

Redacted

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

30 April 2019

Dear Redacted,

REQUEST FOR A SCOPING OPINION - FORTHWIND LIMITED

I write to request a formal Opinion on behalf of Forthwind Limited on the scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report required in terms of The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment)(Scotland) Regulations and The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 to support new applications for a new Section 36 consent and Marine Licence for the Forthwind project. A scoping report has been prepared to inform consultation and accompanies this request.

The revised proposal addresses changes in turbine design, project envelope and a potential change in location for one of the turbines. The revised proposal is broadly similar in some aspects of the design envelope previously presented in the original application for the 2016 consented project.

However, the turbine is different to the 2B Energy design provisioned in the original consent. The new technology is visually similar to a 'conventional' offshore wind turbine, although it is technically different (it is larger, has a higher generation capacity and has a different internal technical design). The turbine design consists of a three bladed upwind horizontal axis wind turbine with a rotor diameter of up to 225 meters. The turbine rotor and nacelle are mounted on top of a tubular steel tower with a hub height of 137.5 m above Highest Astronomical Tide (HAT).

It is important to note that the development remains a test and demonstration project and will demonstrate a new model of offshore wind turbine technology that requires validation in an offshore environment, prior to being offered to the commercial market. Specifically, the following aspects of offshore wind turbine technology will be demonstrated within this project:

- Turbine performance;
- Turbine load simulation models;
- Turbine assembly processes;
- Offshore installation processes;
- Validation of the tooling and equipment specifically designed for the turbine;
- Development of the turbine supply chain (local and international);
- Maintenance and servicing arrangements.

The scoping report provides details of the proposed project design envelope along with site environmental information currently available. It identifies potential impacts that will be addressed in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report and identifies those aspects that can be scoped out and the reasoning for doing so. The scoping report also addresses future stakeholder engagement proposals and public consultation events to be held.

Following confirmation from MS-LOT that consultation will commence, a copy of the report will be placed on the project pages of the Cierco Energy website (<http://ciercoenergy.com/projects/>). We also understand a copy of the Scoping Report will be available online on the Marine Scotland website once accepted.

Yours Sincerely

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Projects Director