



Preliminary Meeting Note

Application:	Mona Offshore Wind Farm
Reference:	EN010137
Time and date:	10:00am, 16 July 2024
Venue:	Venue Cymru, Promenade, Llandudno, LL30 1BB

This meeting note is not a full transcript of the Preliminary Meeting. It is a summary of the key points discussed.

[Mona Offshore Wind Farm | National Infrastructure Planning \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](https://www.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/mona-offshore-wind-farm/)

1. Welcome and Introduction

Caroline Jones (CJ) welcomed those present and introduced herself as the lead member of the Examining Authority (ExA) and Julie de-Courcey, Graham Hobbins, Jessica Powis and Jason Rowlands as panel members to examine the Mona Offshore Wind Farm application.

CJ explained the appointment was made by delegation from the Secretary of State (SoS) on 3 April 2024.

CJ explained that the ExA would be examining the application made by Mona Offshore Wind Limited ('the Applicant') before making a recommendation to the Secretary of State who will decide whether an Order granting Development Consent for the proposed project, which is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), should be made.

CJ explained the purpose of the Preliminary Meeting (PM) and noted that the Examination will commence after the PM closes.

The ExA confirmed that all documents and submissions received and accepted during the Examination will be published on the project-specific page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

The video recording of this Preliminary Meeting is available on the National Infrastructure Planning website and can be accessed [here](#).

2. Examination Process

The ExA briefly explained the examination process under the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008), further info can be found in the [Advice Note 8.4](#)

3. Initial Assessment of Principal Issues

The ExA explained the purpose of the Initial Assessment of Principal Issues (section 88 of the PA2008), which can be found in [Appendix C](#) of the [Rule 6 Letter](#) of 7 June 2024 and asked for any observations on them.

Mr Spencer of Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm Limited asked if there will be a consideration of the project's interaction with the Awel y Môr onshore substation. The ExA confirmed that this will be discussed in Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1).

4. Procedural decisions

The ExA clarified the procedural decisions made under section 89(3) of the PA2008 and asked for any observations. Procedural decisions can be found in [Appendix F](#) of the Rule 6 Letter.

The ExA raised issues to the Applicant regarding some of the procedural decisions listed in Appendix F. The issues on the Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) considered whether joint or separate statements were being provided with Local Authorities, Natural Resources Wales (Advisory), Natural Resources Wales (Marine Licensing) and Archaeology (Heneb). A further SoGC was being prepared with ENI Ltd.

The issue on Local Impact Reports also considered whether local authorities were planning to submit joint or separate reports. The ExA advised the Applicant on how to populate and maintain the Land Rights Tracker, and gave an example of what would be helpful to be included in the Pre-examination Progress Tracker.

The ExA also raised issues related to Applicant Additional Submissions made in response to s51 advice, and need for clean and tracked versions, version history, Errata sheet and clarity on certified documents.

5. Examination Timetable

The ExA acknowledged the earlier written requests to amend the draft Examination Timetable (contained in [Appendix D](#) of the Rule 6 Letter) and also welcomed suggestions from the parties in attendance.

All comments received were duly noted by the ExA and considerations will be reflected in the [Rule 8 Letter](#).

The ExA clarified the purpose of:

- Issue Specific Hearings
- Compulsory Acquisition Hearings
- Open Floor Hearings
- Accompanied Site Inspections
- Unaccompanied Site Inspections

The ExA sought comments on the arrangements for the above events. These were duly noted and considered by the ExA.

Further information relating to hearings and site inspections can be found in our [Advice Note 8.5](#).

6. Any other matters

The ExA asked the Applicant whether they had addressed the issues raised in relevant representations regarding the costs of hard copy documents. The Applicant responded that they have responded to these issues on a case-by-case basis.

7. Action Points

	Action	Party	Deadline
1	Applicant to provide update/explanation of ES figures and application documents submitted at Procedural Deadline.	Applicant.	Deadline 1

8. Close

The PM closed at 11:45am and the ExA confirmed the examination would begin after the close of the Preliminary Meeting as well as confirming the remaining events for the week.