work number four and partially work number seven as well. Um, the reason why we've included access in work number three is primarily for health and safety reasons to support the offshore construction activities. So the trench activity trenches technique sorry for the the landfall will will go below mean low water.

00:42:44:25 - 00:43:15:07

So it will be in the offshore environment. Um, in order to support that construction activity, uh, the project has identified a need for some operatives to be able to access that potentially from the beach. Uh, so, for example, wet rig divers, or if there is an emergency, it would be more appropriate to take that person onshore to get them to a hospital as an example. Um, so we are talking about minimal movements purely for support activities and emergency activities.

00:43:15:09 - 00:43:31:04

So the access included within work three is a continuation of the access included in work number four um, which is outlined in the outline landfall construction method statement. Those activities, uh, which is

00:43:32:25 - 00:43:37:00

bear with me, which is what app 226.

00:43:39:29 - 00:43:52:24

Okay. So just noting that the trench is drilling, which goes beneath the intertidal area, you still need access to the intertidal area.

00:43:55:13 - 00:44:14:22

At Philbrook. Williamson, on behalf of the applicant. It's simply yes, but they are minor. As I said, minus support for that construction activity and for emergency purposes. No significant construction will take place in the intertidal area. Everything will be beneath the intertidal.



00:44:14:27 - 00:44:31:15

Okay. So it's it's. It's in the context of health and safety that you're saying that you need access or is it? I'm just trying to get a better understanding of the rationale behind having access to the intertidal area.

00:44:31:17 - 00:45:05:06

So, Lasdun, on behalf of the applicant, I think the, the the applicant has included access in each of the cable sections because there may be a need to access at that point. Um, there is a commitment to do trench lease installation in this area. So, um, there will be a drill which comes from offshore, um, goes under this intertidal area under the railway and the road, um, and then comes out in work number ten. And that's committed to in the crossing schedule, um Um,, and in various other documents.

00:45:05:08 - 00:45:36:08

So I think that reference to access is essentially on a very worst case basis. But I think the other documents that we have that demonstrate that that will be a trend, um, uh, that will be a installation in that area. From that, you can surmise that there won't be large numbers of construction vehicles going along there, because there just there is not that construction planned or indeed permitted within that area.

00:45:36:10 - 00:45:50:01

So you'll note that in respect of work number three, um, there isn't the opportunity to open trench, it's merely trench less, um, in terms of the installation of cables within that area. And similarly for work number eight.

00:45:51:13 - 00:46:11:19

If I can just follow that in the context of work number four, then, um, it appears to be quite a wide corridor for construction access to explain what the rationale for that. In what way? Why does it appear to be quite a wide corridor for the if it's gaining access?

00:46:12:10 - 00:46:48:02

Uh, Phil Williamson, on behalf of the applicant. Uh, so we've identified, um, work number four to go down to Menlo Water. Um, and that has come from conversations that we've had with Natural Resources Wales in terms of identifying access over the beach. The, um, work number four crosses the pencil on Triple psi, um, but not the designated features of the triple psi. And in order. And that is why there is a gap or a hole in our order limits, because those are a sort of a conservative estimate on those designated features.

00:46:48:20 - 00:47:23:12

So we identified access from that point to main line water, so that that that activity can sort of the construction support vehicles can pass along with depending on the tide. Um, as long as we are the the conversations that we have in natural Resources Wales would be as close to mean low water as you possibly can. But we need to be cognizant that activities might, depending on the tide, uh, might be taking place at different times and therefore beach the entirety of the beach might be required, but it would only be a corridor that we would use when we when we cross the beach.

00:47:23:27 - 00:47:25:19

Okay. Thank you for that explanation.

00:47:26:20 - 00:47:57:16

Can I just add one more thing? The reason it is the extent it is, um, is because of the location of work number seven. So work number seven is in existing car park, um, or where there is um, some I understand from lunchtime. It's not hard standing, but it is a surface. Um, and that's the point where any vehicles that might be using that will be located, and therefore that is why it extends as far as it does, Um, out because it's meeting that, um, that entrance from the from the car park area.

00:47:58:00 - 00:48:06:12

So Phil Williamson, on behalf of the applicant. Um, and the reason why we chose that location is so that we did not have to construct a new access onto the beach.

00:48:12:21 - 00:48:22:18

Is it possible for you to give a reason for, uh, works number five, then, uh, where you need access during construction. So the question is access to, uh.

00:48:25:07 - 00:48:59:01

Hillary Williamson on behalf of the applicant. Uh, so, um, CDM requirements are state that we need to be within a certain radius of any construction activity, support to support personnel that might be on site. Um, and so work number five is identified for a welfare van, um, to park up on the on the verge, uh, along that which is the North Wales Coastal Path. But I think it's private road where we've identified and work number five. And that will mean that the work, the welfare van is in a close enough proximity to those activities that might be supporting from the beach.

00:48:59:19 - 00:49:32:06

Okay. So you've got work number seven, which is what I think you alluded to as being a ten preconstruction compound. Um, the works that you're looking to do in, in the intertidal area is for predominantly health and safety rather than construction. So I'm just trying to understand in terms of CDM, what requirements for working and Ba5 is applicable for CDM. What particular works would be undertaken?

00:49:37:10 - 00:50:09:26

Um, for Hillary Williamson on behalf of the applicant? Um, it's providing welfare facilities for those operatives. Um, if we were to place those welfare facilities in work number seven, it would be too far from the activities that are being undertaken at work. Number three, and they would have to walk or drive along the entirety of the beach. So by placing a welfare van in work number five, they will be able to use existing pedestrian access from the beach to the North Wales Coastal Path in order to access the welfare van.

00:50:10:05 - 00:50:13:15

Okay. Can we then have a look at work number six?

00:50:16:18 - 00:50:20:09

That success requires to work. Number eight is.

00:50:24:23 - 00:50:30:15

So if you could maybe just give me an overview of that particular work. Remember.

00:50:30:24 - 00:51:06:27

Phil Williamson on behalf of the applicant. So work number six is identified for access for monitoring the trenches technique activity that will pass from work number three to work number eight. Back number nine. And I'm working on ten. Um, that monitoring will be for potential stability issues associated with National Rail, um, or for any potential fracking that might occur, which we do not expect, but it's monitoring for that purpose and to guide the trench technique. Um, and the reason it is identified where it is, is the only access into work.

00:51:06:29 - 00:51:39:21

Number eight is via work number six. There is an existing access, which I think you will just see, which starts at the National Rail. Uh, the railway. Sorry, the bridge, the Network Rail. Sorry. Network rail bridge. Um, which is the little kink on the western end. Um, and that then, uh, includes an an

access bell mouth, and existing access bell mouth into, uh, the, uh, historic landfill site. We would only be taking vehicles over that to get to work.

00:51:39:23 - 00:51:40:17

Number eight.

00:51:41:09 - 00:51:49:12

Okay. Can I just check with you that for work number five. And you're not looking to have that as an access to working in the rate.

00:51:50:16 - 00:52:06:28

That Phil Williamson on behalf of the applicant at. nowhere, not currently. There is no access that takes you from the North Wales Coastal Path into work. Number eight is fenced, which would mean that we would need to establish a new access. We would rather use existing accesses. Okay.

00:52:07:00 - 00:52:12:19

That's clear. Okay. Thank you. Um, can we move on to work number ten.

00:52:12:21 - 00:52:46:12

So list on on behalf of the applicant, can I interject just quickly in respect of work number seven, um, which we've identified that probably the wording in the DCA in the development center, it talks about a temporary construction compound. It isn't a temporary construction compound in the way that those are understood further down the corridor. This is just a parking area and fenced area. So we're intending to revise the wording of work number seven to make it clear that it isn't a it isn't a construction temporary construction compound, if you understand what I mean.

00:52:46:14 - 00:53:01:26

It's actually just going to be a vehicle parking and potentially a lay down area, but it doesn't have it's not like the others that are needed down, down the cable corridor and in other areas. So we're going to revise the drafting of that so that that's that's clearer.

00:53:02:03 - 00:53:24:12

Okay. The understanding I have currently is that you're going to utilize worker number five for welfare facilities. And the explanation is given now for ten. For seven is that it's just for parking. You mentioned lay down in terms of lay down what what type of materials you'd be looking to put that if it's just for. Yeah. Sorry.

00:53:24:17 - 00:53:32:13

This done on behalf of the applicant. I shouldn't have mentioned laid down. I've just been had a head shaking at me. I should not have mentioned laydown. It's for vehicle parking. Okay.

00:53:32:17 - 00:53:33:02

That's correct.

00:53:33:04 - 00:53:38:26

Thank you. We will make that clear in the drafting of of the the description of the work within work number seven.

00:53:39:08 - 00:53:54:17

That's great. Thank you very much. Um, can we go to work? Number ten, uh, description of the temporary construction compound and works has not been provided. Uh, can the applicant explain why it has taken this approach?

00:53:57:08 - 00:54:00:26

Sorry, sir. Listen, on behalf of the applicant. Could you repeat the question, please?

00:54:01:03 - 00:54:07:01

So for work number ten. Description of what the temporary construction compound entails,

00:54:09:00 - 00:54:11:09

um, has not been provided.

00:54:15:16 - 00:54:16:01

No.

00:54:18:12 - 00:54:19:10

This is probably.

00:54:21:09 - 00:54:53:14

The list done on behalf of the, um, applicant. We have, um, as part of the preparation for this session, actually looked at the temporary construction compounds and how they are described in the maximum areas that are set out within the development consent order. And, uh, whilst we thought it was clear, um, uh. I think we've recognised that that needs to be, um, reviewed in terms of clarity around, um, what is being proposed.

00:54:53:16 - 00:55:32:00

So in respect of work number ten, um, that is um, uh, potentially that has a temporary construction compound, um, within it. But there's also, um, a drilling compound because that's where the landfill drill will, uh, go from starts, um, as it, as it goes offshore. So, um, that's the reason that that is shown is up to 30,000m<sup>2</sup>, where I think elsewhere, we've said our temporary construction compounds are the secondary compounds of 15,000m<sup>2</sup>.

00:55:32:02 - 00:55:58:09

So we recognize that we need to provide some greater clarity, I think, around what it is that is proposed in respect of those compounds. But they are a that is a temporary construction, sorry. It's a secondary temporary construction compound of up to 15,000m<sup>2</sup>. Plus there'll be a drill compound there for the horizontal directional drill, which is where the 30,000 has come from. Okay.

00:56:01:05 - 00:56:01:27

What is looking.

00:56:02:23 - 00:56:25:21

At? Probably picking up on the second point. I suspect you might also be looking for a definition of what a temporary construction compound is, and some information as to what might be done within a temporary construction compound. I think given the conversation we're having now, it would probably be helpful for us to add that definition to the development consent order. So it is clear as to what activities can be undertaken there. Thank you.

00:56:30:16 - 00:56:36:20

I'd like to move on to work plan sheet three and work number 11.

00:56:39:02 - 00:57:08:14

Refers to installation of cable circuits and trenching techniques. Works. So the question that I have, you don't need to show it on screen. Um that's important. Um, so the question I have is for this work, number 11, would they also include other measures of installation such as joint base link boxes, protective tiles, ducting and so forth.

00:57:10:17 - 00:57:42:09

Phil Williamson, on behalf of the applicant. Um, the simple answer to that is no. Um, work number 11. And, uh, the particular area that you've identified there is our trench beneath Greg Hill. Um, and, uh, the reason that's the reason for the width, um, because we don't currently know without detailed design or the alignment or depth or direction of those drills might be. Um, because it is a complex drill at that location with the previous mining activity.

00:57:42:25 - 00:57:49:00

Um, but our activities there will, will be focused primarily on that trenches. Trenches technique.

00:57:49:02 - 00:58:03:11

Okay. Um, would that then apply to other work numbers for just 12, 14, 15, 17 and 20? Uh, regarding the points that I've highlighted about joint base link boxes, until I can make that.

00:58:04:04 - 00:58:38:06

List done on behalf of the applicant, um, things like joint base link boxes are included within the general associated development, um, uh, descriptions which are um, uh, so, so rather than specifying in every single section of cable corridor that we can put cable boxes, um, sorry, link boxes, junction bays, etc., they are listed, um, as part of the associated development in connection with work numbers 30 to 38 on page 49 of the Draft Development Consent Order.

00:58:38:08 - 00:59:10:12

And that is a category E, so it has got joint base link boxes, duct cable protection, joint protection, manholes, etc. so rather than having to list all those out, they're just there because they're they're part of the cable installation works. So there is just one thing I would flag is that, um, those that section of cable that you referred to work number 11, it does allow for both trenching and trenched works there because as you all see from the width of the cable corridor. That's a section where, as Mr.

00:59:10:18 - 00:59:28:09

Williams has said, the first section is, is will be, um, trench less and then that will work where the cable corridor narrows. That's then trenched. Um, those are trench work. So there'll be a transition between the two. Um, in respect of those in that work. Number 11.

00:59:28:18 - 00:59:29:20

Okay. Thank you.

00:59:39:12 - 00:59:44:22

Um, can we show workplan? Uh, sheet eight, please?

00:59:47:18 - 00:59:48:06

And.

01:00:06:22 - 01:00:07:16

So.

01:00:24:06 - 01:00:54:21

it's a similar issue to what we discussed previously, but I just wanted the clarification. So as you see you'll see work number 15 going across. And then uh what interjects there is work number 16. Um, and work 16 is for temporary construction compound lay down area and access to worker number 15. Now um, work number 16 obviously does not include installation of cable circuits and trench techniques.

01:00:56:00 - 01:01:10:24

Um, and I just wanted to check with you that. That's correct. The work 15 would still and and title for the cable circuits to be placed across where 16 extends and overlaps over them.

01:01:11:16 - 01:01:37:01

Liz Dunn, on behalf of the applicant. Yes, sir. So work number 15 continues, um, underneath work number 16 as it was then 16 is effectively overlaid on top of it. So it allows that whole area to be a construction compound. Once that's gone, the cables would remain in work number 15 and work number 15 does specifically authorize, um, the installation of cables okay. In that area.

01:01:37:10 - 01:01:53:23

Thank you very much. Um, I think those are the main issues that I wanted to bring to your attention. And thank you for the clarifications. So, um, I'll now hand over to my colleague, uh, Mrs. Powers, uh, for the next item on the agenda.

01:01:57:01 - 01:01:59:07

I see Mr. Jones. Okay.

01:02:00:16 - 01:02:37:13

Uh, yeah. We just tend to, um, uh, be of this of this agenda, which is flexibility and, um, project description. Um, I think some of your submissions at the procedural deadline probably answer our questions were on this, but just just so that we've got clarity on this matter. The there are two design scenarios Up to 96 turbines with a maximum rotor diameter of 250m um, and the maximum blade tip 290 for scenario two up to 68, with a maximum rotor diameter of 320 and a maximum blade tip of 364m.

01:02:38:06 - 01:03:03:25

Um. The draft is still submitted at the procedural deadline, which is PDA 003, now has a maximum, uh, move to swap area. And I think what you've said in your response to in our WS, uh, relevant rep, is that this new parameter would mean that you couldn't build 96 turbines, uh, with the highest blade tip height of 364. Is my understanding of that, right?

01:03:06:05 - 01:03:37:02

There is done on behalf of the applicant. Um. That's correct. Um, there was a question as to whether, um, the larger number of larger turbines could be built, and that swept area provides the parameter that that defines that maximum envelope. I think it's important to just be clear, um, this application isn't being proposed on the fact that there could be 96 big turbines or 86, 96 smaller or a 60 whatever.

01:03:37:04 - 01:04:10:28

Anyway, on those two maximum, it could be anything in between as well. So the maximum design scenarios have been identified for the purposes of undertaking the worst case assessment within the environmental impact assessment. So they are saying, um, uh, and particularly for seascape landscape and visual, having the larger number of uh, smaller turbines and the smaller number of larger turbines are the two main parameters that have been considered, uh, or identified as being potentially the worst case.

01:04:11:00 - 01:04:30:00

It is not the case that it would either be Mssa or MSB that is built. It could be somewhere in between. And that is where the maximum swept area acts as the controlling parameter, because ultimately that has to, um, we cannot exceed that area for the purposes of this scheme.

01:04:30:02 - 01:04:38:18

Just in simple terms. That means because of that, you don't have the space to be able to build the 96, uh, taller turbines. Is that is that how that works?

01:04:40:12 - 01:05:04:27

Forecasts from behalf of the applicant. It was it was never our intention to bring a project forward, to develop a project where we could build 96 turbines of the maximum type height. Um, so that we've put that control in to answer that question that RW set out and to make to make clear. Um, it's not an issue of space or anything else. It's it's a matter of what actually just defining what we were trying to bring forward as a project more clearly.

01:05:04:29 - 01:05:05:21

Okay. Thank you.

01:05:06:07 - 01:05:13:27

Could could we just ask, um, as an action, if you could, um, ensure that that's fully explained in the next iteration of the explanatory memorandum?

01:05:15:27 - 01:05:16:12

Yes.

01:05:17:23 - 01:05:28:18

I actually think I said earlier, deadline one, but I think at the minute it's actually due at deadline two in our timetables will correct myself for asking for it. Deadline one earlier. Um, deadline two is fine for that.

01:05:36:09 - 01:05:39:14

I'll hand over to Mrs. Powis for the next part.

01:05:40:20 - 01:05:41:12

Thank you.

01:05:41:18 - 01:06:19:01

Um, so this was just, um, a quick one on, uh, the offshore array layout and spacing and micro siting. So we know condition ten of the deemed marine license specifies the minimum distance between structures, so that's between the rows and between the structures within the rows. And that's a minimum spacing of 1400m, which we understand is a greater distance than is conventionally be used in offshore wind farms. And we understand that that commitment is, um, partly in terms of reduction of potential impacts on shipping and navigation and commercial fisheries.

01:06:19:03 - 01:06:51:00

Um, so that's welcomed as a measure. And we're just looking at that in terms of condition 18, one of the DML, which deals with the design plan. Um, and so I'm looking here at condition 18 one A and that states that the design plan, um, is a pre commencement condition that must include details of the layout for the array. So once that plan is actually settled and what's actually going to be built, it's clear a design plan needs to be submitted and approved.

01:06:51:19 - 01:07:08:19

Um, and that includes grid coordinates being specified for each turbine and each platform. And then there's a micro siting provision in there allowing up to 125m for micro siting in any direction. Um, firstly, can I just ask you to explain why the micro siting provision is necessary?

01:07:12:19 - 01:07:54:00

Jerry Villa for the applicant. Um, so principle two is a key principle in our layout development principles, and that requires a minimum separation distance of 1400 meters within and between rows of offshore surface structures. Principle three allows for 25m installation tolerance centred on the nominal offshore surface structure position, and principle six allows for 100m of micro siting on that nominal offshore surface structure position, so principle five and six together add up to 125m, so that flexibility is required to allow for avoidance of anthropogenic constraints.

01:07:54:09 - 01:08:31:08

Environmental constraints such as um, archaeological resources or difficult ground conditions that are discovered post-approval of the array layout through the design plan, which is secured under condition schedule 14, condition 18 one A as you mentioned within the draft DCA. Um, so as I said, principle five and six can be additive, totaling 125m and therefore where principle five and six are applied, the minimum spacing between two structures could be reduced to a minimum of 1285m

01:08:33:04 - 01:08:33:28

75.

01:08:35:28 - 01:08:43:06

1275m. So that's 1500 minus. Okay, so you're saying that that that's that was the kind of nub of our question.

01:08:56:18 - 01:08:59:07

By Jerry Fowler for the applicant. Sorry. Could you repeat your question, please?

01:08:59:10 - 01:09:24:17

That's fine. I was just that that was kind of at the nub of our question, because we obviously we see the 1400 in there, and then we've seen the 125 meter, um, flexibility, uh, required. And we note that in other discos that such a provision doesn't exist or the micro lighting isn't in there. And I suppose what you've just said is that the reason you need it is because you still need flexibility, even once the design plan is settled. Is that is that am I correct in understanding that.

01:09:24:21 - 01:09:34:19

Jerry, for the applicant? Yeah. That's correct. It has been in other DCS actually. And I could direct you to Hornsea Four and East Anglia one, North and East Anglia T as well.

01:09:34:21 - 01:09:35:18

Know these rather well.

01:09:37:21 - 01:10:12:20

Um it's in some and it's not in others. Okay. So that comes down. I'm understanding the timing is helps to know in terms of when you settle that design plan. Um, you've, you've explained then that that could mean a reduction to 1275. In those cases, potentially. Um, this is obviously important for matters will come on to in the next couple of days about, um, the effects and in particular shipping and navigation mitigation. You've already mentioned that the layout design principles, which I believe are set out in table 3.7 of the project description chapter of the.

01:10:12:22 - 01:10:47:01

Yes. Um, and that's handy because I was going to come on to them as well. Those are quite handy. Those principles set out there. Um, and they, they certainly help when they're read in conjunction with what we have on the face of the DML. Um, in terms of, um, understanding that, that those two things are additive, for example, the 125 and also understanding that they could reduce the 1400. So I suppose our feeling is that they're a little bit buried at the moment, sitting in a project description chapter of the is and that actually they're quite important controls um and parameters potentially.



01:10:47:15 - 01:11:27:24

Um, so uh, we do have in the final column of that table 3.7, we do have a column saying how the principles are secured. But I have to say it's not very specific about where it just says it's in. The DML is not specific about which provision of the DML specifies that. Um, I guess a question for you probably to take away and think about is, is whether you're content that all of the principles set out in that table are actually properly secured in the DCO and the DML, because I don't know if they are at the moment. But in tangent with that, maybe, um, think about, um, in tandem with that, think about, um, whether there's another way to secure those principles.

01:11:28:06 - 01:12:05:08

Obviously we don't have an outline of the design plan at the moment. Um, and we understand there's probably good reasons for that. Um, but I'm wondering whether those principles need to be pulled out into something that becomes principles underlying a design plan, something with which, um, that condition needs to have needs to accord. So there's different ways you could do that. Obviously, you could specify them in condition 18. You could improve the precision of the wording in that final column of table 3.7, and then cross refer to it in condition 18. Or you could submit a sort of standalone design plan principles document with which then that design plan had to record in the way that you do with a lot of the other management plans.

01:12:08:15 - 01:12:41:09

Lays down on behalf of the applicant. We'll take that one away. I have to say, um, uh, it was suggested that within the team that we do a design plan, but, um, I have to say, I overruled it on the basis that most of the parameters are actually in the schedule, uh, in schedule one and in the Dean marine license. And it started to look like there wasn't very much in there in terms of what was being secured. So I think I think we will look at doing what's there. But again, sort of going back to the initial point, there's no point in duplicating what else is being provided somewhere else.

01:12:41:11 - 01:13:12:10

And because we've got those parameter tables, um, in, um, in schedule two, in the requirements and in the Dean marine license, they're pretty specific, sort of anchoring those key elements because they do talk about the 1400 meter spacings, um, uh, both in um, schedule two, table two, and in the, uh, table in the marine license. So a number of those are secured there already. So I think it's just making sure that we're not doing something that's actually already covered.

01:13:12:12 - 01:13:14:26

So it may well be just looking at how we're reporting those.

01:13:14:28 - 01:13:50:00

Yes, I think so, because it certainly was the question, having given it quite a lot of consideration, that we didn't know whether the 125 could be taken away from the 1400, for example, looking at how condition ten and 18 into play, also things like, um, I know in principle one, you've committed to at least half a diameter on the, on the array area boundary. So there was no oversell, which again is fairly important when it comes to some of the effects we're going to be looking at over the next couple of days. Not sure that's secured anywhere on the face of the DML. Um, the principle two says, you know, you can the 1400 spacing unless required in less principles five and six apply.

01:13:50:02 - 01:14:24:01

I'm not sure that's really spelled out in the DML. You know, there's some, um, probably slightly, uh, unclear. And then, um, and then your final question on that was about whether that on principle nine in that table, the north south orientation is, I think it's secured by the fisheries liaison and coexistence plan. And it's just a question about whether that north south orientation is purely as fishing mitigation or whether it has other. It's there for mitigation, for example, for navigation, in which case is it appropriate that the fishing, uh, liaison plan is the best place to secure it?

01:14:24:09 - 01:14:55:13

Uh, Jerry Fowler for the applicant. Um, it was principally driven by engagement with commercial fisheries stakeholders. Um, it did form the basis of, um, of assessments in the navigation risk assessments as well, but it was driven by fisheries. Um, I guess we aim to secure the principle within the outlined fisheries liaison and coexistence plan, because that's seen by the fishing stakeholders as a key document. Um, one stop shop the commitments table.

01:14:55:16 - 01:15:29:21

Table 1.2 within the Outline Fisheries Liaison Coexistence Plan, which is app 199, um, lists out all of our commitments as a sort of a one stop shop for the fishing, uh, commercial fisheries community. And it felt like it was a good place to include it. And of course, the outline Fisheries Liaison plan is secured within the draft um DCO under schedule 14. Condition 18 was a requirement for preparation of the Fisheries Liaison and Coexistence Plan for approval by the licensing authority in accordance with the Outline plan.

01:15:29:23 - 01:15:32:16

So that was a link for pulling forward those commitments.

01:15:32:18 - 01:15:54:08

I can see the logic of including all of the fishing commitments in one place as well. So yeah, I think I won't, um, hammer this one in any. I think we've, you know, something you're going to take away and think about and then that's fine. Um, just to clarify, though, as well, I'm presuming it's your intention that the design plan condition would also be replicated on the Transmission Assets marine license, because it's.

01:15:54:23 - 01:15:55:14

The same.

01:15:55:18 - 01:16:20:26

List done on behalf of the applicant. No, it's not, It's not needed for the transmission marine license because it relates to the generation element only. That's fine. There is a we are anticipating that there will be a condition on the NSW marine licence for transmission that requires us to put a cable specification and installation plan, so that will deal with cables. Um, but no, it won't be, it won't be replicated.

01:16:20:28 - 01:16:22:07

That's fine. I.

01:16:33:22 - 01:17:04:06

Okay. Um, Mr. Carter has just made it quite an important point that I'd missed out. Which is that if the offshore substation platforms are built under the transmission marine licence rather than the Generation Marine license, because recognizing they are in both, because we don't know whether they will ultimately be part of the transmission assets that will be transferred to the offshore transmission network, operation of Tow, or whether they will stay as generation assets.

01:17:04:08 - 01:17:13:07

We may well, we will have to if they're part of the transmission marine license will have to do a plan. We'll have to submit a plan. All right. Um, so yes.

01:17:13:10 - 01:17:16:03

It was in my mind, it was partly right. It was partly.

01:17:16:05 - 01:17:26:19

Right. But, um, yes, that will I'm sure Mr. Morrison has picked that up. Um, and we will add it to the marine license principles document. If it isn't, if that isn't a thank you.

01:17:26:21 - 01:17:31:26

That's helpful. And, Mr. Morrison, would you like to come in on that at all, or are you, um, content?

01:17:33:15 - 01:17:41:00

No. I'm content. Nothing to add. It was useful discussion to had and it's something we can look into further when. Oh yeah. So sorry.

01:17:41:03 - 01:17:41:18

Again.

01:17:41:20 - 01:18:07:18

Yeah sorry Peter Morrison marine licensing team and other police function. And now nothing further to add. I think that was a useful discussion to be had. And um, yeah, useful. I think there's a need to identify, um, the design plan for, for the marine licence and how that is, uh, replicated into the transmission licence or likely to be replicated or needed. So yes, you sort of have that discussion.

01:18:09:05 - 01:18:16:13

Thank you very much. We'll come on to talk a bit more about the marine licence interface a bit later on. Um,

01:18:18:04 - 01:18:42:17

just a quick one then on a totally different matter. Just looking. Um, we've put on the agenda about the breadth of the powers sought, and we're looking here at, um, towards the end of schedule one and the description of works and the further associated development which you've already referred to once this morning, this afternoon, even, um, which does contain a fairly broad list of works covered. There's two lists there, I think lists A to J and an A to N. Um,

01:18:44:06 - 01:19:02:02

there's a little bit of repetition in there. Um, when you look at it, when you read across to the ancillary works in part two of that schedule. So things like marking buoys, beacons and fenders and navigational warning and things like that. So it's, um, I don't know whether that's needed, whether it's something to look at just to, um, reduce any duplication.

01:19:02:18 - 01:19:22:29

Is done on behalf of the applicant. We will look at those across, across both to make sure that there is an ancillary. Works are intended to be those works that don't require any form of consent, but it's just there to clarify that if you are doing those things that they're part of this license, as opposed to there being any question as to whether they they or not, but we will review the lists. Thank you.

01:19:24:02 - 01:19:54:24

Um, also in there there's reference to, um, a sort of catchall, which we see, um, regularly on other shows about, um, any other works which fall within the scope of the work assessed for by the. Yes. I think it's become fairly, uh, regular practice now to use some slightly different wording when you're limiting things by, um, by the definition of works assessed in the. Yes. And I think normally now we're using the term um would not give rise to any new materially, new or materially different environmental effects to those identified in the.

01:19:54:26 - 01:19:59:27

Yes. So I just ask, if you go through the DCO and make that change, that would be really welcome.

01:19:59:29 - 01:20:00:14

Will do.

01:20:00:16 - 01:20:32:20

Thank you. Um, and then just. Yeah, we're just looking at the breadth of the I suppose there's a couple of other ones in there. Um, in that list at J. Uh, we've got, uh, work defined as works for the benefit or protection of land affected by the authorised development. I'm not sure if that's sufficiently precise. What we want to go and have a look at. And then in N it's such other works as may be necessary or expedient for the purposes of, or in connection with, the relevant part of the authorized development.

01:20:32:22 - 01:20:37:15

Again, very wide powers potentially there. So we'd ask you to have a look at tightening that up.

01:20:39:29 - 01:20:40:19

Um.

01:20:42:19 - 01:20:58:00

I think that's all of the points I wanted to cover just under there. And then just finally before I hand back to Mrs. Jones. um, one on requirement 23, which is about amendments to to approve details. So this is still still under really the topic of flexibility. Um.

01:21:00:25 - 01:21:13:29

And so requirement 23 basically allows um approved details to be amended. Um, could you just explain the practical effect of, of that requirement? Firstly.

01:21:15:24 - 01:22:00:04

Listing on behalf of the applicant, um, this um requirement. So, um, if I just explain what it does, it um, what it says is with respect to any requirement which requires the authorised project to be carried out in accordance with details approved under this schedule, the approved details are taken to include any amendments that may subsequently be approved or agreed by the Secretary of State, the relevant planning authority or another person. And what this is designed to do is to ensure that if, um, a scheme is agreed under the uh, under the requirements, if there is needs to be an amendment to that scheme, there is not a question that you have to go back to the start.

01:22:00:06 - 01:22:37:00

You have to apply for a new development consent order. You have to apply to the local authority for planning permission. It effectively, um, uh, confirms that, um, it is possible to amend those schemes. They've obviously still got to be approved by whoever the relevant approval body was and have gone through that process. Um, and just that, um, when, when, uh, when considering what it is that, uh, the undertaker has to comply with it is, uh, those approved details that are the things that are taken into consideration.

01:22:37:02 - 01:22:59:13

I don't think it's contentious. It's just one of those. That is a sort of point of clarification. Um, so that there aren't questions further down the line as to whether, if, um, if, if there are subsequent or changes that are approved to approved schemes as to which one it is, that effectively is the one that the Undertaker should be complying with, that's understood.

01:23:00:02 - 01:23:33:08

Um, I know there's reference to precedent in other made orders for this one. Um, but the those parallel requirements are quite different and the more detail more stringent probably. Firstly they limit by what's in the environmental statement. Secondly, they talk about immaterial changes only. So I think

I'd probably urge you to go back to the well and more and Hornsey for wording. I think it's a requirement 27 or on or more, but just have a look at that seems preferable from our perspective in terms of being unclear with how much flexibility is actually allowed under that requirement.

01:23:33:10 - 01:23:50:22

And then the only other thing was just a question about how that works in terms of fees for discharging requirements. So for example, if you're a council and you've received a fee once for discharging a requirement and then amendments made to it, do you get a fee again? Um, I don't expect you to have an answer off the top of your head, but it's done.

01:23:50:24 - 01:24:05:12

On behalf of the applicant, there is a schedule, um, regarding these two local authorities in particular for discharge of requirements. I am not sure if that is covered in it, but clearly if it isn't, it should be because effectively it is a subsequent application. Absolutely.

01:24:05:14 - 01:24:18:06

So again, just defining that an amendment application would be a subsequent application presumably attracting the same fee. And um, yeah, I do not think schedule 12 is particularly clear on that. So, um, just wanted to check. Um.

01:24:24:17 - 01:24:28:28

We won't go any further. I don't think I need to do anything else. I'll pass back to Miss Jones.

01:24:30:11 - 01:24:54:21

Uh. Thank you. Um, I'm going to leave the benefit of the order, um, to, uh, potential written questions. And further down the line, there were just minor drafting issues. So maybe what we could just do if you could perhaps just have a read of it yourselves and just check that the drafting is correct in there. And if not, we'll pick that up later in the examination. It was nothing major. Um, so we'll start with commencement, um, provisions in that case. Um.

01:24:54:29 - 01:25:04:23

I imagine members of the panel. Can I can I just ask, please, at what point I can come in? I was, uh, hoping to address the panel on items three and three B.

01:25:06:24 - 01:25:08:02

Is expected that I wait.

01:25:08:07 - 01:25:11:20

No. That's fine. Do you want to come in now? That's absolutely fine. Before we move on.

01:25:11:26 - 01:25:16:06

And also, um, it might be ten minutes or so.

01:25:16:15 - 01:25:23:23

Everyone up. Okay. If you've got a point to raise. Yeah. Raise it now, please. Pardon? Yes, it's absolutely fine to raise it in that.

01:25:24:04 - 01:25:24:19

Thank you.

01:25:26:04 - 01:25:57:09

Um, I think this is, uh. Well, I wanted to come along today. Um, uh, it's certainly a complex project, and I'm interested in one aspect of it amongst many. So, uh, appreciate, um, time to do that. Uh, I did

hear a question from the panel earlier about diversions. Um, I just wanted also to go back at the start when I introduced myself, I should have said at the outset Steven Edwards friendship for the benefit of the recording.

01:25:57:24 - 01:26:30:24

Um, when I, um, in terms of making submissions, there is a submission back in May to the statutory consultation, uh, which included a plan of our SP, manweb network. I'm aware, given the, um, uh, lateness of representations due to, uh, certain correspondence not coming through. Uh, that some information might not be in the domain of the examination.

01:26:31:13 - 01:27:05:19

Uh, so certainly that, um, those comments were made to the statutory consultation. Uh, secondly, um, in outside of the examination, there's obviously discussions, uh, a good deal recently, which, um, I'm grateful for with the applicant and they should continue, um, as there have been, um, and I think so. So the reason for wanting to come along was looking at, um, scope of the proposals and coming to one matter of the diversions of existing electricity network.

01:27:05:27 - 01:27:36:01

That network is there to essentially, uh, supply the homes and businesses from the generation, uh, eventually. So it's important that we protect that network. Um, the, um, one reason for discussing, um, overlaying and mapping with the applicants recently is because I haven't seen. So I'm mindful that yourselves may not be aware of, uh, information in the submission relating to where that network is.

01:27:36:08 - 01:27:46:09

Um, the best document I come across is the, uh, crossing schedule, which I can refer to if necessary. Would you like me to refer to that?

01:27:47:11 - 01:27:50:27

Um, do you have the examination library reference? Um. Handy?

01:27:51:27 - 01:27:54:27

No. We can. Maybe I can, uh, I'm sure one of the applicant.

01:28:03:29 - 01:28:10:13

So, Mr. Edwards, can I just confirm just before you go any further, you are in attendance tomorrow as well, aren't you?

01:28:11:27 - 01:28:12:12

Uh.

01:28:13:11 - 01:28:19:07

As much I preferably if I can deal with, um, as much as I can today.

01:28:19:22 - 01:28:30:25

That's absolutely fine. It's just that we we we are tight on time this afternoon, and construction is specifically on the agenda for tomorrow morning. So if it's a construction, uh, related.

01:28:31:13 - 01:28:35:28

Well know the scope of the. Sorry. It's the scope of the DCO. Really?

01:28:36:16 - 01:28:37:07

It's what? Sorry.

01:28:37:09 - 01:28:38:12

The scope of the.

01:28:38:28 - 01:28:40:28

Okay. Okay. Sorry. Sorry to interrupt then.

01:28:41:18 - 01:28:49:17

Yeah. I understand that there's an understanding of the construction elements necessary to discuss the TCO. Um.

01:28:51:03 - 01:28:57:28

so, so, uh, the document I was referring to is volume five, annex 5.3,

01:28:59:15 - 01:29:30:05

the onshore crossing schedule. Um, so that identifies, uh, points of trench lists and trenching. Um, but it also shows that we've seen on plans shown today that the width of the corridor, the work plans, um, the implants that I've, um, work with applicants. More recently, we have now plotted, uh, proposed structures, supports pylons, overhead lines, underground cables.

01:29:30:26 - 01:29:53:22

Um, that that's, uh, helping me understand potential impacts on our network. There are, in some cases, uh, pinch points, which, uh, questions the, uh, suitability of the limits. These show limits in terms of allowing for potential diversions for that network.

01:29:58:06 - 01:30:14:08

Um, we've heard I think I noted, uh, reference to the width of the corridor by the applicant this afternoon. I've read in, uh, um, I think it was a non-technical statement, a reference to the working area being between 75 and 100m

01:30:15:25 - 01:31:14:19

as wide as the corridor shown on the works plans. And I suppose in in to give an illustration in some of those, uh, pinch points. There were, um, assets, perhaps 3 or 4 support structures. So that gives you an idea of the, um, proximity of the asset to where there is likely to be construction work. So my point for the draft ICO is that it's important to understand and go to some of that detail in providing the limits and the work plans and the drafting to go and schedule one, that there will not be any necessary diversions of that network, because if there are necessary diversions, then and that work takes us outside of the limits, then there's a subsequent consent needed for those diversions.

01:31:14:28 - 01:31:19:06

And that would be the time to ensure that that's not the case.

01:31:21:04 - 01:31:55:15

Um, I won't I intend to, uh, submit these comments. So again, appreciate, in terms of submissions, representations, uh, I think it's probably right, I submit, if I am to submit, um, uh, by deadline one. Um, whether it's the time for submitting written reports. Um, and I think at the same time, I will look as I've understood from discussions with the applicants today to, uh, to carry on discussing those points with them outside of the examination.

01:31:56:23 - 01:31:57:08

Um,

01:31:58:26 - 01:32:37:17

and then I think that once the, uh, the specific detail is, um, identified, then you can look at the protective provisions, which I acknowledge. There are, um, statements in the provisions that, uh, do, uh, allow for diversions and management of, uh, Manweb assets. But my point is that that all allows, um, for that work within the limits. And that's why I think it's necessary to understand the detail of that work now in order to, uh, identify whether those limits are appropriate or not.

01:32:39:07 - 01:33:16:22

Certainly what what we would encourage I think you've already said you're in discussions with the applicant. We're not intending on going into details on protective provisions this week at all, really, in any of our hearings. But there will be a time in the examination. We will highly likely have a an issue specific hearing into the draft development consent order at some point. And at that point, we will be, um, covering protective provisions in much more detail. But I think what we would just encourage for, for the time being is an examining authorities for all parties to be negotiating the wording of those protective provisions, provisions so that you can come to an agreement so that perhaps we don't even need to discuss it at the next set of hearings.

01:33:19:01 - 01:33:52:11

Thank you madam. I would go beyond that to say it's important that we identify the, uh, specific, uh, the nature of the work that is necessary around those assets currently on the face of a 100 metre wide working corridor, uh, when there are a number of assets, uh, affected within that corridor, then it perhaps Usmanov, as the asset owner, would like to be assured that those assets are not affected or any diversions necessary or accommodated within those limits.

01:33:53:07 - 01:33:57:05

Thank you. Mr.. Would you like to come back on any of those points?

01:33:57:12 - 01:34:21:20

Thank you. Lasdun, on behalf of the applicant, we were in discussions with Mr. Edwards on behalf of S.P. Mann. We do welcome the submissions and welcome being able to discuss this now. Um, and I think we'll, we'll we're aware of the issues. Um, and, and, um, we'll be taking them forward together and hopefully able to give you an update on progress, um, in a few deadlines, time, if not before that. Okay.

01:34:22:28 - 01:34:26:05

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Panel.

01:34:28:04 - 01:34:39:09

Um, I think just looking at the time. Now, we, um. Will we'll take a short break of 15 minutes. Um, we will come back at 10 to 4.

01:34:43:13 - 01:34:44:00

Thank you.