

MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

Change Request: Consultation Report

Deadline: 5

Application Reference: EN010137

Document Reference: S_CR_16

Document Number: MOCNS-J3303-JVW-10433

3 December 2024

F01



Image of an offshore wind farm

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Document status

Version	Purpose of document	Authored by	Reviewed by	Approved by	Review date
F01	Change Request at D5	Mona Offshore Wind Ltd	Mona Offshore Wind Ltd	Mona Offshore Wind Ltd	3 Dec 2024

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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,

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Term	Meaning
	licensable activities within 12nm of the Welsh coast require a separate marine licence from Natural Resource Wales (NRW).
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.

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Term	Meaning
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 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 (AfLs) 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 Bodelwyddan 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).

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Term	Meaning
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.

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
km	Kilometres
km ²	Kilometres squared
kV	Kilovolt
MW	Megawatt
nm	Nautical miles

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of this report

1.1.1.1 This report details a targeted non-statutory consultation undertaken in accordance with comments received from the Examining Authority (ExA) in its letter of 8 November 2024 (PD-016). The ExA's letter was issued in response to a Change Request made on 1 November 2024 by Mona Offshore Wind Ltd (the Applicant) to its application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for the Mona Offshore Wind Project (the Application). The Application was submitted on 22 February 2024 and accepted for examination by the Planning Inspectorate on 21 March 2024.

1.1.1.2 The Applicant has continued to refine its proposals through detailed design and engagement with stakeholders. This has resulted in the need for changes, some of which require additional land to be included within the proposed order limits which will be for temporary use during construction only. All the proposed changes are located around the site of the proposed onshore substation. A summary of the changes and descriptions of the additional areas of land affected by temporary possession as a result of the Change Request are set out in **Section 2**. A full explanation of the proposed changes alongside mapping extracts can be found in the Mona Change Request Report (Document reference S_CR_2).

1.1.2 Structure of this report

1.1.2.1 The remainder of this report covers the following topics:

- Proposed changes
- Consultation process
- Responses to consultation

1.1.2.2 In addition to this information, the following annexes are provided:

- A-1: Formal notice
- A-2: Formal notice - Daily Post 18 November 2024 (Welsh and English)
- A-3: Map of locations of physical notices
- A-4: Photos of physical notices in place
- A-5: Updates to Project website
- A-6: List of Targeted consultees
- A-7: Cover Letter to targeted consultees (Welsh and English)
- A-8: Site map of proposed changes
- A-9: Email to targeted consultees (Welsh and English)
- A-10: Email to other consultees (Welsh and English)
- B-1: Cadw consultee response
- B-2: National Plant Enquiries consultee response
- B-3: Welsh Water consultee response

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- B-4: Martyn Hussey
- B-5: SP Energy Networks
- B-6: Councillor Martin Barlow, Cefn Meiriadog Community Council

2 PROPOSED CHANGES

2.1 Description of and reason for changes

2.1.1.1 The proposed changes to the Application and their rationale are set out in detail in the Change Request Report (document reference S-CR 2), one of the documents available throughout the consultation (see **section 3.6**). The changes are summarised below.

2.1.2 **Change 1: Extension of the Order Limits to the West of the Onshore Substation.**

2.1.2.1 Change 1 comprises the incorporation of two new areas of land which would be subject to powers of temporary possession and are described in the Change Request Report as Change 1a and Change 1b. Change 1a involves the inclusion of an existing access track for temporary access during onshore site preparation works and a parcel of land to the west of the onshore substation for temporary access during onshore site preparation works and construction of the onshore substation and surrounding works.

2.1.3 **Change 2 – Amendment and widening of the onshore substation construction access road to aid Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) movements.**

2.1.3.1 Change 2 involves two areas of land identified as Change 2a and Change 2b in the Change Request Report. Change 2a involves the incorporation of one new area of land outside the Order limits for the onshore substation construction access. This land would be subject to powers of temporary possession. Change 2b involves including an area of land within the Order limits as part of the temporary onshore substation construction access. This land is currently identified as part of the permanent onshore substation access only.

2.1.4 **Change 3 – Amendment of the proposed Order Limits to include additional land adjacent to the onshore substation construction access bellmouth.**

2.1.4.1 Change 3 involves the inclusion of a new area of land to accommodate an additional Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SuDS) attenuation pond during construction. The additional land for Change 3 would be subject to powers of temporary possession.

2.1.5 **Change 4 – Amendment and widening of the proposed Order Limits to facilitate the establishment of the permanent onshore substation access road.**

2.1.5.1 Change 4 involves the inclusion of a new area of land to accommodate an area of hardstanding during the construction period only. This area of hardstanding is necessary to facilitate the establishment of the permanent access road. The additional land for Change 4 for would be subject to powers of temporary possession.

3 CONSULTATION PROCESS

3.1 Examining Authority advice

- 3.1.1.1 In line with The Planning Inspectorate’s Advice Page: ‘Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Changes to an Application after it has been accepted for examination’ (August 2024) (the Advice Page) the Applicant submitted a Notification of Intention to Submit a Change Request to the Examining Authority on 29 October 2024.
- 3.1.1.2 A response to this notification was published by the Examining Authority on 8 November 2024 (PD-016), which the Applicant subsequently responded to.
- 3.1.1.3 With regard to consultation requirements, as confirmed by the Examining Authority, the Applicant’s consultation for the above changes is not required to be in accordance with The Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 (‘CA Regulations’) as none of the changes introduce additional landowners and no additional powers of compulsory acquisition are being sought.
- 3.1.1.4 The Applicant therefore confirmed the intention to provide for a targeted non-statutory consultation period of 15 days as requested by the Examining Authority in its letter of the 8 November 2024 (PD-016).

3.2 Non-Statutory consultation programme

- 3.2.1.1 The Applicant conducted a targeted non-statutory consultation on the proposed Changes from Tuesday 19 November 2024 to 5pm on Tuesday 3 December 2024, as requested by the Examining Authority (PD-016).

3.3 Publicising the consultation

- 3.3.1.1 The Applicant placed a formal notice (see Annex A-1) of the consultation in *The Daily Post* on Monday 18 November 2024. This formal notice appeared in both Welsh (see Annex A-2) and English.
- 3.3.1.2 The Applicant placed physical notices in the areas most likely to be impacted by the proposed Changes. Notices were placed on Friday 15 November 2024 and these were regularly monitored throughout the consultation period and replaced if required. A map of these locations can be found in Annex A-3 and photos of the notices in situ in Annex A-4.

3.4 Deposit locations

- 3.4.1.1 The formal notice and a site map of the proposed changes could also be accessed (both digitally and in hard copy, in Welsh and English) free of charge at the locations shown in Table 3.1, from Tuesday 19 November 2024 until at least 3 December 2024.

Table 3.1: Deposit locations

Venue	Opening Times	Contact Number
Llandudno Library, Mostyn Street, Llandudno LL30 2RP	Mon-Weds and Fri: 9-5:30pm Thurs: 10-7pm, Sat: 9:30-3pm	[REDACTED]

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Rhyl Library, Museum and Arts Centre Church Street, Rhyl LL18 3AA	Mon: 9:30-6pm, Tues-Fri: 9:30-5pm, Sat: 9:30-12.30pm	[REDACTED]
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3.4.1.2 Consultees were advised to check opening hours directly with the venues before visiting.

3.5 Who was consulted

3.5.1.1 The Applicant took a reasonable and proportionate approach to the identification of consultees who would be consulted as part of this targeted non-statutory consultation. The Applicant identified all those with an interest in or likely to be affected by the requested changes based on the location of the onshore substation site and the surrounding area (i.e. the area where the proposed changes are located) as requested by the Examining Authority (PD—016). This included all directly affected parties including, but not limited to, Local Authorities, landowners (section 3.5.1.9) and statutory undertakers (full list is in Annex A-6).

3.5.1.2 The Applicant contacted the consultees listed in Annex A-6 (targeted consultees), by tracked registered post to arrive on or before Monday 18 November 2024. This list aligns with Annex 2 of the Change Request Report (document reference S_CR_2 F02).

3.5.1.3 Targeted consultees were provided with the following documents:

- A covering letter explaining why they are being contacted (see Annex A-7)
- A formal notice notifying them of the consultation (see Annex A-1)
- A site map of the proposed changes (see Annex A-8)

3.5.1.4 The formal notice included the following information:

- Summary of the Application
- Summary of the Change Request
- How to view the Change Request application
- How to respond to the Change Request

3.5.1.5 In addition to the postal mailing, an email (see Annex A-9) was sent to the same list of targeted consultees on Friday 15 November 2024, containing and / or linking to the same information online.

3.5.1.6 Both postal correspondence and email sent to consultees made it clear that feedback could be submitted via email [\[REDACTED\]](#) or in writing to FREEPOST MONA, by 5pm on Tuesday 3 December 2024.

3.5.1.7 Separately, an email communication (see Annex A-10) was also sent to those stakeholders and members of the public who had registered to be kept up to date with the Project during the pre-application and post-submission phases. This group of 156 were classified as other consultees and all received a separate covering email, including links to the formal notice, on Friday 15 November 2024.

3.5.1.8 For both targeted and other consultees, the covering letter, email and formal notice were provided in both Welsh and English.

3.5.1.9 The Applicant contacted all Persons with an interest in the land (identified landowners) affected by the change request via a phone call on the 23 October to explain the

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changes to the Order Limits. Emails were issued following the phone calls containing plans showing the additional land included within the change request requiring temporary possession. This initial landowner notification included a request for a meeting to discuss the proposed changes.

3.5.1.10 Since the first notification of the change request, the Applicant's land agents Dalcour Maclaren have met with both landowners. The Applicant and their land agents met with representatives of the Late [REDACTED] on the 11 November 2024 and with [REDACTED] and his representative on the 18 November 2024. During these meetings, the details of the change request were discussed, along with providing background as to why the change is necessary for the development of the Mona Offshore Wind Farm. Within these meetings, the consultation period was discussed along with voluntary agreements being sought to secure the land rights required.

3.6 Consultation materials

3.6.1.1 The Applicant prepared the following materials to support the Change Request, all of which were available for the duration of this consultation:

- Change Request Report (see document reference S-CR_2 F02)
- Change Request: Location plans (see document reference S_CR_3)
- Change Request: Works Plan (Onshore) (see document reference S_CR_4 F02)
- Change Request: Lands Plans (see document reference S_CR_5 F02)
- Change Request: Street works and access to works plan (see document reference S_CR_6)
- Change Request: Book of Reference (see document reference S_CR_7 F02)
- Change Request: Funding statement (see document reference S_CR_8 F02)
- Change Request: Statement of Reasons (see document reference S_CR_9 F02)
- Change Request: Land rights tracker (see document reference S_CR_10)
- Change Request: Draft Development Consent Order (clean) (see document reference S_CR_11 F02)
- Schedule of Changes to the Change Request: Draft Development Consent Order (see document reference S_CR_12 F02)
- Schedule of Application Documents (see document reference S_CR_13)
- Change Request: Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (see document reference S_CR_15)

3.6.1.2 All these materials were made available on the Project website: [REDACTED] / from Tuesday 19 November 2024, where they will remain available to view.

3.6.1.3 The Project website was also updated to reflect the live consultation and signpost consultees to where they could find out more information or ways to provide feedback (see Annex A-5).

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- 3.6.1.4 Consultees could also request a hard copy of the Change Request report and full suite of supporting documents at a maximum cost of £250. The Applicant received no such requests.
- 3.6.1.5 The Change Request documents (as listed above) were also available via the Mona project page of the Planning Inspectorate's website.

4 RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION

- 4.1.1.1 Prior to the start of consultation, and as a result of the Applicant briefing the Examining Authority at the Hearing on 24 October 2024 the Applicant submitted its notification of intent to submit a change request (document reference S_CR_1) on 29 October 2024. In response, Cefn Meiriadog Community Council submitted a written submission (REP4-093) at Deadline 4, on 4 November 2024.
- 4.1.1.2 The Applicant responded to this written submission at Deadline 5, document reference S_D5_3 Response to Cefn Meiriadog Community Council D4 Submission - Change Request. This has been included in the list below for completeness, although a copy of the response has not been included in the annex.
- 4.1.1.3 The persons/organisations who responded to the targeted non-statutory consultation and were received within the advertised deadline of 5pm on 3 December 2024 are set out in Table 4.1 below.
- 4.1.1.4 The Applicant will respond to all feedback received at Deadline 6 of the Mona DCO examination on 20 December 2024.
- 4.1.1.5 Save for the first Cefn Meiradog Community Council response, each piece of feedback received can be seen in Annex B.

Table 4.1: Consultation respondees

Respondee	Annex location
Cefn Meiriadog Community Council (REP4-093)	Not included. The Applicant's response is in document S_D5_3 Response to Cefn Meiriadog Community Council D4 Submission - Change Request, submitted at Deadline 5.
Cadw	B-1
National Plant Enquiries	B-2
Welsh Water	B-3
██████████	B-4
SP Energy Networks	B-5
Councillor ██████████, Cefn Meiriadog Community Council	B-6