

Ms Esther Villoria
Aberdeen Offshore Wind Farm Limited
3rd Floor, The Tun Building
4 Jackson's Entry
Holyrood Road
Edinburgh
EH8 8PJ

20th 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 MW.**

1.1 Description of the Application

1.1.1 On 26th March 2013 the Scottish Ministers, granted in favour of Aberdeen Offshore Wind Farm Limited (Company Number SC278869) having its registered office at The Tun Building, 4 Jacksons Entry, 8 Holyrood Road, Edinburgh EH8 8AE ("the Company") consent under section 36 ("s.36") of the Electricity Act 1989 (as amended) relative to the above works. Condition 26 of the said s.36 consent requires the Company to submit a Navigational Safety Plan ("NSP") for approval by the Scottish Ministers prior to commencing the above works.

1.1.2 On 13th March 2017 the Company submitted to the Scottish Ministers the NSP and applied for the multi-stage consent in relation thereto in accordance with condition 26 of the said s.36 consent.

1.2 Summary of Consultation Responses

1.2.1 The Scottish Ministers, consulted with the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (“MCA”), the Northern Lighthouse Board (“NLB”), Aberdeen Harbour Board (“AHB”), UK Chamber of Shipping (“UK CoS”) and the Ministry of Defence (“MoD”) in respect of the NSP. The MCA requested minor amendments to the NSP in relation to reporting infringements as this is a devolved matter and also in respect of a regulatory amendment. The NLB confirmed they were content with the proposals within the NSP and that the Lighting and Marking Plan would contain their recommendations. In addition, the NLB confirmed that they would continue regular communications with the Company to ensure mariners are well informed of the works but otherwise raised no concerns or objections to the NSP. UK CoS had no comments and no responses were received from AHB and the MoD.

1.3 Reasons and Considerations on which this decision is based

1.3.1 The NSP was amended by the Company to reflect the comments made by the MCA and submitted on 5th June 2017.

1.3.2 The Scottish Ministers have fully considered all other representations received regarding the NSP.

1.3.3 The information contained in the NSP is either within the parameters of what has already been assessed within the Environmental Statement (“ES”) and Supplementary Environmental Information Statement (“SEIS”) submitted in respect of the said s.36 consent or does not identify any additional significant environmental effects.

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 either the effects of the NSP have already been considered within the ES and SEIS previously assessed in respect of the said s.36 consent or the NSP does not identify any additional significant environmental effects.

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 NSP as submitted on 5th June 2017 and grant multi-stage consent in relation thereto.

1.5.2 In the event that the Company wishes to update or amend the NSP, 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, the works must be constructed and operated in accordance with the NSP.

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.

Signed by



Kerry Bell

20 September 2017

Authorised by the Scottish Ministers to sign in that behalf

