

MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

Additional Submissions regarding National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc Protective Provisions'

Deadline: 7

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Image of an offshore wind farm

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1 ADDITIONAL SUBMISSIONS REGARDING NATIONAL GRID ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION PLC PROTECTIVE PROVISIONS'

1.1 Background

1.1.1.1 National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) has shared its Deadline 7 submissions with the Applicant and the Applicant responds to those submissions here.

1.1.1.2 These submissions supplement the detail provided by the Applicant in the Final Position Statement on Statutory Undertakers and Crown Land (S_D7_31) (the Final Position Statement) in respect of the protective provisions for NGET.

1.2 Status of Negotiations

1.2.1.1 NGET and the Applicant met on 8 January 2025 and the Applicant considers that discussions were positive, with good progress being made by both parties on key points of difference. However, due to illness (for both the Applicant and NGET) there were matters which necessarily had to wait for checks, to be worked through between the parties. A further legal meeting was held on 13 January 2025 to seek to further align the parties' positions for the final Deadline during which the Applicant also felt good progress was made.

1.2.1.2 As stated in the Final Position Statement, the Applicant believes the parties are close to reaching an agreed position and is committed to continuing discussions to that end.

1.3 Other submissions

1.3.1.1 As is normal within the process of discussing protective provisions through an Examination, the Applicant has sought to make updates to the Examining Authority regarding their position on protective provisions to inform the Examining Authority how discussions are progressing. This was specifically in response to requests made by the Examining Authority in respect of protective provisions and by voluntary updates made in submissions across various deadlines. Through this, written submissions were supplemented by updates to the Draft DCO, to include:

- (a) at Deadline 5 where the Applicant responded to the Examining Authority's request for detail on section 127 and 138 of the Planning Act (ExQ2.6.9 – REP5-081) which was accompanied by an update to the protective provisions in Part 7 of Schedule 10;
- (b) (b) updates were provided orally during the final set of hearings in line with the hearing agendas;
- (c) (c) additional updates to the protective provisions in Part 7 of Schedule 10 at Deadline 6 (REP6-016); and
- (d) at Deadline 7 further updates were requested to be made again to the Draft DCO (C1 F09).

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- 1.3.1.2 Through these updates the Applicant has demonstrated a narrowing of outstanding issues and considers that good progress has been made. The Applicant considers it is clear that its position has been updated to the most recent position submitted to the Examination (now stated at Deadline 7) and does not consider the position to have been ambiguously presented at any stage through the Examination as updates were made to the Draft DCO.
- 1.3.1.3 The Applicant was surprised to see the submissions made by NGET at Deadline 7 given that in the Applicant's view the parties have been making good progress regarding closing down points of difference. This is demonstrated by the small number of outstanding matters on the protective provisions as set out in the Final Position Statement.
- 1.3.1.4 The Applicant shared its Deadline 7 submissions with NGET in advance of the Deadline including the updates it was requesting to be made to the protective provisions in the Draft DCO.
- 1.3.1.5 Given the small number of issues the Applicant is confident that an agreed position can be reached and will update the Secretary of State at the appropriate time.