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Marine Licensing Casework Manager  
Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team  
Scottish Government  
Marine Laboratory  
375 Victoria Road  
Aberdeen  
AB11 9DB

**BY EMAIL**

24 May 2017

Dear Ms Aires,

**Request for Scoping Opinion  
Moray Offshore Windfarm (West) Limited  
Moray West Offshore Transmission Infrastructure**

I write on behalf of Moray Offshore Windfarm (West) Ltd to request a formal Opinion on the scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) required in terms of the Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 and the Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007 (as amended) to support an application for a Marine Licence for the construction of the Offshore Transmission Infrastructure associated with the proposed Moray West Offshore Wind Farm. A Scoping Report has been prepared to inform consultation and accompanies this request.

Moray Offshore Windfarm (West) Limited is a project company of Moray Offshore Renewable Power Limited, which is in turn solely owned by EDPR UK Limited, a leading global renewable energy company which supports operators consent and build offshore wind farms in the UK.

The Moray West Offshore Wind Farm is a proposed offshore windfarm located in the Moray Firth, located 22.5 km off the Buckie coastline and comprises an offshore array of up to 90 wind turbines. The associated Offshore Transmission Infrastructure will comprise of one or two Offshore Substation Platforms (OSPs) to be located within the wind turbine array in the Moray West Site (which forms part of the Moray Firth Round 3 Zone). The power generated by the turbines will be transformed from medium voltage to high voltage before is it transported via offshore export cables, located within an Offshore Export Cable Corridor, to a shoreline landfall location.

An application for a Marine Licence, accompanied by an Environmental Report will be submitted to the Scottish Government's Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team in January 2018. This will detail the outcomes of Environmental Impact Assessment for the Development (the Moray West Offshore Wind Farm and the associated Offshore Transmission Infrastructure).



The accompanying Scoping Report details the proposed design parameters of the proposed Moray West Offshore Wind Farm Offshore Transmission Infrastructure as well as currently available site characterisation information. It identifies potential effects that will be further investigated during the Environmental Impact Assessment, and identifies those that can be scoped out and the justification(s) for this. The Scoping Report also proposes the studies and surveys that will inform the EIA process and outlines the proposed stakeholder engagement. We will continue to build on the strong relationships we have developed through earlier stakeholder engagement and we will continue to work closely with stakeholders as the proposal develops.

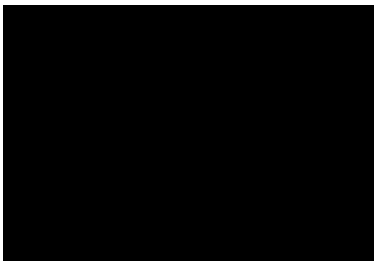
Moray West intends to hold public consultations in Q3 2017. These will be discussed in advance with Marine Scotland to ensure this consultation will meet the requirements of the Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 for those elements on the Moray West offshore transmission infrastructure located within 12 nm together with the requirements for Pre-Application Consultation under the Town & Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.

We propose that consultation with relevant stakeholders commences on 31 May 2017. We will provide both a hard copy and an electronic copy of the Scoping Report to Marine Scotland and we propose to send electronic/hard copies as required to consultees by 26 May 2017. We understand that a copy of the Scoping Report will be available online on the Marine Scotland Website. A copy of the Scoping Report will also be made available on the project website.

If you require any further information or have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

We look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely,



Sarah Pirie

**Head of Development**

