



## **MONA OFFSHORE WIND FARM DEVELOPMENT**

### **WRITTEN REPRESENTATION ON BEHALF OF MICROSOFT IRELAND OPERATIONS LIMITED (Interested Party Reference number 20048557)**

This Written Representation is submitted on behalf of Microsoft Ireland Operations Limited ('Microsoft') in pursuance of Rule 10(1) of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 in relation to an application by Mona Offshore Wind Limited (the 'Applicant') to the Secretary of State under the Planning Act 2008 for a Development Consent Order for the construction and operation of an offshore windfarm located in the east Irish sea, including offshore elements (the 'Proposed Development').

The building and maintenance of submarine telecommunications cables are a significant part of Microsoft's efforts to enhance global connectivity and support the increasing demand for cloud services and data transmission. As public and private sectors deepen their reliance on cloud technologies for economic growth and service improvement, new cable projects will advance both resiliency and capacity for customers using Microsoft's cloud services.

Microsoft is planning a submarine telecommunications cable linking Wales and Ireland in the same area as the Proposed Development. Microsoft's proposed cable route will cross the Proposed Development's export cables and will land nearby in Abergele (see Appendix 1 showing the overlap between the Proposed Development and Microsoft's proposed route for the submarine telecommunications cable).

Microsoft does not object to the principle of the Proposed Development, but requests that the Applicant ensures that the views and concerns of its proposed project are considered when constructing the Proposed Development's export cables. Microsoft therefore requests a commitment from the Applicant to enter into reasonable negotiations on a crossing agreement, based on established industry norms, and to coordinate activities (if required) at the relevant stage of the project. Should Microsoft and the Applicant work together, both projects can successfully complete with minimum impacts.

Microsoft currently reserves the right to make further written representations in relation to the offshore elements of the Proposed Development.

## Appendix 1



