



# **Sporad na Mara Offshore Wind Farm Offshore Project Environmental Impact Assessment Report Appendix 1.2: Competent Experts, Volume 1c**

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# 1 COMPETENT EXPERTS

1.1.1.1 This appendix of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) provides a comprehensive list of the qualified individuals who contributed to the preparation of this EIAR for the proposed Sporad na Mara Offshore Windfarm (hereafter referred to as the 'Offshore Project'). This appendix should be read in conjunction with **Chapter 1: Introduction, Volume 1a**.

1.1.1.2 Competent persons involved in the preparation of this EIAR are listed in **Table 1-1**. The second column of this table includes 2 categories of staff, with different levels of responsibility:

- Main author;
- Technical reviewer.

Table 1-1: Competent experts involved in the EIAR

Aspect	Responsibility	Name of company	Qualifications /competencies of author
<b>Chapter 1: Introduction</b>	Main Author	WSP	BSc Marine Biology, MSc Environmental Biology: Conservation and Resource Management, Practitioner - Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals (PISEP). Over 8 years of experience in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including complex United Kingdom (UK) infrastructure, renewables, and marine projects.
	Technical Reviewer	WSP	BSc & MSc Energy & Environmental Systems, PISEP, Member of the Association of Environmental Clerks of Works (MAECoW). Over 30 years' industry experience in marine industry working on renewable energy projects for 22 years, and offshore renewables for 15 years.
<b>Chapter 2: Policy and Legislative Context</b>	Main Author	WSP	BSc Marine Biology, MSc Environmental Biology: Conservation and Resource Management, PISEP. Over 8 years of experience in EIA, including complex UK infrastructure, renewables, and marine projects.
	Technical Reviewer	WSP	BSc & MSc Energy & Environmental Systems, PISEP, MAECoW. Over 30 years' industry experience in marine industry working on renewable energy projects for 22 years, and offshore renewables for 15 years.
<b>Chapter 3: Offshore Project Description</b>	Main Author	WSP	BSc Marine Biology, MSc Environmental Biology: Conservation and Resource Management, PISEP. Over 8 years of experience in EIA, including complex UK infrastructure, renewables, and marine projects.
	Technical Reviewer	WSP	BSc & MSc Energy & Environmental Systems, PISEP, MAECoW. Over 30 years' industry experience in marine

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			industry working on renewable energy projects for 22 years, and offshore renewables for 15 years.
<b>Chapter 4: Consideration of Alternatives</b>	Main Author	WSP	BSc Marine Biology, MSc Environmental Biology: Conservation and Resource Management, PISEP. Over 8 years of experience in EIA, including complex UK infrastructure, renewables, and marine projects.
	Technical Reviewer	WSP	BSc & MSc Energy & Environmental Systems, PISEP, MAECoW. Over 30 years' industry experience in marine industry working on renewable energy projects for 22 years, and offshore renewables for 15 years.
<b>Chapter 5: Approach to EIA</b>	Main Author	WSP	BSc Marine Biology, MSc Environmental Biology: Conservation and Resource Management, PISEP. Over 8 years of experience in EIA, including complex UK infrastructure, renewables, and marine projects.
	Technical Reviewer	WSP	BSc & MSc Energy & Environmental Systems, PISEP, MAECoW. Over 30 years' industry experience in marine industry working on renewable energy projects for 22 years, and offshore renewables for 15 years.
<b>Chapter 6: Socio-Economics and Tourism</b>	Main Author	ERM	PhD Economic and Social History. 10 years of experience in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including socio-economic, land use, tourism and recreation assessment for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) and complex United Kingdom (UK) infrastructure, renewables, and transmission projects.
	Technical Reviewer	ERM	BA Economics and Public Policy, Member of the Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Working Group. 25 years of experience in consulting, including Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) and complex United Kingdom (UK) infrastructure and renewables projects, including offshore wind.
<b>Chapter 7: Climate - Climate Resilience</b>	Main Author	WSP	BSc Geography, PISEP. Over 20 years' experience in environmental consultancy and 6 years undertaking EIA for climate resilience, across multiple industry sectors.
	Technical Reviewer	WSP	BSc (Hons) Environmental Science, Chartered Environmentalist, Full Member of ISEP. Over 20 years of experience in EIA, including large infrastructure and energy projects and specialism in climate change risk and resilience assessment.

Aspect	Responsibility	Name of company	Qualifications /competencies of author
<b>Chapter 8: Climate - Greenhouse Gases</b>	Main Author	WSP	B.Tech Biotechnology and Biochemical Engineering, M.Tech Energy and Environmental Engineering. Over 15 years' experience in carbon accounting and around 4 years of experience in EIA, including offshore wind projects, port expansion project and transmission infrastructure projects.
	Technical Reviewer	WSP	BSc (Hons), PhD, MSc AMEI. 2 decades of GHG emissions reporting experience including delivering of EIA and Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Report (ESIA) for large scale infrastructure projects. This includes work in the renewables, conventional power, utilities, mining, oil and gas, waste management, transport, aviation and industrial manufacturing sectors.
<b>Chapter 9: Physical and Coastal Processes</b>	Main Author	WSP	MEng Civil Engineering, MSc Engineering Fluid Mechanics for the Offshore, Coastal and Built Environments. 3 years of experience in offshore and coastal modelling, coastal engineering, and coastal processes.
	Secondary Author	WSP	MEng Civil Engineering. Over 3 years of experience in offshore and coastal modelling, coastal engineering, and coastal processes, including EIA.
	Technical Reviewer	WSP	BSc Environmental Engineering, MSc Ocean and Coastal Engineering, PhD Ocean and Coastal Engineering. Over 15 years of experience in ocean engineering and coastal processes, including UK and international riverine, coastal, port and offshore infrastructure projects.
<b>Chapter 10: Marine Sediment and Water Quality</b>	Main Author	WSP	BSc Chemistry, MSc Ecology, over 50 years' experience in marine and freshwater quality and ecology, including survey and assessment, EIA, Habitat Regulations Assessments (HRA), Water Framework Directive (WFD) and applications for consents and permits, including onshore and offshore energy developments.
	Technical Reviewer	WSP	BSc (Hons), Marine and Freshwater Biology, MSc Estuarine and Coastal Science and Management (Distinction). 20 years' experience in marine and coastal EIA, including for major infrastructure developments in the UK and internationally, focusing on nuclear energy, renewables, and subsea interconnectors.

Aspect	Responsibility	Name of company	Qualifications /competencies of author
<b>Chapter 11: Benthic and Intertidal Ecology</b>	Main Author	WSP	BSc (Hons) Marine Biology with Polluted Ecosystems, PhD Marine Ecology. Over 15 years' academic and consultancy experience in marine, estuarine and freshwater ecology on a range of projects ranging from renewables, transport, housing developments and Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs).
	Technical Reviewer	WSP	BSc (Hons) Marine & Freshwater Biology, MSc Managing the Environment, MSc Energy, Business Sustainability Management, Chartered Scientist. Over 32 years of global experience across forestry, terrestrial, inshore and offshore environments.
<b>Chapter 12: Fish Ecology</b>	Main Author	WSP	MSc Biology of Water Resource Management; BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences, Member of Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (MCIEEM). Over 28 years' experience in ecological consultancy, including three years in specialist fisheries consultancy and 20 years in multi-disciplinary consultancy.
	Technical Reviewer	WSP	B.Sc. (Hons.) Marine & Freshwater Biology, M.Sc. Aquatic Resource Management, Ph.D. Biological Sciences. Over 30 years' experience in marine and coastal EIA/ Environmental, Social, and Health Impact Assessment (ESHIA), marine ecological surveys and biodiversity studies (including critical habitat assessment). Sectors include tidal, offshore wind, oil & gas and major infrastructure.
<b>Chapter 13: Marine Mammals</b>	Main Author	WSP	BSc (Hons) Zoology, MSc Applied Marine and Fisheries Ecology. Over 14 years of experience, including EIA, HRA and monitoring and mitigation, for offshore wind, wave and tidal, new nuclear, ports, aquaculture and onshore projects.
	Technical Reviewer	WSP	BSc (Hons) Marine & Freshwater Biology, MSc Managing the Environment, MSc Energy, Business Sustainability Management, CSci. Over 32 years of global experience across forestry, terrestrial, inshore and offshore environments.
<b>Chapter 14: Marine and Nearshore Ornithology</b>	Main Author	Niras	BSc Zoology, MSc Conservation. Over 16 years of experience managing ornithological projects, designing and undertaking surveys, carrying out detailed analysis, and authoring impact assessments and complex HRA.

Aspect	Responsibility	Name of company	Qualifications /competencies of author
	Secondary Author	Niras	BA Natural Sciences Experience, PhD Conservation Science Group. Extensive experience in offshore ornithology for EIAs and HRAs mostly relating to offshore windfarms around the UK but also other marine and coastal developments including offshore cables and ports.
	Secondary Author	Niras	BSc Environmental Management, MSc Marine Conservation. Over 10 years of experience in offshore ornithology and EIA. They author and review technical ornithology reports for EIA and HRA for offshore wind farm developments.
	Technical Reviewer	Niras	BSc Oceanography with Marine Biology. With over 25 years of experience in environmental consultancy, worked in offshore wind since Round 1 and has contributed to numerous projects in the UK and Ireland, together with wider marine consultancy experience from mainland Europe, America and Canada.
<b>Chapter 15: Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage</b>	Main Author	WSP	BA (Hons) Archaeology, MA Practical Archaeology. Over 15 years commercial experience, including 12 in offshore renewables projects specialising in Marine Archaeology and Marine Geophysical data analysis.
	Secondary Author	WSP	BA, Archaeology and Prehistory, Post Graduate Diploma, Environmental Management, Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. Over, 35 years' experience in historic environment sector for provision of historic environment advice and services, including desk-based assessments, EIA, liaison with local authorities and heritage bodies, management of surveys and field investigations and mitigation design for a wide range of developments in the residential, minerals, water, energy, transmission, transport and commercial sectors.
	Technical Reviewer	WSP	BTEC Archaeology, MPhil Marine Archaeology. Member of the Chartered Institute of Archaeology and the Institute of Leadership. Over 20 years of experience in Heritage Management, including in offshore renewables, nuclear, and ports and harbours sectors. 15+ years as a marine cultural heritage and archaeology specialist.
	Technical Reviewer	WSP	BA in archaeology and cultural heritage. Over 30 years' of experience working in the UK historic environment sector as a field archaeologist and consultant.

Aspect	Responsibility	Name of company	Qualifications /competencies of author
<b>Chapter 16: Shipping and Navigation</b>	Main Author	Anatec	BSc (Hons) Mathematics. Over 9 years of experience in navigational risk in the marine sector within renewable energy industry, and specifically offshore wind farms.
	Technical Reviewer	Anatec	BSc (Hons) Shipping and Port Operations. Over 25 years of experience within the maritime industry dealing with port and vessel operations as well as offshore installations. Actively involved in the majority of offshore renewable projects in the UK, as well as projects across Europe, US, Asia and Australia.
<b>Chapter 17: Military and Civil Aviation</b>	Main Author	Cyrrus	BSc Geography. Over 2 years of experience in the aviation industry and EIAs, including radar modelling and airspace analysis.
	Technical Reviewer	Cyrrus	BEng Electrical Engineering. Over 30 years of experience in the aviation industry and over five years of experience in EIAs, including radar modelling and airspace analysis.
	Technical Reviewer	Mackenzie Renewables Limited	MSC (Lon), BCL (Oxon), BA(Hons) LLB (Hons) (Syd) 20 years' experience of the aviation / renewables interface, demonstrated history of advising on and successfully resolving aviation and military barriers to deployment and operations for renewable energy projects, both onshore and offshore, in UK and beyond.
<b>Chapter 18: Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment</b>	Main Author	SLR Consulting	BSc (Hons) Biochemistry with Nutrition, PGDL, MLA. Over five years of experience in writing S/LVIA for onshore and offshore wind farms, transmission lines and smaller scale projects such as residential developments.
	Technical Reviewer	SLR Consulting	MA Hons Landscape Planning and Management. Chartered Member of the Landscape Institute Architect (CMLI). Over 24 years' experience working in landscape and visual impact assessment (LVIA) consultancy.
<b>Chapter 19: Offshore Airborne Noise</b>	Main Author	WSP	BSc Audio Technology. Over 20 years of experience in noise and vibration assessments, including complex UK infrastructure, renewables and industrial/commercial.
	Technical Reviewer	WSP	BSc Audio Technology and Member of the Institute of Acoustics (IoA). 26 years in the acoustics industry many on renewable energy projects including delivering noise impact assessments for wind farm developments in the UK (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland) and abroad (Serbia, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Australia and Uzbekistan).

Aspect	Responsibility	Name of company	Qualifications /competencies of author
<b>Chapter 20: Other Sea Users and Recreation</b>	Main Author	ERM	MSci Marine Biology and Oceanography. Over 3 years of experience in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) and complex United Kingdom (UK) offshore renewables and subsea cable projects.
	Technical Reviewer	ERM	BA Economics and Public Policy, Member of the Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Working Group. 25 years of experience in consulting, including Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) and complex United Kingdom (UK) infrastructure and renewables projects, including offshore wind.
<b>Chapter 21: Commercial Fisheries</b>	Main Author	Nima	BEng Chemical Engineering and BSc Marine Biology. Over 20 years of experience in EIA for marine renewables and offshore infrastructure projects, with a particular focus on commercial fisheries. Extensive wider fisheries expertise includes the development of Fisheries Improvement Project Action Plans and delivery of sustainability assessments for UK and international fisheries.
	Technical Reviewer	Nima	BA Geography, MSc Tropical Coastal Management, Pg Cert Environmental Management. Over 19 years' experience in marine environmental consultancy, focused on EIA and post-consent compliance for offshore wind farm projects.
<b>Chapter 22: Offshore Human Health</b>	Main Author	ERM	BSc Economics. Over 10 years of experience in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), specialising in the delivery of nationally significant infrastructure projects and renewables. Experienced in health and socio-economic related assessments.
	Technical Reviewer	ERM	BA Economics and Public Policy, Member of the Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Working Group. 25 years of experience in consulting, including Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) and complex United Kingdom (UK) infrastructure and renewables projects, including offshore wind.
<b>Chapter 23: Combined Effects Assessment</b>	Main Author	WSP	BSc Marine Biology, MSc Environmental Biology: Conservation and Resource Management, PISEP. Over 8 years of experience in EIA, including complex UK infrastructure, renewables, and marine projects.

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	Technical Reviewer	WSP	BSc & MSc Energy & Environmental Systems, PISEP, MAECoW. Over 30 years' industry experience in marine industry working on renewable energy projects for 22 years, and offshore renewables for 15 years.
<b>Chapter 24: Summary of Likely Significant Residual Effects</b>	Main Author	WSP	BSc Marine Biology, MSc Environmental Biology: Conservation and Resource Management, PISEP. Over 8 years of experience in EIA, including complex UK infrastructure, renewables, and marine projects.
	Technical Reviewer	WSP	BSc & MSc Energy & Environmental Systems, PISEP, MAECoW. Over 30 years' industry experience in marine industry working on renewable energy projects for 22 years, and offshore renewables for 15 years.
<b>Chapter 25: Summary of Offshore Mitigation / Statement of Offshore EIA Commitments</b>	Main Author	WSP	BSc Marine Biology, MSc Environmental Biology: Conservation and Resource Management, PISEP. Over 8 years of experience in EIA, including complex UK infrastructure, renewables, and marine projects.
	Technical Reviewer	WSP	BSc & MSc Energy & Environmental Systems, PISEP, MAECoW. Over 30 years' industry experience in marine industry working on renewable energy projects for 22 years, and offshore renewables for 15 years.

## 1.2 ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

1.2.1.1 A list of key terms and acronyms used in this appendix are provided in **Table 1-2**.

Table 1-2: Acronyms and abbreviations

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
ESHIA	Environmental, Social, and Health Impact Assessment
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Report
HRA	Habitat Regulations Assessments
IoA	Institute of Acoustics
MAECoW	Member of the Association of Environmental Clerks of Works
MCIEEM	Member of Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management
NSIPS	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects
PISEP	Practitioner - Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals
UK	United Kingdom
WFD	Water Framework Directive