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Laura Morley  
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By Email  
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Your ref: 005/OW/SER-10  
Our ref:

Date 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2013

Dear Laura

### Application For Consent: Inch Cape Offshore Wind Farm

Many thanks for your letter of 24<sup>th</sup> July inviting comment on the application for consent for the proposed Inch Cape offshore wind farm. The Environmental Statement with particular reference to navigation safety has been reviewed and the following comments provided:

The NRA and embedded traffic survey, as presented are considered to meet the requirements of MGN 371. The MGN 371 checklist contained at annex 19 A.4 is accepted as the developer's confirmation of their compliance with MGN 371.

#### Cumulative Impacts

The cumulative impact approach undertaken within the NRA is accepted, noting that the Firth of Forth Round 3 zone only includes project alpha and bravo of its phase 1 development. Cumulative impacts views may change as development plans within the area mature. Indicated route deviations are subjective and at this time appear reasonable.

#### Cable Routes

Export cable routes, cable burial protection index and cable protections are issues that are yet to be fully developed. However due cognisance needs to address cable burial and protection, particularly close to shore where impacts on navigable water depth may become significant. A detailed condition of consent will be provided to protect navigable water depths and safe navigation.

#### Survey Data

MGN 371 Annex 2 Paragraph 6 iii requires that hydrographic surveys should fulfil the requirements of the International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO) Order 1a standard, with the final data supplied as a digital full density data set, and survey report to the MCA Hydrography Manager. This information is yet to be submitted,



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Failure to report the survey or conduct it to Order1a may invalidate the Navigational Risk Assessment if it was deemed not fit for purpose. The survey data must be submitted and approved prior to any consent being granted.

**Emergency Response & Co-operation Plans**

An Emergency Response & Cooperation Plan will be provided by the developer to meet the requirements of annex 4 of MGN 371. This will need to be approved by MCA prior to construction commencing. A detailed condition of consent will be provided to address this requirement.

**Conclusion**

The comments above highlight areas where further information will be required or conditions of consent will need to be developed and addressed. The MCA in principal is content to accept the application for development, subject to suitable consent conditions being developed as appropriate.

Yours sincerely



MCA Navigation Safety

