



# MORGAN AND MORECAMBE OFFSHORE WIND FARMS: TRANSMISSION ASSETS

## Environmental Statement

### Volume 1, Annex 1.1: Statement of expertise



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## Glossary

Term	Meaning
Environmental Impact Assessment	The process of identifying and assessing the significant effects likely to arise from a project. This requires consideration of the likely changes to the environment, where these arise as a consequence of a project, through comparison with the existing and projected future baseline conditions.
Environmental Statement	The document presenting the results of the Environmental Impact Assessment process.
Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets	The offshore and onshore infrastructure connecting the Morgan Offshore Wind Project and the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm to the national grid. This includes the offshore export cables, landfall site, onshore export cables, onshore substations, 400 kV grid connection cables and associated grid connection infrastructure such as circuit breaker compounds.  Also referred to in this report as the Transmission Assets, for ease of reading.
Transmission Assets	See Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets (above)

## Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning
BSc	Bachelor of Sciences
DCO	Development Consent Order
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ES	Environmental Statement
IEMA	Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment
MA	Masters of Arts
MSc	Masters of Sciences
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy

# 1 Statement of expertise

## 1.1 Introduction

1.1.1.1 This document forms Annex 1.1: Statement of Expertise of the Environmental Statement prepared for the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets (referred to hereafter as ‘the Transmission Assets’). The Environmental Statement (ES) presents the findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the Transmission Assets.

1.1.1.2 This document provides the statements of expertise for all authors of the ES. This is required by Regulation 14(4) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, as amended.

## 1.2 EIA management

1.2.1.1 The team responsible for the production of the ES has been led by the Applicants, supported by lead EIA consultant RPS. RPS is a registrant of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) Quality Mark. This means that RPS adheres to the following quality mark commitments:

- EIA management – a commitment to using effective project control and management processes to deliver quality in the EIAs co-ordinated and the ES produced.
- EIA team capabilities – a commitment to ensuring that all EIA staff have the opportunity to undertake relevant continuing professional development.
- EIA regulatory compliance – a commitment to delivering ES that meet the requirements established within the appropriate UK EIA Regulations.
- EIA context and influence – a commitment to ensuring that all EIAs co-ordinated are effectively scoped and with transparent indication of how the EIA process, and any consultation undertaken, influenced the development proposed and any alternatives considered.
- EIA content – a commitment to undertaking assessments that include: a robust analysis of the relevant baseline; assessment and transparent evaluation of impact significance; and an effective description of measures designed to monitor and manage significant effects.
- EIA presentation – a commitment to deliver ES that set out environmental information in a transparent and understandable manner.
- Improving EIA practice – a commitment to enhance the profile of good quality EIA by working with IEMA to deliver a mutually agreed

set of activities, on an annual basis, and by making appropriate examples of or work available to the wider EIA community.

- 1.2.1.2 The ES has been prepared with input from Royal Haskoning DHV who hold the IEMA Quality Mark. Royal Haskoning DHV are acting as advising consultants for the Applicants.

## 1.3 Topic authors

### 1.3.1 Volume 2 – Effects on the offshore environment

#### Physical processes (document reference F2.1)

- 1.3.1.1 Dr Naomi Shannon is a Principal Engineer for the Water Environment and Flood Risk Management at RPS. Naomi has a Bachelor of Engineering in Civil Engineering, a Masters of Sciences (MSc) in Engineering Computation and a Doctorate in Computational Fluid Dynamics from Queen’s University, Belfast. She has over 23 years’ post-doctoral experience in coastal modelling and has been involved in offshore wind projects for more than 12 years’. She has acted as an expert witness on flooding risks associated with a proposed road realignment during An Bord Pleanna (planning board) and also sat on the scientific committee for the Marine Waste-Water Discharges specialist group.

#### Benthic subtidal and intertidal ecology/MCZ (document reference F2.2)

- 1.3.1.2 Anna Prior, Associate Director at RPS, has a Bachelor of Arts in Biological Sciences from the University of Oxford and an MSc in Marine Environmental Protection from the University of Bangor. She is a member of the Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology and a Chartered Marine Scientist. Anna has 13 years’ of experience working in the offshore wind sector. She has specialised in providing technical inputs to the EIA process, including benthic ecology and marine mammal assessments. Anna has gained experience in working for a range of clients including the offshore renewables industry, oil and gas sector and port developments. She has experience of EIA in support of Development Consent Order (DCO) and Marine Licence applications including design and agreement of appropriate mitigation measures to reduce impacts on sensitive species and habitats.

#### Fish and shellfish ecology (document reference F2.3)

- 1.3.1.3 Lucy Shuff is a Principal Consultant at RPS and has a Bachelor of Sciences (BSc) (Hons) in Marine Biology and Oceanography. She is a member of the Society for Underwater Technology and is the Secretary of Marine Environmental Science Special Interest Group. She is also a member of the East of England Marine Science and Technology Sector Council. Lucy has over 13 years’ global marine survey and consulting experience.

### Marine mammals (document reference F2.4)

- 1.3.1.4 Lucie Buckland is a Principal Consultant at RPS. She has a BSc (Hons) in Ecology from Cardiff University and an MSc in Conservation and Biodiversity from the University of Exeter. Lucie has over 13 years' of global experience in marine mammal research, survey and consultancy and has experience providing ecological advice to inform policy and legislation. Lucie is a member of the Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology.

### Offshore ornithology (document reference F2.5)

- 1.3.1.5 Matthew Hazleton (MSc, BSc (Hons)) is a Principal Environmental Consultant at NIRAS. Matthew is an Associate member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management. Matthew has over 10 years of consulting experience where he has led, managed and supported Environmental Impact Assessments, Habitat Regulations Assessments and the examination process in relation to offshore ornithology for numerous offshore wind farm developments including the Crown Estate's Floating Offshore Wind, Round 4 and Extensions Plan-level assessments, Salamander, Morven, Hornsea Three, Moray West, Hornsea Project Two, Hornsea Project One, Burbo Bank Extension and Walney Extension.

### Commercial fisheries (document reference F2.6)

- 1.3.1.6 Jonny Lewis is a Director at MarineSpace, with a BSc (Hons) in Marine Biology and an MSc in Applied Hydrobiology, both from the University of Wales. He has over 19 years' professional experience as a marine environmental consultant, specialising in EIA and consenting for offshore sectors including marine aggregates, ports and harbours, oil and gas and offshore renewables. Jonny has provided support to numerous Round 1, 2 and 3 offshore wind farm projects in UK waters, as well as advising a number of clients in the wave and tidal sector. Jonny also currently undertakes the joint Secretariat role of the Offshore Renewables Joint Industry Partnership Ocean Energy, which MarineSpace jointly performs with Aquatera Ltd.

### Shipping and navigation (document reference F2.7)

- 1.3.1.7 Brocque Preece is a Principal Consultant and Project Manager at NASH Maritime with over 15 years' experience in naval architecture, marine consulting and maritime infrastructure projects throughout the offshore marine energy and port and harbours sectors. Brocque has a Bachelor of Engineering degree (1st class honours) in Naval Architecture from the University of New South Wales, Sydney. He leads the offshore energy pillar at NASH Maritime providing support to clients on marine operations safety, maritime risk and port developments and design.

### Marine archaeology (document reference F2.8)

- 1.3.1.8 Dr Scott Chaussée is a Marine Archaeology Consultant at RPS who has a PhD from University College London and an MA from the University of Southampton. Scott has over three years' experience supporting the renewable energy sector specialising in marine archaeology including a background as a archaeological marine geophysicist and consultant.

### Other sea users (document reference F2.9)

- 1.3.1.9 Thomas Griffin-Beale is an Environmental Consultant at RPS specialising in Other sea users, with an MSc in Environmental Consultancy and with three years experience working on the Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project: Generation Assets and Transmission Assets.

## 1.3.2 Volume 3 – Effects on the onshore environment

### Geology, hydrogeology and ground conditions (document reference F3.1)

- 1.3.2.1 The author of the chapter is Liz Williams, with over 20 years' experience working in environmental consultancy. During this time Liz has developed significant expertise in the characterisation and assessment of ground conditions and contaminated land as well as air quality assessments and waste classification. Liz has delivered these in support of a variety of projects including development for commercial, residential, primary infrastructure, renewable energy and waste purposes. She has also delivered numerous human health risk assessments for contaminated land projects for both planning and permitting purposes. Liz also has experience of being a key support role at Public Inquiry.
- 1.3.2.2 The technical reviewer for the chapter is Jim Lightbown (BSc, MSc, CEnv (Chartered Environmentalist), CSci (Chartered Scientist), MCIWEM (Member of the Chartered Institute of Water and Environmental Management)). Jim is a chartered professional with over 20 years' experience in the assessment of potential impacts from soil and groundwater contaminations and the mitigation of these impacts through remediation and/or mitigation measures. He is an experienced Environmental Impact Assessment practitioner managing ground conditions chapters for Preliminary Environmental Information Reports and Environmental Statements in relation to large scale DCO, commercial/logistics and residential schemes.

### Hydrology and flood risk (document reference F3.2)

- 1.3.2.3 Jonathan Morley, Technical Director at RPS, holds a degree in Environmental Management and has over 19 years' experience undertaking environmental reporting, hydrological assessments, ES and geo-environmental investigations. Jonathan provides expert



hydrological and flood risk technical support and advice for a wide range of development applications including; masterplans, energy projects, residential, commercial and industrial. These include Town and Country Planning Act applications, as well as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. During the course of supporting planning applications and associated EIAs, Jonathan has both produced and technically reviewed numerous flood risk assessments and hydrological models, which have been utilised to refine flood zones for development applications and support constraints mapping. His role includes project director and project liaison with various stakeholders to address concerns pertaining hydrological and drainage aspects of project development, as well as inputting into protective provisions of the DCO.

### **Onshore ecology and nature conservation (document reference F3.3)**

- 1.3.2.4 Jon Riley MSc MCIEEM is an ecologist with over 30 years' experience in the commercial, local government and charitable sectors. During this time he has developed particular strengths defining and delivering a diverse range of client briefs and in negotiating with statutory bodies and local government. Jon's focus is on Ecological and Environmental Impact Assessment, Habitats Regulations Assessment and habitat and botanical surveying; mainly in the housing and infrastructure sectors in the UK. Jon has prepared guidance on integrating biodiversity with the design and management of developments, most recently as part of Berkeley Group's commitment to achieving biodiversity net gain. He also has broad experience of conservation management planning, including plans intended to provide community as well as ecological benefit, and has worked with developers to deliver scheme designs with a wholistic approach to environmental issues. Jon was a senior technical consultant for HS2, initially on the Appraisal of Sustainability and subsequently on the EIAs for Phase 1 and Phase 2b, assisting HS2 Ltd. to meet its legal obligations, manage environmental effects of the scheme, and supporting effective stakeholder engagement, thereby minimising petitions and avoiding risks to the Hybrid Bill process.

### **Onshore and intertidal ornithology (document reference F3.4)**

- 1.3.2.5 Dr Lucas Mander (BSc, MSc, PhD) is an Associate Ornithologist at RPS. Lucas has over 20 years' experience in undertaking ornithological studies, including the production of technical reports to support planning application of several offshore wind farms. Lucas' work also includes peer-reviewed scientific literature on waders in estuaries, including movement ecology studies and the effectiveness of habitat restoration schemes for estuarine waders during the non-breeding season. He has operated as a consultant providing advice on habitat restoration/enhancement in estuaries and on the impact of offshore wind farms on birds.

### Historic environment (document reference F3.5)

- 1.3.2.6 Mick Rawlings is a Director at RPS, a member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries with more than 36 years' of professional experience within the historic environment sector in the UK and overseas. This time has provided Mick with an excellent and wide-ranging understanding of the policy and guidance regarding historic environment across all parts of the UK. He has been employed by contracting and consulting organisations that provide archaeological and historic environment services to a wide range of clients. These include transport and infrastructure providers as well as public agencies and private sector developers. He has undertaken EIAs for complex projects across several sectors of development. These include onshore cable connections for offshore wind farms such as Atlantic Array (Devon), Hornsea Project One (Lincolnshire) and Burbo Bank Extension and Mona (both North Wales), as well as interconnectors such as FABLink (Devon and Alderney).

### Land use and recreation (document reference F3.6)

- 1.3.2.7 Julia Tindale (BSc, Mi Soil Sci) is a Senior Director at RPS and has over 30 years' of experience in land use, recreation and environmental assessment. Julia is also a member of the British Society of Soil Science. During her career, Julia has specialised in the preparation of soils, agricultural and recreation assessments for ES together with the development and implementation of soil and public rights of way management plans. Julia also has experience of overall project management of large-scale infrastructure projects. Her specialist experience includes road and aviation projects, mineral extraction and renewable energy schemes as well as a number of large scale residential schemes. Julia has presented expert evidence on soils, agricultural land quality, land restoration, recreation and common land at public inquiry and DCO hearings.

### Traffic and transport (document reference F3.7)

- 1.3.2.8 David Archibald is a Director at RPS and a member of the Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation with over 20 years' experience of transport planning, highway engineering and EIAs. David has a particular expertise in preparing the transport related documents associated with obtaining DCOs for nationally significant infrastructure projects, particularly for power, energy and infrastructure projects. David is experienced in preparing the submission documents and participating during the examination process, including appearing and contributing to Issue Specific Hearings and other transport related Hearings. David's has provided transport advice and led the transport aspects associated with over 100 energy related development proposals.

### Noise and vibration (document reference F3.8)

- 1.3.2.9 Pam Lowery (MEng, MSc, MIOA, PIEMA) is an Associate Director in the RPS Acoustics team. She has over 22 years' experience in acoustics with extensive experience in the transportation and construction sectors. She has provided technical and policy support in the assessment of numerous road and rail projects for local and national government clients in the UK and Ireland. These include several Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects such as A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet and London Luton Airport Expansion. Pam is experienced in preparing the submission documents for and participating in the DCO examination process, including appearing and contributing to Issue Specific Hearings as required. She has also led the development of noise and vibration assessment procedures associated with the construction and operation of road schemes included within the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, as well as co-authoring the suite of High Speed Two (HS2) Phase One acoustics technical standards and worked with UK government departments in developing noise policies and procedures for monetising noise impacts into transport scheme appraisal based on health outcomes. Pam is a Member of the Institute of Acoustics and a Practitioner Member of the Institute of the Environmental Management and Assessment. She is also a member of the IOA's Sound, Noise and Health Group and the Association of Noise Consultants Sustainability Committee.

### Air Quality (document reference F3.9)

- 1.3.2.10 Kathryn Barker, Associate – Air Quality (MSc, BSc (Hons), MIAQM, MIEnvSc). Kathryn has a BSc in Environmental Science and an MSc in Environmental Pollution Control. She is a member of the Institution of Environmental Sciences and Fellow of the Institute of Air Quality Management (IAQM). Kathryn has 9 years experience in air quality and has prepared air quality assessments for residential, commercial, energy, industrial and waste developments.

### Landscape and visual resource (document reference F3.10)

- 1.3.2.11 Paul Ellis (BA, Diploma) is a Technical Director at RPS, and is an experienced landscape architect who has worked in the discipline for over 34 years' co-ordinating and managing the landscape architectural input to a wide range of multi-discipline projects. Paul is also an Associate Member of the Landscape Institute. He has extensive experience in the preparation of Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments for ES. The advice and design development input provided by Paul have led to the successful consent and implementation of schemes in challenging environments, either within or adjacent to nationally designated landscapes/seascapes. Paul is familiar with the consultation process with both statutory and non-statutory consultees, undertaking presentations and providing support at public exhibitions. He has appeared as an expert witness at public inquiries, hearings and DCO examinations.

## Aviation and radar (document reference F3.11)

- 1.3.2.12 Richie Hinchcliffe is a Principal Consultant at Osprey Consulting Services. Richie joined Osprey in 2012, following a seven year tenure at the Civil Aviation Authority. He has over 35 years' aviation experience at every level from operational aircrew, operational airspace manager, national policy maker and regulator with the Civil Aviation Authority and international Technical Advisor to the Single European Skies Air Traffic Management Research Programme. He has an aeronautical engineering degree, which has been the foundation of his technical, as well as operational credibility, on some of the issues facing civil and military Air Navigation Service Providers.

## 1.3.3 Volume 4 – Effects on the onshore and offshore environment

### Climate change (document reference F4.1)

- 1.3.3.1 Andrew Tasker (BSc, MSc) is an Associate Director at RPS. He is also a member of the IEMA Working Group and co-author of the updated Greenhouse Gases in EIA Guidance document. Andrew has comprehensive experience and technical knowledge in the principles of sustainability including corporate responsibility, Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method, and climate change. He provides advice and technical expertise across all work stages supporting development projects and organisations through key milestones. He is experienced in the assessment of impacts of climate change and carbon footprint analysis.

### Socio-economics (document reference F4.2)

- 1.3.3.2 Stuart Hardisty BSc Econ (Hons) FIED is a Director of Hardisty Jones Associates with 23 years' experience of all aspects of economic development consulting. Stuart is an experienced project manager and leader with strengths in EIA, economic impact forecasting and modelling, stakeholder consultation, understanding the implications of economic analysis, survey development/management, and strategy and policy development. Stuart has worked for a wide range of public and private sector clients across the UK. Prior to founding HJA in 2011, Stuart enjoyed an 11 year career at DTZ (now Cushman & Wakefield), latterly heading its economic development team across Wales and South West England. Stuart has served as a Director of the Institute of Economic Development (the professional body for those working in economic development) since 2015.

## 1.3.4 Technical annexes

### Human health (document reference F1.5.1)

- 1.3.4.1 Ryngan Pyper is the Director of Health and Social Impact at RPS. Ryngan is first author of the IEMA health in EIA guidance 2022 and the Institute of Public Health Impact Assessment guidance 2021. Ryngan is

also first author of the World Health Organisation 2021 review of international practice on health in EIA and Strategic Environmental Assessment. Ryngan is a registered public health practitioner with the Faculty of Public Health, as well as an Honorary Research Fellow and Member of the World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre on Health in Impact Assessments at the University of Liverpool. Ryngan has over 19 years' experience as a professional consultant, with a public health, environmental science and legal practice background. Ryngan is chair of the health section of the International Association for Impact Assessment. Ryngan is experienced with renewable and linear projects, as well as many other sectors. As an expert witness Ryngan has demonstrated robust health assessment at Public Inquiry.

#### **Underwater sound (document reference F1.5.2)**

- 1.3.4.2 Simon Stephenson, an Associate Director at Seiche, is a leading underwater acoustic expert with over 26 years' experience. He is experienced in assessing the impacts of underwater noise from offshore and coastal projects on marine life. He has been underwater noise technical lead on numerous offshore wind projects (as well as wave and tidal development) and is considered a leading expert in undertaking EIA noise studies for complex offshore wind farm developments. Simon worked as a senior member of the team advising the UK government to review and make recommendations to improve marine mammal mitigation protocols and to assess the efficacy of acoustic deterrent devices and recently undertook a research project for National Resources Wales on noise modelling in Welsh waters. Simon has authored a number of technical papers on underwater acoustics and presented at a number of conferences. He is a Chartered Engineer, holds a bachelor's degree in physics, is a member of the Institute of Acoustics and Associate of the Acoustical Society of America. He is an active member of the UK Underwater Sound Forum, UK Oil and Gas underwater noise modelling group, BSI committee EH/1/7 on underwater acoustics and ISO/TC 43/SC 3/WG 5 "Measurement and modelling of underwater ambient sound".

#### **Coastal water framework directive (document reference F2.2.2)**

- 1.3.4.3 Jill Hobbs BSc (Hons) is a Principal Marine Consultant at RPS. Jill has a BSc in Geology and an Advanced Postgraduate Certificate (Distinction) in Spatial Information Science and a certificate in Ecology and Conservation. She is a practitioner member of the Institute of IEMA.

#### **Water Framework Directive surface and groundwater assessment (document reference F3.2.1)**

- 1.3.4.4 Mark Magee (BA, MSc) is a Technical Director at RPS. Mark is a chartered scientist and environmentalist with 24 years' experience in catchment management and river basin planning, environmental assessment, environmental appraisal of infrastructure projects, hydrology, hydraulic modelling and water quality assessment. Mark also has specific technical expertise in Water Framework Directive compliance assessments for large infrastructure projects in UK and Ireland. Mark has project managed a number of large multi-disciplinary

and smaller scale projects, developed and project managed numerous impact assessments, planning applications, post consent plans, freshwater environmental surveys, technical reports, and mitigation and monitoring plans. Mark is currently working with the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in Ireland developing River Basin Management Plans and Water Framework Directive Assessment Guidelines for Planning Authorities in Ireland. He is also the Conservation Management Plan lead for seven water dependent Special Areas of Conservation being prepared for Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland.