

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 November 2018 18:02
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Local Development Plan
Subject: [PROTECT] RE: EIA Screening Opinion Request - FORTHWIND OFFSHORE WIND DEMONSTRATION PROJECT, METHIL, FIRTH OF FORTH.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear [REDACTED]

With regard to this opinion request, on behalf of City of Edinburgh Council we note that the proposed change would involve the potential relocation of a turbine beyond the parameters of the existing consent in a direction towards the CEC area. As such, there is a potential change in the visual impact on receptors in the CEC area.

We consider that this change could give rise to materially different effects in terms of visual impact, which require to be assessed.

I trust that this response is sufficient. Please let me know if you have any further queries.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Development Plan Team | Place Directorate | The City of Edinburgh Council | Waverley Court, Level G:3, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh, EH8 8BG | Tel. [REDACTED]

[An upgrade of the Planning and Buildings Standards systems](#) will take place from 1-7 November. During this time the planning and building standards portal will be unavailable.

You can keep up to date by following us on Twitter [@planningedin](#) or subscribing to the [Planning Blog](#)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 November 2018 13:42
To: development.central@fife.gov.uk; [REDACTED] policy&projects@eastlothian.gov.uk;
[REDACTED] Local Development Plan <LocalDevelopmentPlan@edinburgh.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Planning.SE@SEPA.org.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: EIA Screening Opinion Request - FORTHWIND OFFSHORE WIND DEMONSTRATION PROJECT, METHIL, FIRTH OF FORTH.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Further to the email below regarding the Forthwind variation screening consultation, please note that due to a change of Casework Officer any comments should now be directed to [REDACTED]

A reminder that a response is required by next **Monday 12th November 2018**.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Marine Licensing Casework Officer
Marine Licensing Operations Team | [marinescotland](#)
Marine Laboratory | 375 Victoria Road | Aberdeen | AB11 9DB

[REDACTED]

Website: <http://www.gov.scot/marinescotland>

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 October 2018 11:43
To: development.central@fife.gov.uk; [REDACTED]
'policy&projects@eastlothian.gov.uk' <policy&projects@eastlothian.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; 'localdevelopmentplan@edinburgh.gov.uk'
<localdevelopmentplan@edinburgh.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]
marineenergy@snh.gov.uk; [REDACTED] Planning South East (Planning.SE@SEPA.org.uk)
<Planning.SE@SEPA.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: EIA Screening Opinion Request - FORTHWIND OFFSHORE WIND DEMONSTRATION PROJECT, METHIL, FIRTH OF FORTH.

Dear Sir/Madam

THE MARINE WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017 (AS AMENDED) ("the Marine Works Regulations")
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017 (AS AMENDED) ("the Electricity Works Regulations")
MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010
ELECTRICITY ACT 1989 (AS AMENDED)

SCREENING OPINION ON PROPOSED VARIATION OF CONSENT FOR THE FORTHWIND OFFSHORE WIND DEMONSTRATION PROJECT, METHIL, FIRTH OF FORTH.

Forthwind Ltd ("Forthwind") have requested the Scottish Ministers adopt a screening opinion in relation to the above proposed works under regulation 10(1) of the Marine Works Regulations. In adopting a screening opinion for the above proposed works the Scottish Ministers will also consider if the works constitute an 'EIA development' under the Electricity Works Regulations.

Please review the attached information and provide your view as to whether the proposed works are an EIA project in terms of the Marine Works Regulations and/or an EIA development in terms of the Electricity Works Regulations.

Please provide your response by **Monday 12th November 2017**.

I would be grateful if you could acknowledge receipt of this email.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]
Marine Renewables Casework Officer
Marine Scotland – Marine Policy and Planning
Scottish Government | Marine Laboratory | 375 Victoria Road | Aberdeen AB11 9DB

[REDACTED]

w: www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine

This e-mail (and any files or other attachments transmitted with it) is intended solely for the attention of the addressee(s). Unauthorised use, disclosure, storage, copying or distribution of any part of this e-mail is not permitted. If you are not the intended recipient please destroy the email, remove any copies from your system and inform the sender immediately by return.

Communications with the Scottish Government may be monitored or recorded in order to secure the effective operation of the system and for other lawful purposes. The views or opinions contained within this e-mail may not necessarily reflect those of the Scottish Government.

Tha am post-d seo (agus faidhle neo ceanglan còmhla ris) dhan neach neo luchd-ainmichte a-mhàin. Chan eil e ceadachd a chleachdadh ann an dòigh sam bith, a' toirt a-steach còraichean, foillseachadh neo sgaoileadh, gun chead. Ma 's e is gun d'fhuair sibh seo gun fhiosd', bu choir cur às dhan phost-d agus lethbhreac sam bith air an t-siostam agaibh agus fios a leigeil chun neach a sgaoil am post-d gun dàil. Dh'fhaodadh gum bi teachdaireachd sam bith bho Riaghaltas na h-Alba air a chlàradh neo air a sgrùdadh airson dearbhadh gu bheil an siostam ag obair gu h-èifeachdach neo airson adhbhar laghail eile. Dh'fhaodadh nach eil beachdan anns a' phost-d seo co-ionann ri beachdan Riaghaltas na h-Alba.

This email has been scanned by the Symantec Email Security.cloud service.
For more information please visit <http://www.symanteccloud.com>

This email has been received from an external party and has been swept for the presence of computer viruses.

Our ref: CONS/GOV/MS/Forthwind Screening
Date: 12 November 2018
Direct Line: [REDACTED]
E-Mail: [REDACTED]

John Muir House
Haddington
East Lothian
EH41 3HA
[REDACTED]

Sent via email to [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 (as Amended)
("The Marine Works Regulations")
The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 (as Amended) ("The Electricity Works Regulations")
Marine (Scotland) Act 2010
Electricity Act 1989 (as Amended)

Screening Opinion on Proposed Variation of Consent for the Forthwind Offshore Wind Demonstration Project, Methil, Firth of Forth.

I refer to your request for the views of East Lothian Council on whether or not this proposal is Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development and therefore requires EIA. For the reasons given below, it is the Council's view that this proposal is likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue of factors such as its nature, size or location; however it is for Scottish Ministers to determine if it is EIA development.

The applicant did not seek a Screening Opinion for the original proposal, having considered EIA guidance, the nature and size of the proposal, and the requirement for EIA for the single turbine at Methil. They considered that EIA was required, and therefore submitted an Environment Statement with their application. The Council agrees with that conclusion due to the characteristics, location, and characteristics of the potential impact of the original proposal.

The variation proposes turbines that are the same size as the consented turbines. The existing built turbines in Fife including the one at Methil appear to be on land when viewed from East Lothian. The turbines visible from East Lothian are all three bladed. The two consented turbines are two bladed on lattice towers, of a completely different design to the existing three bladed Methil turbine that has just been granted an extension of time. In landscape and visual terms the proposal for a different form of turbine to the existing three bladed proposal, and the location further south and further within the water could have significant effects on the landscape and visual impact from East Lothian such as to require an EIA. The proposal to relocate turbine A will locate this turbine closer to East Lothian, but further from the existing Methil turbine. In the view from Gullane both the turbines will now be located to the west of the existing Methil turbine in this view and will not overlap with the view of the Earlseat turbines. However from Yellowcraig and North Berwick Sea Bird Centre, although the proposed repositioning will visually separate the existing Methil turbine from the two Forthwind turbines, they may now read with the Earlseat turbines. Another significant view is from the A6137 at West Garleton where there is a panoramic view over Aberlady Bay with Methil directly in the line of site. The Council would require visuals from all these viewpoints to fully assess the impact on East Lothian. The Council does not therefore agree with the conclusions in the Screening Report Table 1: Summary of Variation Screening Assessment that there will be no additional potential impact on landscape and visual resource from the variation.

In the Screening Request Table 2: Variation Screening Assessment on environmental aspect – Planning Policy, please note that East Lothian Council has recently adopted its first Local Development Plan. This plan designated Special Landscape Areas for the first time, including at the coast. Supplementary Planning Guidance on these Special Landscape Areas has also recently been approved. Also in this table, 'Landscape and Visual' the rational for excluding a potential impact is that the revised location of Turbine A is further away from the nearest sensitive receptors. This may be the case for Fife, but not for East Lothian, to which it is now closer.

The Council values its birdlife, including that of the Firth of Forth SPA, the Forth Islands SPA and offshore, and Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex proposed marine SPA. It also values the marine mammals which are visitors to the East Lothian coast, including those from the nearby Isle of May SAC and further afield Moray Firth SAC. There is legislative provision for the protection of such sites and some such species. The Council does not have expertise as to whether the proposal would have a significant effect on these interests, but would support the views of SNH on this matter.

Should you wish to discuss any of the above in more detail please [REDACTED] in the first instance on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Copied to [REDACTED]

**Economy, Planning and
Employability Services**

██████████
Marine Licensing Operations Team
Marine Scotland
Marine Laboratory
375 Victoria Road
ABERDEEN
AB11 9DB

██████████
development.central@fife.gov.uk

Your Ref:

Our Ref: 18/03289/CON

Date 16 November 2018

By email to:

Dear ██████████

Application No: 18/03289/CON
Proposal: Screening Opinion Consultation for Proposed Variation of
Consent for the Forthwind Offshore Demonstration Project,

Address: 1.5km from Shore at Buckhaven, Firth of Forth

I write with regards to your letter received on 22 October 2018 requesting an Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Opinion for a proposed variation to the above development, already consented under S36 of the Electricity Act.

This letter constitutes the Council's formal comments on whether an Environmental Impact Assessment is required for the proposed variation to the consented development. The main assessment criteria outlined in Schedule 3 of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 have been used in the assessment of this proposal.

You will note that the Council has concluded that an Environmental Impact Assessment **would not be required** for the proposed variation to the consented development indicated in the submitted plans and supporting information.

Yours faithfully,

██████████
██████████
Planning
Economy, Planning and Employability Services
Kingdom House, Kingdom Avenue, Glenrothes, KY7 5LY
██████████

SCREENING OPINION CONSULTATION RESPONSE – THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017

Screening Opinion Consultation for Proposed Variation of Consent for the Forthwind Offshore Wind Demonstration Project, Buckhaven, Firth of Forth

An EIA Screening request has been submitted to Marine Scotland for a proposal to vary some of the parameters of an existing Section 36 Consent for two offshore wind turbine demonstrators in the Firth of Forth off the coast of Methil in Fife. The applicant has submitted relevant documentation with the intention of providing Marine Scotland with the necessary information to determine whether the proposed variation application requires an accompanying Environmental Impact Assessment.

Fife Council is not the determining Authority with regard to this proposed variation application but is responding to Marine Scotland's request for our view as part of the process to determine whether an EIA is required for the proposed variation.

This consultation response is given in the context of The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment)(Scotland) Regulations 2017, hereafter referred to as "the Regulations".

Location

The site is located approximately 1.5 km south west of the Mean High Water Springs on the shoreline of the Firth of Forth at the Fife Energy Park, Buckhaven.

Type of Development

<i>Description of Development</i>	<i>Applicable Thresholds and Criteria</i>
<p>(1) A generating station</p> <p>(3) Any change to or extension (including a change in the manner or period of operation) of development of a description listed in... paragraph (1) ... of this schedule where that development is already authorised</p>	<p>Where the change or extension may have significant adverse effects on the environment</p>

The proposed variation to the development is considered to fall within Schedule 2 of the Regulations which, as a change to a generating station already authorised and which has the potential for a significant adverse effect on the environment, requires screening for EIA.

Assessment of Impacts

The variation to the existing consented proposal would modify the following three parameters:

- An increase, from 18MW to 30MW, in the permitted generating capacity;

- Movement of one of the two turbines (Turbine A as per Figures 1 and 3 of the S36 consent) from a position roughly NE of Turbine B to a position roughly SE of Turbine B, subject to a 100m micro-siting tolerance; and
- Amending and reducing the overall area of the consented red line project boundary to encompass the new turbine location and associated cable corridor.

Fife Council has assessed the proposal against the indicative criteria in Schedule 3 of the Regulations to determine whether or not the proposed development is likely to have significant effects on the environment.

Whilst the power output of the two proposed turbines is proposed to be increased from 18MW to 30 MW, this is reflective of advances in technology and the renewables market, and the proposed change in itself does not present a significant environmental effect given that there are no changes proposed to any of the consented technical turbine parameters (e.g. rotor diameter, blade tip height, hub height, or operational lifetime).

Similarly, whilst Turbine A is proposed to be moved from the consented location, an assessment of the proposal against the indicative criteria in Schedule 3 of the Regulations (Characteristics of Development; Location of Development; Characteristics of the Potential Impact), it is considered unlikely that there will be any change from the consented development for the majority of parameters.

There are, however, two areas of possible change that may be occasioned by the relocation of Turbine A and it is considered that, whilst the potential impacts are not considered so significant at this stage to merit EIA process for the variation application, they will require more detailed examination once the variation application has been submitted, and Fife Council would expect to be consulted on that application in due course.

1. Landscape/Seascape/Visual Impact

From coastal viewpoints looking out to sea, the turbines would represent new focal points in the view. When seen from a greater distance across land, however, they would take on a different role – being seen as part of an array of turbines. In this context, cumulative impacts are relevant and, whilst 2-bladed turbines are less visually sympathetic when seen in conjunction with the more conventional 3-bladed units, the proposed use of a lattice tower would help to reduce the visual impact of the turbines.

Whilst the consented development therefore raised no major concerns in landscape/visual impact terms, the relocation of Turbine A further away from the Fife shoreline than the existing consented location will require consideration in terms of landscape and seascape impacts on coastal areas including parts of the Fife Coastal Path, the Wemyss Coast Special Landscape Area, and the coastal settlements (particularly parts of Buckhaven, Leven, and Wemyss villages).

2. *Ornithological Impact*

The Environmental Statement submitted with the consented proposal suggested that, whilst there would be potential issues of disturbance relating to marine mammals that could be successfully mitigated, the main impacts on the offshore ecology of the area would be likely to be in relation to the potential impact on bird-life in the Firth of Forth. Whilst these were considered to be acceptable in consenting the original development, Marine Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage would have to be similarly assured that the proposed new location for Turbine A (further away from shore) would not have any significant adverse impact on the integrity of the Forth Islands Special Protection Area, Firth of Forth SPA and Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex proposed Special Protection Area (pSPA).

Conclusion

The proposed variation to the development is considered to fall within Schedule 2 of the Regulations which, as a change to a generating station already authorised and which has the potential for a significant adverse effect on the environment, requires screening for EIA.

Taking into account the characteristics of the proposed variation to the consented development, the environmental sensitivity of its location, the characteristics of its potential impact and the relevant criteria, the Council as Planning Authority is of the view that the proposed variation application would not require an EIA.

The HRA and Appropriate Assessment will have to be reviewed and revised to include the new turbine location and new pSPA. It is unclear at this stage whether the potential impact of the new layout will be greater than that previously assessed, and this would also inform consideration of whether EIA is required, but SNH will advise Marine Scotland on this matter

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

16/11/2018

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Major Business and Customer Service

16/11/2018

EIA Screening Checklist

SCREENING OPINION - THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017

Application Reference - 18/03289/CON

Screening Opinion Consultation for Proposed Variation of Consent for the Forthwind Offshore Wind Demonstration Project, Buckhaven, Firth of Forth

GUIDANCE ON SCREENING

The items on this checklist are only indicative. Planning authorities and developers should consider the particular circumstances of each application to ensure that all the characteristics of the development and its location are taken into account.

SCREENING CHECKLIST

1 - CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DEVELOPMENT	Yes/No	Briefly describe
(a) Size of development		
Will the development be out of scale with the existing environment?		Whilst the power output of the two proposed turbines is proposed to be increased from 18MW to 30 MW, this is reflective of advances in technology and the renewables market, and the proposed change in itself does not present a significant environmental effect given that there are no changes proposed to any of the consented technical turbine parameters (e.g. rotor diameter, blade tip height, hub height, or operational lifetime). Similarly, whilst Turbine A is proposed to be moved from the consented location, an assessment of the proposal against the indicative criteria in Schedule 3 of the Regulations (Characteristics of Development; Location of Development; Characteristics of the Potential Impact), it is considered unlikely that there will be any change from the consented development for the majority of parameters. It is therefore considered unlikely that there will be any change from consented development, but landscape/visual impacts of relocation of Turbine A, and questions of scale of development in its existing context, would be examined in greater detail at the variation application stage. Likely impacts not considered sufficient at this stage to merit EIA process for the variation application.
Will it lead to further consequential development or works (e.g. new roads, extraction of aggregate, provision of new water supply, generation or transmission of power, increased housing and sewage disposal)?		No change from consented development.
(b) Cumulation with other development		
Are there potential cumulative impacts with other existing development or development not yet begun but for which planning permission exists?		No change from consented development.

Should the application for this development be regarded as an integral part of a more substantial project? If so, can related developments which are subject to separate applications proceed independently?	No change from consented development.
(c) Use of natural resources	
<p>Will construction or operation of the development use natural resources such as land, water, materials or energy, especially any resources which are non-renewable or in short supply?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>land (especially undeveloped or agricultural land)?</i> - <i>water?</i> - <i>minerals?</i> - <i>aggregates?</i> - <i>forests and timber?</i> - <i>energy including electricity and fuels?</i> - <i>any other resources?</i> 	No change from consented development.
(d) Production of Waste	
<p>Will the development produce wastes during construction or operation or decommissioning?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>spoil, overburden or mine wastes?</i> - <i>municipal waste (household and/or commercial)?</i> - <i>hazardous or toxic wastes (including radioactive)?</i> - <i>other industrial process wastes?</i> - <i>surplus product?</i> - <i>sewage sludge or other sludges from effluent treatment?</i> - <i>construction or demolition wastes?</i> - <i>redundant machinery or equipment?</i> - <i>contaminated soils or material?</i> - <i>agricultural wastes?</i> - <i>any other solid wastes?</i> - <i>liquid or solid wastes in suspension?</i> 	No change from consented development.
Extract taken from Scottish Government Planning Circular 8/2007 - The Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Regulations 1999	
(e) Pollution and nuisances	
<p>Will the development release pollutants or any hazardous toxic or noxious substances to air?</p> <p>Emissions from:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>combustion of fossil fuels from stationary or mobile sources?</i> 	No change from consented development.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - production processes? - materials handling including storage or transport? - construction activities including plant & equipment? - dust or odours from handling of materials including construction materials, sewage & waste? - incineration of waste? - burning of waste in open air (e.g. slash material, construction debris)? - any other sources? 	
<p>Is there a potential risk from:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - leachates? - escape of wastes or other products/by-products that may constitute a contaminant in the environment? 	No change from consented development.
<p>Will the development cause noise and vibration or release of light, heat energy or electromagnetic radiation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - from operation of equipment e.g. engines, ventilation plant, crushers? - from industrial or similar processes? - from blasting or piling? - from construction or operational traffic? - from lighting or cooling systems? - from sources of electromagnetic radiation (effects on nearby sensitive equipment as well as people)? - from any other sources? 	No change from consented development.
(f) Risk of accidents, having regard in particular to substances technologies used	
<p>Will there be a risk of accidents during construction or operation of the development which could have effects on people of the environment?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - from explosions, spillages, fires etc from storage, handling, use or production of hazardous or toxic substances? - from events beyond the limits of normal environmental protection e.g. failure of pollution control systems? - from any other causes? - could the development be affected by natural disasters causing environmental damage (e.g. floods, earthquakes, landslip, etc)? 	No change from consented development.
<p>Will the development involve use, storage, transport, handling or production of substances or materials which could be harmful to people or the environment (flora, fauna, water supplies)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - use of hazardous or toxic substances? - potential changes in occurrence of disease or effect on disease carriers (e.g. insect or water borne diseases)? 	No change from consented development.

- effect on welfare of people (e.g. change of living conditions)?
- effects on vulnerable groups (e.g. the elderly)?

Extract taken from Scottish Government Planning Circular 8/2007 - The Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Regulations 1999

(g) Other characteristics: potential physical changes (topography, land use, changes in waterbodies etc) from construction, operation or decommissioning of the development.

- permanent or temporary change in land use, landcover or topography including increases in intensity of land use?
- clearance of existing land, vegetation & buildings?
- Peat land disturbance and/or degradation leading to; carbon release, damage to habitats, affecting land stability or hydrology?
- creation of new land uses?
- pre-construction investigations e.g. boreholes, soil testing?
- construction or demolition works?
- temporary sites or housing for construction workers?
- above ground buildings, structures or earthworks including linear structures, cut & fill or excavations?
- underground works including mining or tunnelling?
- reclamation works?
- dredging?
- coastal structures (seawalls, piers)?
- offsgore structures?
- production and manufacturing processes?
- facilities for storage of goods or materials?
- facilities for treatment or disposal of solid wastes or liquid effluents?
- facilities for long term housing of operational workers?
- new road, rail or sea traffic during construction or operation?
- new road, rail, air, waterborne or other transport infrastructure including new or altered routes and stations, ports, airports etc?
- closure or diversion of existing transport routes or infrastructure leading to changes in traffic movements?
- new or diverted transmission lines or pipelines?
- impending, damming, culverting, realignment or other changes to the hydrology of watercourses or aquifers?
- stream crossings?
- abstraction or transfers of water from ground or surface waters?
- changes in waterbodies or the land surface affecting drainage or run-off?
- transport of personnel or materials for construction, operation or decommissioning?

No change from consented development.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - long term dismantling or decommissioning or restoration works? - ongoing activity during decommissioning which could have an impact on the environment? - influx of people to an area either temporarily or permanently? - introduction of alien species? - loss of native species or genetic diversity? - any other changes? 	
--	--

2 - LOCATION OF DEVELOPMENT	Yes/No	Briefly describe
-----------------------------	--------	------------------

(a) Existing land use

Are there existing land uses on or around the location which could be affected by the	No change from consented development.
Are there any areas on or around the location which are occupied by sensitive land uses e.g.	No change from consented development.
Is the development located in a previously undeveloped area where there will be a loss of greenfield land?	No change from consented development.

Extract taken from Scottish Government Planning Circular 8/2007 - The Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Regulations 1999

(b) Relative abundance, quality and regenerative capacity of natural resources in the area

Are there any areas on or around the location which contain important, high quality or scarce resources which could be affected by the development?	No change from consented development.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - groundwater resources - surface waters - forestry - agriculture - fisheries - tourism - minerals 	No change from consented development.

(c) Absorption capacity of the natural environment.
--

Are there any areas on or around the location which are protected under international or	No change from consented development.
Are there any other areas on or around the location which are important or sensitive for reasons of their ecology:-	No change from consented development.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - wetlands, watercourses or other waterbodies - the coastal zone - mountains, forests or woodlands - nature reserves and parks 	
Are there any areas on or around the location in which species and habitats or Local Biodiversity Action Plan importance are present?	No change from consented development.
Are there any areas on or around the location which are used by protected, important or	No change from consented development.
Are there any inland, coastal, marine or underground waters on or around the location which could be affected?	No change from consented development.

Are there any groundwater source protection zones or areas that contribute to the recharge of groundwater resources?	No change from consented development.
Are there any areas or features of high landscape or scenic value on or around the location which could be affected?	Considered unlikely that there will be any change from consented development, but landscape/visual impacts of relocation of Turbine A would be examined in greater detail at the variation application stage. Likely impacts not considered sufficient at this stage to merit EIA process for the variation application.
Are there any routes of facilities on or around the location which are used by the public for access to recreation or other facilities, which could be affected?	Considered unlikely that there will be any change from consented development, but potential impacts on local fishing activities arising from the relocation of Turbine A would be examined in greater detail at the variation application stage. Likely impacts not considered sufficient at this stage to merit EIA process for the variation application.
Are there any transport routes on or around the location which are susceptible to congestion or Is the development in a location where it is likely to be highly visible to many people?	No change from consented development.
	Considered unlikely that there will be any change from consented development, but landscape/visual impacts of relocation of Turbine A would be examined in greater detail at the variation application stage. Likely impacts not considered sufficient at this stage to merit EIA process for the variation application.
Are there any areas or features of historic or cultural importance on or around the location	No change from consented development.
Are there any areas on or around the location which are already subject to pollution or	No change from consented development.
Is the location of the development susceptible to earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion,	No change from consented development.

Extract taken from Scottish Government Planning Circular 8/2007 - The Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Regulations 1999

CHECKLIST OF CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The checklist below is for use in conjunction with the Screening Checklist. It is based on the Characteristics of the Potential Impact of the 'Selection Criteria for Screening Schedule 2 Development' in Schedule 3 to the EIA Regulations. It is designed to help in deciding whether EIA is required based on the characteristics of the likely impacts of the development.

The Screening Checklist provided a list of questions to help in identifying where there are potential interactions between a development and its proposed location. The checklist below is designed to helping deciding whether those interactions are likely to be significant.

The following questions can be asked for each 'Yes' answer in the Screening Checklist, and the conclusion and reasons noted against the relevant answer. The questions are designed so that a 'Yes' answer will generally point towards the need for EIA and a 'No' answer towards EIA not being required.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POTENTIAL IMPACT		Yes/No	Briefly describe
(a) Extent of the impact			
Will the effect extend over a large area?		No change from consented development.	
Will many people be affected?			
(b) Transboundary nature of the impact			
Will there be any potential for transboundary impact? (nb. Development which has a significant effect on the environment in another Member State is likely to be very rare. It		No change from consented development.	
(c) Magnitude and complexity of the impact			
Will there be a large change in environmental conditions?		No change from consented development.	

Will the effect be unusual in the area or particularly complex?	No change from consented development.
Will many receptors other than people (fauna and flora, businesses, facilities) be affected?	No change from consented development.
Will valuable or scarce features or resources be affected?	No change from consented development.
Is there a risk that environmental standards will be breached?	No change from consented development.
Is there a risk that protected sites, areas, features will be affected?	No change from consented development.
(d) Probability of the impact	
Is there a high probability of the effect occurring?	No change from consented development.
Is there a low probability of a potential highly significant effect?	No change from consented development.
(e) Duration, frequency and reversibility of the impact	
Will the effect continue for a long time?	No change from consented development.
Will the effect be permanent rather than temporary?	No change from consented development.
Will the impact be continuous rather than intermittent?	No change from consented development.
If intermittent, will it be frequent rather than rare?	No change from consented development.
Will the impact be irreversible?	No change from consented development.
Will it be difficult to avoid or reduce or repair or compensate for the effect?	No change from consented development.

Extract taken from Scottish Government Planning Circular 8/2007 - The Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Regulations 2011

Conclusion

Taking into account the characteristics of the proposed variation to the consented development, the environmental sensitivity of its location, the characteristics of its potential impact and the relevant criteria, the Council as Planning Authority is of the view that the proposed variation would not require an EIA.

Signature	
Name -	
Title -	
Date - 15.11.18	

Name -	
Title -	
Date - 16/11/18	



Our ref: PCS/161866
Your ref:

If telephoning ask for:

12 November 2018

[REDACTED]
Marine Scotland
Marine Laboratory
375 Victoria Road
Aberdeen
AB11 9DB

By email only to [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

**Marine (Scotland) Act 2010
The Electricity Act 1989
SCREENING OPINION ON PROPOSED VARIATION OF CONSENT
FORTHWIND OFFSHORE WIND DEMONSTRATION PROJECT
METHIL, FIRTH OF FORTH**

Thank you for your consultation email, which SEPA received on 22 October 2018.

SEPA has no objection to this alteration and, in this instance, has no site-specific advice or comment to make.

If you have any queries relating to this letter, please contact me by telephone on [REDACTED] or e-mail at planning.se@sepa.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Planning Service

Disclaimer

This advice is given without prejudice to any decision made on elements of the proposal regulated by us, as such a decision may take into account factors not considered at this time. We prefer all the technical information required for any SEPA consents to be submitted at the same time as the planning or similar application. However, we consider it to be at the applicant's commercial risk if any significant changes required during the regulatory stage necessitate a further planning application or similar application and/or neighbour notification or advertising. We have relied on the accuracy and completeness of the information supplied to us in providing the above advice and can take no responsibility for incorrect data or interpretation, or omissions, in such information. If we have not referred to a particular issue in our response, it should not be assumed that there is no impact associated with that issue. For planning applications, if you did not specifically request advice on flood risk, then advice will not have been provided on this issue. Further information on our consultation arrangements generally can be found on our [website planning pages](#).

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 October 2018 16:14
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: MS Marine Renewables
Subject: EIA Screening Opinion Request - FORTHWIND OFFSHORE WIND DEMONSTRATION PROJECT, METHIL, FIRTH OF FORTH - SNH response

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for consulting us for the screening opinion for this Forthwind 2 turbine proposal variation. Changes in the proposal parameters include: increased capacity, locational change of one turbine and change in project boundary.

We advise that due to the changes in location of one of the turbines to a new location outwith the site boundary of the currently consented 2 turbine development that further assessment is required for birds and landscape. We highlight at this stage that physical processes may also require further assessment. We do not agree with the screening document conclusions that there will be no additional potential impact to any receptor already assessed for the currently consented project.

The methods and scope of the assessment should be agreed with Marine Scotland and ourselves and we would be happy to contribute to further discussion about the scope of assessment required for each of these receptors.

Please get in touch if you have any queries about our advice.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | **Marine energy and seaweed harvesting**
Scottish Natural Heritage | Battleby | Redgorton | Perth | PH1 3EW | t: [REDACTED] | marineenergy@nature.scot
Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba | Battleby | Ràth a Ghoirtein | Peairt | PH1 3EW
nature.scot – Connecting People and Nature in Scotland – [@nature_scot](https://twitter.com/nature_scot)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 October 2018 11:43
To: development.central@fife.gov.uk; [REDACTED] policy&projects@eastlothian.gov.uk;
[REDACTED] ocaldevelopmentplan@edinburgh.gov.uk; [REDACTED]
MARINEENERGY; [REDACTED] Planning.SE@SEPA.org.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: EIA Screening Opinion Request - FORTHWIND OFFSHORE WIND DEMONSTRATION PROJECT, METHIL, FIRTH OF FORTH.

Dear Sir/Madam

THE MARINE WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017 (AS AMENDED) ("the Marine Works Regulations")
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017 (AS AMENDED) ("the Electricity Works Regulations")
MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010
ELECTRICITY ACT 1989 (AS AMENDED)

SCREENING OPINION ON PROPOSED VARIATION OF CONSENT FOR THE FORTHWIND OFFSHORE WIND DEMONSTRATION PROJECT, METHIL, FIRTH OF FORTH.

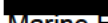

Forthwind Ltd ("Forthwind") have requested the Scottish Ministers adopt a screening opinion in relation to the above proposed works under regulation 10(1) of the Marine Works Regulations. In adopting a screening opinion for the above proposed works the Scottish Ministers will also consider if the works constitute an 'EIA development' under the Electricity Works Regulations.

Please review the attached information and provide your view as to whether the proposed works are an EIA project in terms of the Marine Works Regulations and/or an EIA development in terms of the Electricity Works Regulations.

Please provide your response by **Monday 12th November 2017**.

I would be grateful if you could acknowledge receipt of this email.

Yours faithfully


Marine Renewables Casework Officer
Marine Scotland – Marine Policy and Planning
Scottish Government | Marine Laboratory| 375 Victoria Road | Aberdeen AB11 9DB


w: www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine

This e-mail (and any files or other attachments transmitted with it) is intended solely for the attention of the addressee(s). Unauthorised use, disclosure, storage, copying or distribution of any part of this e-mail is not permitted. If you are not the intended recipient please destroy the email, remove any copies from your system and inform the sender immediately by return.

Communications with the Scottish Government may be monitored or recorded in order to secure the effective operation of the system and for other lawful purposes. The views or opinions contained within this e-mail may not necessarily reflect those of the Scottish Government.

Tha am post-d seo (agus faidhle neo ceanglan còmhla ris) dhan neach neo luchd-ainmichte a-mhàin. Chan eil e ceadachd a chleachdadh ann an dòigh sam bith, a' toirt a-steach còraichean, foillseachadh neo sgaoileadh, gun chead. Ma 's e is gun d'fhuair sibh seo gun fhiosd', bu choir cur às dhan phost-d agus lethbhreac sam bith air an t-siostam agaibh agus fios a leigeil chun neach a sgaoil am post-d gun dàil. Dh'fhaodadh gum bi teachdaireachd sam bith bho Riaghaltas na h-Alba air a chlàradh neo air a sgrùdadh airson dearbhadh gu bheil an siostam ag obair gu h-èifeachdach neo airson adhbhar laghail eile. Dh'fhaodadh nach eil beachdan anns a' phost-d seo co-ionann ri beachdan Riaghaltas na h-Alba.

This email has been scanned by the Symantec Email Security.cloud service.
For more information please visit <http://www.symanteccloud.com>

This email has been received from an external party and has been swept for the presence of computer viruses.

--

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager or the sender.

Please note that for business purposes, outgoing and incoming emails from and to SNH may be monitored.

Tha am post-dealain seo agus fiosrachadh sam bith na chois dìomhair agus airson an neach no buidheann ainmichte a-mhàin. Mas e gun d' fhuair sibh am post-dealain seo le mearachd, cuiribh fios dhan manaidshear-siostaim no neach-sgrìobhaidh.

Thoiribh an aire airson adhbharan gnothaich, 's dòcha gun tèid sùil a chumail air puist-dealain a' tighinn a-steach agus a' dol a-mach bho SNH.
