

Ms Esther Villoria
Aberdeen Offshore Wind Farm Limited
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EH8 8PJ

08 September 2017

Dear Ms Villoria

THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017 (AS AMENDED)

THE ELECTRICITY ACT 1989 (AS AMENDED)

DECISION NOTICE RELATIVE TO APPLICATION FOR MULTI-STAGE CONSENT

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE EUROPEAN OFFSHORE WIND DEPLOYMENT CENTRE ELECTRICITY GENERATING STATION, ABERDEEN BAY, APPROXIMATELY 2KM EAST OF BLACKDOG, ABERDEENSHIRE WITH A MAXIMUM GENERATION CAPACITY OF 100 MWF

1.1 Description of the Application

1.1.1 On 15 August 2014 the Scottish Ministers, granted in favour of Aberdeen Offshore Wind Farm Limited (Company Number SC278869) having its registered office at Johnstone House, 52-54 Rose Street, Aberdeen, Scotland, AB10 1HA ("the Company") consent under section 36 ("s.36") of the Electricity Act 1989 (as amended) relative to the above works. Condition 18 of the said s.36 consent, requires the Company to submit a Construction Noise Management Plan ("CNMP") for approval by the Scottish Ministers prior to commencing the above works.

1.1.2 On 27 February 2017 the Company submitted to the Scottish Ministers the CNMP and applied for multi-stage consent in relation thereto in accordance with condition 18 of the said s.36 consent.

1.2 Summary of Consultation Responses

1.2.1 The Scottish Ministers consulted with Aberdeenshire Council ("AC") and Aberdeen City Council ("ACC") in respect of the CNMP.

1.2.2 ACC advised that offshore construction activities were unlikely to have any adverse impacts on the nearest onshore noise sensitive receptors. ACC did however request that in Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen AB11 9DB
www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine

respect of onshore export cable installation drilling, if 24 hour operations were required the Company contact the Environmental Health Service of ACC 21 days prior to the proposed out of hours work being undertaken to discuss the nature of the works, mitigation and community liaison.

1.2.3 AC requested clarification with regards to the calculation of noise levels and mitigation to be employed in the event that 24 hour operations were required.

1.2.4 In light of the above comments the Company amended the CNMP to the satisfaction of both ACC and AC. In addition, the Company confirmed that the option involving Horizontal Directional Drilling (“HDD”) was no longer being considered and references to this methodology had been removed from the CNMP. The Company advised it was unlikely that 24 hour operations would be required now that HDD was not being used, notwithstanding this, the amended CNMP included a provision regarding liaison with the Local Authority in the event of such an occurrence.

1.3 Reasons and Considerations on which this decision is based

1.3.1 The amended CNMP was submitted to the Scottish Ministers by the Company on 10 July 2017.

1.3.2 The information contained in the CNMP is within the parameters of what has already been assessed in the Environmental Statement (“ES”) and Supplementary Environmental Information Statement (“SEIS”) submitted in respect of the said s.36 consent.

1.4 Reasoned Conclusion

1.4.1 As set out above the Scottish Ministers are satisfied that they have sufficient information to enable them to reasonably conclude that the effects of the CNMP have already been considered within the ES and SEIS previously assessed in respect of the said s.36 consent. No new significant effects have been identified within the CNMP.

1.4.2 In taking into account the information set out above the Scottish Ministers are satisfied that this information is relevant, appropriate and up to date.

1.5 Determination and Terms of Decision

1.5.1 The Scottish Ministers, hereby approve the CNMP as submitted on 10 July 2017 and grant multi-stage consent in relation thereto.

1.5.2 In the event that the Company wishes to update or amend the CNMP, the Company must submit, in writing, details of the proposed updates or amendments to the Scottish Ministers for their written approval prior to the planned implementation of the proposed updates or amendments. It is not permissible for any works associated with the proposed updates or amendments to proceed prior to the granting of such approval.

1.5.3 Unless otherwise agreed, in writing by the Scottish Ministers, all works must proceed in accordance with the CNMP.

1.5.4 This Decision Notice has been published on the Marine Scotland licensing page of the Scottish Government's website:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine/scoping/EOWDC>.

1.5.5 A copy of this Decision Notice has also been sent to the relevant planning authorities.

Authorised on behalf of the Scottish Ministers
By a member of staff of the Scottish Government

[REDACTED]

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Marine Planning and Policy
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08 September 2017