

# MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

## Statement of Commonality

F05

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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).
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).
Mona Offshore Wind Project	The Mona Offshore Wind Project is comprised of both the generation assets, offshore and onshore transmission assets, and associated activities.
The Planning Inspectorate	The agency responsible for operating the planning process for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects.

## Acronyms

Acronym	Description
DCO	Development Consent Order
ExA	Examining Authority
MHWS	Mean High Water Springs
MLWS	Mean Low Water Springs
NRW (Advisory)	Natural Resources Wales (Advisory)
NRW MLT	Natural Resources Wales Marine Licensing Team
OSP	Offshore Substation Platform
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground

# 1 Statement of Commonality

## 1.1 Overview

### 1.1.1 Purpose of this document

1.1.1.1 Statements of Common Ground (SoCGs) have been prepared between Mona Offshore Wind Limited (hereafter referred to as ‘the Applicant’) and other parties. These have been prepared to set out the areas of agreement and disagreement with these parties in relation to the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for the Mona Offshore Wind Project.

1.1.1.2 In the Rule 6 Letter dated 07 June 2024, the Examining Authority (ExA) requested that the Applicant prepare a Statement of Commonality. This document provides an overview of the approach taken to capture commonality with the parties specified in the Rule 6 Letter (Table 1.1), the status of each SoCG (Table 1.2) and the agreement status with the parties for each topic (Table 1.4) in a tabular, colour-coded format as requested by the ExA.

1.1.1.3 This Statement of Commonality is intended to act only as a summary of the progress of the SoCGs. For full details of the items under discussion with each stakeholder, please refer to the relevant SoCG. For details of principal and other notable issues please refer to the Examination Progress Tracker (S\_PD\_4 F04).

1.1.1.4 The Statement of Commonality, SoCGs and Pre-Examination/Examination Progress Tracker will be updated at the relevant Deadlines during the Examination according to the Examination Timetable published in the Rule 8 Letter dated 23 July 2024.

### 1.1.2 Overview of the Mona Offshore Wind Project

1.1.2.1 The Mona Offshore Wind Project is a proposed offshore wind farm located in the east Irish Sea. The Mona Offshore Wind Project will include both offshore and onshore infrastructure and consist of:

- **Mona Array Area:** This is where the wind turbines, Offshore Substation Platforms (OSPs), foundations (for both wind turbines and OSPs), inter-array cables, interconnector cables and 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 Mean High Water Springs (MHWS), in which the offshore export cables will be located and in which the intertidal access areas are located
- **Intertidal access areas:** The area from MHWS to Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS) which will be used for access to the beach and construction related activities
- **Landfall:** This is where the offshore export cables make contact with land and the transitional area where the offshore cabling connects to the onshore cabling
- **Mona Onshore Development Area:** The area in which the landfall, Mona Onshore Cable Corridor, Mona Onshore Substation, mitigation areas, temporary construction infrastructure (such as access roads and construction compounds), operational access to the Mona Onshore Substation and the 400 kV connection to National Grid infrastructure will be located

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- **Mona Onshore Substation:** This is where the new substation will be located, containing the components for transforming the power supplied from the offshore wind farm up to 400 kV
- **Mona 400 kV Grid Connection Cable Corridor:** The corridor from the Mona Onshore Substation to the National Grid substation.

## 1.2 List of Statements of Common Ground

1.2.1.1 The approach for capturing commonality between the Applicant and each party for whom the ExA has requested the submission of an SoCG in the Rule 6 Letter and additional parties for whom a SoCG has been proposed is provided in Table 1.1.

**Table 1.1: Approach to commonality for all parties with whom the ExA have requested the Applicant submit an SoCG.**

Doc No	Party	Approach to capturing commonality
S_D3_22 F04	Denbighshire County Council	SoCG
S_D3_22 F04	Conwy County Borough Council	SoCG
S_D1_10 F03	Isle of Anglesey County Council	SoCG
S_D1_11 F04	Isle of Man Government – Territorial Sea Committee	SoCG
S_D1_12 F03 S_D1_13 F03 S_D1_14 F02	Natural Resources Wales (NRW) (advisory) and NRW Marine Licensing Team	For NRW (advisory), three SoCGs split by topic have been requested by NRW: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offshore</li> <li>• Onshore</li> <li>• Seascape, landscape and visual.</li> </ul> For NRW Marine Licensing Team, it has been agreed that an SoCG will not be progressed.
-	Natural England	Natural England confirmed in their Written Submission at the Procedural Deadline (PDA-041) that they do not currently plan on participating in the Examination or engaging on a SoCG for the Mona Offshore Wind Project. As such, no SoCG has been progressed between the Applicant and Natural England
S_D1_15 F03	Joint Nature Conservation Committee	SoCG
S_D2_8 F03	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Cymru	SoCG
S_D1_16 F03	Maritime and Coastguard Agency	SoCG
S_D1_17 F03	Trinity House	SoCG
S_D1_18 F04	UK Chamber of Shipping	SoCG
S_D1_19 F03	NATS (En Route) plc	SoCG

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<b>Doc No</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Approach to capturing commonality</b>
S_D2_9 F03	Defence Infrastructure Organisation (Ministry of Defence)	SoCG
S_D1_21 F03	Blackpool Airport	SoCG
-	National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc	National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc and the Applicant are in agreement that a Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) between the two parties is not necessary as updates on progress between the parties will be provided in the Land Rights Tracker (S_PD_5 ). As such, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc and the Applicant will not prepare an SoCG to be submitted during the Examination but will continue to engage on Protective Provisions and provide updates in the Land Rights Tracker.
-	Network Rail Limited	The Applicant has included Network Rail's preferred protective provisions within Schedule 10 of the Draft DCO (C1 F08). The Applicant has now agreed the required Framework Agreement with Network Rail to manage the direct interface that the DCO has with the operational railway and to regulate certain aspects of the relationship between Network Rail and the Applicant in relation to the delivery of the Proposed DCO Development. It is Network Rail's position that it will not withdraw its objection until the Framework Agreement has been completed but the parties are in the process of signing the Framework Agreement and that confirmation is expected to be shortly forthcoming. Updates on the position of negotiations with Statutory Undertakers is set out in the Final Position Statement on Statutory Undertakers and Crown Land (S_D7_31) and the Commercial Side Agreements tracker (S_D1_24 F02).
-	Dwr Cymru Welsh Water	The Applicant has addressed all of Dwr Cymru Cyfyngedig's comments on the draft protective provisions and the protective provisions were included in the draft development consent order (C1 F08) in an agreed form.
-	SP Manweb PLC	The Applicant has addressed all of SP Manweb PLC's comments on the draft protective provisions and a set of protective provisions have been included in the draft development consent order (C1 F08) in an agreed form.
-	Wales and West Utilities	The Applicant has included draft bespoke protective provisions for the protection of Wales and West Utilities within Schedule 10 of the Draft DCO (C1 F08) and is seeking confirmation from Wales and West Utilities that these are agreed. Please see Final Position Statement on Statutory Undertakers and Crown Land (S_D7_31).
-	North and Mid Wales Trunk Road Agency on behalf of Welsh Ministers as Strategic Highway Authority (Welsh Ministers)	The Applicant has addressed all of Welsh Minister's comments on the draft protective provisions and a set of protective provisions have been included in the draft development consent order (C1 F08) in an agreed form.
REP6-074	Cadw	SoCG
S_D7_26 F01	Heneb: Clwyd-Powys Archaeology	Initially the Applicant submitted a combined SoCG with Heneb: Gwynedd Archaeology, as agreed between the parties (S_D1_23 F02). In order to streamline the signing of the SoCGs these have now been separated and a final specific SoCG between Mona and Heneb: Clwyd-Powys Archaeology has been submitted at Deadline 7.

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<b>Doc No</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Approach to capturing commonality</b>
S_D7_27 F01	Heneb: Gwynedd Archaeology	Initially the Applicant submitted a combined SoCG with Heneb: Clwyd-Powys Archaeology, as agreed between the parties (S_D1_23 F02). In order to streamline the signing of the SoCGs these have now been separated and a final specific SoCG between Mona and Heneb: Gwynedd Archaeology has been submitted at Deadline 7.
REP3-032	Eni UK Limited	SoCG
-	BAE Systems Warton	It has been agreed between the parties that BAE Systems Warton will provide updates through the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (Ministry of Defence) SoCG.
REP5-078 S_D7_32	Stena Line	SoCG as requested by the Examining Authority at Issue Specific Hearing 4: Offshore Matters. A final position statement has been submitted at Deadline 7.
-	Welsh Government	SoCG requested in the Examining Authority's further written questions (ExQ2) Q2.0.3 (PD-018). The Applicant and Welsh Government have agreed that they are not submitting a SoCG into the examination, See the Applicants response to Q2.0.3 in REP5-080.
S_D5_30 F02	Isle of Man Steam Packet Company	SoCG as requested in ExQ2 Q2.15.1 (PD-018).
REP6-126	Ørsted IPs	SoCG as requested in ExQ2 Q2.19.8 (PD-018).
REP5-084	Awel y Môr	The Applicant has included draft bespoke protective provisions for the protection of Awel y Mor within Schedule 10 of the Draft DCO (C1 F08) and is in ongoing discussion with Awel y Mor in relation to these. Please see Final Position Statement on Statutory Undertakers and Crown Land (S_D7_31).

1.2.1.2 Table 1.2 provides the status of the SoCG submissions at each Examination Deadline at which the ExA has specified that SoCGs should be submitted in the Examination Timetable published in the Rule 8 Letter.



**Table 1.2: Status of SoCG submissions.**

Doc Ref	Party	Status at Deadline 1	Status at Deadline 3	Status at Deadline 5	Status at Deadline 6	Status at Deadline 7
S_D3_22 F04	Denbighshire County Council	Draft SoCG provided to party, anticipated submission at D3.	Initial SoCG submitted at D3.	Updated SoCG submitted at D5.	Updated SoCG submitted at D6.	Final signed SoCG submitted at D7.
S_D3_23 F04	Conwy County Borough Council	Draft SoCG provided to party, anticipated submission at D3.	Initial SoCG submitted at D3.	Updated SoCG submitted at D5.	Updated SoCG submitted at D6.	Final signed SoCG submitted at D7.
S_D1_10 F03	Isle of Anglesey County Council	Initial SoCG submitted.	The Applicant and Isle of Anglesey County Council met on 4 September to discuss engagement around the Outline Skills and Employment Plan (APP-210). It was agreed the Applicant and Isle of Anglesey County Council would continue to engage on this subject. The parties will continue to engage on when an updated SoCG will be submitted at a future Deadline.	Updated SoCG submitted at D5.	No further update.	Final signed SoCG submitted at D7.
S_D1_11 F04	Isle of Man Government – Territorial Sea Committee	Initial SoCG submitted.	Updated SoCG submitted at D3.	Updated SoCG submitted at D5.	No further update.	Final signed SoCG submitted at D7.
S_D1_12 F03	NRW (advisory) – offshore	Initial SoCG submitted. The Applicant has engaged with NRW (advisory) on this SoCG for D1 however the Applicant and NRW (advisory) acknowledge that additional work is required on the SoCG as the Examination progresses.	It has been agreed between the parties that an updated SoCG will be submitted at a future Deadline due to the volume of additional material being provided by the Applicant at D3. Further progress towards agreement between the parties will be communicated at D3 through NRW comments on the Applicant's D2 submissions, the Applicant's responses to NRW's D2 submissions (REP3-038 and REP3-039) and responses to the Examining Authority's Written Questions (ExQ1) (REP3-061). The parties will continue to engage on when an updated SoCG will be submitted.	The Applicant has issued an updated SoCG to NRW (advisory) for review. It was not possible for NRW (advisory) to return this to the Applicant in time for submission at Deadline 5. It is the Applicant's intention to submit this SoCG before Friday 06 December 2024, to be accepted at the ExA's discretion, in order for the SoCG to inform the Issue Specific Hearings (ISHs) scheduled for the week commencing 09 December 2024.	Updated SoCG submitted at D6.	Final signed SoCG submitted at D7.
S_D1_13 F03	NRW (advisory) – onshore	Initial SoCG submitted. The Applicant has engaged with NRW (advisory) on this SoCG for D1 however the Applicant and NRW (advisory) acknowledge that additional work is required on the SoCG as the Examination progresses.	As above, an updated SoCG will be submitted at a future Deadline.	The Applicant has issued an updated SoCG to NRW (advisory) for review. It was not possible for NRW (advisory) to return this to the Applicant in time for submission at Deadline 5. It is the Applicant's intention to submit this SoCG before Friday 06 December 2024, to be accepted at the ExA's discretion, in order for the SoCG to inform the Issue Specific Hearings (ISHs) scheduled for the week commencing 09 December 2024.	Updated SoCG submitted at D6.	Final signed SoCG submitted at D7.
S_D1_14 F02	NRW (advisory) – seascape, landscape and visual	Initial SoCG submitted. The Applicant has engaged with NRW (advisory) on this SoCG for D1 however the Applicant and NRW (advisory) acknowledge that additional work is required on the SoCG as the Examination progresses.	As above, an updated SoCG will be submitted at a future Deadline.	The Applicant has issued an updated SoCG to NRW (advisory) for review. It was not possible for NRW (advisory) to return this to the Applicant in time for submission at Deadline 5. It is the Applicant's intention to submit this SoCG before Friday 06 December 2024, to be accepted at the ExA's discretion, in order for the SoCG to inform the Issue Specific Hearings (ISHs) scheduled for the week commencing 09 December 2024.	The Applicant and NRW (A) are still in discussions on the seascape, landscape and visual SoCG and will provide an update at Deadline 7	Final signed SoCG submitted at D7.

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Doc Ref	Party	Status at Deadline 1	Status at Deadline 3	Status at Deadline 5	Status at Deadline 6	Status at Deadline 7
S_D1_15 F03	Joint Nature Conservation Committee	Initial SoCG submitted.	It has been agreed between the parties that an updated SoCG will be submitted at a future Deadline due to the volume of additional material being provided by the Applicant at D3. The Applicant has summarised its approach to resolve the JNCC comments received at D2 in the Applicant's Response to ExQ1 (REP3-062): Q1.17.5 for benthic ecology, Q1.17.10 for marine mammals and Q1.17.12 for offshore ornithology matters and has responded to JNCC's D2 submissions at D3 (REP3-035, REP3-036 and REP3-037). The parties will continue to engage on when an updated SoCG, will be submitted.	No further update.	Updated SoCG submitted at D6.	Final signed SoCG submitted at D7.
S_D2_8 F03	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Cymru	Draft SoCG provided to IP, anticipated submission at D2 requested by RSPB Cymru due to resource constraints.	Initial SoCG submitted at D2. It has been agreed between the parties that an updated SoCG will be provided at a future Deadline due to RSPB Cymru resource constraints and the volume of material being provided by the Applicant at D3. The parties will continue to engage on when an updated SoCG will be submitted.	Updated SoCG submitted at D5. Due to RSPB Cymru resourcing constraints, a number of rows have been removed from the updated SoCG (REP5-052) submitted at Deadline 5 compared to the Initial SoCG - RSPB Cymru (REP2-088) submitted at Deadline 2 as RSPB Cymru no longer has capacity to consider these matters in Examination.	No further update.	Final signed SoCG submitted at D7.
S_D1_16 F03	Maritime and Coastguard Agency	Initial SoCG submitted.	Updated SoCG submitted at D3.	No further update.	No further update.	Final signed SoCG submitted at D7.
S_D1_17 F03	Trinity House	Initial SoCG submitted.	Updated SoCG submitted at D3.	No further update.	No further update.	Final signed SoCG submitted at D7.
S_D1_18 F04	UK Chamber of Shipping	Initial SoCG submitted.	Updated SoCG submitted at D3.	Updated SoCG submitted at D5.	No further update.	Final signed SoCG submitted at D7.
S_D1_19 F03	NATS (En Route) plc	Initial SoCG submitted.	Updated SoCG submitted at D3.	No further update.	No further update.	Final signed SoCG submitted at D7.
S_D2_9 F03	Defence Infrastructure Organisation (Ministry of Defence)	Draft SoCG provided to IP, anticipated submission at D2.	Initial SoCG submitted at D2. Updated SoCG submitted at D3.	No further update.	No further update.	Final signed SoCG submitted at D7.
S_D1_21 F03	Blackpool Airport	Initial SoCG submitted.	Updated SoCG submitted at D3.	The Applicant directs the ExA to the responses to ExQ2 Q2.3.2 and Q2.3.3 for the latest updates on the status of agreement between the parties.	No further update.	Final signed SoCG submitted at D7.
REP6-074	Cadw	Initial SoCG submitted.	Updated SoCG will be submitted at D5 once the Outline Onshore Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (APP-209) has been updated in accordance with results from trial trenching.	The trial trenching campaign has been completed and the Outline Onshore WSI is currently being updated. An update to the Statement of Common Ground will be submitted at D6.	Final signed SoCG submitted at D6.	No further update.

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Doc Ref	Party	Status at Deadline 1	Status at Deadline 3	Status at Deadline 5	Status at Deadline 6	Status at Deadline 7
S_D7_26 F01 S_D7_27 F01	Heneb: Clwyd-Powys and Gwynedd Archaeology	Initial SoCG submitted. All matters agreed.	As for Cadw above, an updated SoCG will be submitted at D5 once the Outline Onshore WSI (APP-209) has been updated.	The trial trenching campaign has been completed and meetings have been set up to discuss with Heneb on 3 and 5 December. An update to the Statement of Common Ground will be submitted at D6 to reflect the outcomes of these discussion.	Updated SoCG submitted at D6.	Final signed SoCG submitted at D7. In order to streamline the signing of the SoCGs these have now been separated and final specific SoCGs between Mona and Heneb: Clwyd-Powys Archaeology (S_D7_26 F01) and Heneb: Gwynedd Archaeology (S_D7_27 F01) have been submitted at Deadline 7.
REP3-032	Eni UK Limited	Initial SoCG submitted.	Updated SoCG submitted at D3.	No further update.	No further update.	No further update.
REP5-078	Stena Line	-	-	Initial SoCG submitted at D5.	No further update.	A final position statement has been submitted at D7 (S_D7_32) which supersedes the positions in the SoCG at D5.
S_D5_30 F02	Isle of Man Steam Packet Company	-	-	Initial SoCG submitted at D5.	No further update.	Final signed SoCG submitted at D7.
REP6-126	Ørsted IPs	-	-	The Applicant and representatives of the Ørsted IPs met on 27 November 2024 to discuss the ExA's request for a SoCG. The parties agreed they will work towards a SoCG being submitted into the Mona Examination at D6. Further detail on the proposed content of the SoCG can be found in the Applicant's response to Q2.19.8 in REP5-080.	Initial SoCG submitted at D6.	No further update.

### 1.3 Agreement status for each topic

1.3.1.1 Table 1.4 provides a summary of the agreement status by topic between the Applicant and other parties in the SoCGs at Deadline 5.

1.3.1.2 Table 1.3 provides the colour-coding system used in Table 1.4.

**Table 1.3: Position definitions and colour coding.**







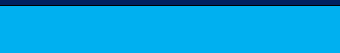
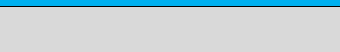
Colour	Definition
	All matters agreed.
	Some matters under discussion, some matters agreed.
	All matters under discussion.
	Some matters under discussion, some matters not agreed.
	All matters not agreed.
	Some matters not agreed, some matters agreed.
	Some matters not agreed, some matters under discussion, some matters agreed.
	Topic not within remit of party and not covered in SoCG.

Table 1.4: Status of agreement in SoCGs for the Mona Offshore Wind Project at Deadline 6.

Doc Ref	Party	Topic																										
		Physical processes	Benthic subtidal and intertidal ecology	Fish and shellfish ecology	Marine mammals	Offshore ornithology	Commercial fisheries	Shipping and navigation	Seascape and visual resources	Marine archaeology	Other sea users	Habitats Regulations Assessment	Water framework directive: coastal waters	Aviation and radar	Socio-economics	Geology, hydrogeology and ground conditions	Hydrology and flood risk	Onshore ecology	Onshore and intertidal ornithology	Historic environment	Landscape and visual resources	Land use and recreation	Traffic and transport	Noise and vibration	Air quality	Materials and waste	Water framework directive: surface water and groundwater	
S_D3_22 F04	Denbighshire County Council																											
S_D3_23 F04	Conwy County Borough Council																											
S_D1_10 F03	Isle of Anglesey County Council																											
S_D1_11 F04	Isle of Man Government – Territorial Sea Committee																											
S_D1_12 F03	NRW (advisory) – offshore																											
S_D1_13 F03	NRW (advisory) - onshore																											
S_D1_14 F02	NRW (advisory) – seascape, landscape and visual																											
S_D1_15 F03	Joint Nature Conservation Committee																											
S_D2_8 F03	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Cymru																											
S_D1_16 F03	Maritime and Coastguard Agency																											
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S_D1_21 F03	Blackpool Airport																											
REP6-074	Cadw																											
S_D7_26 F01 S_D7_27 F01	Heneb: Clwyd-Powys and Gwynedd Archaeology																											
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REP5-078 S_D7_32	Stena Line																											
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REP6-126	Ørsted IPs																											