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Environmental Protection

REGULATION 32 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2017 - PLANNING ACT 2008

NOTIFICATION OF INFORMATION ABOUT DEVELOPMENT LIKELY TO HAVE SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN AN EEA STATE

PROPOSED MORGAN AND MORECAMBE OFFSHORE WIND FARMS TRANSMISSION ASSETS

Morgan Offshore Wind Limited and Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Limited has formally notified the Secretary of State, of its intention to submit an Environmental Statement.

The Transmission Assets Scoping Boundary is 1,667.9km in area and is located in the east Irish Sea. The Proposed Development comprises the construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning of the transmission assets required to enable the export of electricity from both the proposed Morgan Offshore Windfarm (OWF) Generation Assets and the proposed Morecambe OWF Generation Assets. The offshore aspect of the Proposed Development is likely to include up to six offshore substation platforms (OSPs), up to five Interconnector cables between the OSPs, one offshore booster station for the Morgan OWF and the offshore export cable corridor containing up to four cables for the Morgan OWF and up to two cables for the Morecambe OWF. The onshore assets will be located in an area south of Blackpool, running east to Penwortham.

Information about the Proposed Development and about its likely significant effects is available in the scoping report and the Secretary of State's scoping opinion which are available electronically on the Planning Inspectorate's website: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/north-west/morgan-and-morecambe-offshore-wind-farms-transmission-assets/>

Based on the current information provided by the Applicant to the Secretary of State, and applying a precautionary approach, the Secretary of State is of the view that the Proposed Development is likely to have significant effects on the environment in Belgium and The Republic of Ireland. In accordance with Regulation 32 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (EIA Regulations) the Secretary of State has provided information to the above mentioned EEA States about the Proposed Development and its likely significant effects, and these States have been asked to indicate by 3 November 2023 whether or not they wish to participate in the procedure for examining and determining the application under the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008) and Regulation 32 of the EIA Regulations.

The Proposed Development is currently at the pre-application stage of the process. The Applicant has not yet submitted an application to the Secretary of State. If the application is accepted for examination, the application will be examined in public and subject to the provisions of the PA 2008, the examination must be completed within a period of six months. Further information about how to participate in the examination procedure under the PA 2008 and the way in which the Secretary of State will notify and consult EEA States in accordance with Regulation 32 of the EIA Regulations is available on the Planning Inspectorate's website: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>

Following examination of the application and having taken the environmental information into consideration, the decision maker may refuse or grant development consent. If development consent is granted, this may be subject to requirements which, if necessary, will secure measures to avoid, reduce or offset the major adverse effects of the Proposed Development.

Signed by the Planning Inspectorate for and on behalf of the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

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