

MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

Statement of Commonality

F02

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Image of an offshore wind farm

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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).
Marine licence	The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 requires a marine licence to be obtained for licensable marine activities. Section 149A of the Planning Act 2008 allows an applicant for a DCO to apply for a 'deemed' marine licence as part of the DCO process. In addition, licensable activities within 12nm of the Welsh coast require a separate marine licence from Natural Resource Wales (NRW).
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.

Acronyms

Acronym	Description
DCO	Development Consent Order
ExA	Examining Authority
MHWS	Mean High Water Springs
MLWS	Mean Low Water Springs
NRW (Advisory)	Natural Resources Wales (Advisory)
NRW MLT	Natural Resources Wales Marine Licensing Team
OSP	Offshore Substation Platform
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground

1 STATEMENT OF COMMONALITY

1.1 Overview

1.1.1 Purpose of this document

1.1.1.1 Statements of Common Ground (SoCGs) have been prepared between Mona Offshore Wind Limited (hereafter referred to as ‘the Applicant’) and other parties. These have been prepared to set out the areas of agreement and disagreement with these parties in relation to the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for the Mona Offshore Wind Project.

1.1.1.2 In the Rule 6 Letter dated 07 June 2024, the Examining Authority (ExA) requested that the Applicant prepare a Statement of Commonality. This document provides an overview of the approach taken to capture commonality with the parties specified in the Rule 6 Letter (Table 1.1), the status of each SoCG at Deadline 3 (Table 1.2) and the agreement status with the parties for each topic (Table 1.4) in a tabular, colour-coded format as requested by the ExA.

1.1.1.3 This Statement of Commonality is intended to act only as a summary of the progress of the SoCGs. For full details of the items under discussion with each stakeholder, please refer to the relevant SoCG. For details of principal and other notable issues please refer to the Examination Progress Tracker (REP2-091).

1.1.1.4 The Statement of Commonality, SoCGs and Pre-Examination/Examination Progress Tracker will be updated at the relevant Deadlines during the Examination according to the Examination Timetable published in the Rule 8 Letter dated 23 July 2024.

1.1.2 Overview of the Mona Offshore Wind Project

1.1.2.1 The Mona Offshore Wind Project is a proposed offshore wind farm located in the east Irish Sea. The Mona Offshore Wind Project will include both offshore and onshore infrastructure and consist of:

- **Mona Array Area:** This is where the wind turbines, Offshore Substation Platforms (OSPs), foundations (for both wind turbines and OSPs), inter-array cables, interconnector cables and offshore export cables will be located
- **Mona Offshore Cable Corridor and Access Areas:** The corridor located between the Mona Array Area and the landfall up to Mean High Water Springs (MHWS), in which the offshore export cables will be located and in which the intertidal access areas are located
- **Intertidal access areas:** The area from MHWS to Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS) which will be used for access to the beach and construction related activities
- **Landfall:** This is where the offshore export cables make contact with land and the transitional area where the offshore cabling connects to the onshore cabling
- **Mona Onshore Development Area:** The area in which the landfall, Mona Onshore Cable Corridor, Mona Onshore Substation, mitigation areas, temporary construction infrastructure (such as access roads and construction compounds), operational access to the Mona Onshore Substation and the 400 kV connection to National Grid infrastructure will be located

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- Mona Onshore Substation: This is where the new substation will be located, containing the components for transforming the power supplied from the offshore wind farm up to 400 kV
- Mona 400 kV Grid Connection Cable Corridor: The corridor from the Mona Onshore Substation to the National Grid substation.

1.2 List of Statements of Common Ground

1.2.1.1 The approach for capturing commonality between the Applicant and each party for whom the ExA has requested the submission of an SoCG in the Rule 6 Letter and additional parties for whom a SoCG has been proposed is provided in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1: Approach to commonality for all parties with whom the ExA have requested the Applicant submit an SoCG.

Doc No	Party	Approach to capturing commonality
S_D3_22	Denbighshire County Council	SoCG
S_D3_22	Conwy County Borough Council	SoCG
REP1-023	Isle of Anglesey County Council	SoCG
REP1-024	Isle of Man Government – Territorial Sea Committee	SoCG
REP1-025 REP1-026 REP1-027	Natural Resources Wales (NRW) (advisory) and NRW Marine Licensing Team	For NRW (advisory), three SoCGs split by topic have been requested by NRW: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offshore • Onshore • Seascape, landscape and visual. For NRW Marine Licensing Team, it has been agreed that an SoCG will not be progressed.
-	Natural England	Natural England confirmed in their Written Submission at the Procedural Deadline (PDA-041) that they do not currently plan on participating in the Examination or engaging on a SoCG for the Mona Offshore Wind Project. As such, no SoCG has been progressed between the Applicant and Natural England
REP1-028	Joint Nature Conservation Committee	SoCG
REP2-088	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Cymru	SoCG
S_D1_16 F02	Maritime and Coastguard Agency	SoCG
S_D1_17 F02	Trinity House	SoCG
S_D1_18 F02	UK Chamber of Shipping	SoCG
S_D1_19 F02	NATS (En Route) plc	SoCG
S_D2_9 F02	Defence Infrastructure Organisation (Ministry of Defence)	SoCG
S_D1_21 F02	Blackpool Airport	SoCG

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Doc No	Party	Approach to capturing commonality
-	National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc	National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc and the Applicant are in agreement that a Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) between the two parties is not necessary as updates on progress between the parties will be provided in the Land Rights Tracker (S_PD_5 Mona Land Rights Tracker) (and subsequent updates to this through the Examination). As such, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc and the Applicant will not prepare an SoCG to be submitted during the Examination but will continue to engage on Protective Provisions and provide updates in the Land Rights Tracker.
-	Network Rail Limited	The Applicant has included draft bespoke protective provisions for the protection of Network Rail within Schedule 10 of the draft DCO and the parties are actively engaged in discussions in relation to these. Network Rail has provided the Applicant with a draft of the required Framework Agreement to manage the direct interface that the DCO has with the operational railway and to regulate certain aspects of the relationship between Network Rail and the Applicant in relation to the delivery of the Proposed DCO Development. The Framework Agreement will set out various obligations on the parties should the DCO be made. The Framework Agreement must append the following documents: Network Rail's Protective Provisions, the Asset Protection Agreement (once completed) and the Property Agreement (once completed). Network Rail is also negotiating with the Applicant the Property Agreement, which will take the form of a Lease. The parties are currently agreeing rental figures and plans are being prepared, good progress is being made to agree the final form of the Property Agreement. It is Network Rail's position that it will not withdraw its objection until the Framework Agreement has been completed. Updates on the position of negotiations with Statutory Undertakers is set out in the Land Rights Tracker (S_PD_5 Mona Land Rights Tracker). The Applicant therefore considers that a Statement of Common Ground between itself and Network Rail is not necessary at this stage as there is no further information to provide the Examining Authority. The Applicant will keep this position under review as the Examination progresses. See also the Commercial Side Agreements tracker (REP1-036).
-	Dwr Cymru Welsh Water	The Applicant has addressed all of Dŵr Cymru Cyfyngedig's comments on the draft protective provisions and the protective provisions have been included in the draft development consent order (REP2-004) in an agreed form.
-	SP Manweb PLC	The Applicant has included draft bespoke protective provisions for the protection of SP Manweb PLC within Schedule 10 of the draft DCO (REP2-004) and the parties are actively engaged in discussions in relation to these. Updates on the position of negotiations with Statutory Undertakers is set out in the Land Rights Tracker (S_PD_5 Mona Land Rights Tracker). The Applicant therefore considers that that a SoCG between itself and SP Manweb PLC is not necessary at this stage as there is no further information to provide the Examining Authority. The Applicant will keep this position under review as the Examination progresses.

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Doc No	Party	Approach to capturing commonality
-	Wales and West Utilities	The Applicant has included draft bespoke protective provisions for the protection of SP Manweb PLC within Schedule 10 of the draft DCO (REP2-004) and the parties are actively engaged in discussions in relation to these. Updates on the position of negotiations with Statutory Undertakers is set out in the Land Rights Tracker (S_PD_5 Mona Land Rights Tracker). The Applicant therefore considers that a SoCG between itself and SP Manweb PLC is not necessary at this stage as there is no further information to provide the Examining Authority. The Applicant will keep this position under review as the Examination progresses.
-	North and Mid Wales Trunk Road Agency on behalf of Welsh Ministers as Strategic Highway Authority (Welsh Ministers)	The Applicant has included draft bespoke protective provisions for the protection of Welsh Ministers within Schedule 10 of the draft DCO (REP2-004) and the parties are actively engaged in discussions in relation to these. Updates on the position of negotiations with Statutory Undertakers is set out in the Land Rights Tracker (S_PD_5 Mona Land Rights Tracker). The Applicant therefore considers that a SoCG between itself and Welsh Ministers is not necessary at this stage as there is no further information to provide the Examining Authority. The Applicant will keep this position under review as the Examination progresses.
REP1-034	Cadw	SoCG
REP1-035	Heneb: Clwyd-Powys Archaeology	Combined SoCG with Heneb: Gwynedd Archaeology, as agreed between the parties.
REP1-035	Heneb: Gwynedd Archaeology	Combined SoCG with Heneb: Clwyd-Powys Archaeology, as agreed between the parties.
S_D1_30 F02	Eni UK Limited	SoCG
-	BAE Systems Warton	It has been agreed between the parties that BAE Systems Warton will provide updates through the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (Ministry of Defence) SoCG.

1.2.1.2 Table 1.2 provides the status of the SoCG submissions at each Examination Deadline at which the ExA has specified that SoCGs should be submitted in the Examination Timetable published in the Rule 8 Letter.

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Table 1.2: Status of SoCG submissions.

Doc Ref	Party	Status at Deadline 1	Status at Deadline 3
S_D3_22	Denbighshire County Council	Draft SoCG provided to party, anticipated submission at D3.	Initial SoCG submitted at D3.
S_D3_23	Conwy County Borough Council	Draft SoCG provided to party, anticipated submission at D3.	Initial SoCG submitted at D3.
REP1-023	Isle of Anglesey County Council	Initial SoCG submitted.	The Applicant and Isle of Anglesey County Council met on 4 September to discuss engagement around the Outline Skills and Employment Plan (APP-210). It was agreed the Applicant and Isle of Anglesey County Council would continue to engage on this subject. The parties will continue to engage on when an updated SoCG will be submitted at a future Deadline.
S_D1_11 F02	Isle of Man Government – Territorial Sea Committee	Initial SoCG submitted.	Updated SoCG submitted at D3.
REP1-025	NRW (advisory) – offshore	Initial SoCG submitted. The Applicant has engaged with NRW (advisory) on this SoCG for D1 however the Applicant and NRW (advisory) acknowledge that additional work is required on the SoCG as the Examination progresses.	It has been agreed between the parties that an updated SoCG will be submitted at a future Deadline due to the volume of additional material being provided by the Applicant at D3. Further progress towards agreement between the parties will be communicated at D3 through NRW comments on the Applicant's D2 submissions, the Applicant's responses to NRW's D2 submissions (S_D3_6 and S_D3_7) and responses to the Examining Authority's Written Questions (ExQ1) (S_D3_23). The parties will continue to engage on when an updated SoCG will be submitted.
REP1-026	NRW (advisory) – onshore	Initial SoCG submitted. The Applicant has engaged with NRW (advisory) on this SoCG for D1 however the Applicant and NRW (advisory) acknowledge that additional work is required on the SoCG as the Examination progresses.	As above, an updated SoCG will be submitted at a future Deadline.

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Doc Ref	Party	Status at Deadline 1	Status at Deadline 3
REP1-027	NRW (advisory) – seascape, landscape and visual	Initial SoCG submitted. The Applicant has engaged with NRW (advisory) on this SoCG for D1 however the Applicant and NRW (advisory) acknowledge that additional work is required on the SoCG as the Examination progresses.	As above, an updated SoCG will be submitted at a future Deadline.
REP1-028	Joint Nature Conservation Committee	Initial SoCG submitted.	It has been agreed between the parties that an updated SoCG will be submitted at a future Deadline due to the volume of additional material being provided by the Applicant at D3. The Applicant has summarised its approach to resolve the JNCC comments received at D2 in the Applicant's Response to ExQ1 (S_D3_25): Q1.17.5 for benthic ecology, Q1.17.10 for marine mammals and Q1.17.12 for offshore ornithology matters and has responded to JNCC's D2 submissions at D3 (S_D3_3, D_D3_4 and S_D3_5). The parties will continue to engage on when an updated SoCG, will be submitted.
REP2-088	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Cymru	Draft SoCG provided to IP, anticipated submission at D2 requested by RSPB Cymru due to resource constraints.	Initial SoCG submitted at D2. It has been agreed between the parties that an updated SoCG will be provided at a future Deadline due to RSPB Cymru resource constraints and the volume of material being provided by the Applicant at D3. The parties will continue to engage on when an updated SoCG will be submitted.
S_D1_16 F02	Maritime and Coastguard Agency	Initial SoCG submitted.	Updated SoCG submitted at D3.
S_D1_17 F02	Trinity House	Initial SoCG submitted.	Updated SoCG submitted at D3.
S_D1_18 F02	UK Chamber of Shipping	Initial SoCG submitted.	Updated SoCG submitted at D3.
S_D1_19 F02	NATS (En Route) plc	Initial SoCG submitted.	Updated SoCG submitted at D3.
S_D2_9 F02	Defence Infrastructure Organisation (Ministry of Defence)	Draft SoCG provided to IP, anticipated submission at D2.	Initial SoCG submitted at D2. Updated SoCG submitted at D3.

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Doc Ref	Party	Status at Deadline 1	Status at Deadline 3
S_D1_21 F02	Blackpool Airport	Initial SoCG submitted.	Updated SoCG submitted at D3.
REP1-034	Cadw	Initial SoCG submitted.	Updated SoCG will be submitted at D5 once the Outline Onshore Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (APP-209) has been updated in accordance with results from trial trenching.
REP1-035	Heneb: Clwyd-Powys and Gwynedd Archaeology	Initial SoCG submitted. All matters agreed.	As for Cadw above, an updated SoCG will be submitted at D5 once the Outline Onshore WSI (APP-209) has been updated.
S_D1_30 F02	Eni UK Limited	Initial SoCG submitted.	Updated SoCG submitted at D3.

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1.3 Agreement status for each topic

1.3.1.1 Table 1.4 provides a summary of the agreement status by topic between the Applicant and other parties in the SoCGs at Deadline 3.

1.3.1.2 Table 1.3 provides the colour-coding system used in Table 1.4.

Table 1.3: Position definitions and colour coding.









Colour	Definition
	All matters agreed.
	Some matters under discussion, some matters agreed.
	All matters under discussion.
	Some matters under discussion, some matters not agreed.
	All matters not agreed.
	Some matters not agreed, some matters agreed.
	Some matters not agreed, some matters under discussion, some matters agreed.
	Topic not within remit of party and not covered in SoCG.

Table 1.4: Status of agreement in SoCGs for the Mona Offshore Wind Project at Deadline 3.

Doc Ref	Party	Topic																									
		Physical processes	Benthic subtidal and intertidal ecology	Fish and shellfish ecology	Marine mammals	Offshore ornithology	Commercial fisheries	Shipping and navigation	Seascape and visual resources	Marine archaeology	Other sea users	Habitats Regulations Assessment	Water framework directive: coastal waters	Aviation and radar	Socio-economics	Geology, hydrogeology and ground conditions	Hydrology and flood risk	Onshore ecology	Onshore and intertidal ornithology	Historic environment	Landscape and visual resources	Land use and recreation	Traffic and transport	Noise and vibration	Air quality	Materials and waste	Water framework directive: surface water and groundwater
S_D3_22	Denbighshire County Council																										
S_D3_23	Conwy County Borough Council																										
REP1-023	Isle of Anglesey County Council																										
S_D1_11 F02	Isle of Man Government – Territorial Sea Committee																										
REP1-025	NRW (advisory) – offshore																										
REP1-026	NRW (advisory) - onshore																										
REP1-027	NRW (advisory) – seascape, landscape and visual																										
REP1-028	Joint Nature Conservation Committee																										
REP2-088	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Cymru																										
S_D1_16 F02	Maritime and Coastguard Agency																										
S_D1_17 F02	Trinity House																										
S_D1_18 F02	UK Chamber of Shipping																										
S_D1_19 F02	NATS (En Route) plc																										
S_D2_9 F02	Defence Infrastructure Organisation (Ministry of Defence)																										
S_D1_21 F02	Blackpool Airport																										
REP1-034	Cadw																										
REP1-035	Heneb: Clwyd-Powys and Gwynedd Archaeology																										
S_D1_30 F02	Eni UK Limited																										