

Wright H (Hamish)

From: KellyR <KellyR@angus.gov.uk>
Sent: 24 October 2019 18:54
To: MS Marine Renewables
Subject: RE: 07102 - Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm (Revised Design), Firth of Forth- Consultation- Response Required by 21 November 2019

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Sophia,

Having considered the consultation I can advise that my Council has no comments to make on this matter.

Kind regards,

Ruari

Ruari Kelly | Planning Officer (Development Standards) | Angus Council | Planning & Communities
| Angus House : Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar, DD8 1AN. ☎ (01307) 492125

From: MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot [mailto:MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot]
Sent: 24 October 2019 17:01
Subject: 07102 - Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm (Revised Design), Firth of Forth- Consultation- Response Required by 21 November 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010, PART 4 MARINE LICENSING

07102 - Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm (Revised Design), Firth of Forth

CO-ORDINATES

Location	Latitude	Longitude
Outer Firth of Forth:	55° 57.609' N	2° 23.820' W
	55° 57.693' N	2° 23.636' W
	55° 57.866' N	2° 22.729' W
	56° 00.688' N	2° 22.015' W
	56° 00.695' N	2° 23.522' W
	56° 02.852' N	2° 23.488' W
	56° 02.841' N	2° 21.468' W
	56° 14.460' N	2° 18.501' W
	56° 15.815' N	2° 20.192' W
	56° 20.312' N	2° 16.519' W
	56° 12.693' N	2° 16.287' W
	56° 17.473' N	2° 20.318' W
	56° 19.755' N	2° 17.836' W
	56° 20.171' N	2° 14.742' W
	56° 12.671' N	2° 09.131' W
	56° 15.291' N	2° 09.814' W
	56° 14.300' N	2° 18.250' W

Wright H (Hamish)

From: FMA Shop [FMA] <fmashop@pittenweem.co.uk>
Sent: 31 October 2019 11:58
To: MS Marine Licensing
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: NnG offshore licence application

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

On behalf of the Pittenweem fishing fleet I would like to bring to your attention our concern / objection to the NnG Licence Applications 07102 & 07103 the clearance of boulders / hazards along the cable corridor. We are in full agreement that the removal of any hazard and displacement of that then hazard will become a danger to fishing trawlers, unearthing any size of boulder and leaving it on top of the seabed automatically becomes a danger to life.

Boulders will not just disappear into the shallow berm substrate as suggested in page 33 PAR 127. A tow ability study cannot be just for the cable route and would have to take in a large area each side of the cable corridor if hazards are being displaced, Proving that an unearthed boulder has caused damage to fishing gear or worse would be nearly impossible therefore there has to be a full seabed study of before and after of the fishing area not just the cable corridor available for fisherman to have access to at any time.

Giving the fact that the full area for development is 14000000 m² the effect on unearthing hazards on the fishing grounds for even a fraction of that area could be devastating to the fishing fleet and could cause loss of life.

Removal of Boulders could also cause sea life habitat to be disturbed indefinitely taking into account the area is 14million square metres I am surprised taking the it account the public view on sea life at the moment that Marine Scotland is supporting such devastation not to mention pollution of plastic coated steel cable being left in the sea to slowly degrade and take effect on sea life in years to come.

[Redacted]

FMA (Pittenweem) Ltd

[Redacted]

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Wright H (Hamish)

From: Chris Smith <Chris.Smith@fife.gov.uk>
Sent: 05 November 2019 10:33
To: MS Marine Renewables
Cc: Development Central
Subject: 07102 - Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm (Revised Design), Firth of Forth (FC Ref 19/03137/CON)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Sophia,

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010, PART 4 MARINE LICENSING

07102 - Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm (Revised Design), Firth of Forth

I refer to the above and having consulted with specialist colleagues, I can confirm that Fife Council has no comment to make on this consultation request.

I trust this is of assistance and sufficient to progress matters?
Regards, Chris

Chris Smith
BSc (Hons) Dip TP MRTPI

Lead Officer - Planner
Environment, Enterprise & Communities Directorate
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Wright H (Hamish)

From: DIO-Safeguarding-Offshore (MULTIUSER) <DIO-Safeguarding-Offshore@mod.gov.uk>
Sent: 04 November 2019 14:25
To: MS Marine Renewables
Cc: Irvine S (Sophia)
Subject: FW: 20191104-7102 - Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm - Firth of Forth-DIO 10046662-O

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good Afternoon,

FAO Sophia Irvine,

Further to your e-mail below and after our investigation, I can confirm that the MOD has No Objection regarding this activity in the locations specified. I hope this information is sufficient for your purposes.

Regards

Michael Billings

Assistant Safeguarding Manager
Estates – Safeguarding

**Defence
Infrastructure
Organisation**

Building 49, DIO Sutton Coldfield, Kingston Road, B75 7RL

Please use mobile no. only from 25th Mar onwards. Landline nos. will cease operating

Tel: 0121 311 2025 – Mob: 07970171283 | Email: michael.billings950@mod.gov.uk

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Read DIO's blog: <https://insidedio.blog.gov.uk/>



Defence Infrastructure Organisation

From: MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot <MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot>

Sent: 24 October 2019 16:24

To: MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot

Cc: Sophia.Irvine@gov.scot

Subject: 07102 - Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm (Revised Design), Firth of Forth- Consultation- Response Required by 21 November 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,



Scottish Natural Heritage
Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba
nature.scot

Marine Scotland
Marine Laboratory
PO Box 101
375 Victoria Road
Aberdeen
AB11 9DB

Your ref: Neart na Gaoithe - MS
EPS 27 2019 0 - EPS Licence
Application - UXO Clearance -
Consultation - Response required
by 22 November 2019

For the attention of:

Our ref: CNS/REN/OSWF/Neart na
Gaoithe/Post application

By email only: Sophia Irvine & Hannah Duffin

Date: 21 November 2019

Sophia.Irvine@gov.scot
Hannah.Duffin@gov.scot
MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot

Dear Sirs,

**Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm
European Protected Species and Marine Licence applications for UXO clearance and seabed preparation**

Thank you for your consultation received on the 24th October requesting our advice on the Marine Licence application submitted by Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm Limited (NaGOWL) for:

- 1) UXO clearance,
- 2) seabed preparation.

We also received on 1st November 2019 a European Protected Species licence application for the same activities described above. We therefore provide advice all four consultations below.

This advice is preliminary and is based on the worst case scenarios presented, we recommend further discussion between ourselves, MS LOT, MS Science, the developers and their consultants, once the final report is available identifying the number of UXO targets, their size, location and water depth.

1. UXO clearance

1.1 Introduction

We understand from our ongoing dialogue with NaGOWL and as described in the documents supporting both the European Protected Species (document reference NNG-PEL-REP-0007) and Marine Licence (document reference NNG-GOB-ECF-REP-0002) applications that

Scottish Natural Heritage, 1 Kilmory Industrial Estate, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RR
Tel: 0131 3162690 www.nature.scot

Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba, 1 Raon Gniomhachais Chille Mhoire, Cille Mhoire, Ceann Loch Gilb Earra-Ghàidheal PA31 8RR Fòn: 0131 3162690 www.nature.scot

survey work to accurately identify the number and size of UXO targets which require detonation is still ongoing. As such a worst case scenario of 50 targets of up to 1000kg charge weight has been put forward at this time.

UXOs will need to be removed from a number of locations across the wind farm array and cable route comprising:

- a box around each turbine location (300m x 300m),
- a 60m wide corridor along all cables routes (inter-array and export),
- a 400m x 400m box around each offshore substation
- an additional box around bedrock in export cable (as per Figure 2-1 of the ML supporting documentation) and
- a 300m x 300m box around anchor locations.

Summary methods for UXO clearance are set out in section 2.5 of the Marine Licence supporting document and include micro-siting, relocation (i.e. lift & shift) and detonation – precise methods will be available once a contractor has been selected. Charges of 7-25kg will be placed next to the UXO and remotely detonated. Multiple UXO targets will be grouped together up to a maximum combined charge weight of 500kg. Large pieces of debris (>30cm will be collected and removed from the seabed for onward disposal). Up to three vessels and two guard vessels maybe required. Survey work to refine the number of target inspections required is due to complete shortly with UXO clearance activities to be completed by May 2020.

1.2. Assessment of impacts

Three main impact pathways resulting from the UXO clearance activity are described in section 3 of the Marine Licence supporting document followed by an assessment of potential effects on key receptors. We agree that impacts to the seabed (habitats, species & processes) will be temporary and highly localised in nature and so focus our advice hereafter on impacts from underwater noise specifically on marine mammals (cetaceans and seals). For completeness MS Science should be approached for advice on fish species.

We welcome the use of site-specific noise modelling which is presented in Appendix A of the ML supporting document. Key predictions from this are provided in the Table 1 below.

Table 1 - Summary of onset distances for Mortality, PTS and TTS (zero-peak SPL thresholds) for key species for UXOs with charge weights of 50kg, 500kg and 1000kg

	Traumatic injury* (Mortality) - 1000kg	1000kg PTS TTS***	500kg PTS TTS***	50kg– PTS TTS***
Harbour porpoise	Up to 340m max	16km 29.4km	12.7km 23.3km	5.9km 10.8km
Bottlenose dolphin / White- beaked dolphin		0.9km 1.7km	0.7km 1.3km	0.3km 0.6km
Minke whale**		3.1km 27km	2.6km 23.2km	1.4km 13.2km
Grey seal / Harbour seal		3.1km 5.8km	2.5km 4.6km	1.2km 2.1km

*using adopted potential mortality threshold of 220 dB re. 1 µPa

**weighted SEL

*** used as a proxy for disturbance

The worst case scenario depicting a UXO with a charge weight of 1000kg would result in the onset of permanent threshold shift (PTS) ranging from less than 1km to 16km for those species most frequently seen in the development footprint. If multiple UXOs are grouped together up to a maximum charge weight of 500kg, this reduces the extent of the PTS by a few kilometres.

The range within which temporary disturbance effects are predicted, as indicated by the temporary threshold shift (TTS) ranges in Table 1 are likely within a kilometre for some dolphin species and out to nearly 30km for harbour porpoise and minke whale.

1.3. Marine Mammal Mitigation Plan (MMMP)

The MMMP sets out the suite of mitigation proposed to reduce the risk of any marine mammals being present in an area within which traumatic injury (mortality) or permanent threshold shift (PTS) is predicted to occur. We recommend that these mitigation options and decisions are depicted in a summary flow diagram.

Our advice is provided in respect to each element of the proposed mitigation particularly in relation to those species we feel the biggest risk of injury (traumatic or PTS) is likely. We note where possible and safe to do so that UXO targets will be left *in situ*, avoided, removed or relocated. Where this is not possible, active deterrence will be used. All UXO clearance activities (e.g. vessels, ADD, soft start and UXO clearance) are likely to result in disturbance effects.

A. Use of MMOs and PAMs

Use of MMO and PAM as effective mitigation is limited to a 1km zone (JNCC guidelines) and to those animals that are visible and/or vocalising. The site-specific noise modelling has predicted a worst case scenario (WCS) of 340m for traumatic injury (i.e. death) based on a worst case scenario of a UXO with a 1000kg charge weight.

B. Use of ADD

A Loftitech ADD is to be used immediately after the initial 1 hour MMO/PAM observation period for all UXO clearance activities which will help clear any animals within the 1km mitigation zone including those not seen or heard vocalising actively. The current plan is for the ADD to be used for a period of 60 minutes for all UXO with a charge weight of 50kg or less, and for 90 minutes for charge weights above 50kg.

We are unclear on why the use of the ADD is for these prescribed periods and we would wish to discuss this further. Our concern is that the ADD may no longer act as a deterrent and further consideration should be given to the duration of the ADD and the commencement and the timing intervals of the soft start.

We are comfortable that use of MMO/PAM and ADD combined is sufficient to avoid traumatic injury (death) and content with the procedures and processes described in section 5.2.

As indicated by the information presented in section 3.5 of the Marine Licence supporting documentation, ADDs are expected to deter dolphin species and minke whale within the range in which the onset of PTS is likely to occur for the WCS. However, studies have also indicated that the ADD device to be used elicits strong avoidance response in harbour porpoise out to a distance of 7.5km which does not cover the full range in which onset of PTS is likely for the WCS (i.e. 16km) or charge weights above 250kg (i.e. 10.1km and above).

We advise, therefore, that there is a residual risk of injury (PTS) to harbour porpoise due to the size of the PTS impact zone where UXO charge weights are above 250kg which is unlikely, in our view, to be mitigated using an ADD, nor is this likely to be improved by altering the duration of ADD usage. Nor will this be affected by the continued use of MMO and PAM during the ADD period as not all animals will be visible or vocalising.

C. Use of 'soft start' charges

A series of soft start detonations are to be used prior to UXO clearance – these detonations will be used as a further deterrent to move animals away from the clearance site. The MMMP indicates (paragraph 23) that an initial charge of 10g will produce noise levels above the onset of PTS in all marine mammals within 500m and TTS within 1km – however use of MMO/PAM and ADD immediately prior to commencement of these soft start charges will avoid the likelihood of traumatic injury (death) and PTS. The use of MMO/PAM and ADD are sufficient to avoid onset of PTS for all species from the detonation of the soft start charges themselves, but a residual risk still remains from the UXO clearance.

Soft start charges for UXO charge weights of less than 50kg will be subject to 5 charges increasing in size over a period of 30 minutes ~ every 6 minutes. For UXO charge weights between 50kg and 100kg up to 6 detonations will be made over 90 minutes ~ every 15 minutes. A charge weight between 500-1000kg would be subject to 9 soft start charges over 180 minutes ~ every 20 minutes. MMO and PAM will continue with observations during the soft start period.

We recommend further discussion on the use of the ADD in combination with the soft start charges. We also advise that another East Coast wind farm used a maximum interval of 5 minutes between soft start detonations to avoid the potential for marine mammals moving back into the area. We also welcome the intention to discuss soft start procedures for UXO with charge weights above 750kg.

D. Bubble curtains / Noise Abatement Systems

We do not agree with the reasoning used to discount the use of bubble curtains as a noise abatement technique particularly in light of Verfuss (2019) which shows that bubble curtains can be effective in depths up to 90m. We request further discussions on the potential use of noise abatement techniques once the survey is complete and the location, size and water depth of each UXO is known.

1.4. SNH Advice – European Protected Species

Based on the need to detonate up to 50 UXO targets using the mitigation as described in the MMMP and discussed above, we advise:

- An EPS licence is required to cover injury (PTS) for harbour porpoise. This could be avoided through the use of further noise abatement techniques such as bubble curtains or as more information because available as to the exact number and size of UXOs to be cleared;
- A EPS licence is required to cover disturbance impacts and should include all species of cetacean;
- There will be no detrimental effect on favourable conservation status of any EPS species from disturbance / injury.
- We recommend noise monitoring is carried out to facilitate greater understanding of how noise from UXO clearance activities propagates. We suggest the existing ECOMMAS array maybe suitable and would welcome further discussion and agreement on this with MS and the developer with the option to also present the final agreed monitoring strategy to the FTRAG marine mammals group.

We request, as methods are further developed, it would be helpful to understand:

- Total number of UXO targets to be detonated following completion of detailed surveys,
- What the estimated charge weights are,
- Whether there is a presumption that where possible UXO targets will be grouped together to clusters of up to 500kg (to reduce total number of targets)?

1.5. SNH Advice – SACs

We agree with the assessment carried out (Section 5.4 of Marine Licence supporting documentation) that the UXO clearance activities are **likely to have a significant effect** on:

- Bottlenose dolphin as a qualifying interest of Moray Firth SAC,
- Harbour seal as a qualifying interest of Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC,
- Grey seal as a qualifying interest of Isle of May SAC and Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC.

Consequently, Marine Scotland, as competent authority, is required to carry out an appropriate assessment in view of these site's conservation objectives for those aforementioned qualifying interests.

We advise that the UXO clearance activities will **not adversely affect the integrity** of any of these sites / qualifying interests. Our impact assessment is based on impacts from underwater noise generated from UXO clearance activities, based on this worst case scenario - key points from which, including the appropriateness of the mitigation options as per the MMMP has been discussed above.

1.6. SNH Advice – SPAs / pSPA

The UXO works will be localised and temporary in nature and we agree with assessment carried out (Section 5.4 of Marine Licence supporting document) that the UXO clearance activities will have **no likely significant effect on** any of the qualifying interests from any of the UXO clearance activities, particularly no significant disturbance to birds from any vessel movement, for the following sites:

- Forth Islands SPA
- St Abbs Head to Fast Castle SPA
- Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex pSPA

2. Seabed preparation

2.1. Introduction

The marine licence supporting document (document reference: NNG-GOB-ECF-REP-0001) describes the need for seabed preparation ahead of the windfarm construction. This requires:

- clearance works to relocate or remove boulders from the seabed in the vicinity of each wind turbine, Offshore Substation Platform (OSP) foundations and all cable routes (inter-array, interconnector and export)
- use of rock to infill seabed depressions in the vicinity of the wind turbine and OSP foundations, and
- the placement of gravel on the seabed at the OSP locations to protect the spud cans of the jack-up to be used during construction from exposed bedrock.

Table 2-1 of the Marine Licence supporting document provides a worst case estimate of the total area of seabed affected by the preparation activity, totalling 14.7km². The total duration of marine works is expected to be approximately 9 months on a non-continuous basis throughout the licence period and may include 24 hour operation. Up to 5 seabed preparation vessels maybe required supported by 2 guard vessels. All vessels undertaking seabed preparation activities will utilise USBL for acoustic positioning.

2.2. Assessment of impacts

We agree with the three impact pathway described in section 3 of the Marine Licence supporting document and note that much of this assessment has already been captured though the application process (i.e. Original ES in 2013 and EIA report in 2018) such that impacts to benthic habitats and species will be localised in nature with any associated habitat loss within the footprint previously assessed. We therefore concentrate our advice on disturbance effects.

2.3. SNH advice – European Protected Species

We note and welcome the decision to operate the Kongsberg HiPAP USBL to a maximum sound source level of 190 (peak) dB, if selected, which would be below the threshold set in NMFS (2018) / Southall (2019) for PTS onset in harbour porpoise (as would all of the other USBL devices described). All other species likely to be encountered in this region have thresholds above this level and so are not at risk of auditory injury.

We agree there is potential for disturbance effects but these will be localised and temporary in nature. The intention, if practical, to operate the USBL at the lowest potential sound level and over the shortest period of time will be helpful in reducing impacts.

We advise:

- an EPS licence is required to cover disturbance
- the risk of injury would be minimal and would not require a licence,
- there will be no detrimental effect on favourable conservation status of any EPS species from disturbance from seabed preparation activities.

2.4. SNH advice – Natura sites

The seabed preparation works will be localised and temporary in nature and we agree with the assessment carried out (as per Section 5 of Marine Licence supporting document) which concludes there will be **no likely significant effect** on any of the qualifying interests from any of the seabed preparation activities, particularly disturbance from vessel or USBL usage, for the following sites:

- Moray Firth SAC,
- Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC,
- Isle of May SAC,
- Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC,
- Forth Islands SPA,
- St Abbs Head to Fast Castle SPA,
- Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex pSPA.

We hope these comments are helpful. If further information or advice is required please contact me in the first instance: karen.taylor@nature.scot or via my direct dial on 0131 316 2693.

Yours faithfully,

KAREN TAYLOR
Marine Sustainability Adviser

Wright H (Hamish)

From: Milne, Alasdair <alasdair.milne@SEPA.org.uk>
Sent: 31 October 2019 10:45
To: MS Marine Renewables
Subject: RE: 07102 - Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm (Revised Design), Firth of Forth- Consultation- Response Required by 21 November 2019

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hannah

Further to your consultation with SEPA of 24 October below, I can confirm that SEPA has **no objection** to this application and in this instance has no site-specific advice or comment to make.

I trust these brief comments are of assistance – please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Regards
Alasdair

Alasdair Milne
Senior Planning Officer
Scottish Environment Protection Agency
Strathallan House
Castle Business Park
Stirling
FK9 4TZ

Telephone 01786 452537
Mobile 07827 978405
www.sepa.org.uk

From: MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot <MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot>
Sent: 24 October 2019 16:24
To: MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot
Cc: Sophia.Irvine@gov.scot
Subject: 07102 - Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm (Revised Design), Firth of Forth- Consultation- Response Required by 21 November 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010, PART 4 MARINE LICENSING

07102 - Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm (Revised Design), Firth of Forth

CO-ORDINATES

Location	Latitude	Longitude
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	55° 57.693' N	2° 23.636' W
	55° 57.866' N	2° 22.729' W
	56° 00.688' N	2° 22.015' W

Wright H (Hamish)

From: Pauline McGrow <Pauline.McGrow@ryascotland.org.uk>
Sent: 18 November 2019 13:15
To: MS Marine Renewables
Subject: RE: 07102 - Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm (Revised Design), Firth of Forth- Consultation- Response Required by 21 November 2019

Dear Hannah,

We have read the application on behalf of RYA Scotland. Rather few recreational craft cross the area of the windfarm itself. However, as can be seen from the latest (September 2019) version of the UK Coastal Atlas of Recreational Boating published by the RYA, which is available on NMPI, many recreational vessels pass over the export cable corridor within a few miles of the coast. It should be borne in mind that only about a fifth of recreational craft transmit an AIS signal. However, the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, with which all recreational sailors are expected to be familiar, adequately cover the works proposed. Due to the large number of organisations issuing Notices to Mariners, it is unrealistic to expect recreational boaters to read them. It would be helpful to send notification of the works to marinas and harbours between Newcastle-Upon-Tyne and Dundee.

Kind Regards

Pauline

Pauline McGrow
Senior Administrator
Tel: 0131 317 4611

Royal Yachting Association Scotland
T: 0131 317 7388
E: pauline.mcgrow@ryascotland.org.uk



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From: MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot [mailto:MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot]
Sent: 24 October 2019 16:24

Northern Lighthouse Board

Your Ref: MSL 07102
Our Ref: AL/OPS/ML/O6_12_614

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Edinburgh EH2 3DA
Switchboard: 0131 473 3100
Fax: 0131 220 2093
Website: www.nlb.org.uk
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Ms Sophia Irvine
Marine Licensing Casework Officer
Marine Scotland – Marine Planning and Policy
Marine Laboratory
375 Victoria Road
Aberdeen
AB11 9DB

28 October 2019

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010, PART 4 MARINE LICENSING

07102 - SEABED PREPARATION - NEART NA GAOITHE OFFSHORE WINDFARM (REVISED DESIGN), FIRTH OF FORTH

Thank you for your e-mail correspondence dated 24th October 2019 regarding the application submitted by **Neart Na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm Ltd** for consent to undertake seabed preparation works, including boulder relocation and seabed depression infilling, within the consented windfarm site and export corridor.

Northern Lighthouse Board has no objection to the proposed operations, and advise the following:

- Prior to commencement, **Neart Na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm Ltd** should promulgate a detailed Notice to Mariners relating to the operations.

Yours sincerely
[Redacted]

Peter Douglas
Navigation Manager

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Wright H (Hamish)

From: Nick Salter <Nick.Salter@mcga.gov.uk>
Sent: 20 November 2019 12:22
To: MS Marine Renewables
Cc: Irvine S (Sophia)
Subject: RE: 07102 - Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm (Revised Design), Firth of Forth- Consultation- Response Required by 21 November 2019

Dear Hannah,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the potential impact of the above proposed works on the safety of navigation.

The Marine Licence application and supporting documentation have been considered by Navigation Safety Branch. On this occasion, the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) has no objection to consent being granted provided all maritime safety legislation is followed and the conditions/advisories below are applied:

Conditions:

1. The Licencee must issue local notification to marine users - including fisherman's organisations, neighbouring port authorities and other local stakeholders - to ensure that they are made fully aware of the activity.
2. The Licencee must ensure that HM Coastguard, in this case nmoccontroller@hmcg.gov.uk, The National Maritime Operations Centre is made aware of the works prior to commencement.
3. The Licencee must notify the UK Hydrographic Office to permit the promulgation of maritime safety information and updating of nautical charts and publications through the national Notice to Mariners system.

In addition, the following advice should be provided to the applicant to facilitate the proposed works:

Advisories:

1. Any jack up barges / vessels utilised during the works/laying of the cable, when jacked up, should exhibit signals in accordance with the UK Standard Marking Schedule for Offshore Installations.
2. If in the opinion of the Secretary of State the assistance of a Government Department, including the broadcast of navigational warnings, is required in connection with the works or to deal with any emergency arising from the failure to mark and light the works as required by the consent or to maintain the works in good order or from the drifting or wreck of the works, the owner of the works shall be liable for any expense incurred in securing such assistance.

If you require any further information please let me know.

Best regards



HISTORIC
ENVIRONMENT
SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD
EACHDRAIDHEIL
ALBA

By email to:
MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot

Marine Scotland (Marine Renewables)
Marine Laboratory
375 Victoria Road
Aberdeen
AB11 9DB

Longmore House
Salisbury Place
Edinburgh
EH9 1SH

Deirdre.Cameron@hes.scot
T: 0131 668 8896

Our case ID: 300020973
Your ref: 07102
18 November 2019

Dear Sir/Madam

[Marine \(Scotland\) Act 2010](#)
[Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm \(Revised Design\), Firth of Forth](#)

Thank you for your consultation of 24 October requesting our comments on this application.

I can confirm we are content with the archaeological mitigation measures outlined in section 3.8 of the Supporting Document accompanying this application.

Yours faithfully

Historic Environment Scotland

Wright H (Hamish)

From: Sandra Robson <sandra.robson@forthports.co.uk>
Sent: 21 November 2019 09:54
To: MS Marine Renewables
Cc: Irvine S (Sophia); Pamela Smyth
Subject: RE: 07102 - Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm (Revised Design), Firth of Forth- Consultation- Response Required by 21 November 2019

I refer to the above application and confirm Forth Ports has no issue with the application.

Kind regards

Sandra Robson | PA to Group General Counsel and Company Secretary | Forth Ports Limited

Head Office | 1 Prince of Wales Dock | Edinburgh | EH6 7DX

T: 0131 555 8700 | DD: 0131 555 8709 | <https://forthports.co.uk>

From: MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot [mailto:MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot]

Sent: 24 October 2019 16:24

To: MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot

Cc: Sophia.Irvine@gov.scot

Subject: 07102 - Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm (Revised Design), Firth of Forth- Consultation- Response Required by 21 November 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010, PART 4 MARINE LICENSING

07102 - Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm (Revised Design), Firth of Forth

CO-ORDINATES

Location	Latitude	Longitude
Outer Firth of Forth:	55° 57.609' N	2° 23.820' W
	55° 57.693' N	2° 23.636' W
	55° 57.866' N	2° 22.729' W
	56° 00.688' N	2° 22.015' W
	56° 00.695' N	2° 23.522' W
	56° 02.852' N	2° 23.488' W
	56° 02.841' N	2° 21.468' W
	56° 14.460' N	2° 18.501' W
	56° 15.815' N	2° 20.192' W
	56° 20.312' N	2° 16.519' W
	56° 12.693' N	2° 16.287' W
	56° 17.473' N	2° 20.318' W
	56° 19.755' N	2° 17.836' W
	56° 20.171' N	2° 14.742' W
	56° 12.671' N	2° 09.131' W
	56° 15.291' N	2° 09.814' W
	56° 14.300' N	2° 18.250' W

Wright H (Hamish)

From: NATS Safeguarding <NATSSafeguarding@nats.co.uk>
Sent: 22 November 2019 15:00
To: MS Marine Renewables
Cc: Irvine S (Sophia); NATS Safeguarding
Subject: RE: 07102 - Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm (Revised Design), Firth of Forth- Consultation- Response Required by 21 November 2019 (SG08577)

Dear Hamish

Apologies for the delay responding. The proposed development has been examined from a technical safeguarding aspect and does not conflict with our safeguarding criteria. Accordingly, NATS (En Route) Public Limited Company ("NERL") has no safeguarding objection to the proposal.

However, please be aware that this response applies specifically to the above consultation and only reflects the position of NATS (that is responsible for the management of en route air traffic) based on the information supplied at the time of this application. This letter does not provide any indication of the position of any other party, whether they be an airport, airspace user or otherwise. It remains your responsibility to ensure that all the appropriate consultees are properly consulted.

If any changes are proposed to the information supplied to NATS in regard to this application which become the basis of a revised, amended or further application for approval, then as a statutory consultee NERL requires that it be further consulted on any such changes prior to any planning permission or any consent being granted.

Yours faithfully

NATS

NATS Safeguarding

E: natssafeguarding@nats.co.uk

4000 Parkway, Whiteley,
Fareham, Hants PO15 7FL
www.nats.co.uk



From: MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot <MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot>
Sent: 22 November 2019 13:40
To: MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot
Cc: Sophia.Irvine@gov.scot
Subject: FW: 07102 - Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm (Revised Design), Firth of Forth- Consultation- Response Required by 21 November 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

The closing date of the 21 November 2019 for the consultation on this application has now passed and we haven't received a response from you. Therefore, we are assuming a Nil return.

Kind regards,

Hamish

Wright H (Hamish)

From: Claire Peters <Claire.Peters@sportscotland.org.uk>
Sent: 13 November 2019 14:22
To: MS Marine Renewables
Subject: 07103 – Unexploded Ordnance Clearance and 07102 - Seabed Preparation - Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm

Dear Sir / Madam

I can confirm that **sportscotland** has no comments to make in relation to these applications.

Kind regards
Claire

Claire Peters | Planner | **sportscotland**
Doges | Templeton on the Green | 62 Templeton Street | Glasgow | G40 1DA

t: 0141 534 6523 | m: 07854 683060
w: www.sportscotland.org.uk

My normal working days are Tuesday to Thursday.

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spòrsalba - am buidheann nàiseanta airson spòrs

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Aithris-àichidh – Tha am post-d seo dìomhair agus air a rùnachadh a-mhàin don neach gu bheil e air a sheòladh. Mura h-e thusa an neach sin, feuch gun cuir thu às don phost-d seo is ceangalan sam bith agus leth-bhreacan uile, agus cuir fios sa bhad gu an neach-seòlaidh. Cuimhnich mas e do thoil e gu bheil cleachdadh neo-ùghdarraichte sam bith air an sgrìobhainn seo air a thoirmeasg gu tur.

Mar bhuidheann poblach, tha **spòrsalba** a' tighinn fo riathanasan an Achd Saorsa Fiosrachaidh (Alba) 2002 a thaobh foillseachadh air fiosrachadh sam bith (a' gabhail a-steach conaltradh eileagtronaigeach) a dh'fhaodadh a bhith aige mu chuspair sònraichte, nuair a thèid sin iarraidh air le neach no buidheann sam bith. Ma bhios dragh ann mu dheidhinn seo, is urrainn do **spòrsalba**