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5 Stakeholder Engagement

5.1 Introduction

- 1 This chapter summarises the approach Inch Cape Offshore Limited (ICOL) has taken during engagement with statutory bodies and other stakeholders. In accordance with good practice in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), individuals and organisations whose interests might be affected by the Wind Farm and Offshore Transmission Works (OfTW) have been engaged by ICOL for their views and to obtain any relevant information during the course of preparing this Environmental Statement (ES).
- 2 This chapter is supported by the following appendices:
 - 5A: *Summary of Scoping Responses*;
 - 5B: *Scottish Offshore Wind Farms – East Coast: Discussion Document (2) – Approach to Cumulative Effects Statement*;
 - 5C: *Phase 1 Public Engagement Results*; and
 - 5D: *Phase 2 Public Engagement Results*.

5.2 Policy and Guidance for Stakeholder Engagement

- 3 There is currently no statutory inclusion of public participation within the provisions of the *Electricity Act 1989* or *Marine (Scotland) Act 2010*. However, ICOL considers that engagement should be steered by the Scottish Government's *Planning Advice Note (PAN) 3/2010 Community Engagement*.
- 4 PAN 3/2010 provides advice to developers on ways of effectively engaging with communities on planning matters and links directly to the *National Standards for Community Engagement* (Communities Scotland, 2009). A key principle of PAN 3/2010 is the focus on early engagement.
- 5 The Scottish Government (2011), in its document *2020 Routemap for Renewable Energy in Scotland*, identifies the key consultation challenges as being “ensuring Scotland’s communities are engaged with the [development] process” and “ensuring developments consider public and community views [throughout the consenting process]”.
- 6 Marine Scotland published their revised *A Guide to Marine Licensing: Marine Licensing in Scotland’s Seas under The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009* in May 2012. The Guide states that:

“Pre-application consultation provisions contained in the [Marine (Scotland) Act 2010] may be relevant for large marine projects that will allow communities with concerns to become fully engaged in the Marine Licence decision making process”
(Marine Scotland, 2012a, p.9).

- 7 The draft *Marine Scotland Licensing and Consents Manual: Covering Marine Renewables and Offshore Wind Energy Development* (Marine Scotland, 2012b) also gives clear guidance on the importance of effective consultation.

5.3 Approach to Stakeholder Engagement

5.3.1 Identification of Stakeholders

- 8 At the beginning of the EIA process, an extensive exercise was undertaken to identify relevant stakeholders. In order to provide structure to this process, stakeholders were broadly categorised according to specific areas of interest and expertise. Early identification allowed ICOL to develop positive long-term relationships with key stakeholders. The stakeholders groups are:

- Statutory Consultees;
- Strategic Stakeholders; and
- Community Stakeholders.

Statutory Consultees

- 9 ICOL has, and will continue to, engage with statutory consultees as they have brought much to the discussion on the scope and merits of the assessments through their experience and perspective.
- 10 Marine Scotland - Licensing Operations Team is responsible for conducting formal stakeholder consultation in relation to applications it receives for Section 36 consent and Marine Licence (see *Section 3.2*). Applications for Section 36 consent for developments within 12 nautical miles will be subject to consultation with Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and any appropriate Local Authorities. Statutory consultees for Marine Licence applications include SNH and SEPA as well as the Northern Lighthouse Board and the Maritime Coastguard Agency.

Strategic Stakeholders

- 11 This group includes the organisations and individuals who have a specific interest or expertise in the Project at national, regional or local level. Strategic stakeholder views and expertise in a particular aspect of the Project's impact or development are important, although they are not statutory consultees. These stakeholders often have specialist subject or local knowledge, or the Project may have a specific bearing on their activities. Strategic stakeholders include organisations such as the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and local voluntary groups.

Community Stakeholders

- 12 This group includes organisations or individuals, who may be interested in the Project because they live, work, or pursue other activities in the vicinity of the Project and include

the general community, community councils, local councillors and Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs).

5.3.2 Engagement

- 13 Engagement has been important in helping to scope the EIA and to ensure that the assessments are focussed on issues that are most important.
- 14 As part of a comprehensive approach to ensuring appropriate engagement has been undertaken, three distinct activities have been completed to date:
- Scoping.
 - On-going consultations.
 - Public engagement.
- 15 This process has helped to identify the scope of assessments, merits of the Project, and to highlight opportunities and constraints which have been incorporated into the EIA process.
- 16 Stakeholders' views and responses to the scope of the EIA are summarised at the beginning of each relevant technical chapter, with a summary provided in *Appendix 5A: Summary of Scoping Responses*. Feedback gathered throughout the on-going consultation has also been included in the consultation section of the relevant technical chapter. Results of public engagement can be found in *Appendix 5C, Appendix 5D* and in relevant chapters of this ES.

5.4 Scoping

5.4.1 Scoping Engagement Phase

- 17 Stakeholder engagement and consultation on the Wind Farm EIA Scoping Report was undertaken from 31 August 2010 to 30 November 2010.

5.4.2 Scoping Report and Non Technical Summary

- 18 A Scoping Report and its Non Technical Summary for the Inch Cape Offshore Wind Farm were prepared in August 2010. The Scoping Report was intended to solicit the opinion of statutory and non-statutory stakeholders on the scope of the EIA. ICOL requested a formal Scoping Opinion from Marine Scotland.
- 19 The purpose of a scoping consultation with stakeholders is to ensure the EIA is comprehensive and robust. As identified in *Chapter 4: Process and Methodology*, further informal consultation has been undertaken with the relevant stakeholders for the Wind Farm and OfTW which, along with recognised best practice, has informed the methodology for the assessment of the Project, and the scope of this ES.
- 20 The Scoping Report and its Non Technical Summary have been publically available since August 2010.

5.4.3 Scoping Methodology

Letters

- 21 A series of tailored letters were sent to identified parties informing them of the Scoping Report and inviting their response. Recipients of the letters included statutory consultees, strategic stakeholders, and community stakeholders. The letters also included information on the public engagement exhibitions (see *Section 5.6.1* below).

Project Website

- 22 A dedicated website has been developed by ICOL (www.inchcapewind.com). This website provides information on the Project and provides access to the Scoping Report and the accompanying Non Technical Summary. This website also provides a contact e-mail address.

Targeted Meetings

- 23 Throughout the scoping phase, targeted meetings provided ICOL with the opportunity to meet with key stakeholders in response to the Scoping Report and accompanying Non Technical Summary. Meetings with key stakeholders continued after the scoping period, providing meaningful, on-going consultation and input from key organisations and the community.

5.4.4 Scoping Responses

- 24 Twenty four responses were received from both statutory and non-statutory consultees in response to the Scoping Report. The Scoping Opinion received from Marine Scotland included responses from both statutory and non-statutory consultees (listed in Table 5.1). ICOL also received responses in addition to those received from Marine Scotland. These responses are also included in Table 5.1.
- 25 Each technical chapter of this ES includes a summary of relevant scoping responses and identifies the section(s) where they are considered. *Appendix 5A* provides a summary of the responses received at scoping and also identifies where the responses are considered within this ES.

Table 5.1: List of Stakeholders who Provided Responses Through the EIA Scoping Process

Marine Scotland (The Scottish Government)- Consultee Responses in Scoping Opinion	
Civil Aviation Authority	Ports and Harbours
Health and Safety Executive	The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Historic Scotland	Royal Yachting Association and Royal Yachting Association Scotland
Marine Scotland Licensing and Operations Team	Scottish Canoe Association
Marine Scotland Compliance	Scottish Environment Protection Agency (Statutory)
Marine Scotland Science	Scottish Natural Heritage (Statutory)
Maritime and Coastguard Agency	The Chamber of Shipping
Ministry of Defence	The Joint Radio Company Ltd
NERL Safeguarding	Transport Scotland
Northern Lighthouse Board	
Response to Scoping (Outside Marine Scotland Scoping Opinion)	
Chris Harvey (MSP)	Scottish Council for Volunteer Organisations
Dundee Council	The Crown Estate
Fife Council	

5.5 On-going Consultation

5.5.1 Engagement Phase

26 During, and after, completion of the formal Scoping process, targeted engagement was undertaken with a series of stakeholders. This engagement was to ensure ICOL continued to communicate and consult with key stakeholders throughout the preparation and finalisation of this ES and built on stakeholder relationships formed throughout the scoping phase.

5.5.2 Formal Working Groups and Stakeholder Meetings

27 Pre-submission engagement has been an on-going and iterative process which commenced pre-scoping and has continued through to the finalisation of this ES. Dedicated stakeholder meetings and working groups were established with the key groups outlined below.

Firth and Tay Offshore Wind Developers Group (FTOWDG)

28 FTOWDG is comprised of representatives from the potential wind farm developments proposed in the Forth and Tay area. This working group was formed to ensure cross-project

communication and to promote collaborative work. It also provides a platform for the wind farm developers to engage with key stakeholders. The Crown Estate (TCE) chairs this working group with representatives from ICOL, Mainstream Renewable Power and Seagreen Wind Energy Limited in attendance.

- 29 A key document prepared by FTOWDG is the Cumulative Discussion Document (see *Appendix 5B*). The aim of the document was to promote consistent approaches to cumulative impact assessment undertaken by developers in the Forth and Tay area. Key stakeholders were consulted in the preparation of the document.

FTOWDG Commercial Fisheries Working Group

- 30 A Fisheries Working Group has been formed through voluntary engagement between FTOWDG developers and the fishing industry. The principal objective of the group is to provide a forum for collaborative discussion and action in relation to offshore wind farm developments in the Forth and Tay area and their interactions with commercial fishing activities throughout the development lifecycle of any project. The group includes representatives from the FTOWDG developers, Scottish Fishermen's Federation, Scallop Association and individual fishermen nominated from catchment areas in the region as well as Marine Scotland Science and TCE.

Underwater Noise Working Group

- 31 The Offshore Wind Underwater Noise Working Group includes representatives from all of the UK offshore wind developers, government, TCE and other stakeholders. The aim of the group is to share information and knowledge on underwater noise in the areas of consenting and engineering, identify gaps, and improve cross project communication. This has contributed to the development of the Offshore Renewables Joint Industry Programme which is considering the potential for joint industry projects to improve long term knowledge and understanding of underwater noise and its potential to affect marine mammals and ornithology. ICOL representatives are involved in the scoping and planning of these projects.

Stakeholder Meetings

- 32 Meetings have been held, between ICOL and stakeholders, to ensure stakeholder input has been received in a timely and effective manner to be most useful in the completion of the EIA reported in this ES. Statutory and non-statutory consultees, including (but not limited to) SNH, Historic Scotland, relevant local authorities, the Ministry of Defence, Northern Lighthouse Board and Forth Ports, have been consulted with in this way.

5.5.3 Engagement Responses

FTOWDG, Formal Working Groups and Stakeholder Meetings

- 33 Collaboration across projects through groups such as FTOWDG, the Underwater Noise Working Group and the Fisheries Working Group has informed the preparation of this ES and improved consistency in cumulative impact assessments. This is especially evident in

baseline data collection methods and location selection e.g. *Chapter 16: Seascape, Landscape and Visual*.

- 34 Stakeholder engagement following the scoping phase of this Project has been an iterative process. Engagement has focused on ensuring understanding of responses received as part of scoping and building on this to ensure the robustness of the EIA reported in this ES.
- 35 Upon submission of the application, further formal consultation with the stakeholders will be undertaken by ICOL (see *Section 5.7* below).

5.6 Public Engagement

5.6.1 Public Engagement Phases

- 36 Two phases of public engagement have been undertaken during the preparation of this ES. The first phase ran in parallel with the formal consultation on the scoping and ran between 31 August 2010 and 30 November 2010. The second phase of public engagement exhibitions was held in the summer of 2012.

Public Engagement - First Phase

- 37 Six public engagement exhibitions (identified in Table 5.2 below) were held throughout the EIA Scoping engagement. The focus of the public engagement exhibitions was on providing information and gathering views on the Project itself, rather than the scope of the EIA.
- 38 Information was provided through a series of display boards and ICOL representatives were present to ensure the communities, closest to the Development Area, had the opportunity to discuss the Wind Farm and EIA process.
- 39 The public engagement exhibitions were advertised locally and nationally in the Arbroath Herald (1 October, 2010), Brechin Advertiser (30 September 2010), the Herald (30 September 2010) and the Montrose Review (30 September 2010). In addition, flyers advertising the public engagement exhibitions were distributed. The events were also advertised on the Angus Ahead website (www.AngusAhead.com).

Table 5.2: Public Engagement Exhibitions

Location	Date	Timing
Montrose Town Hall	Friday 24 September 2010	12 noon – 8 pm
Discovery Point, Dundee	Wednesday 29 September 2010	12 noon – 8 pm
Angus Business Centre, Keptie Road, Arbroath	Tuesday 5 October 2010	12 noon – 8 pm
St Andrew’s Town Hall, Queens Gardens	Wednesday 6 October 2010	12 noon – 8 pm

Location	Date	Timing
Crail Community Hall, St Andrew's Road	Wednesday 13 October 2010	12 noon – 8 pm
Discovery Point, Dundee	Thursday 14 October 2010	12 noon – 8 pm

Public Engagement – Second Phase (Summer Galas)

40 ICOL (as part of FTOWDG) exhibited at four community galas and fetes in Fife and Angus throughout the summer of 2012. The summer events provided ICOL an opportunity to engage with the public at:

- Carnoustie Gala (summer 2011 and 2012);
- St Andrews Highland Games;
- Anstruther Muster; and
- Leuchars Airshow.

41 The events proved to be an opportunity to open dialogue and build relationships between members of ICOL and individuals within the communities. Information about the Project was displayed at each of the venues and participants at these events were asked to complete a questionnaire (see *Appendix 5D*).

5.6.2 Public Engagement Responses

Public Engagement Responses- First Phase

42 A total of 157 people attended the six public engagement events. Whilst the exhibitions provided an avenue for the public to formally engage, no responses were received through these exhibitions on the scope of the Wind Farm and EIA. However, engagement on the Project, more broadly, led to 60 surveys being completed at the six events, with ten additional survey responses received via postal feedback.

43 Feedback from the public exhibitions, including responses to the questionnaires that were completed, is included in *Appendix 5C*.

Public Engagement Responses – Second Phase (Summer Galas)

44 The public engagement exhibition was visited by 1,136 people across the four events. Of these 225 people (19.8 per cent) filled in the questionnaire.

45 The focus of the public consultation was on providing information and gathering views on the Project. The received responses provided ICOL with an understanding of representative views on the merits of the Project.

46 A full analysis of the summer gala public engagement and the questionnaire responses is included in *Appendix 5D*.

5.7 Opportunity to Comment

47 In accordance with legislative requirements and industry best practice, submission of applications will be advertised and this ES will be publically available. Stakeholder engagement will continue into the determination phase. Any formal responses received as part of this phase will be captured as representations to the consent applications and will be considered by Marine Scotland during the determination phase.

48 A copy of the applications, with their respective plans showing the areas to which they relate, together with a copy of this Environmental Statement, are available for inspection, free of charge, via the Project website (www.inchcapewind.com) and during opening hours at:

- Angus Council - Planning and Transport Division, County Buildings, Market Street, Forfar DD8 3LG;
- Dundee Council - Planning and Building Control, Floor 6, Dundee House, 50 North Lindsay Street, Dundee, DD1 1LS;
- Fife Council - Enterprise, Planning and Protective Services, Kingdom House, Kingdom Avenue, Glenrothes, KY7 5LY;
- East Lothian Council, John Muir House, Brewery Park, Haddington, East Lothian, EH41 3HA;
- Dunbar Library, Bleachingfield Centre, Dunbar, EH42 1DX;
- Dundee Central Library, Wellgate, Dundee, Angus DD1 1DB;
- Montrose Library, High Street, Montrose, DD10 8PH;
- Port Seton Library, Community Centre, South Seton Park, Port Seton, EH32 0BG; and
- St Andrews Library, Church Square, St Andrews, KY16 9NN.

49 If you wish to comment on this ES or make representations to Marine Scotland you must do so within 42 days from the first advert. Please write to Marine Scotland at the following address:

Scottish Government
Marine Laboratory
PO Box 101
375 Victoria Road
Aberdeen
AB11 9DB

References

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