

Application by Mona Offshore Wind Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Mona Offshore Wind Farm (Case ref: EN010137)

Agenda for Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 2 (CAH2) dealing with matters relating to Compulsory Acquisition (CA) and Temporary Possession (TP)

Hearing	Date and Time	Location
Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 2 (CAH2)	Wednesday 11 December 2024	By virtual means using Microsoft Teams
	Hearing starts at 1:30pm Virtual Arrangements Conference from 1:00pm	

Agenda

1. Welcome, introductions, arrangements for the hearing

2. Purpose of the Compulsory Acquisition Hearing

The Examining Authority (ExA) will explain the purpose of the hearing.

3. Site-specific issues for the Applicant

The ExA will ask the Applicant to provide an update on the progress of negotiations with Affected Parties (APs) and the timetable for their conclusion.

The ExA may ask questions of the Applicant about negotiations and matters arising from written and oral submissions.

4. Site-specific representations by APs

The ExA will ask APs to briefly set out any outstanding concerns in relation to CA/ TP for the land in which they have an interest that have not been addressed by the Applicant. They are asked to avoid repetition of oral and written evidence that has already been submitted into the Examination and focus on updating their case and/ or addressing the Applicant's Deadline 5 submissions.

The ExA may ask questions of APs about matters arising from written and oral submissions.

Without prejudice as to whether the ExA accepts the Applicant's Change Request [CR1-001 to CR1-023 inclusive], it will also hear any oral submissions from landowners affected by the additional TP powers that the Applicant seeks.

Environmental matters arising from the proposed changes will be considered at Issue Specific Hearing 6 (ISH6) and discussion at CAH2 will be confined to the additional rights sought in land.

5. Statutory Undertakers and other relevant bodies

The ExA will ask the Applicant to summarise any outstanding matters arising from representations by Statutory Undertakers (SUs).

Any SU or other relevant body in attendance and wishing to speak in relation to an objection or issue raised that is relevant to the effects of the Proposed Development on its undertaking, apparatus or land will be invited to put oral submissions to the ExA by way of an update to any previous written and/ or oral submissions.

The ExA may ask questions of the SU or other relevant body, and the Applicant, about matters arising from written and oral submissions.

The ExA wants to examine whether the Proposed Development satisfies the legal tests primarily set out in Sections 127 and/or 138 of the PA2008. Protective Provisions and any commercial/side agreements will be considered at ISH6.

6. Crown Land

The ExA will ask the Applicant (and any Crown authorities present) to provide an update on matters relating to Crown land and s135 of the PA2008 and advise on implications for the Proposed Development should the relevant Crown authority consents not be forthcoming by the close of the Examination.

7. Funding

The ExA does not have any questions relating to the Funding Statement and subsequent written and verbal evidence on the matter. However, the Applicant may want to advise of any updates or other parties may raise any additional associated issues or queries that they have not already submitted into the Examination in previous written and/ or oral submissions.

- 8. Review of issues and actions arising
- 9. Any other business
- 10. Closure of the hearing

Purpose of CAH2

A Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH) is being held to:

- ensure adequate examination of the provisions within the latest iteration of the dDCO seeking to authorise the CA of land and/ or rights over land;
- assess whether the conditions relating to the land and/ or rights being required for the Proposed Development or required to facilitate or be incidental to that development are met; and
- assess whether there is a compelling case in the public interest for the land to be acquired compulsorily.

Participation

Full details of how to participate in this hearing were contained in the <u>notification</u> <u>letter published on 12 November 2024</u>. You must register by emailing the project mailbox by Thursday 5 December 2024, if you intend to participate in this hearing.

The event will also be livestreamed and recorded, and a link to watch the livestream will be published on the <u>project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website</u> closer to the event date. IPs and members of the public who wish to observe the hearing can therefore view and listen to the hearing using the livestream, or view and listen to the recording, after it has concluded.

The hearing will include examination of submissions up to and including Deadline 5 on the Examination timetable. Whilst comments on responses to the Examining Authority's Further Written Questions are expected in writing at Deadline 6 (20 December 2024), the ExA may ask parties to respond to Deadline 5 submissions at the hearing.

Attendees

Unless written notice has been submitted into the Examination that their objections have been withdrawn, the ExA would find it helpful if the following parties could attend this hearing:

- Applicant
- Any Affected Persons who wish to discuss CA/ TP matters.
- The Crown Estate
- The Welsh Government
- Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm Limited
- National Grid Electricity Transmission PLC
- Addleshaw Goddard PLC on behalf of Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
- SP Manweb PLC
- Wales and West Utilities
- Welsh Ministers as Strategic Highway Authority

Relevant documentation

It would be helpful if Affected Persons, Statutory Undertakers and, where applicable, their respective representatives have familiarised themselves with what the Applicant has said already about their concerns, primarily but not exclusively in, the following documents that are available on the Examination Library on the <u>project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website</u>:

- Applicant's Response to Relevant Representations [PDA-008];
- Applicant's Response to Written Submissions made at Procedural Deadline [REP1-011];
- Applicant's Response to Written Submissions [REP2-078];
- Applicant's Response to ExA's First Written Questions (ExQ1) [REP3-062];
- Applicant's Response to ExA's Further Written Questions (ExQ2) (submitted at D5); and,
- Applicant's updated Land Rights Tracker (submitted at Deadline 5)
- Applicant's Applications under s127 and s138 of the PA 2008 (submitted at Deadline 5)

During the hearing, reference may be made to several key documents which participants may wish to refer to. These are as follows:

- the Book of Reference [REP3-006];
- the Statement of Reasons [REP3-004];
- the Draft Development Consent Order [REP4-005];
- the Land Plan (Onshore) [REP1-004];
- the Crown Land Plan (Onshore) [AS-006];
- The Land Rights Tracker [REP4-091]; and
- the Funding Statement [APP-025].

Some or all of the above may be updated at Deadline 5, in which case, the ExA will draw this to participants' attention during the hearing.

Procedure at the CAH

Guidance under the Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 provides that it is for the ExA to probe, test and assess the evidence through direct questions of persons making oral representations at hearings.

Participants may be legally represented if they wish, but the ExA will conduct the hearing in such a way that legal representation will not be required. The ExA will lead the questioning of parties making oral representations and probe, test and assess the evidence. There is usually no cross-examination of witnesses by other parties, though the ExA does have the power to allow this under certain circumstances.

The ExA has sought to provide sufficient detail to assist the parties to prepare for the hearing. The details set out above are indicative and the ExA may find it necessary to include additional Agenda items or to amend the order in which the items are dealt with.

The hearing will finish when the ExA considers that all matters have been covered and all participants have had an opportunity to make their representations. As a guide, the ExA aims to close the hearing by approximately 5pm. If there are additional matters to be dealt with, it may be necessary to defer some matters to written questions.

A summary of the evidence presented orally at CAH2 should be included in posthearing submissions to be submitted by **Deadline 6** in the Examination Timetable (**Friday 20 December 2024**).

The ExA would recommend any parties who are new to the process and wish to learn more about the background and procedures in hearings to read <u>Nationally</u> <u>Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice pages</u>.

Please contact the Case Team if you have any questions regarding the arrangements for the hearing or how to participate:

Email: MonaOffshoreWindProject@planninginspectorate.gov.uk Tel: 0303 444 5000.