

MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

Appendix to HAP ISH3_15: Inter-related Effects

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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).
Mona Offshore Wind Project	The Mona Offshore Wind Project is comprised of both the generation assets, offshore and onshore transmission assets, and associated activities.
Mona Onshore Cable Corridor	The corridor between MHWS at the landfall and the Mona onshore substation, in which the onshore export cables will be located.
Mona Onshore Development Area	The area in which the landfall, onshore cable corridor, onshore substation, mitigation areas, temporary construction facilities (such as access roads and construction compounds), and the connection to National Grid substation will be located
Project lifetime effects	Assessment of the scope for effects that occur throughout more than one phase of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (construction, operations and maintenance and decommissioning) to interact to potentially create a more significant effect on a receptor than if just assessed in isolation in these three key project stages.
Receptor-led effects	Assessment of the scope for multiple effects (including between topics) to interact to create inter-related effects on a receptor. Receptor-led effects might be short term, temporary or transient effects, or incorporate longer term effects.
Relevant Local Planning Authority	The Relevant Local Planning Authority is the Local Authority in respect of an area within which a project is situated, as set out in Section 173 of the Planning Act 2008. Relevant Local Planning Authorities may have responsibility for discharging requirements and some functions pursuant to the DCO, once made.
Statutory consultee	Organisations that are required to be consulted by an applicant pursuant to the Planning Act 2008 in relation to an application for development consent. Not all consultees will be statutory consultees (see non-statutory consultee definition).
The Planning Inspectorate	The agency responsible for operating the planning process for NSIPs.

Acronyms

Acronym	Description
CCBC	Conwy County Borough Council
DCC	Denbighshire County Council

Units

Unit	Description
GW	Gigawatt

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Unit	Description
km	Kilometres
km ²	Kilometres squared
kV	Kilovolt
MW	Megawatt

1 ISH3 Hearing Action Point 15 – Inter-related Effects

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1.1 This document has been prepared in response to the Examining Authority’s Action Point 15 raised during the Issue Specific Hearing 3 (ISH3) on 16 October 2024 at the Examination of the Mona Offshore Wind Project. Action Point 15 is as follows:

With reference to NPS EN-1 para 4.3.19, is it possible that even if considered acceptable in their own right with mitigation measures in place, the various effects arising as a result of the onshore substation could add up to having a significant effect on the community or the environment either as a result of the project alone or cumulatively with other proposed development?

1.2 Response

1.2.1.1 The Applicant’s approach to the assessment of interrelated effects is set out in Volume 3, Chapter 11: Inter-related Effects (APP-074). The assessment methodology takes into account the requirements set out in NPS EN-1 paragraph 4.3.19 and also paragraph 4.13 of the Planning Inspectorate Advice Note 9: Rochdale Envelope (2018) which states that the assessment should:

“ensure that interactions (interactions between aspect assessments includes where a number of separate impacts, e.g. noise and air quality, affect a single receptor such as fauna) between aspect... assessments are taken into account relevant to the worst case scenario(s) established and that careful consideration is given to how these are assessed; and

ensure that the assessment of the worst case scenario(s) addresses impacts which may not be significant on their own but could become significant when they interrelate with other impacts alone or cumulatively with impacts from other development (including those identified in other aspect assessments).”

1.2.1.2 National Policy Statement EN-1 paragraph 4.3.19 states:

The Secretary of State should consider how the accumulation of, and interrelationship between, effects might affect the environment, economy, or community as a whole, even though they may be acceptable when considered on an individual basis with mitigation measures in place.

1.2.1.3 The Applicant’s assessment (APP-074) follows a staged approach comprising :

- An assessment of inter-related effects within each topic chapter of the Environmental Statement that considered individual assessments of effects on receptors across all phases of the Mona Offshore Wind Project
- The identification of ‘receptor groups’ from the topic chapters to be considered within the inter-related effects assessment (APP-074).
- The identification of potential inter-related effects on these receptor groups: this included individual effects over the three phases of the Mona Offshore Wind Project (i.e. construction, operation and decommissioning) and the interaction of multiple effects on a receptor
- An assessment of the inter-related effects on each receptor group taking into account the successful implementation of mitigation measures where required.

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- 1.2.1.4 NPS-EN-1 paragraph 4.3.19 requires potential interrelated effects on the environment, economy and the community to be assessed. The Applicant's assessment (presented in APP-074) considers the potentially sensitive groups of receptors under these categories:
- Environment
 - Geological designated sites
 - Land/soil (contamination)
 - Groundwater, including aquifers
 - Surface water bodies (quality and flow)
 - Habitats and species
 - Landscape designations
 - Landscape character
 - Buried archaeology
 - Historic assets and their setting
 - Agricultural land and farm holdings
 - Economy
 - Socio-economic factors, including tourism and the renewable energy sector
 - Community
 - Humans, including residents, users of schools/hospitals, community facilities, places of work, users of the local road/rail network and Public Rights of Way (PRoW).
- 1.2.1.5 The topics included in the environmental impact assessment process are informed by The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impacts Assessment) Regulations 2017. 'Economy' is not listed as a topic in the Regulations: socio-economics is used as a proxy for material assets and considers receptors such as tourism and employment. The inter-related effects for socio-economics are presented in APP-074. Similarly, 'community' is not a topic in the Regulations; human health is used as a proxy for community and inter-related effects of noise, transport and access to open space are assessed in Volume 4, Chapter 4: Human Health (APP-078).
- 1.2.1.6 The inter-related effects assessment considers the Maximum Design Scenarios for each topic taking into account the successful implementation of mitigation measures adopted as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project where appropriate, noting that individual effects may not be significant at the topic-specific level but could become significant when their inter-related effect is assessed.
- 1.2.1.1 The Applicant's assessment of environmental and economic inter-related effects is presented in Volume 3, Chapter 11: Inter-related Effects (APP-074) and interrelated effects on the community are assessed in Volume 4, Chapter 4: Human Health (APP-078). Both chapters concluded that the effects from all the receptor groups identified lifetime effects during the construction, operations and maintenance and decommissioning phase of the Mona Offshore Wind Project would not change from the assessment for each phase in isolation.
- 1.2.1.2 The assessment also concluded that receptor led inter-related effects arising from the Mona Offshore Wind Project are unlikely to result in different or greater effects than

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the individual effects in isolation identified in the relevant topic chapters of this Environmental Statement.