

Aires C (Catarina)

From: Christie M (Mark)
Sent: 27 May 2016 14:52
To: McKie J (Jim) (MARLAB)
Cc: Major K (Karen); Bain N (Nicola) (MARLAB); Aires C (Catarina); Drew J (Jessica)
Subject: FW: Aberdeen offshore windfarm - Condition 14 - Design

Importance: High

FYI

Mark Christie
[marinescotland](http://marinescotland.gov.uk)
Marine Renewables and Offshore Wind
Licensing Operations Team

From: Deb Munro [mailto:DeboMunro@aberdeencity.gov.uk]
Sent: 27 May 2016 14:23
To: Christie M (Mark)
Cc: Sinclair Laing; Gale Beattie
Subject: Aberdeen offshore windfarm - Condition 14 - Design
Importance: High

ELECTRICITY ACT 1989

The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2000

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010, PART 4 MARINE LICENSING

The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007 (as amended)

Dear Mark

Further to your email of 20 May 2016, please find below our comments on the Design Statement (Draft).

Method

We are content with the methodology for the viewpoint design appraisal. However, without a pre-mitigation appraisal for comparison it is not clear how this appraisal has influenced the design (as required by condition 14 d), or whether the appraisal it is intended as a description of the 'final' design.

Visualisations

Due to time constraints for providing comments we have not had the benefit of seeing full sized printed copies, nor have we been able to view the images in the field. Within these limitations we conclude that the visualisations appear to be of mainly good quality. However for Viewpoints 5, 7 and 12 the turbines appear to be less well defined than in other viewpoints, even accounting for distance.

Regards

Deb

Deb Munro
Senior Environmental Planner
Environmental Policy



MEMORANDUM

FAO Victoria Grant, Formartine DM Team

From: Peter Fraser, Infrastructure Services.

Ext No: (721) 8395 **Date:** 25/05/16

Your Ref: EOWDC Design Statement

Our Ref: European Offshore Deployment Centre 4

European Offshore Wind Deployment Centre Wind Farm – Design Statement

Introduction:

Further to the letter granting consent to the applicant from Marine Scotland dated 26th March 2013, and the requirement on the applicant to produce a Design Statement in accordance with Planning Condition 14 as identified in that letter, the following comments are made in relation with landscape/seascape and visual impact issues and the Aberdeen Offshore Wind Farm Limited Design Statement (Draft) as supplied to Aberdeenshire Council by the applicant with an accompanying letter from Graham Davey of Vattenfall dated 24 March 2016.

Planning Condition 14 states the following:

Prior to the Commencement of the Development, a detailed Design Statement must be submitted by the company to the Scottish Ministers for their written approval, after consultation by the Scottish Ministers with SNH, Marine and Coastguard Agency, Northern Lighthouse Board, National Air Traffic Services and any other such advisors as may be required at the discretion of the Scottish Ministers. The Design Statement must provide guiding principles for the deployment of the wind turbines. This plan must detail:

- (a) Layout location for each phase and each turbine; and*
- (b) turbine height, finishes, blade diameter and rotation speed across each phase, rows and individual turbine locations; and*
- (c) lighting requirements (navigation and aviation) for each turbine/row, or, as the case may be, phase including any anemometer mast; and*
- (d) further detailed assessment of visual impacts to inform the detailed layout and design of each location and phase of the deployment centre from selected viewpoints to be agreed with Scottish ministers and any such other advisors as may be required at their discretion.*

Reason: To set out design principles to mitigate, as far as possible, the visual impact of the turbines.

The European Offshore Wind Deployment Centre is an offshore wind energy project to comprise of 11 wind turbines each to stand at a height of 190.5m metres above the LAT (lowest astronomical tide). The turbines will have yellow painted lattice support structures to stand at 32.6m above LAT.

Detailed comments:

The planned development is located north east of Aberdeen at a distance of around 2.0km from the shore extending between Blackdog and Balmedie.

The proposed eleven turbines are set out in a regular pattern in a semi diamond formation.

The following is written in relation to the required Design Statement.

The Design Statement (Draft), as requirement by Scottish Ministers, contains the following in relation to landscape and visual issues:

- *Layout location as identified in plan Figure 1 Design Statement Viewpoint Locations Plan Rev C Dwg No LABER041*
- *Regarding phasing of the development, the applicant has confirmed that implementation will be in one phase.*
- *The applicant has confirmed the turbine height, finishes, blade diameter etc. for the development.*
- *The applicant has confirmed navigation and aviation lighting for the development.*
- *Regarding assessment of visual impacts, based on experience of this type of development, given the scale and nature of the proposed development and the level of visualised information now supplied by the applicant such information is likely adequate to come to a generally informed conclusion regarding this issue.*

The only issue that appears to be outstanding is information on an anemometer mast if one or more is proposed by the applicant.

Generally I'd recommend that in terms of minimising adverse visual effects that no advertising, logos or branding etc. appear on any part of the offshore structures.

Closing comments:

With regards to landscape and visual impact issues I'd concur with the opinion recorded in the letter granting consent to the applicant from Marine Scotland dated 26th March 2013 that given the scale of the development and its proximity to relatively sensitive visual receptors that there will be 'some adverse visual impact'.

However in relation to landscape and visual issues what the applicant has submitted in the applicant's Aberdeen Offshore Wind Farm Limited Design Statement (Draft) they have addressed the main points required in Planning Condition 14 and in what they have stated they'll do in terms of implementing the scheme in one phase and using identical turbine specifications for all 11 turbines is effectively some mitigation and is in terms of wind energy design and implementation generally known best

practice. The regular pattern of layout is also known to be generally design best practice in terms of offshore wind energy development.

In terms of the requirement for a Design Statement the applicant should confirm the location and specification of any proposed anemometer mast(s).

I'd also recommend that in terms of minimising adverse visual effects that no advertising, logos or branding etc. appear on any part of the offshore structures.

On a general note it may be worth confirming with the applicant the layout of the development with accompanying standard OS grid coordinates for each turbine and any anemometer masts etc.

In conclusion with regards to the requirement by Scottish Ministers for a Design Statement it's my opinion that the applicant has substantially met the requirement in relation to landscape and visual issues and if they can address the issues relating to any proposed anemometer mast(s), confirm the layout of the development with accompanying standard OS grid coordinates for each turbine etc. and also confirm that no advertising, logos or branding etc. appear on any part of the offshore structures in the interests of minimising any adverse visual affects, then the issue can be concluded.

Peter Fraser
Environment Planner (Landscape)

Aires C (Catarina)

From: Peter Lowson <Peter.Lowson@mcga.gov.uk>
Sent: 11 May 2016 09:51
To: Nick Salter; Aires C (Catarina)
Subject: RE: Consultation on AOWFL Post-consent Design Statement (DS) , by 16 May 2016

Catarina

I am also content with the layout and do not require anything further at this stage. However, as I don't believe we have had much communication to date with AOWF, there may be other considerations we require of them. Nick and I will look to set up a meeting as soon as possible so could you please provide suitable contact details.

Regards

Pete

Peter Lowson
Offshore Energy Liaison Officer | HM Coastguard | Maritime and Coastguard Agency | CGOC Aberdeen,
Marine House, Blaikies Quay, Aberdeen, AB11 5EZ, United Kingdom |
T: 00 44 (0)1224 597 911 [REDACTED] | peter.lowson@mcga.gov.uk



From: Nick Salter
Sent: 09 May 2016 10:54
To: Catarina.Aires@gov.scot; Peter Lowson <Peter.Lowson@mcga.gov.uk>
Subject: FW: Consultation on AOWFL Post-consent Design Statement (DS) , by 16 May 2016

Catarina,

Thanks for the attached layout plan of the Aberdeen OWF. From a surface navigation perspective it looks ok. Could AOWFL please confirm the distances between turbines?

Pete, can you have a look from a SAR perspective and let Catarina know if there's any additional info we need?

Best regards,

Nick

Nick Salter
Offshore Renewables Advisor
Navigation Safety Branch | Maritime and Coastguard Agency
Spring Place | 105 Commercial Road | Southampton | SO15 1EG
Tel: 023 8032 9448 | [REDACTED] | Email: nick.salter@mcga.gov.uk



Safer Lives, Safer Ships, Cleaner Seas

Catarina Aires
Licensing Operations Team
Marine Scotland
375 Victoria Road
Aberdeen
AB11 9DB

AREG (PER VATTENFALL): AOWFL POST-CONSENT DESIGN STATEMENT – REQUEST FOR MSS COMMENTS

Marine Scotland Science (MSS) has reviewed the submitted statement and has provided the following comments.

marine mammals

MSS is content with the proposed design statement and no further comments are provided with respect to marine mammals.

marine fish ecology

Condition 14 is “*to set out design principles to mitigate, as far as possible, the visual impact of the turbines*”. MSS to not expect that the proposed design statement will have an effect on marine fish ecology.

commercial fisheries

MSS is content with the proposed design statement. No further comments other than what is already included in the ES.

benthic ecology

MSS has no comments on benthic ecology

physical environment

MSS has no comments on physical environment

diadromous fish

MSS has no comments on diadromous fish

aquaculture

MSS aquaculture planning has no specific comments to make on the AOWFL Post-Consent Design Statement. There are no further comments to add to those made in March 2016 in response to the Onshore Transmission Works.

Hopefully these comments are helpful to you. If you wish to discuss any matters further contact the MSS Renewables in-box MS_Renewables@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely



Paul Stainer

Marine Scotland Science

16 May 2016

Aires C (Catarina)

From: ROSSI, Sacha <Sacha.Rossi@nats.co.uk>
Sent: 16 May 2016 15:45
To: MS Marine Renewables
Cc: NATS Safeguarding; Drew J (Jessica)
Subject: RE: ONE WEEK REMINDER - Consultation on AOWFL Post-consent Design Statement (DS) , comments requested by 16 May 2016

Dear Madam,

Apologies for the delay in responding, but we have been unable to find the original requests, although the email address appears to be the correct one.

NATS has reviewed the Design Statement and is satisfied that the Scottish Government can proceed to discharge the requirements of condition 14 of the Section 36 Consent, awarded to AOWFL.

I trust this clarifies our position,

Regards
Sacha Rossi

Mr Sacha Rossi
NATS Safeguarding Office

☎: 01489 444 205
✉: sacha.rossi@nats.co.uk

4000 Parkway,
Whiteley, PO15 7FL

<http://www.nats.co.uk/windfarms>

From: Jessica.Drew@gov.scot [<mailto:Jessica.Drew@gov.scot>]
Sent: 13 May 2016 14:51
To: NATS Safeguarding
Cc: Catarina.Aires@gov.scot; Nicola.Bain@gov.scot; Jim.McKie@gov.scot
Subject: FW: ONE WEEK REMINDER - Consultation on AOWFL Post-consent Design Statement (DS) , comments requested by 16 May 2016

Dear Sir/Madam

Further to our emails of 15 April and 9 May 2015 requesting your comments on the Aberdeen Offshore Wind Farm Limited ("AOWFL") 'Design Statement' ("DS").

To date we have not received correspondence from you.

Please let me remind you that the closing date for any comments you may wish to make on the proposal is **Monday 16th May 2016**. Should you wish to submit a response, please send it to: MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot

We would be grateful if you would acknowledge receipt of this email and if you have comments confirm that you will provide these by Monday 16 May. If you require an extension please let us know by the close of business today. The email for your response is MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot.

Northern Lighthouse Board

CAPTAIN PHILLIP DAY
DIRECTOR OF MARINE OPERATIONS

84 George Street
Edinburgh EH2 3DA
Switchboard: 0131 473 3100
Fax: 0131 220 2093
Website: www.nlb.org.uk
Email: enquiries@nlb.org.uk



Your Ref: AOWFL-DS-Condition 14
Our Ref: AJ/OPS/ML/O6_03_303

Ms Catarina Aires
Marine Renewables Casework Officer
Scottish Government
Marine Laboratory
375 Victoria Road
ABERDEEN
AB11 9DB

22 April 2016

Dear Catarina

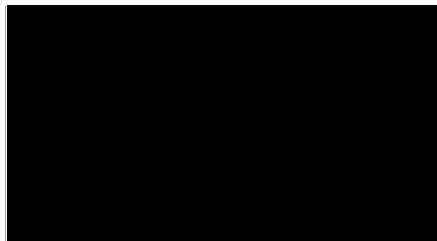
Design Statement Consultation – Aberdeen Offshore Windfarm

Thank you for your Email dated 15 April 2016 advising of the Design Statement proposal by **Aberdeen Offshore Windfarm Limited** in support of their work towards satisfying the requirements of Condition 14 of the Section 36 Consent awarded.

We are content with the Design Statement as submitted but note that;

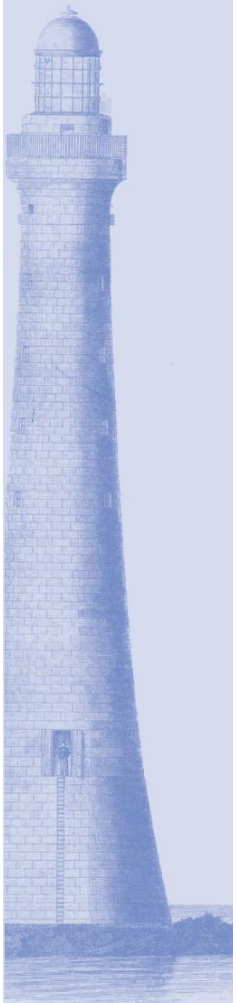
- Section 4.1 Marine Lighting, should include the requirement for the Navigation Lights to be synchronised
- Section 4.2 Marine Fog Horn, should include the requirement for the Fog Signals to be synchronised.
- Reference for the above requirements are as per our correspondence Ref: O6-03-083 dated 24 August 2011.
- AOWFL should consult with the MOD regarding the close proximity of Turbine A02 to the Northern Special Mark Buoy 'DZ'; and of the export cable route to the Southern Special Mark Buoy 'DZ' marking area X5703.

Please advise if we can be of any further assistance, or you require clarification any of the above.



For the safety of all

Certified to: ISO 9001:2000 · The International Safety Management Code (ISM) · OHSAS 18001



Aires C (Catarina)

From: Catriona Gall <Catriona.Gall@snh.gov.uk>
Sent: 13 May 2016 15:32
To: Aires C (Catarina)
Cc: MS Renewables; Stainer P (Paul) (MARLAB); Bain N (Nicola) (MARLAB); Drew J (Jessica); Erica Knott
Subject: Consultation on AOWFL Post-consent Design Statement - SNH advice

Dear Catarina,

Thank you for this consultation over the design statement for Aberdeen Bay, submitted for the reasons outlined in the letter from AREG / Vattenfall, 24 March 2016.

In respect of condition 14, SNH's remit is to provide advice on landscape and visual interests, and it's clause (d) which is of relevance to us. Therefore, in this regard, SNH has no comments or preference regarding the choice of foundation type.

We confirm that the submitted design statement does fulfil its purpose under clause (d) of condition 14. It takes account of our recommendations (SNH advice, 15 February 2016) and presents a viewpoint design appraisal which is clear and comprehensive. The content and quality of the visualisations is also very good, provided for the viewpoints agreed through earlier consultation.

So we confirm that, from SNH's perspective, there are no outstanding issues to be addressed under this condition in respect of landscape and visual interests.

Yours sincerely,

Catriona Gall

Marine Renewables Casework Adviser - Offshore Wind

SNH
Battleby
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Perthshire
PH1 3EW

direct dial: 01738 - 458665

From: Catarina.Aires@gov.scot [mailto:Catarina.Aires@gov.scot]
Sent: 15 April 2016 17:18
To: MARINEENERGY; navigationsafety@mcga.gov.uk; navigation@nlb.org.uk; natssafeguarding@nats.co.uk
Cc: MS_Renewables@gov.scot; Paul.Stainer@gov.scot; Nicola.Bain@gov.scot; Jessica.Drew@gov.scot
Subject: Consultation on AOWFL Post-consent Design Statement (DS) , by 16 May 2016

ELECTRICITY ACT 1989

The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2000

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010, PART 4 MARINE LICENSING