

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

Our Ref: 018/OW/AOWFL - 9

6th November 2017

Dear Ms Villoria,

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010 PART 4 MARINE LICENSING

The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 (as amended)

Thank you for your correspondence dated 10th October 2017 requesting that Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team ("MS-LOT") confirms agreement with Aberdeen Offshore Wind Farm Limited's ("AOWFLs") proposal regarding the appointment of a Marine Mammal Observer ("MMO"), to fulfil the requirements of condition 3.2.1.6 of the European Offshore Wind Deployment Centre ("EOWDC") Marine Licence (licence number: 04309/16/1).

In your correspondence you have stated that '*A European Protected Species (EPS) Risk Assessment of all construction phase activities has been undertaken...Subsequently an application for an EPS licence has been submitted to the Licensing Authority.*

Mitigation measures were proposed within the EPS Licence application...Given the low level of risk to marine mammals from the positioning equipment...it is considered that a suitably briefed member of the ship's crew can fulfil the role of MMO and will be able to undertake the pre-work searches.

Based upon the risk assessment it was concluded that the provision of training to vessel crew would be proportionate to the risks posed by equipment proposed to be used throughout construction works. Training will be provided to members of the ship's crew by an experienced MMO. As per the licence condition, the crew will maintain a record of any sightings of marine mammals and maintain a record of the action taken to avoid any disturbance being caused to marine mammals. AOWFL will provide the Licensing Authority with the records no later than six months following Commencement of the Works, and at six monthly intervals thereafter.'

MS-LOT on behalf of the Scottish Ministers, can confirm, that based on the information provided, it is reasonable to, and agree that '*a suitably briefed member of the ship's crew*' can be appointed as the MMO and that this appointment will fulfill the requirements of condition 3.2.1.6 of the European Offshore Wind Deployment Centre ("EOWDC") Marine Licence (licence number: 04309/16/1).

In your subsequent correspondence of 27th October 2017 you confirmed the names of the crew members who will undertake the MMO role during the scour protection campaign:

- Piet Greven
- Paula Nicolaev
- Navinkoemar P. Autar
- Ralf Buzink

These crew members in the MMO role, must maintain an accurate record of any sightings of marine mammals and maintain an accurate record of the action taken to avoid any disturbance being caused to the marine mammals. The MMO's records must be provided to MS-LOT no later than 6 months following Commencement of the Works, and at 6 monthly intervals thereafter.

Yours sincerely,

Nicola Bain
Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team