

MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

Deadline 5 Cover Letter

Deadline: 5

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F01



Image of an offshore wind farm

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Prepared by:

Mona Offshore Wind Ltd.

Prepared for:

Mona Offshore Wind Ltd.

3 December 2024

The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Directorate
Temple Quay House, Temple Quay
Bristol, BS1 6PN

Dear Madam / Sir,

Planning Act 2008

The proposed Mona Offshore Wind Farm

PINS Reference: EN010137

Mona Offshore Wind Limited (the Applicant) encloses its submission for Deadline 5. Please find below an overview of key documents within this submission.

Deadline 5 Submissions

The Applicant has responded to a number of the representations submitted at Deadline 4 as needed. The content of the representations identified below was such that no response was required from the Applicant. These were for Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (REP4-097), the JNCCs Response to the Report on the Implications for European Sites (REP4-103), NRW Deadline 4 Submission - Anglesey Seascape Character Assessment (REP4-104), NRW MMO Deadline 2 Submission to Morgan Offshore Wind Farm Generation Assets (REP4-106), NRW Deadline 4 Submission - Post Hearing Submission (ISH5) (REP4-108), NRW Deadline 4 Submission - Seascape and visual sensitivity to offshore wind farms in Wales: Stages 1,2 and 3 (REP4-109, REP4-110 and REP4-111), NRW Deadline 4 Submission - The local landscape character assessment undertaken for Eryri National Park (REP4-112), Bodorgan Marine Limited Request to attend hearings on the 23 October 2024 (REP4-114), Forsters on behalf of The Executors of the Late Sir David Watkin Williams-Wynn BT (REP4-118), Shepherd & Wedderburn LLP on behalf of Ørsted Ips Articles Concerning Assessment of Wake Effects Referred to in REP3- 103 (REP4-126), Index of Documents Concerning Assessment of Wake Effects provided at Deadline 4 (REP4-128), Post hearing submission (REP4-129), Responses to ISH4 action points (REP4-130, and Summary of post-hearing written submissions (REP4-131) .

Applicant's Response to JNCCs Deadline 4 Submissions

The Applicant has responded to the JNCCs Deadline 4 submissions (Comments on Applicant's response to ExQ1 (REP4-098), Comments on Minimise Impacts to Marine Mammals and Rafting Birds (REP4-099), Response to Errata and updated documents (REP-100), Response to REP3-044 Offshore Ornithology Cumulative Effects Assessment and In-combination Gap-filling Historical Projects Technical Note (REP4-101) and Response to REP3-059 Offshore ornithology supporting information in line with SNCB advice (REP4-102)) through its overarching response to the JNCC and NRW(A) in the following documents:

- Summary of Principal Offshore Ornithological Matters (S_D5_21)
- The Applicant's response to comments on the Measures to Minimise Impacts to Marine Mammals and Rafting Birds from transiting vessels (S_D5_22)
- Offshore Ornithology Additional Supporting In-combination Assessment Information in line with SNCB Advice (S_D5_23)
- Offshore Ornithology Additional Supporting Cumulative Assessment Information in line with SNCB Advice (S_D5_24)

Applicant's Response to the Report on the Implications to European Sites (RIES)

Following further engagement with the SNCBs on their position with respect to ruling out adverse effect on site integrity (AEoI) and in light of the Examining Authority's RIES (notably Q4.1.7a,b), the Applicant has committed at Deadline 5 to the use of low order UXO clearance methods only. High-order UXO clearance will, therefore, not be authorised under the DCO, and will not be applied for under the NRW Marine Licence (ML). This is reflected in the updated drafting of the dML (C1 F06). The Applicant has also committed to a seasonal restriction on low order UXO clearance in the Liverpool Bay/Bae Lerpwl SPA between 1 November and 31 March. This is outlined in Measures to minimise disturbance to marine mammals and rafting birds from transiting vessels (J17 F03). Both commitments are included in the Mitigation and Monitoring Schedule (J10 F05) and are expected to be secured via the standalone NRW ML as outlined in the updated Marine Licence Principles Document (J9 F05).

It is the Applicant's understanding that NRW (A) and the JNCC will submit an update to the Examining Authority following review of the Applicant's Deadline 5 submissions to confirm their view on AEoI for the relevant European sites and qualifying marine mammal and offshore ornithology features as soon as possible and the Applicant anticipates this being no later than Deadline 6.

Examining Authority's Second Written Questions

The Applicant has responded to the ExQ2 in document S_D5_32 Response to Examining Authority's Written Questions (ExQ2) and its appendices S_D5_32.1 and S_D5_32.2. The Applicant has responded to all questions directed to it and, in a small number of cases, where questions are directed to other organisations to provide further clarity.

Soil Survey Data Technical Report

On the 15 November 2024 the Applicant's Soil Survey Data Technical Report was validated by the Welsh Government's Department of Climate Change and Rural Affairs. The validated version of the report has been submitted to the examination (F7.7.2 F02).

Change Request Consultation

The Applicant has submitted its Change Request Consultation Report (S_CR_16) and supporting Annexe (S_CR_16.1) at this Deadline. Included within the report is all the feedback received up to the consultation deadline of 1700 on Tuesday 3 December. The Applicant has responded to Cefn Meiriadog Community Council's Deadline 4 Submission - Comments on proposed Change Request (RE9-093) at this Deadline and acknowledges receipt and inclusion of this feedback within the Consultation Report.

As requested by the Examining Authority's letter dated 8 November 2024, the Applicant includes with this submission the updated Change Request Report (S_CR_2) together with the documents listed in Table 1-2 of the Change Request Report (S_CR_2). These are the same as the documents that were added to the Applicant's project website for the purposes of conducting the targeted consultation. Clean and tracked (where appropriate) copies of these documents were also provided to the Examining Authority for information at the start of the consultation period on 15 November 2024 to show the updates made in response to the letter of 8 December. For the avoidance of doubt, if the Change Request is accepted the Applicant will incorporate and consolidate the documents listed in Table 1-2 into the existing application documents at Deadline 6. The Applicant notes that the Examining Authority's letter also requests submission of the documents listed in the Change Request Report (S_CR_2) table 1-3. The Applicant is not submitting these documents at Deadline 5, but as set out in paragraph 1.7.1.2 of the Change Request Report (S_CR_2) will submit updated versions of these documents at Deadline 6 if the Change Request is accepted by the Examining Authority. This avoids the need to create unnecessary duplicates of those documents.

Statements of Common Ground (SoCGs)

Updated SoCGs have been prepared and submitted at this Deadline between the Applicant and Denbighshire County Council SoCG (S_D3_22 F02), Conwy County Borough Council SoCG (S_D3_23 F02), Isle of Anglesey County Council SoCG (S_D1_10 F02), Isle of Man Government – Territorial Sea Committee SoCG (S_D1_11 F03), RSPB Cymru SoCG (S_D2_8 F02) and the UK Chamber of Shipping SoCG (S_D1_18 F03).

In addition, new SoCGs have been submitted at this Deadline between the Applicant and Stena Line SoCG (S_D5_29) and Isle of Man Steam Packet Company SoCG (S_D5_30). Progress has been made towards SoCGs with the Ørsted Ips, which will be submitted at Deadline 6. As set out in the Applicant's response to Q2.0.3 in the Response to Examining Authority's Written Questions (ExQ2) S_D5_32, the Applicant and Welsh Government have agreed not to submit a SoCG.

The Applicant has issued updated versions of the JNCC SoCG (REP1-028) and NRW (A) SoCGs (Offshore (REP1-025), Onshore (REP1-026) and Seascape, landscape and visual assessment (REP1-027) to the JNCC and NRW, respectively, however, both SNCBs have not been able to review and provide written comment in time for submission at Deadline 5. Subject to the approval of the Examining Authority and resource availability at NRW (A) and the JNCC, to assist discussion at the forthcoming Hearings the Applicant will endeavour to submit these updated SoCG's in advance of the Hearings on Tuesday 10 December.

Yours faithfully,



Paul Carter

Mona Consents Lead