

# MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

## Response to Welsh Government ExQ1 Responses

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Image of an offshore wind farm

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

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## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

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## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

### Glossary

Term	Meaning
Applicant	Mona Offshore Wind Limited.
Appropriate Assessment	A step-wise procedure undertaken in accordance with Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive, to determine the implications of a plan or project on a European site in view of the site's conservation objectives, where the plan or project is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in-combination with other plans or projects.
Bodelwyddan National Grid Substation	This is the Point of Interconnection (POI) selected by the National Grid for the Mona Offshore Wind Project.
Competent Authority	Regulation 6(1) defines competent authorities as "any Minister, government department, public or statutory undertaker, public body of any description or person holding a public office".
Development Consent Order (DCO)	An order made under the Planning Act 2008 granting development consent for one or more Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).
Environmental Statement	The document presenting the results of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the Mona Offshore Wind Project.
Evidence Plan Process	The Evidence Plan process is a mechanism to agree upfront what information the Applicant needs to supply to the Planning Inspectorate as part of the Development Consent Order (DCO) applications for the Mona Offshore Wind Project.
Expert Working Group (EWG)	Expert working groups set up with relevant stakeholders as part of the Evidence Plan process.
Inter-array cables	Cables which connect the wind turbines to each other and to the offshore substation platforms. Inter-array cables will carry the electrical current produced by the wind turbines to the offshore substation platforms.
Interconnector cables	Cables that may be required to interconnect the Offshore Substation Platforms in order to provide redundancy in the case of cable failure elsewhere.
Intertidal access areas	The area from Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) to Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS) which will be used for access to the beach and construction related activities.
Intertidal area	The area between MHWS and MLWS.
Landfall	The area in which the offshore export cables make contact with land and the transitional area where the offshore cabling connects to the onshore cabling.
Local Authority	A body empowered by law to exercise various statutory functions for a particular area of the United Kingdom. This includes County Councils, District Councils and County Borough Councils.
Local Highway Authority	A body responsible for the public highways in a particular area of England and Wales, as defined in the Highways Act 1980.
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).

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Term	Meaning
Maximum Design Scenario (MDS)	The scenario within the design envelope with the potential to result in the greatest impact on a particular topic receptor, and therefore the one that should be assessed for that topic receptor.
Mona 400kV Grid Connection Cable Corridor	The corridor from the Mona onshore substation to the National Grid substation at Bodelwyddan.
Mona Array Area	The area within which the wind turbines, foundations, inter-array cables, interconnector cables, offshore export cables and offshore substation platforms (OSPs) forming part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project will be located.
Mona Array Scoping Boundary	The Preferred Bidding Area that the Applicant was awarded by The Crown Estate as part of Offshore Wind Leasing Round 4.
Mona Offshore Cable Corridor	The corridor located between the Mona Array Area and the landfall up to MHWS, in which the 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 MHWS, in which the offshore export cables will be located and in which the intertidal access areas are located.
Mona Offshore Transmission Infrastructure Scoping Search Area	The area that was presented in the Mona Scoping Report as the area encompassing and located between the Mona Potential Array Area and the landfall up to MHWS, in which the offshore export cables will be located.
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 Offshore Wind Project Boundary	The area containing all aspects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project, both offshore and onshore.
Mona Offshore Wind Project PEIR	The Mona Offshore Wind Project Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) that was submitted to The Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) and NRW for the Mona Offshore Wind Project.
Mona Offshore Wind Project Scoping Report	The Mona Scoping Report that was submitted to The Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) and NRW for the Mona Offshore Wind Project.
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
Mona Onshore Transmission Infrastructure Scoping Search Area	The area that was presented in the Mona Scoping Report as the area located between MHWS at the landfall and the onshore National Grid substation, in which the onshore export cables, onshore substation and other associated onshore transmission infrastructure will be located.
Mona PEIR Offshore Cable Corridor	The corridor presented at PEIR that was consulted on during statutory consultation and has subsequently been refined for the application for Development Consent. It is located between the Mona Array Area and the landfall up to MHWS, in which the offshore export cables and the offshore booster substation will be located.
Mona PEIR Offshore Wind Project Boundary	The area presented at PEIR containing all aspects of the Mona Offshore Wind Project, both offshore and onshore. This area was the boundary consulted on during statutory consultation and subsequently refined for the application for Development Consent.

## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

Term	Meaning
Mona Potential Array Area	The area that was presented in the Mona Scoping Report and in the PEIR as the area within which the wind turbines, foundations, meteorological mast, inter-array cables, interconnector cables, offshore export cables and OSPs forming part of the Mona Offshore Wind Project were likely to be located. This area was the boundary consulted on during statutory consultation and subsequently refined for the application for Development Consent.
Mona Proposed Onshore Development Area	The area presented at PEIR 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 infrastructure will be located. This area was the boundary consulted on during statutory consultation and subsequently refined for the application for Development Consent.
Mona Scoping Report	The Mona Scoping Report that was submitted to The Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State) and NRW for the Mona Offshore Wind Project.
National Policy Statement (NPS)	The current national policy statements published by the Department for Energy Security & Net Zero in 2024.
Non-statutory consultee	Organisations that an applicant may choose to consult in relation to a project who are not designated in law but are likely to have an interest in the project.
Offshore Substation Platform (OSP)	The offshore substation platforms located within the Mona Array Area will transform the electricity generated by the wind turbines to a higher voltage allowing the power to be efficiently transmitted to shore.
Offshore Wind Leasing Round 4	The Crown Estate auction process which allocated developers preferred bidder status on areas of the seabed within Welsh and English waters and ends when the Agreements for Lease are signed.
Pre-construction site investigation surveys	Pre-construction geophysical and/or geotechnical surveys undertaken offshore and, or onshore to inform, amongst other things, the final design of the Mona Offshore Wind Project.
Point of Interconnection	The point of connection at which a project is connected to the grid. For the Mona Offshore Wind Project, this is the Bodelyyddan National Grid Substation.
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.
the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	The decision maker with regards to the application for development consent for the Mona Offshore Wind Project.
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).
Wind turbines	The wind turbine generators, including the tower, nacelle and rotor.
The Planning Inspectorate	The agency responsible for operating the planning process for NSIPs.



## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

### Acronyms

Acronym	Description
AfL	Agreement for Lease
BEIS	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
BNG	Biodiversity net gain
DCO	Development Consent Order
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EnBW	Energie Baden-Württemberg AG
EWG	Expert Working Group
HVAC	High Voltage Alternating Current
IEF	Important Ecological Feature
IEMA	Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment
ISAA	Information to support the Appropriate Assessment
MDS	Maximum Design Scenario
MHWS	Mean High Water Springs
MLWS	Mean Low Water Springs
NBB	Net Benefits for Biodiversity
NRW	Natural Resources Wales
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
NTS	Non-Technical Summary
OSP	Offshore Substation Platform
PDE	Project Design Envelope
PEI	Preliminary Environmental Information
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report
POI	Point of Interconnection
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SoCC	Statement of Community Consultation
SPA	Special Protection Area
TCE	The Crown Estate
WTW	Wildlife Trust Wales
TWT	The Wildlife Trusts

### Units

Unit	Description
GW	Gigawatt

## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

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Unit	Description
km	Kilometres
km <sup>2</sup>	Kilometres squared
kV	Kilovolt
MW	Megawatt
nm	Nautical miles



# **1 RESPONSE TO WELSH GOVERNMENT EXQ1 RESPONSES**

## **1.1 Introduction**

1.1.1.1 The Applicant has responded to the Welsh Government's response to the Examining Authority's ExQ1 below.

## 2 Response to Welsh Government ExQ1 Responses

Table 2.1: REP3-081 - Welsh Government

Planning Inspectorate Ref. No.	Question is addressed to	ExA Question	Welsh Government Response	Applicant's response
REP3-081.1	The Applicant	<p><b>Q1.12.2 Additional information</b></p> <p>In its WR [REP1-051] the Welsh Government identified 8 specific areas of additional information that it considered necessary in order to review your Agricultural Land Classification field survey. Do you intend to submit this information to the Examination? If not, please explain why you consider it is not needed.</p>	<p>Although it is noted this question is directed towards the applicant, the Welsh Government Land use department has been approached by the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) surveyor (RPS) for a meeting to discuss the additional information required by the Department (as detailed in [REP1-051]) to validate the ALC survey. Meeting dates in early October have been offered by the Department.</p>	<p>A meeting was held between Welsh Government and the Applicant on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. It was agreed that additional information would be provided in an update to the ALC survey report (APP-169) to allow Welsh Government to validate it. An update was sent to Welsh Government on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024 for their review. Both parties will submit updates into the examination at an appropriate deadline once the validation has been completed.</p>
REP3-081.2	The Applicant	<p><b>Q.1.13.10 OLEMP</b></p> <p>The maintenance and replanting period for deceased mitigation planting or tree is stated as 5 years in the OLEMP [REP2-084], section 1.8.3.,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Given the reliance on planting to reduce significant effects over a 15 year period, is 5 years sufficient?</li> <li>In the instance where mitigation planting or trees needed replacing after five years, who would be responsible for it?</li> <li>After 5 years, what mechanism would be in place to ensure that the mitigation planting and trees would reach sufficient maturity and quality as to fulfil the mitigation function as required?</li> </ul>	<p>Although it is noted this question is directed towards the applicant, we note you raise issues around the 5-year aftercare limit that the applicant has placed on mitigation tree planting. You may wish to note that Natural Resources Wales (NRW) as forest regulator for Wales, uses a standard 10-year tree maintenance condition in its felling licences to protect replanted trees from damage by pests, undertake weed control as necessary and replace any failed trees/tree losses in order to achieve the tree stocking density required to establish a replacement woodland/forest. Welsh Government's standard post planting maintenance condition for grant aided woodland creation is 12 years. It is recommended that a longer aftercare period is adopted in line with these. Your Q.1.18.11 also refers.</p>	<p>The five-year period referenced in Requirement 8 of the Draft Development Consent Order (C1 F05) refers to the replanting of trees and shrubs should they be removed, die or be seriously damaged or diseased within the first five years of the scheme. This is a standard requirement for projects of this scale and similar durations have been agreed for other nationally significant infrastructure projects in the local area, including Awel y Mor Offshore Wind Farm. This also accords with Welsh government Circular 016/2014 which provides at model condition 67 that landscaping should be replaced for a period of five years.</p> <p>In addition to the five-year "establishment period" for planting the Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (J22 F02) includes a commitment to agreeing additional long term monitoring and maintenance for all habitats created/enhanced as part of the landscape and ecology strategy with the relevant planning authorities and NRW as part of the final Landscape and Ecology Management Plan, secured through Requirement 7 of the Draft Development Consent Order (C1 F05).</p>
REP3-081.3	DCC, CCBC, NRW (A) RSPB Cymru NWWT	<p><b>Q.1.18.8 OLEMP [REP2-034]</b></p> <p>Are you satisfied with the Applicant's onshore/landfall approach to:</p> <p>i) habitats - mitigation, management, and monitoring; and</p> <p>protected species – mitigation, management, and monitoring. If not, can you provide reasons with supporting evidence to justify your position</p>	<p>We note that Welsh Government has not been asked for a response but make the following points in relation to the Applicant's "Response to Welsh Government and Cadw's written representations" which was in response to REP1-051/REP1-052: REP 1-052-15 – We welcome the explanation and figures provided in relation to the amount of compensatory planting to counteract the loss of woodland in W2. However, we still recommend that the applicant be asked to set out a full list of trees/woodland/hedges and their status and area/length to be lost/restored at this point in proceedings rather than later, so that an assessment of the balance between loss and mitigation is possible. We note you have requested this at Q1.18.23.</p> <p>The applicant's response still indicates ambiguity around the removal of ancient/veteran trees, concluding that rather than avoid removal, the Arboricultural Method Statement (still to be drafted) will confirm whether any such trees will be removed. We also note that additional detail around tree establishment, tree protection, stocking density and maintenance have yet to be provided in the LEMP (Landscape and Ecology Management Plan) and/or tree survey clarification note at Level 3 (see REP 1-052-16).</p> <p>If this detail is to be drafted after the Inspectorate decide the application, would the local planning authority have the necessary expert resources available to undertake assessment and</p>	<p>The Applicant has responded to Q1.18.23 in its Response to Examining Authority's Written Questions (REP3-062). The Applicant has also committed in the Outline Arboricultural Method Statement (REP2-072) to providing a detailed schedule and plan of all trees and hedges to be removed in the Final Arboricultural Method Statement.</p> <p>The Applicant has confirmed in the Tree Survey Clarification Note (REP3-049, paragraph 1.2.3.1) that no ancient woodland or veteran trees will be removed as part of the Mona Offshore Wind Farm Project and that direct impacts to the root protection areas of ancient woodland and veteran trees will also be avoided.</p> <p>An updated Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (REP2-034) will be provided at Deadline 5 further details on management and maintenance of planting. However, it should be noted specific detail on stocking densities and protection measures will be a matter for the Final Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan, to be approved by the relevant authorities post-consent.</p> <p>An Outline Arboricultural Method Statement (REP2-072) has been provided. The Draft Development Consent Order (C1 F05) includes a requirement for the preparation of a final Code of Construction Practice, which will be supported by a series of management plans including a final Arboricultural Method Statement, which must be submitted to and approved by the</p>

Planning Inspectorate Ref. No.	Question is addressed to	ExA Question	Welsh Government Response	Applicant's response
			<p>negotiation of these more detailed documents, in addition to day to day duties?</p> <p>REP1-052-16 – we have concerns in relation to the applicant's intended 5-year aftercare period for planted trees, and recommend the longer aftercare periods adopted by both Natural Resources Wales (NRW) as forest regulator, or Welsh Government, as set out in our response to Q.1.13.10.</p> <p>REP1-052-17 – We are satisfied with the responses to the issues raised in this section.</p> <p>We note that you have asked NRW and conservation bodies specifically about habitat and protected species mitigation. We assume this will also cover such mitigation during tree felling operations as part of the development so we will not comment further here.</p>	<p>relevant planning authority prior to the commencement of the onshore works.</p> <p>The Applicant cannot comment directly on the resource availability within the local planning authorities but can confirm it has been engaging with the local planning authorities and Net Zero Industry Wales on the mechanism for ensuring there is an adequate level of support to discharge requirements through an agreement such as a Planning Performance Agreement or similar.</p> <p>Please see REP3-081.2 above for the Applicant's position on the establishment and monitoring and maintenance periods.</p>
REP3-081.4	The Applicant	<p><b>Q.1.18.23 Trees, Woodlands and Hedgerows</b></p> <p>Can the Applicant provide a table listing habitats such as trees, ancient trees, veteran trees, woodlands, and hedgerows, and indicate total quantities related to length/number/area for temporary loss, permanent loss, replacement and enhancement</p>	<p>We note you asked for a table listing and quantifying the trees, veteran trees, woods and hedgerows to be lost or replanted. It would also be helpful to capture the extent of any commercial plantation to be lost, if any, in terms of area, timber volume and proposed mitigation area and species.</p>	<p>The Applicant has responded to Q1.18.23 in its Response to Examining Authority's Written Questions (REP3-062).</p> <p>The Applicant can confirm that no areas of commercial plantation will be impacted by the Mona Offshore Wind Project.</p>
REP3-081.5	Welsh Government	<p><b>Q1.21.1 Skills and supply chain opportunities</b></p> <p>Are you satisfied with the Applicant's response to your submissions in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• skills and workforce [REP2-079], ref REP1-052.9; and,</li> <li>• supply chain development [REP2-079], ref REP1-052.12? If not, what additional commitment do you seek at this stage of the project?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Skills and Workforce</b></p> <p>In relation to the outline Skills and Employment Plan – it should also recognise the Welsh Government's 'Stronger, fairer, greener Wales: a plan for employability and skills' as a 'Key consideration' particularly in the context of devolved powers, fair work approaches and different policies/funding models on matters such as apprenticeships and that Wales has a distinct careers advice service – Careers Wales, that also has an Education-Business support offer.</p> <p>Additionally, in terms of taking forward the Outline Skills and Employment Plan, it will be critical for the applicant to develop a stronger collaborative partnership with the Regional Skills Partnership and to work closely with the four further and higher education facilities to help plan effectively for the delivery of relevant training and skills provision across the lifetime of the project. Although it is recognised that some engagement has taken place, it would be useful to commit to greater engagement and consideration to how this could be committed to under the dDCO would be of benefit. This includes co-ordinating efforts with other relevant infrastructure projects. Welsh Government would welcome a further conversation on this with the applicant.</p> <p><b>Supply Chain Development</b></p> <p>Whilst we recognise that there has been positive engagement on a number of areas, reflecting our original submission to the examining authority we believe there could be opportunities to improve and formalise engagement and collaboration on these and other critical areas.</p> <p>WG has and continues to play a critical role with partners in a range of related policy areas that can and will support the developers ambitions/objectives with the Mona project and aligning with Welsh Governments overall ambition of a just, stronger, greener, prosperous Wales. The following, highlights how some of the current policies that can and would achieve mutual benefits:</p>	<p><b>Skills and Workforce</b></p> <p>The Applicant welcomes the suggestions provided and will ensure that the Welsh Government's 'Stronger, fairer, greener Wales: a plan for employability and skills' policy document is considered in the course of creating the final Skills and Employment Strategy.</p> <p>The Applicant appreciates the role of Careers Wales as an important stakeholder and will seek to engage with its representatives both directly and as part of the North Wales Regional Skills Partnership.</p> <p>The Welsh Government's comments on developing a stronger collaborative partnership with the Regional Skills Partnership, working closely with the region's Further Education and Higher Education providers and co-ordinating efforts with other relevant infrastructure projects are in line with the Applicant's ethos and intended approach. The Applicant would welcome a further conversation on this point and will contact Welsh Government representatives to progress the matter.</p> <p><b>Supply Chain Development</b></p> <p>The Applicant appreciates the guidance and information provided, understands the benefits of collaborating with the Welsh Government on the various critical policy areas noted, and is open to discussing a potential non-legal Memorandum of Understanding to investigate a more formalised joint working agreement.</p>

Planning Inspectorate Ref. No.	Question is addressed to	ExA Question	Welsh Government Response	Applicant's response
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Net Zero Carbon Budget 2 - the second emissions reduction plan, covering the period from 2021 to 2025 which aims to make Wales net zero by 2050.</li> <li>- A Sector Deal for the Renewables Sector - which will help set out agreed policy aims and delivery in collaboration with partners.</li> <li>- A Manufacturing Future for Wales: Our Journey to Wales 4.0– the strategic plan aimed at transforming the manufacturing sector in Wales to align with the principles of the fourth industrial revolution.</li> <li>- The Innovation Strategy Wales aims to develop an innovative culture by focussing on several key overarching objectives ranging from climate action to educational excellence.</li> <li>- Cymraeg 2050: The Welsh language strategy aims to have one million Welsh speakers by 2050. It focuses on increasing the number of Welsh speakers, enhancing the use of Welsh in daily life, and creating favourable conditions for the language to thrive.</li> <li>- The North Wales Regional Economic Framework aims to address the region's economic challenges and improve the lives of its residents – a key thrust of the main priorities includes collaboration to deliver a low carbon economy.</li> </ul> <p>Welsh Government also provides critical direct business support through Business Wales and Sell2Wales.</p> <p>Business Wales aims to improve supply chains and help suppliers develop their understanding and completion of the procurement processes such as pre-qualification questionnaires, tenders and quality control accreditation. The service also works with buyers to host appropriate events including supplier briefings, meet the buyer events, joint bidding and pre-market soundings.</p> <p>Business Wales Tendering Advisers are available to help businesses become 'fit for tender' to improve their chances of winning contracts, and sub-contracting work. They also help businesses understand buyer needs and expectations, and how to make the most of the Welsh Government's procurement portal - Sell2Wales, including help with registration and improving profiles.</p> <p>In trying to help formalise and structure future engagement and possible collaboration, Welsh Government proposes to set out a non- legal Memorandum of Understanding to help define joint working principles and agreement on key areas of joint working such as – community benefits, skills development, ports development and improvements, supply chains, fair work and Welsh Language matters.</p>	
REP3-081.6	The Applicant	<p><b>Q1.21.2 Welsh Language</b></p> <p>The Applicant's submissions in [REP2-079], ref REP1-052.8 are noted. Can the Applicant respond to the recommendation of the Welsh Government [REP1-051], pages 5-6 that [APP-045] is assessed by an experienced language planning practitioner?</p>	<p>Welsh Government note this question is directed toward the applicant however, WG considers there would be value for the WLIA to be reviewed (rather than assessed) by an experienced language planner.</p>	<p>The Applicant notes the comment.</p>
REP3-081.7	Welsh Government	<p><b>Q1.21.3 Community benefits and local ownership</b></p> <p>How do you respond to the Applicant's submissions on securing community benefits [REP2-079], ref REP1-052.5? Does this provide satisfactory commitment and</p>	<p>Welsh Government welcomes the overall intention to develop a community benefits approach by the applicant in collaboration and partnership with ourselves and other relevant stakeholders. As</p>	<p>The Applicant is open to discussing a potential non-legal Memorandum of Understanding to investigate a more formalised joint working agreement with Welsh Government.</p>



Planning Inspectorate Ref. No.	Question is addressed to	ExA Question	Welsh Government Response	Applicant's response
		if not, what additional commitment might you expect to see at this stage?	<p>noted, we would like to seek the formalising/structuring of such discussions under the auspices of a proposed MoU.</p> <p>It would also be useful to ensure certain principles are outlined to ensure the communities are clear as to what might be within scope and not within scope as early as possible. Welsh Government has published The Guidance for developers, local communities and decision makers: Local and shared ownership of energy projects in Wales to support developers and communities. Community Energy Wales, Planning Aid Wales and Design Commission for Wales are all relevant organisations which could support the applicant with developing the Community Investment Plan.</p>	The Applicant has noted the advice relating to developing the Community Investment Plan.
REP3-081.8	DCC, CCBC, IoMG and IoACC	<p><b>Q1.21.9 Skills and Employment Plan</b></p> <p>As named relevant authorities for the purposes of R19 [REP2-004], are you content that the Skills and Employment Plan would (following consultation with you) be subject to notification rather than approval? If not, provide suggested alternative wording for R19.</p>	<p>Although noted the question is not directed towards Welsh Government, we would also value understanding the applicants response to Q1.21.6 and Q1.21.8 – it is critical that there should be joint collaboration with Welsh Government/regional partners in establishing an effective monitoring and evaluation approach and also to play a role in reviewing how effective the SEP will be and to make necessary improvements. Welsh Government would also see the RSP playing a critical role in shaping and formalising the final SEP.</p>	The Applicant notes the comments. A new draft of the current Outline Skills and Employment Plan (Document Reference J24 F02) has been submitted at Deadline 4 to include additional information on the expected monitoring and evaluation approach.
REP3-081.9	Welsh Government	<p><b>Q1.22.3 Protective Provisions</b></p> <p>Are you satisfied with the protective provisions in Part 6, Schedule 10 of the dDCO [REP2-004]. If there are any changes you would like made, please provide alternative wording and explain why it is considered necessary.</p>	<p>The Welsh Government Highways department are making progress with the applicant and is currently in discussions to agree suitable wording of clauses relating to the disposal and/or transfer of apparatus.</p>	Please see the Mona Land Rights Tracker (Document Reference S_PD_5 F06) for a further update with regards to the protective provisions in Part 6 Schedule 10 of the draft DCO.
REP3-081.10	The Applicant	<p><b>Q1.22.6 Construction Port</b></p> <p>Can you provide an update on the port of origin for any deliveries to the substation or for the offshore works? If a port has now been identified, do any changes to the Transport Assessment or OCTMP need to be made?</p>	<p>Although noted that this is not directed towards Welsh Government, as previously stated in our original response; Welsh Government would welcome clarity on the applicant's port of origin and believe that both north Wales strategic ports of Holyhead and Mostyn should or could provide relevant services for the project. Welsh Government as part of its over transport strategy on ports would of course be happy to have further engagement to consider what further role it could play in any future development plans – an area we believe that could be addressed as part of MoU agreement between applicant and Welsh Government.</p>	<p>The Applicant's position remains that it has not yet selected the port, or ports, that will be used during construction for either the marshalling and preparation/construction of offshore components, or for the delivery of any onshore components.</p> <p>The Applicant would be open to discussing this matter under a Memorandum of Understanding.</p>