

MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

Appendix to Response to Hearing Action Point: Annotated landscape mitigation plans for onshore substation

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Image of an offshore wind farm

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Mona Offshore Wind Ltd.

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Glossary

Term	Meaning
Applicant	Mona Offshore Wind Limited.
Development Consent Order (DCO)	An order made under the Planning Act 2008 granting development consent for one or more Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).
Mona Offshore Wind Project	The Mona Offshore Wind Project is comprised of both the generation assets, offshore and onshore transmission assets, and associated activities.
The Planning Inspectorate	The agency responsible for operating the planning process for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects.

1 Appendix to Hearing Action Point: Annotated landscape mitigation plans for onshore substation

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1.1 This document has been prepared in response to Action Point 38 arising from the Issue Specific Hearing 2 which was held on 18 July 2024 in respect of the Mona Offshore Wind Project.

1.1.1.2 Action Point 38 is set out in the Issue Specific Hearing 2 (document reference EV3-006a) which requires the Applicant to:

Review/explain how Representative Viewpoint 2 [PDA-034] and other representative viewpoints in the vicinity of the onshore substation site show the landscape mitigations at Year 15, and how these mitigations work to reduce visual impacts.

1.2 Response

1.2.1.1 The Applicant has prepared annotated visualisations of two representative viewpoints, close to the onshore substation (Viewpoint 2 – view north from minor road to Hendy Farm and Viewpoint 3 – view east-southeast from public footpath 105/6 too southeast of Pentre-mawr [PDA-034]). These locations were selected as they show the landscape mitigation.

1.2.1.2 The visualisations have been annotated to include the areas (or ‘land parcels’) referenced as per the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (APP-208) - to illustrate where landscape mitigation will be provided. The annotated visualisations should be read alongside the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (APP-208). The landscape mitigation planting will be in accordance with the illustrative landscape and ecology strategy plan of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (APP-208) which describes the type of planting that will be provided. The land parcels identified on the annotated visualisations are listed below together with the proposed mitigation:

- 6 – reinstatement of hedgerow
- 7 – reinstatement of hedgerow
- 8 – woodland planting
- 9 – woodland planting
- 10 – woodland planting
- 24 – creation of wildflower meadows
- 25 – creation of wildflower meadows
- 26 – creation of wildflower meadows
- 27 – creation of species rich grassland and an additional hedgerow
- 28 – creation of an additional hedgerow

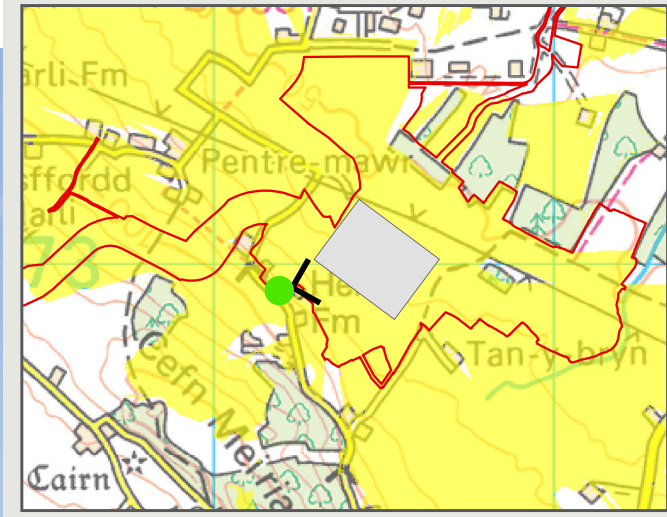
1.2.1.3 The landscape mitigation proposed at and around the onshore substation site includes land-modelling, woodland planting, restoration of historic field boundaries, new and improved field boundaries, as well as the establishment of areas of scrub and wildflower meadows. The justification for the landscape mitigation is summarised in Table 6.20 of the Landscape and Visual Resources Chapter (APP-069). The

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landscape mitigation proposals apply the landscape management guidelines for LANDMAP Visual and Sensory Aspect Area DNBGHVS033: Cefn Estate Mosaic Rolling Lowland, as summarised in paragraph 6.8.1.2 of Volume 3, Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual Resources (APP-069) and detailed in paragraph 3.9.1.1 of the Design Principles (APP-189).

1.2.1.4

The landscape planting has been designed to avoid, reduce and manage impacts on landscape and ecology during all phases of the Mona offshore Wind Project and provide additional biodiversity benefit where possible (see Summary of Onshore Ecology Mitigation and Biodiversity Benefit (PDA-019)). The design aims to integrate with and expand on existing woodland and hedgerows around the onshore substation site and to enhance, restore and reintroduce landscape elements which have been lost or degraded. This is reflected in the landscape proposals which include retaining visually significant vegetation where possible and providing new tree and woodland planting to strengthen existing vegetated field boundaries. Further information regarding the design of the planting and how mitigates visual impacts is provided in the Design Principles (APP-189) and Volume 3, Chapter 6: Landscape and Visual Resources (APP-069).



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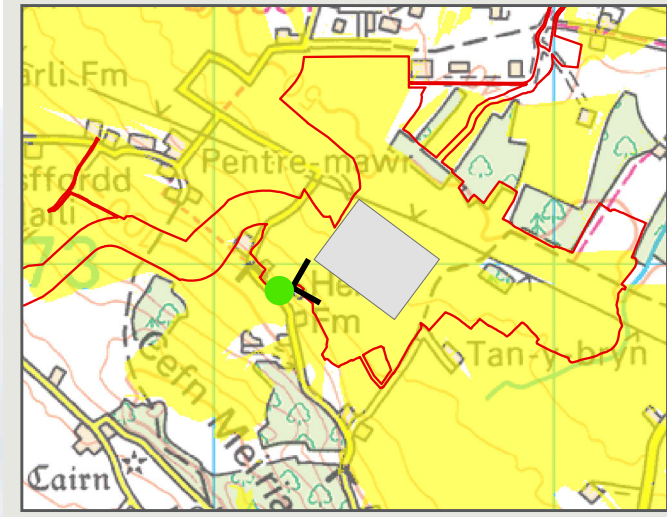
Representative Viewpoint 2: View north from minor road adjacent to Hendy Farm

Mona Offshore Wind Project
JSL3999

Date of photograph: 22/03/2023
OS Grid Ref: 301193, 372922

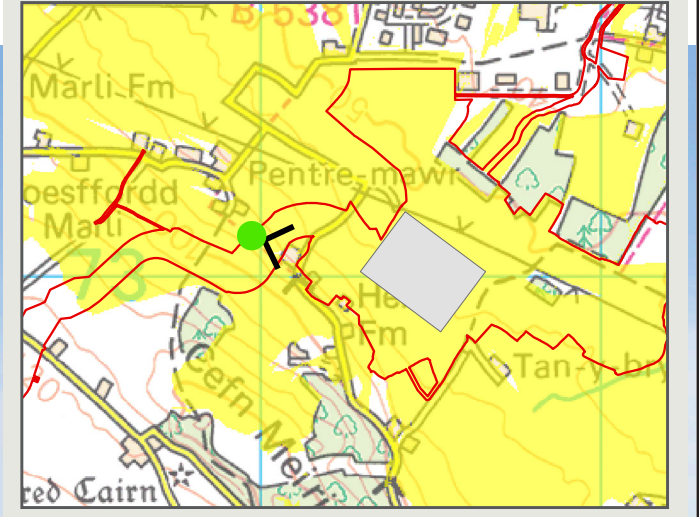
Horizontal field of view: 90°
To be viewed at comfortable arms length

Proposed illustrative winter Year 1
Annex 6.5 Figure 1

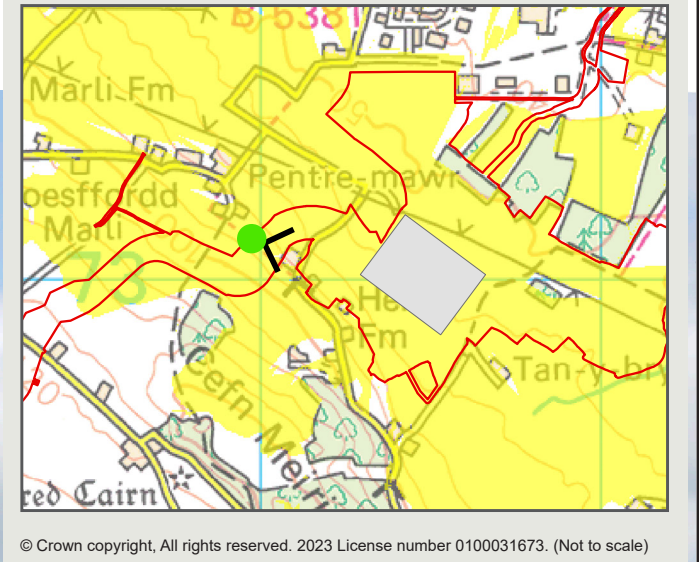


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Representative Viewpoint 3: View east-southeast from public footpath 105/6 to the southeast of Pentre-mawr

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JSL3999

Date of photograph: 09/08/2023
OS Grid Ref: 300976, 373120

Horizontal field of view: 90°
To be viewed at comfortable arms length

Proposed illustrative summer Year 15
Annex 6.5 Figure 4