

# MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

## Appendix to Response to Hearing Action Points: Indicative Staging Plan

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Image of an offshore wind farm

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# 1 Appendix to Response to Hearing Action Points: Indicative Staging Plan

## 1.1 Introduction

1.1.1.1 On 23 July 2024, following Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) on The Scope of the Development at the Examination of the Mona Offshore Wind Project, the Examining Authority (ExA) published ISH1 Hearing Action Points.

1.1.1.2 Mona Offshore Wind Ltd ('the Applicant') has reviewed each of these action points.

### 1.1.2 Purpose of this document

1.1.2.1 This document has been drafted in response to points raised by the ExA regarding the discharge of requirements related to the stages of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. The document sets out an indicative approach to the grouping of onshore works into respective stages, as well as providing clarity on what management plans are required under relevant draft development consent order (Draft DCO) (PDA-003) Requirements (see Schedule 2).

1.1.2.2 Requirement 4 of Schedule 2 of the Draft DCO obliges the undertaker to submit a notification to the relevant planning authority as to whether the onshore works will be constructed in a single stage or two or more stages.

1.1.2.3 The document aims to provide clarity to Denbighshire County Council (DCC), Conwy County Borough Council (CCBC) and the ExA regarding the staged approach to the approval of management plans and other discharges of Requirements Further, how the grouping of works into stages can be achieved in a way that limits the workload of the local authorities (DCC/CCBC) in providing those approvals Additional details are set out in the sections below.

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**1.2 Staging of onshore works**

1.2.1.1 Figure 1.1 sets out an indicative construction timeline, onshore construction activities

Activity (time in brackets is time taken for completion, colouring denotes window)	Pre-commencement				Year 1 of construction				Year 2 of construction				Year 3 of construction				Year 4 of construction			
	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4
<b>Onshore</b>																				
Onshore Site Preparation Works Onshore Substation (12 months)	■	■	■	■																
Onshore Substation construction and installation (including restoration) (33 months)					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■			
Onshore Substation testing and commissioning (10 months)													■	■	■	■	■			
Onshore Site Preparation Works Onshore Export Cables (6 months)			■	■	■															
Onshore export cables construction and installation (including Mona 400 kV Grid Connection Cable Corridor) (33 months)					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■			
<b>Landfall</b>																				
Onshore Site Preparation Works Landfall trenchless install. (6 months)			■	■	■															
Landfall trenchless installation (9 months)					■	■	■	■	■	■	■									

**Figure 1.1: Indicative construction programme for the Mona Offshore Wind Project (onshore only)**

1.2.1.2 As set out in the indicative construction programme, there are likely to be different start dates for different aspects of the onshore construction, separated by a number of months, and potentially in excess of a year. The longest timescale for activities relate to the onshore substation, where onshore site preparation works could start well in advance of the potential start date for onshore cable route construction.

1.2.1.3 From the Applicant’s project team’s experience, it is expected that the detailed design for some of the later aspects of the works may still be occurring whilst some of the earlier works are underway. For instance, the detailed design of the onshore cable route, including the specific design of watercourse crossings, and the specific mitigations that would need to be employed to control those works, may be finalised at the same time as the onshore substation onshore site preparation works are happening. It would be inappropriate to have a single set of management plans to control all aspects of the onshore construction activities before any works commence as the controls themselves may not be available or required for some time.

1.2.1.4 Based on the Applicant’s experience, it is highly likely that a number of different contractors will be brought in to deliver different aspects of the onshore construction activities. The contracting strategy for the project is not yet set, but it is expected that different contractors will deliver:

- the landfall works;
- the onshore cable route between landfall and the onshore substation;
- the onshore substation onshore site preparation works;
- the onshore substation construction (potentially split between an enabling works contractor and an installation contractor);

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- the 400kV cable route between the onshore substation and the Bodelwyddan National Grid substation; and
- the connection works at the Bodelwyddan National Grid substation.

1.2.1.5 It may be that for the Mona Offshore Wind Project some of those key contracts may be combined or split out further. This will not be decided until post-consent when the construction contract tendering is concluded.

1.2.1.6 Given the time periods between the start of different onshore construction activities, the different contractors that will undertake those works, in some cases the discrete nature of the work areas and different nature of those works, it is typical and proportionate for management plans, such as the Code of Construction Practice (CoCP), to be developed for each stage of the works (as applicable), rather than a single set for the project as a whole. Final plans developed in accordance with the outline plans, as set out in the respective Draft DCO requirements, will be tailored to the specific works being discharged. The Relationship of onshore plans included within the DCO (APP-211) explains how the outline plans relating to the onshore works are secured by the relevant Draft DCO Requirements

1.2.1.7 Table 1.1 provides an indicative view on how the Applicant might group the onshore construction into stages for discharge. This may change as the project's contracting strategy evolves and as detail designs are finalised, but provides an indication at the time of writing of how stages of the onshore construction programme may be brought forward. Based on the indicative timeline for onshore construction activities presented in Table 1.1 it is anticipated stages associated with the onshore substation enabling works (Stage L) would be brought forward first, with discharge of stages associated with the onshore substation construction (Stage I), the landfall (Stage A), the onshore cable route (Stages B – E and G – H and J) and the connection works at the Bodelwyddan National Grid substation to follow. It is anticipated that operational accesses (Stages F and N) would be the final onshore stages to be discharged. Work Nos. (as described in Schedule 1 of the Draft DCO (PDA-003)) may not necessarily be discharged in only one of the indicative stages as they may be relevant to more than one stage.

1.2.1.8 It should be noted that the offshore works are not included within the table as these will be discharged separate to the onshore construction Enhancement measures (primarily focussed on those hedgerow enhancement measures in Work No. 37) have not been included in the table as they do not constitute construction activities but may be brought forward with the relevant stage of works, or separately.

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**Table 1.1: Indicative stages of onshore construction activities**

Stage	Indicative works	Indicative contractor
<b>County of Conwy</b>		
A	Landfall Work Nos: 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10	Landfall contractor
B	Onshore cable route Work Nos: 10, 11	Onshore cable route contractor
C	Onshore cable route Work Nos: 12, 12A, 13	Onshore cable route contractor
D	Onshore cable route Work Nos: 13, 14	Onshore cable route contractor
E	Onshore cable route Work Nos: 15, 16	Onshore cable route contractor
F	Onshore cable route operational accesses Work No: 38	Onshore cable route contractor
<b>County of Denbighshire</b>		
G	Onshore cable route Work Nos: 17, 18, 20, 21	Onshore cable route contractor
H	Offsite highway works Work No: 19	Onshore cable route contractor
I	Onshore substation Work Nos: 22, 23, 24,	Main onshore substation construction contractor

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Stage	Indicative works	Indicative contractor
J	Onshore substation and landscaping Work No: 22a, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37	Onshore substation installation contractor
K	400kV cable route Work No: 25	Onshore substation to National Grid 400kV contractor
L	Connection works at the Bodelwyddan National Grid substation Work No: 26	National Grid connection works contractor
M	Onshore substation access Work Nos: 27, 28, 29, 30	Main onshore substation construction contractor
N	Onshore substation Great Crested Newt mitigation Work No: 31	Onshore substation
O	Onshore cable route operational accesses and operational access to the Bodelwyddan National Grid substation Work No: 38	Onshore cable route contractor