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Dear Mr Queiros,

## Seagreen Round 3 Firth of Forth Zone 2 – Phase 1 Offshore Correction to HRA Report – Information for Appropriate Assessment

I am writing to you as a stakeholder who received Seagreen's HRA report (A4MR-SEAG-Z-DEV275-SRP-233) that was submitted to Marine Scotland on October 18<sup>th</sup> 2013. The same letter is being sent to all other stakeholders who received the HRA report and to Marine Scotland itself.

Seagreen has been informed, through representation to Marine Scotland by Inch Cape Offshore Limited (ICOL), that certain values stated for the Inch Cape Offshore Wind Farm (ICOWF) in Seagreen's HRA report were incorrect. The purpose of this letter is to draw the corrections referred to under (i) to (iv) below to your attention. Seagreen wishes to advise that the ICOL Environmental Statement, submitted 1st July 2013, should be relied upon for the ICOWF project description.

## Corrections:

(cxxix) Piling effects (Ch.3 Marine Mammals and Ch.4 Fish and Shellfish): In Tables 3.39 and 4.16 the number of piles attributed to ICOWF is stated as 1,162; the correct number is 944. This error is reflected in the evaluation of the installation time and the duration of piling activity in subsequent paragraphs. The correct time spent engaged in active pile driving at ICOWF is 2,576.7 hours, not 3,387.3 hours as stated. In paragraphs 3.296 and 3.304 and in paragraphs 4.200 and 4.209 the piling installation period at ICOWF is given as 581 days. For 944 piles, the correct period is 472 days.

<u>The Seagreen in-combination assessment of piling effects was therefore more precautionary than necessary, but still concluded no adverse effects on the integrity of any European sites.</u>

There is also a typographical error in paragraphs 3.409 and 3.460 which gives 1.2% as the predicted worst case in-combination proportion of the two year installation phase for sequential installation; the correct figure is 25.8%. Seagreen confirms that the assessment was conducted on the basis of the 25.8% figure and hence the outcome of the assessment is unchanged.

(cxxx) Water quality (Ch.3 Marine Mammals Ch.4 Fish and Shellfish): In paragraphs 3.320 and 4.222 the sediment excavation per WTG foundation at ICOWF is stated as 114,012m³ which is the amount for an offshore substation platform. The correct value for the WTG is 28,503m³. The Seagreen in-combination assessment of changes in water quality was therefore more precautionary than necessary, but still concluded that no adverse effects on the integrity of any European sites.



- (cxxxi) Habitat disturbance (Ch.3 Marine Mammals): In paragraph 3.333 the predicted extent of temporary habitat disturbance for ICOWF is stated as 9.59 km², the correct value is 5.54 km². The Seagreen in-combination assessment of changes in water quality was therefore more precautionary than necessary, but still concluded no adverse effects on the integrity of any European sites.
- (cxxxii) Number of bottlenose dolphin (Ch.3 Marine Mammals): In Table 3.53 the number of bottlenose dolphins at ICOWF is stated as 3 and the total number of individuals for all projects is stated as 131. The correct number of bottlenose dolphins at ICOWF should be 10 and the correct total number of individuals for all projects is 138. The conclusion of the Seagreen in-combination assessment for potential behavioural effects on bottlenose dolphin is unchanged by this correction.

The representation from ICOL also provided a critique of some methodologies used by Seagreen in the HRA report and argued that some data and ICOWF project information had been modified. Seagreen maintains that the methods used are common practice, clearly laid out and transparent and follow advice provided to Seagreen by Scottish Natural Heritage and Marine Scotland Science. Where appropriate, Seagreen has provided a precautionary assessment, which is generally seen to be good EIA practice.

For the purposes of the in combination assessment for ornithology, wind turbine rotor clearance was standardised for all sites. This was to allow a meaningful comparison between them. No other data or project information submitted by ICOL was modified in the Seagreen HRA.

It is Seagreen's opinion that the corrections outlined in this letter have no impact upon the conclusions of the HRA.

## Yours sincerely



Mike Scott General Manager Seagreen Wind energy Limited