

# Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm

## Environmental Impact Assessment Report

Volume 4, Appendix 1: Pre-Application Consultation  
Report



Revision No.	Date	Reason for Issue	Author	Reviewer	Approver
01	22/11/2024	Final	GoBe Consultants Ltd.	GoBe Consultants Ltd.	MMOWF Ltd

#### Document Information

Document ID	MMH-GBE-A004-ENV-0006-328
Revision	01
Date	22/11/2024



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## Glossary

Term	Definition
Array Area	The area in which the generation infrastructure (including Wind Turbine Generators and associated foundations and inter-array cables), Offshore Electrical Platform(s), and an interconnector cable will be located.
Developer	Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Limited
E2	The ScotWind Plan Option Area within the proposed development is located
Floating Foundations	The floating structures on which the Wind Turbine Generators are installed.
Foundation anchors	The structures which anchor the Floating Foundations to the seabed, connected to the foundation mooring.
Foundation mooring	The mooring structures which connect the Floating Foundations to the anchors.
Inter-array cables	Cables which link the wind turbines generators to each other and the Offshore Electrical Platform(s).
Interconnector cable	Cable which links the Offshore Electrical Platform(s) to one another, allowing for power to be transferred between the platforms.
Landfall	The area between Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) and Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS) where the offshore export cables are brought onshore.
Local Newspaper	A newspaper which is likely to come to the attention of those persons who are likely to be affected by the licensable marine activity for which a marine licence is to be sought.
Offshore Electrical Platform (OEP)	Offshore platform consisting of High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC) equipment, details depending on the final electrical set up of the Project.
Offshore Export Cable Corridor (ECC)	The area within which the offshore export cables will be installed.
Offshore export cables	The subsea electricity cable circuits running from the Offshore Electrical Platform(s) to the landfall which will transmit the electricity generated by the offshore wind farm to the onshore export cables for transmission onwards to the onshore substation and the national electrical transmission system along with auxiliary cables such as fibre optic cables.
Offshore transmission infrastructure	The proposed transmission infrastructure comprising: Offshore Electrical Platform(s) and associated foundations and substructures; the offshore export cables; and the landfall area up to Mean High Water Springs (MHWS).
Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report	A report which must be prepared by virtue of Section 24 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and in a form prescribed by the Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013.
Project	Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm – comprises the wind farm and all associated offshore and onshore components.
Proposed Development	The offshore Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm project elements to which this Offshore EIA Report relates.
Wind Turbine Generator (WTG)	The wind turbines that generate electricity consisting of tubular towers and blades attached to a nacelle housing mechanical and electrical generating equipment.

## Acronyms

Term	Definition
AREG	Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group
BTO	British Trust for Ornithology
CAA	Civil Aviation Authority
CCC	Committee on Climate Change
CoS	Chamber of Shipping
CRRU	Cetacean Research and Rescue Unit
ECC	Export Cable Corridor
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
EMF	Electromagnetic Field
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
FMS	Fisheries Management Scotland
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
GVA	Gross Value Added
GW	Gigawatt
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drilling
HES	Historic Environment Scotland
HIE	Highland and Island Enterprise
HSE	Health and Safety Executive
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
JV	Joint Venture
MCAA	Marine and Coastal Access Act
MCA	Maritime Coastguard Agency
MCS	Marine Conservation Society
MHWS	Mean High Water Springs
MLWS	Mean Low Water Springs
MD-LOT	Marine Directorate - Licensing Operations Team
MW	Megawatt
NATS	National Air Traffic Service
NLB	Northern Lighthouse Board
nm	Nautical Mile
OEP	Offshore Electrical Platform
OEUK	Offshore Energy UK
ONE	Opportunity North East
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
OWF	Offshore Wind Farm
PAC	Pre-Application Consultation
PCE	Public Consultation Event
PO	Plan Option

Term	Definition
RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
SAMS	Scottish Association for Marine Science
SCDI	Scottish Council for Development and Industry
SCE	Supply Chain Event
SDI	Scottish Development International
SDS	Skills Development Scotland
SEPA	Scottish Environmental Protection Agency
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage (now NatureScot)
SOWEC	Scottish Offshore Wind Energy Council
SWT	Scottish Wildlife Trust
UHI	University of the Highlands and Islands
UK	United Kingdom
VR	Virtual Reality
WDCS	Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society
WTG	Wind Turbine Generator

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1.1. Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Limited (hereafter referred to as 'the Developer') is proposing to develop the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm (hereafter 'the Project'). The Project is made up of both offshore and onshore components. The subject of this Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report is the offshore infrastructure of the Project seaward of Mean High-Water Springs (MHWS), hereafter referred to as 'the Proposed Development'.
- 1.1.2. The Muir Mhòr Array Area covers an area of approximately 200 km<sup>2</sup> and is located approximately 63 km east of Peterhead on the east coast of Scotland. The offshore infrastructure of the Proposed Development includes Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) and associated floating foundations, the Offshore Electrical Platform(s) (OEP(s)) and associated foundations, the inter-array cables, an interconnector cable, offshore export cables and landfall.
- 1.1.3. This PAC report accompanies the offshore consent application, including the offshore Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and associated documents submitted to Scottish Ministers in accordance with the requirements for a Section 36 consent under the Electricity Act 1989, and Marine Licences under the Marine and Coastal Access Act (MCAA) 2009 and the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 for generation and transmission assets of the Proposed Development, located beyond the 12 nm limit within the United Kingdom (UK) Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), and within the 12 nm limit, respectively.
- 1.1.4. This PAC Report summarises the stakeholder engagement and consultation work carried out by the Developer to date in support of this offshore consent application. Pre-application consultation for the Proposed Development has been undertaken across three key rounds.
- 1.1.5. The first informal round of consultation was conducted in November 2023, shortly after the completion of the Scoping process. Local public events were held in Peterhead and Longside. They introduced both the onshore and offshore elements of the Project to the local community and allowed the Developer to obtain early feedback on the proposals and the engagement approach. In parallel with the local events, the Developer launched a virtual exhibition and provided email addresses for open feedback to the Project.
- 1.1.6. On the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of March 2024, the second round of offshore consultation constituted the first 'formal' PAC event under the Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013. This round involved the Developer hosting public events in Peterhead and Longside. The event presented information on the location, capacity and number of turbines, and development area.
- 1.1.7. Updated information on the offshore export cable corridor route was presented, along with a summary of the EIA process and work to date. 3D visualisations of what the Proposed Development might look like were provided to attendees. This round allowed the Developer to better understand key local concerns and helped shape the next consultation event in September 2024. A virtual exhibition event ran in tandem to the in-person event.
- 1.1.8. On the 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2024, the third round of consultation constituted the second 'formal' PAC event under the Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013. This round involved a single public event in Peterhead. Conclusions from the EIA process on key offshore issues and potential mitigation were presented. A virtual exhibition event was run alongside the in-person event.
- 1.1.9. Following each round of consultation, all feedback received was reviewed to ensure that key points of interest and concern were addressed. Views raised during each consultation round have been fully considered as the Proposed Development has progressed, with issues being

resolved wherever possible. The Developer has worked to respond directly and quickly to feedback from consultees where appropriate.

- 1.1.10. In addition to the community consultation outlined above, the Developer has maintained regular dialogue with statutory and non-statutory consultees throughout the Project's development to ensure a robust and well informed EIAR.



# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1. OVERVIEW

- 1.1.1. Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Limited (hereafter referred to as 'the Developer') is proposing to develop the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm (hereafter 'the Project'). The Project is made up of both offshore and onshore components. The subject of this Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report is the offshore infrastructure of the Project seaward of Mean High-Water Springs (MHWS), hereafter referred to as 'the Proposed Development'.
- 1.1.2. The Array Area for the Proposed Development covers an area of approximately 200 km<sup>2</sup> and is located approximately 63 km east of Peterhead on the east coast of Scotland. The offshore infrastructure of the Proposed Development includes Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) and associated floating foundations, the Offshore Electrical Platform(s) (OEP) and associated foundations, the inter-array cables, an interconnector cable, offshore export cables and landfall.

## 1.2. THE DEVELOPER

- 1.2.1. The Developer is an equal Joint Venture (JV) between Fred. Olsen Seawind Limited and Vattenfall Wind Power Limited. The Developer brings together a unique combination of financial, technical and project development capability, a commitment to delivery, and a clear vision for the Proposed Development.



**Fred. Olsen Seawind**

**VATTENFALL** 

- 1.2.2. Fred. Olsen Seawind Limited is an established offshore wind developer building on Fred. Olsen Renewables' 25 years wind track record, market presence and portfolio. Fred. Olsen has extensive experience in Scotland gained through over 25 years of development, construction, and operation of onshore wind in the region. Fred. Olsen Seawind is active in Ireland, Norway and Scotland and is exploring opportunities in new markets.
- 1.2.3. Other entities include Fred. Olsen Wind Carrier, who are responsible for the installation of 20% of the world's offshore wind turbines outside of China, and Fred. Olsen 1848 who develop and commercialise renewable energy innovations.
- 1.2.4. Vattenfall Wind Power Limited is one of Europe's largest producers and retailers of electricity and heat. Vattenfall Wind Power Limited has been working in the UK for more than ten years, developing fossil fuel-free energy projects. Vattenfall Wind Power Limited have grown their wind business from one project in 2008 to 11 in 2023. Vattenfall Wind Power Limited currently operates more than 1 Gigawatt (GW) of wind energy capacity in the UK. In Scotland, their operational wind farms comprise a total generating capacity of approximately 400 Megawatts (MW), powering over 130,000 homes. This includes the 96.8 MW European Offshore Wind Deployment Centre in Aberdeen Bay, offering the domestic supply chain the chance to test and demonstrate the latest innovations in a real-world environment. Vattenfall Wind Power Limited is also constructing South Kyle, a 240 MW onshore wind project in south-west Scotland.

## **1.3. PURPOSE OF PAC REPORT**

- 1.3.1. The purpose of this PAC Report is to provide an overview of the public consultation and stakeholder engagement activities undertaken by the Developer in relation to the Proposed Development. It includes a brief outline of the legislative context, a description of the approach employed, and a summary of feedback received from stakeholders. Copies of materials used during the consultation are also included as Annexes. The PAC Report concludes with an explanation of the Developer's responses to how the feedback on key issues has been considered in the application.
- 1.3.2. This report has been prepared by GoBe Consultants Limited, on behalf of the Developer.

## **2. LEGISLATION AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK**

### **2.1. OUR COMMITMENT TO ENGAGEMENT**

- 2.1.1. Public consultation and stakeholder engagement are important aspects of the Scottish planning and marine consenting system. Legislation and Scottish Government guidance aim to ensure that statutory and non-statutory consultees have the opportunity to have their views considered throughout the development process. This section outlines this regulatory framework, with brief reference to the wider consenting procedures and industry practice for engagement.
- 2.1.2. The Developer is fully committed to fulfilling the requirements of this legislation and guidance in relation to community and wider stakeholder engagement, and aims to deliver inclusive, meaningful engagement with consultees throughout all stages of the Proposed Development. The Developer is keen to engage with a wide range of stakeholders, with a view to addressing adverse effects the proposal may have on the environment and local communities by proactively responding to their needs, interests and concerns.
- 2.1.3. As such, the Developer began the engagement process at an early stage of the Proposed Development and will continue engaging throughout all phases of the Project should consent be granted.

### **2.2. LICENCES AND CONSENTS**

- 2.2.1. The Proposed Development Array Area is located wholly in the United Kingdom (UK) Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), and the offshore Export Cable Corridor (ECC) is located within the EEZ and then into Scottish Territorial Waters to landfall.
- 2.2.2. The Developer intends to apply for the relevant consents and permissions required to enable construction, Operation and Maintenance (O&M) and decommissioning of the Proposed Development. The consents, licences and permissions to be sought by the Developer for the Proposed Development include:
- A Section 36 consent under the Electricity Act 1989;
  - A Marine Licence under the Marine and Coastal Access Act (MCAA) 2009 for the generating assets of the proposed development which are located beyond 12 nm limit within the EEZ; and
  - A Marine Licence under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 for the offshore transmission infrastructure, which is within 12 nm of the coast, and under the MCAA for the offshore transmission infrastructure located beyond the 12 nm limit within the EEZ.

- 2.2.3. Volume 1, Chapter 2 (Legislation and Policy Context) describes the overarching policy and legislative background to the Proposed Development, including required consents and licences.
- 2.2.4. The Developer will not seek deemed planning permission as part of the Section 36 consent application, however a separate application for onshore infrastructure will be made under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997. A separate Onshore Environmental Impact Assessment Report is being prepared providing a description of the onshore elements of the Project landward of MLWS, and an assessment of the associated likely significant effects. This will support the onshore consent and licence applications.

## **2.3. PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS**

- 2.3.1. The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 applies to activities within the 12 nm limit, and as such applies to the Marine Licence application for the offshore transmission infrastructure for the Proposed Development (i.e. within the offshore ECC). Therefore, the Developer was required to carry out PAC in accordance with the Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 for elements of the Proposed Development.
- 2.3.2. It should be noted that, despite the PAC process formally applying to the works within 12 nm, stakeholders were also invited to comment on all offshore aspects of the Proposed Development during the PAC process. In addition, any comments raised on the onshore works have been shared with the onshore Developer team.
- 2.3.3. Sections 22 to 24 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 requires PAC to be undertaken for developments in Scottish territorial waters that are of a certain scale or involve works, in accordance with the Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013. Regulation 7 of the Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 requires that at least one PAC event is carried out to allow statutory stakeholders and members of the public to provide comments to the prospective developer on the proposed licensable marine activity.
- 2.3.4. Prospective developers must publish in a local newspaper a notice (PAC Notice) containing a description of the activity, details of where further information may be obtained, the date and place of the pre-application consultation event and how and when comments should be submitted to the prospective developer.
- 2.3.5. PAC is not considered to be a direct representation to the Scottish Ministers, but rather provides a mechanism for the public to provide feedback that can be addressed in the licence application and supporting EIAR.
- 2.3.6. Pre-application consultation is not a requirement of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.
- 2.3.7. Table 2-1 summarises our compliance with the Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 and provides links to associated evidence.

Table 2-1 Statement of Compliance

Reference	Requirement	Compliance	PAC Reference
<b>Marine (Scotland) Act 2010</b>			
Section 23 (1)	A prospective applicant must give notice that an application for a marine licence is to be submitted.	<p><b>PAC Event 1 26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> of March 2024</b> PAC1 event Notices were published in The Press and Journal local newspaper on 6<sup>th</sup> of February 2024 and The Buchan Observer on 13<sup>th</sup> of February 2024.</p> <p>The PAC1 event notifications that an application for a marine licence would be submitted by the Developer were sent to the required parties on 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2024.</p> <p><b>PAC Event 2, 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2024</b> PAC2 event notices were published in The Press and Journal and Buchanie local newspapers on 13<sup>th</sup> of August 2024.</p> <p>The PAC 2 event notifications that an application for a marine licence would be submitted by the Developer were sent to the required parties on 13<sup>th</sup> of August 2024.</p>	<p>Annex 1A</p> <p>Annex 1B to 1E</p> <p>Annex 2A</p> <p>Annex 2B to 2E</p>
Section 23 (2)	A period of at least 12 weeks must elapse between giving the notice and the submission of the application.	<p><b>PAC Event 1 26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> of March 2024</b> The PAC1 event notifications that an application for a marine licence would be submitted by the Developer were sent on 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2024.</p> <p><b>PAC Event 2, 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2024</b> The PAC 2 event notifications that an application for a marine licence would be submitted by the Developer were sent on 13<sup>th</sup> of August 2024.</p> <p>As such, more than 12 weeks have elapsed since these notifications were sent and the submission of the application for the Proposed Development (November 2024).</p>	<p>Annex 1B to 1E</p> <p>Annex 2B to 2E</p>

Reference	Requirement	Compliance	PAC Reference
Section 23 (3) (a)-(d)	<p>The notice must contain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A description in general terms of the activity to be carried out;</li> <li>b) A plan or chart showing the outline of the location at which the activity is to be carried out, which is sufficient to identify the location;</li> <li>c) Details as to how the perspective applicant is to be contacted;</li> <li>d) Such other information as may be prescribed by Scottish Ministers.</li> </ul>	<p>The notices for both PAC 1 and PAC 2 events contained the information required by the PAC Regulations.</p>	<p>Annex 1A to 1E</p> <p>Annex 2A to 2E</p>
Section 24 (1) and (2)	A pre-application consultation report must be prepared prior to submitting the application and be in the prescribed format.	This document constitutes the PAC Report.	<p>Annex 5</p> <p>A PAC report is provided in the prescribed form, as required under s24.</p>
<b>Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) Scotland Regulations 2013</b>			
Regulation 5 (1)	A prospective applicant for a marine licence may notify the Scottish Ministers requiring a pre-application consultation statement from them.	The Developer chose not to request a pre-application consultation statement from Scottish Ministers.	-
Regulation 6 (2)	<p>The prospective applicant for a marine licence must give notification that an application for a marine licence is to be submitted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The Commissioners of Northern Lighthouses;</li> <li>b) The Maritime and Coastguard Agency;</li> <li>c) The Scottish Environment Protection Agency;</li> <li>d) Scottish Natural Heritage; and</li> <li>e) Any delegate for a marine region</li> </ul>	<p>The notifications that an application for a marine licence would be submitted by the Developer were sent on 30th of January 2024 (PAC 1 event) and 13<sup>th</sup> of August 2024 (PAC 2 event) to the Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB), the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA), the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA), and NatureScot (formerly Scottish Natural Heritage). In addition to those consultees, the PAC Notice was also issued to the following stakeholders in Annex 4.</p>	<p>Annex 1B to 1E</p> <p>Annex 2B to 2E</p>

Reference	Requirement	Compliance	PAC Reference
	where the application for a marine licence is for an activity which is to be carried out wholly or partly in that region.		
Regulation 7 (1) (a)	The prospective applicant for a marine licence must hold at least one pre-application consultation event at which persons identified in Regulation 6(2) and members of the public may provide comments to the prospective applicant as regards the licensable marine activity.	Two formal PAC events were held on the 26 <sup>th</sup> and 27 <sup>th</sup> of March 2024 (PAC1), and the 25 <sup>th</sup> of September 2024 (PAC2).  All parties listed in Regulation 6 (2) were invited to both PAC1 and PAC2 events via e-mail notification.	See Section 6 and Section 7 for details on the two formal PAC events.  Annex 1B to 1E Annex 2B to 2E
Regulation 7 (1) (b)	The prospective applicant must publish in a local newspaper containing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. A description, including the location of the licensable marine activity for which the marine licence is to be sought;</li> <li>ii. Details as to where further information may be obtained concerning the licensable Marine activity;</li> <li>iii. The date and the place of the PAC event;</li> <li>iv. A statement explaining how persons wishing to provide comments to the prospective applicant relating to the proposed licensable marine activity may do so, and the date by which this must be done; and</li> <li>v. A statement that comments made to the prospective applicant are not</li> </ul>	PAC1 event Notices were published in The Press and Journal local newspaper on 6 <sup>th</sup> of February 2024 and The Buchan Observer on 13 <sup>th</sup> of February 2024.  PAC2 event notices were published in The Press and Journal and Buchan local newspapers on 13 <sup>th</sup> of August 2024, the Ellon Times and Inverurie Herald, and Fraserburgh Herald on 15 <sup>th</sup> of August 2024.  The PAC Notices contained a general description of the works associated with the marine licensable activity, information on the location of the works including grid references, details of the consultation events and how and by when comments could be provided on the Proposed Development. The PAC Notices also included a statement noting that comments made to the prospective developer are not representations to the Scottish Ministers and that there will be an opportunity for representations to be made to the Scottish Ministers on the application.	Annex 1A Annex 1B

Reference	Requirement	Compliance	PAC Reference
	representations to the Scottish Ministers and that there will be an opportunity for representations to be made to the Scottish Ministers on the application.		
Regulation 7 (2)	<p>A pre-application consultation event must be held no earlier than six weeks after the later of:</p> <p>The date on which notification of such event is given;</p> <p>The date of notification that an application for a marine licence is to be submitted,</p>	<p><b>PAC Event 1 26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> of March 2024</b></p> <p>PAC1 event Notices were published in The Press and Journal local newspaper on 6<sup>th</sup> of February 2024 and The Buchan Observer on 13<sup>th</sup> of February 2024, more than six weeks prior to the event taking place.</p> <p>The PAC1 event notifications that an application for a marine licence would be submitted by the Developer were sent on 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2024, eight weeks prior to the event taking place.</p> <p><b>PAC Event 2, 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b></p> <p>PAC2 event notices were published in The Press and Journal and Buchan local newspapers on 13<sup>th</sup> of August 2024, more than six weeks prior to the event taking place.</p> <p>The PAC 2 event notifications that an application for a marine licence would be submitted by the Developer were sent on 13<sup>th</sup> of August 2024, more than six weeks prior to the event taking place.</p> <p>This document constitutes the PAC Report. The form prescribed in Schedule 1 has been completed and is included in Annex 5.</p>	<p>Annex 1A to 1E</p> <p>Annex 2A to 2E</p> <p>Annex 5</p>
Regulation 8	A PAC Report must be in the form prescribed as in Schedule 1.		

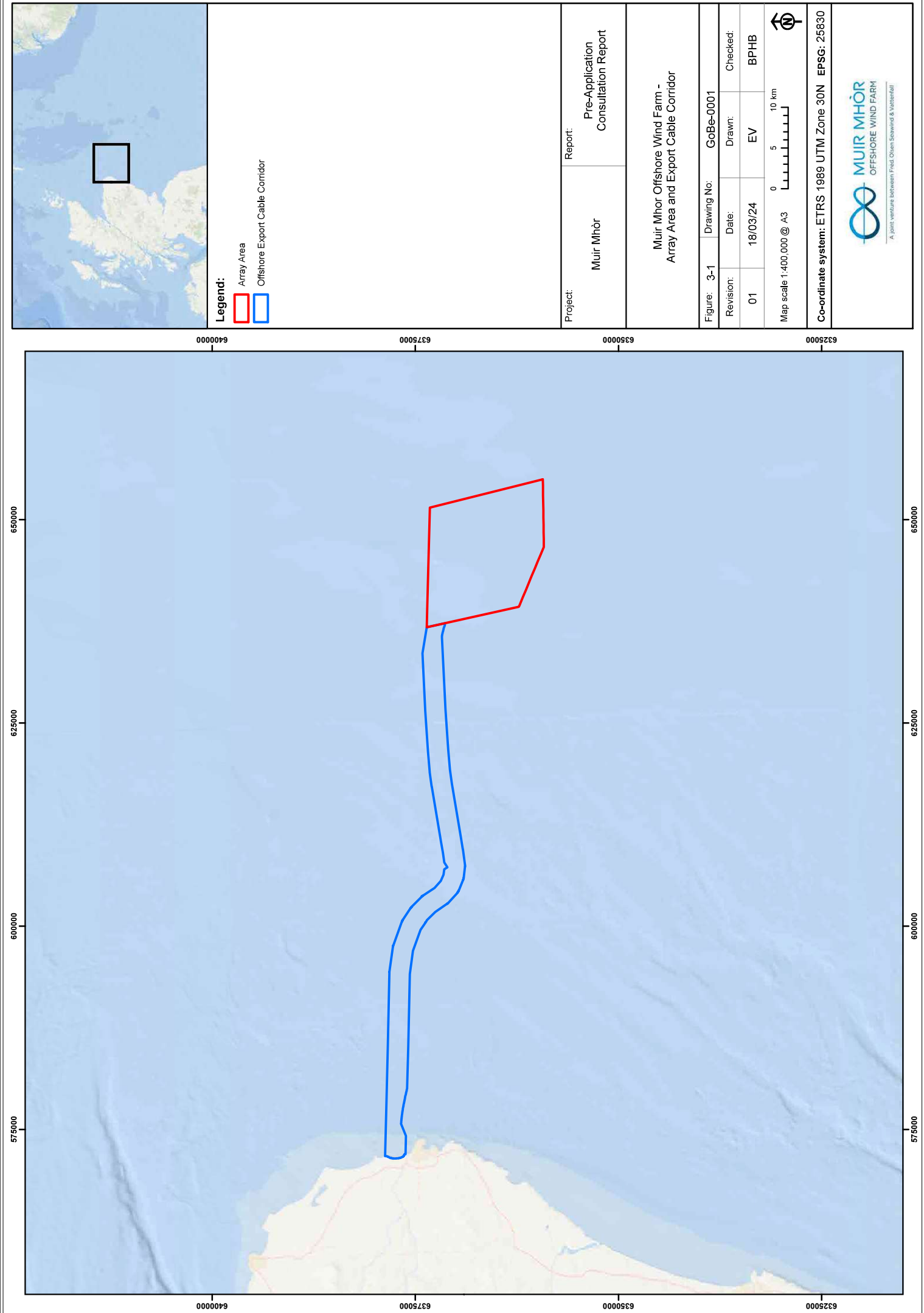


## 3. THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

### 3.1. BACKGROUND TO THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

- 3.1.1. In response to the Scottish Government's target of net-zero emissions of all greenhouse gases by 2045 and the aim to generate 50% of Scotland's overall energy consumption from renewable sources by 2030, the Crown Estate Scotland (CES) launched the ScotWind Leasing process in 2021, which released new areas of seabed within Scottish waters for future offshore development. The ambition was to offer offshore wind generating capacity within a series of Plan Options (PO), identified by the Scottish Government as the most suitable areas for development as set out within the Sectoral Marine Plan (SMP) for Offshore Wind Energy.
- 3.1.2. As part of the CES ScotWind Leasing process in January 2022, Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Limited (a joint venture (JV) between Fred. Olsen Seawind Limited and Vattenfall Wind Power Limited) was identified as the successful bidder and awarded an Option Agreement (granting exclusive rights for offshore wind development) for what the Developer has named the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm (OWF), located within the E2 PO area. The Project is anticipated to have a capacity of approximately 1 GW, comprising floating offshore wind technology.
- 3.1.3. The location of the Proposed Development is shown in Figure 3-1. The key components of the Proposed Development include:
- Up to 67 offshore WTGs and associated infrastructure (nacelle and blades) on floating foundations, with associated mooring and anchorages;
  - Up to two OEP(s) on fixed foundations;
  - Scour protection for WTG anchors and OEP foundations;
  - Inter-array cables connecting the individual WTGs together and to an OEP;
  - An interconnector cable linking the OEP(s) to one another;
  - Offshore export cables running from the OEP(s) to the landfall area up to MHWS.
  - Cable protection on unburied or shallow sections of cables and at cable crossings as and when required.
- 3.1.4. Further details of the Proposed Development are provided in Volume 1, Chapter 3 (Project Description).





**Legend:**

- ▭ Array Area
- ▭ Offshore Export Cable Corridor

Project:	Muir Mhòr	
	Report: Pre-Application Consultation Report	

Muir Mhor Offshore Wind Farm -  
Array Area and Export Cable Corridor

Figure:	3-1	Drawing No:	GoBe-0001
Revision:	01	Date:	18/03/24
		Drawn:	EV
		Checked:	BPHB

Map scale 1:400,000 @ A3

0 5 10 km

Co-ordinate system: ETRS 1989 UTM Zone 30N EPSG: 25830



## **3.2. THE NEED FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT**

- 3.2.1. The need for the Proposed Development can be broken down into several key areas informed by Scottish policy and guidance:
- Climate change, net zero and decarbonisation: demonstrating the importance of the various legally-binding climate change and net zero targets;
  - Security of supply: assessing the importance of reducing our dependency on imported energy; and
  - Affordability of supply: ensuring that consumers can receive energy at as low of a cost as possible.
- 3.2.2. Offshore wind is a critical and essential part of future renewable energy generation throughout the UK and Scotland. The need for electrification to achieve decarbonisation will only grow to meet Scotland's legislative Net Zero targets, and the need for growth is clear. Offshore wind is a proven low-carbon generation asset that can be deployed at scale and is anticipated to become a significant source of decarbonisation throughout Scotland and the UK.
- 3.2.3. The Proposed Development is considered vital to Scotland's energy supply through the 2030's and beyond. If the Proposed Development is not undertaken, then not only would the Scottish decarbonisation targets potentially be more challenging or fail to be met, but Scotland would struggle to deliver the outputs as per the SMP for Offshore Wind Energy (Scottish Government, 2020a), Scottish Energy Strategy (Scottish Government, 2017), UK Net Zero Strategy (DESNZ, 2022) and UK Offshore Wind Sector Deal (BEIS, 2020b), as well as the targets set by the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019, and the (UK) Climate Change Act 2008 (as amended).

## **4. PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION**

### **4.1. CONSULTATION STRATEGY**

- 4.1.1. Stakeholder engagement and consultation is a key aspect of successful consenting of an OWF development. Without it, progressing with an optimal project design, addressing significant environmental effects, achieving UK and Scottish renewable energy targets and provision of clean energy would not be possible. During consultation, it is equally important to listen to a wide range of opinions, including statutory and non-statutory bodies, interested parties and the wider public. The key aim is to consider the wide range of aspects, and people potentially affected by the Proposed Development.
- 4.1.2. The Developer is committed to working in an open and cooperative manner with all relevant organisations, individuals and communities (collectively referred to as stakeholders) who have an interest in the Proposed Development, whether because of their statutory duties, individual property, activities / interests or location. This reflects the Developer's need to meet statutory consultation requirements, as well as the desire to act as a responsible developer.
- 4.1.3. The views, concerns and guidance raised during consultation for the Proposed Development have been reviewed, considered, addressed and/or adopted as required. The primary objective of this process is to avoid, reduce or minimise any potentially significant negative effects that might arise from the Proposed Development, and promote positive outcomes. The

end goal being a sensitive Project design included within the consent applications being made.

- 4.1.4. To facilitate this process, a dedicated Stakeholder Engagement Manager (SEM) has promoted and managed consultation with local and regional community stakeholders throughout the development of the EIAR. The SEM has worked with local councils, community groups, schools and businesses, talking with them in person, or through remote meetings and written correspondence. The SEM has made themselves freely available to members of the public to discuss, acknowledge feedback and respond to enquiries.
- 4.1.5. The Developer's engagement strategy was based on the premise of consulting on proposals at key stages of the development process, ensuring that stakeholders were given multiple chances to raise their views on the proposals before the final design stage. This facilitated meaningful and informed feedback which has genuinely influenced the Proposed Development's design.
- 4.1.6. To best achieve the Developer's aims, the engagement strategy was planned to consult as many people as possible, focusing on incorporating views from a diverse range of groups. The Developer has endeavoured to be as inclusive as possible, supplementing traditional stakeholder engagement activities such as public exhibitions in town halls, with dynamic outreach events and online methods.
- 4.1.7. Rather than only making consultation materials available to participants who attended the Public Consultation Events (PCE), the Developer took an iterative approach to sharing this information. For example, attending existing community events allowed us to access a much broader demographic, including younger people and those in full-time education or employment, and minority groups.
- 4.1.8. In a similar manner, local residents were informed about the in-person and virtual events and the means to provide online feedback through advertisements in local newspapers (see Annex 1A and Annex 2A), posters in the Peterhead area (Annex 6A), social media posts (Annex 6D), and through directly contacting key community groups. Routes to provide feedback via email and feedback forms were actively promoted at the consultation events.
- 4.1.9. General information about the Proposed Development has also been provided through links to the Muir Mhòr website (<https://muirmhòr.co.uk/>).

## 4.2. WHO WAS CONSULTED

### PRE-SCOPING

- 4.2.1. To ensure the EIAR Scoping process was targeted on the key issues, and was to follow agreed practice and methodologies, a pre-Scoping workshop was held in February 2023, with the following key aims:
  - Provide stakeholders with information on the Developer's intentions for the Proposed Development;
  - Notify stakeholders of the Developer's intention to submit an Offshore Scoping Report to MD-LOT, see Volume 3, Appendix 5.1 (Offshore Scoping Report), and request a Scoping Opinion, see Volume 3, Appendix 5.2 (Offshore Scoping Opinion);
  - Present stakeholders with the Proposed Development's offshore survey strategy and document stakeholder feedback to inform the final site-specific survey plans;

- Present stakeholders with the approach to scoping and take stakeholder feedback into account in the preparation and finalisation of the Offshore Scoping Report;
  - Discuss available data sets to inform the baseline environment and the approach to assessment that would be presented in the Offshore Scoping Report; and
  - Respond to any questions that stakeholders have regarding the Scoping exercise, the Proposed Development, or its associated offshore activities.
- 4.2.2. Attendees to the workshop included the Developer's EIA management team, representatives from MD-LOT, Marine Directorate - Science, Evidence, Digital and Data (MD-SEDD) (previously Marine Scotland Science (MSS)) and NatureScot.
- 4.2.3. Other pre-Scoping workshops included:
- Historic Environment Scotland (HES) (28<sup>th</sup> of March 2023);
  - Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) (19<sup>th</sup> of April 2023);
  - National Air Traffic Services (NATS) (20<sup>th</sup> of April 2023);
  - Scottish Fishermen Federation (SFF) and Scottish White Fish Producer Association (SWFPA) (4<sup>th</sup> of May 2023);
  - Chamber of Shipping (CoS) (19<sup>th</sup> of May 2023); and
  - Royal Society of the Protection of Birds (RSPB) (7<sup>th</sup> of June 2023).

## **PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION**

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- 4.2.4. During the one informal and two formal rounds of PAC events, the Developer invited responses from a range of stakeholders, including the local community, landowners, statutory and non-statutory bodies, and environmental bodies. They were invited to both in-person and virtual exhibition events via advertisements and articles in local newspapers, social media posts, emails, and newsletters.
- 4.2.5. A full list of the people, groups and organisations the Developer invited to these events is provided in Annex 4. A copy of the invites sent to them are provided in Annex 3.
- 4.2.6. The Developer informed consultees how they could give their views via email, over the phone, or through an online feedback form, or by post (e.g. as a paper form).
- 4.2.7. A wide range of consultees were invited to provide invited consultation responses. These included but were not limited to the following:
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA);
  - CoS;
  - Cruising Association;
  - CAA;
  - Community councils;
  - Elected representatives (Ministers, Members of Scottish Parliament (MSP), Members of Parliament (MP) and councillors);
  - Fisheries Management Scotland (FMS);
  - HES;

- Local interest organisations and groups;
- MD-LOT;
- MD-SEDD
- Members of the public;
- Maritime and Coastguard Agency;
- Ministry of Defence;
- NATS
- NatureScot;
- Neighbouring local authorities;
- Northern Lighthouse Board;
- Port Authorities;
- RSPB Scotland;
- Residents and businesses within the vicinity of the Proposed Development;
- Royal National Lifeboat Institution;
- Royal Yachting Association Scotland;
- SFF; and
- SWFPA.

4.2.8. A full list of consultees the Developer invited responses from during consultation is provided in Annex 4.

### **4.3. ONGOING COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

- 4.3.1. the Developer has engaged with statutory and non-statutory consultees from an early stage in the Proposed Development. The Developer has continued to consult with these stakeholders through a wide variety of traditional and innovative activities, including virtual exhibitions, village hall events, presentations at conferences and supply chain seminars.
- 4.3.2. The Developer is committed to engaging with stakeholders across the education sector, to help develop the young workforce across the Highlands and Islands. To this end, the Developer has worked closely with the University of Highlands and Islands (UHI) to create an industry-backed scholarship bursary aimed at nurturing engineering talent and helping the next generation of renewable leaders into the clean energy industry.
- 4.3.3. The Future Leaders' Fund is UHI's largest ever scholarship bursary fund and aims to retain high-achieving and talented engineering students in the Highlands and Islands – helping to build pathways for students from their academic studies into future work opportunities. The fund, worth £10,000 per academic year, is now in its second year, with Fred. Olsen Seawind and Vattenfall supporting the next generation of engineering talent.
- 4.3.4. The Developer has participated in several Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) outreach events such as the Girls In Energy course Mintlaw Academy. The initiative is designed to encourage young women to engage with the STEM subjects. The end goal is

to inspire them to consider a career in the global energy sector as it transitions towards net zero.

- 4.3.5. Engaging with the local supply chain is also a key aspect of maximising the long-term economic and social benefits the Proposed Development will bring. The Developer has organised and participated in various supply chain events and workshops, including numerous local supply chain meet and greet events:

- 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024 - Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Supply Chain Event (SCE) (running alongside Offshore PAC event);
- 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024 – Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm SCE (running alongside Onshore PAC event);
- July 2024 – NOF SCE at Scotland Supply Chain Conference; and
- May 2024 – Supply Chain and Logistics Conference.

## 4.4. CONSULTATION PERIODS

- 4.4.1. At the outset of the Proposed Development, the Developer built on the recommendations of the Scottish Government's Consultation Good Practice Guide (2019) regarding consultation periods. The guidance stated that developers should allow at least six-months for a written consultation.
- 4.4.2. The Developer first formally consulted on the Project proposals at the pre-scoping workshop held in February 2023 (Section 4.2).
- 4.4.3. The first informal PAC events were held on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The associated virtual exhibition ran from the 15<sup>th</sup> of November 2023 until 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024.
- 4.4.4. The second round of consultation events (first formal PAC consultation) were held on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of March 2024. The associated virtual exhibition ran from the 26<sup>th</sup> of March 2024 until the 28<sup>th</sup> of April 2024.
- 4.4.5. The third consultation event (second formal PAC consultation) was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2024. The associated virtual exhibition ran from the 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2024 until the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October 2024.

## 4.5. PROVISION AND AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION

### SCOPING REPORT

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- 4.5.1. Before the first informal PAC event (November 2023), the Developer published the Offshore Scoping Report, see Volume 3, Appendix 5.1 (Offshore Scoping Report). The purpose of this document was to:
- Support a request for a formal Scoping Opinion from Scottish Ministers, anticipating that this will take account of consultees' views on the report;
  - Explain the background to the Proposed Development, including the consenting process;
  - Provide stakeholders with information on the proposals, enabling engagement on the key topics addressed in the Scoping Report;

- Detail the baseline data sources and assessment methodologies that informed the reports;
- Outline the approach to scoping and methodology used to appraise potential options; and
- Clarify the next steps for the proposals.

## PROJECT WEBSITE

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- 4.5.2. A project website (<https://muirmhòr.co.uk/>) and corresponding mailbox ([feedback@muirmhòr.co.uk](mailto:feedback@muirmhòr.co.uk)) has been set up so stakeholders and other members of the community can access information and reports relating to the Project, as well as contact information for feedback throughout the whole process.

## PRESS RELEASES AND NEWSLETTERS

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- 4.5.3. Press releases and newsletters have kept stakeholders updated on the Project. A total of 13 press releases are available on the website (<https://muirmhòr.co.uk/news/>) and three newsletters/ leaflets (<https://muirmhòr.co.uk/document-library/>), see Annex 6D.

## LOCAL NEWSPAPERS

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- 4.5.4. In compliance with the Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) Scotland Regulations 2013, adverts were placed in local newspapers formally notifying the public of the two formal PAC events in March 2024 and September 2024 (Annex 1A and Annex 2A).

## SOCIAL MEDIA

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- 4.5.5. Events were promoted through non-paid posts on the Developer's Facebook page (Annex 6C) , as well as a sponsored (paid) LinkedIn campaign.

## EMAIL CAMPAIGN

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- 4.5.6. The Developer also sent emails to multiple organisations, affected stakeholders, councillors, Community Councils, MSPs and MPs about the events. The Developer also invited local community members who had signed up to the Project's mailing list (Annex 3 and Annex 4).

## 4.6. MECHANISMS FOR RAISING AWARENESS OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT, ASKING QUESTIONS, AND PROVIDING FEEDBACK

- 4.6.1. The Developer hosts a specific website as a platform for raising awareness of the Proposed Development and for sharing of information and contact details (<https://muirmhòr.co.uk/>). The website is actively maintained to provide updates on the Proposed Development, lead team members, community consultation events, virtual exhibition rooms, and supply chain information.
- 4.6.2. Email addresses for general inquiries ([info@muirmhòr.co.uk](mailto:info@muirmhòr.co.uk)), supply chain registration ([supplychain@muirmhòr.co.uk](mailto:supplychain@muirmhòr.co.uk)), and consents enquiries ([consents@muirmhòr.co.uk](mailto:consents@muirmhòr.co.uk)) are provided on the website.



- 4.6.3. The website also includes a publicly accessible document library, currently including newsletters, submitted licence application documentation, and notices, <https://muirmhòr.co.uk/document-library>.
- 4.6.4. The document library (<https://muirmhòr.co.uk/document-library>) hosts a digital version of the Offshore Scoping Report for the Proposed Development, and will include the EIAR, and the Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment (RIAA) (Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Limited, 2024) and other relevant public materials in support of the application.
- 4.6.5. An extensive opt in/opt out mailing list also exists to further raise awareness of key milestones, Project updates and upcoming consultation events.
- 4.6.6. In addition to the consultees engaged by MD-LOT to comment on the Offshore Scoping Report, a list of over 50 organisations were contacted by the Developer for comment on the Scoping Report. This included statutory and environmental bodies, community councils, local authorities, businesses and academic organisations.

## **4.7. PROCESSING RESPONSES AND CORRESPONDENCE**

- 4.7.1. All consultation responses were logged and recorded by the Developer. When given by respondents, contact details were recorded and added to the communication database so they could receive updates via email (if respondents agreed to receive regular updates). The Developer individually assessed all feedback and correspondence, and, where requested, provided further information to assist the respondent.

## **4.8. APPROACH TO ANALYSIS**

- 4.8.1. The Developer's approach was to analyse and report response data in a way that allowed the views raised to be easily understood.
- 4.8.2. All comments, queries and concerns were considered, allocating them to existing issues or identifying them as a new issue. The Developer's approach enabled the identification of consultees' main issues classified by theme.

## **4.9. QUALITY ASSURANCE**

- 4.9.1. At the collation and analysis stage, several quality assurance procedures were carried out. In each round of consultation, our SEM oversaw the analysis to ensure a consistent application of the Developer's methodology.



## **5. FIRST ROUND OF CONSULTATION (INFORMAL PAC EVENT)**

### **5.1. DATE AND LOCATION**

- 5.1.1. The first informal Public Consultation Event (PCE) for the Proposed Development was carried out on the following dates and locations:
- 15<sup>th</sup> of November 2023, 2-7pm, Peterhead Football Club, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead, AB42 1EQ; and
  - 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2023, 2-7pm, Longside Parish Church Hall, Longside, AB42 4XN.
- 5.1.2. The objective was to inform the public and stakeholders about the Proposed Development and Scoping Report which was made publicly available at the end of September 2023.
- 5.1.3. To those that could not attend the in-person event, a virtual PCE was held from the 25<sup>th</sup> of November 2023 for six weeks.
- 5.1.4. The Developer undertook a full health and safety assessment on both venues. An accessibility review was also carried out on both venues, to ensure all those who wished to attend the event could readily access and participate. Break-out rooms were provided at the events so those with feedback/concerns/opinions could inform relevant Project team members.

### **5.2. NOTIFICATIONS AND ADVERTISEMENT**

- 5.2.1. As detailed in Section 4.5, multiple actions were taken by the Developer to raise awareness of the event, and to maximise engagement and attendance.

#### **NEWSPAPERS AND MEDIA**

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- 5.2.2. The informal PCE was advertised in local newspapers, with content aligned to the Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) Scotland Regulations 2013:
- Press and Journal (2<sup>nd</sup> of October 2023); and
  - Buchan Observer (3<sup>rd</sup> of October 2023).
- 5.2.3. An additional display advert was also placed in the Buchan Observer and a digital campaign in the Buchan Observer readership area on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2023.

#### **COMMUNITY POSTERS**

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- 5.2.4. Community posters were distributed around the area to advertise the event.

#### **COMMUNITY COUNCIL NOTICE**

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- 5.2.5. All nine community councils in the area and Aberdeenshire Council were informed and invited to the event via email, see example email Annex 3.
- 5.2.6. The nine community councils contacted are as followed:
- Boddam Community Council;

- Buchan East Community Council;
- Longside Community Council;
- Deer Community Council;
- Mintlaw Community Council
- Peterhead Community Council;
- Cruden Community Council;
- New Pitsligo Community Council; and
- Strichen Community Council.

## **ADDITIONAL CONSULTEES**

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- 5.2.7. The emailed invite sent to the community council was also sent to the list consultees in the stakeholder list in Annex 4.

## **5.3. INFORMATION PROVIDED**

- 5.3.1. A key principle of the Developer's approach to the PAC process is to engage with stakeholders in a structured, coherent, friendly and informative basis. Various methods at the event were employed to provide up to date information on the Proposed Development.
- 5.3.2. To facilitate and initiate discussion and feedback at the event, exhibition boards were created including the following information relevant to the Proposed Development.
- The ethos, roles, and responsibilities of Project partners Fred Olsen Seawind and Vattenfall, the role of Crown Estate Scotland, and the background/timeline/outcome of ScotWind Auction;
  - Information on why the Project is being developed, with respect to the renewables targets of the Scottish and UK Government. How the Project will significantly contribute to the UK target of deploying up to 50 GW off Offshore Wind by 2030 with up to 5 GW coming from floating Offshore Wind Projects;
  - The Project's infrastructure, its construction and operation, and the optioneering process undertaken to date. Information on the indicative development timeline;
  - The location, capacity, number of turbines, the development area water depth, landfall location and the expected grid connection location;
  - Description of the EIA Process being applied, and a summary of the assessment work undertaken to date to support the EIAR.

## **5.4. 3D VISUALISATION**

- 5.4.1. To help attendees understand the potential design and function of the turbines, Virtual Reality (VR) headsets were made available, providing a 3D demonstration of the size, location and operation of turbines and the OEP(s) in the Array Area. It was found to be a useful and popular tool to engage and inform on the Proposed Development, and positive feedback from attendees was received.

## **5.5. ATTENDANCE**

- 5.5.1. There were 31 attendees to the event on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November 2023, at Peterhead Football Club, and there were 41 attendees at Longside Parish Church Hall on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2023.

## **5.6. FEEDBACK**

- 5.6.1. To facilitate feedback from attendees, multiple feedback options were provided. Links to digital feedback forms were located on the virtual PCE, and QR codes were included on the physical exhibition boards linking to the online feedback form. Paper versions of the feedback form were also offered to event attendees.
- 5.6.2. At this event, 16 people filled out the feedback forms. Comments were focussed on potential employment opportunities, development of community facilities, and comments on the onshore elements of the Project. All feedback was noted, and action taken, see Section 8.
- 5.6.3. A delegation of fishermen from the local area visited this event and were assisted by the Developer team and specialist Fisheries Liaison Officers from Brown and May Marine Ltd. The issues raised by the delegation included:
- The volume of the cables on the seabed that would be passing through inshore fishing grounds;
  - Potential cumulative effects of electromagnetic fields from the cables;
  - Compensation for disruptions;
  - Need for consultation/discussion on all works to be undertaken offshore; and
  - Ongoing fisheries liaison.
- 5.6.4. Councillor Dianne Beagrie is an independent councillor for Peterhead North and Rattray. Councillor Beagrie provided a written submission highlighting fishing related issues and was directed to Brown and May Marine Ltd who assisted on the matter.
- 5.6.5. Agreement was made between the Developer and the fisheries delegation for follow up discussions on the issues raised.

## **6. SECOND ROUND OF CONSULTATION (FIRST FORMAL PAC EVENT)**

### **6.1. DATE AND LOCATION**

- 6.1.1. The second round of consultation for the Proposed Development (first formal PAC event) was carried out on the following dates and locations:
- 26<sup>th</sup> of March 2024: Peterhead Football Club, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead, AB42 1EQ; and
  - 27<sup>th</sup> of March 2024: Longside Parish Church Hall, 4-13 Inn Brae, Longside, AB42 4XN.
- 6.1.2. The objective was to provide an update on the Proposed Development and progress of the EIAR since the first PCE in November 2023. This included refinement of the offshore ECC.
- 6.1.3. To those that could not attend the in-person event, a second virtual PCE, displaying information updated from the November PCE was held from the 26<sup>th</sup> of March until the 17<sup>th</sup> of May 2024.
- 6.1.4. The Developer undertook a full health and safety assessment on both venues. An accessibility review was also carried out on both venues, to ensure all those who wished to attend the event could readily access and participate. Break-out rooms were provided at the events so those with feedback/concerns/opinions could inform relevant Project team members.

### **6.2. NOTIFICATIONS AND ADVERTISEMENT**

- 6.2.1. As detailed in Section 4.5, multiple actions were taken by the Developer to raise awareness of the event, and to maximise engagement and attendance.
- 6.2.2. In compliance with the Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) Scotland Regulations 2013, notifications that an application for a marine licence would be submitted by the Developer were sent to required parties on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (Annex 1B to 1E).

### **NEWSPAPERS AND MEDIA**

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- 6.2.3. This event was advertised in local newspapers more than six weeks before it took place, with information in the adverts as required by the Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) Scotland Regulations 2013. Adverts were placed in the following papers:
- Press and Journal (6<sup>th</sup> of February 2024) (Annex 1A); and
  - Buchan Observer (13<sup>th</sup> of February 2024) (Annex 1A).

### **COMMUNITY POSTERS**

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- 6.2.4. Community posters were distributed around the area to advertise this event, see Annex 6A.

## COMMUNITY COUNCIL NOTICE

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- 6.2.5. All nine community councils in the area and Aberdeenshire Council were informed and invited to the event via email, see example email Annex 3.
- 6.2.6. The nine community councils contacted were:
- Boddam Community Council;
  - Buchan East Community Council;
  - Longside Community Council;
  - Deer Community Council;
  - Mintlaw Community Council;
  - Peterhead Community Council;
  - Cruden Community Council;
  - New Pitsligo Community Council; and
  - Strichen Community Council.

## ADDITIONAL CONSULTEES

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- 6.2.7. Email invites were sent to the community council consultees in the stakeholder list in Annex 4.

## 6.3. INFORMATION PROVIDED

- 6.3.1. Exhibition boards were used to provide updated information on progress of the Proposed Development since the informal PCE in November 2023 (Annex 6B). The aim again to facilitate and maintain discussion and feedback at the event. Updates on the Proposed Development since the November 2023 event included refinement of the ECC to show landfall to the north of Peterhead, and progress and initial findings from the offshore EIA.

## 6.4. 3D VISUALISATION

- 6.4.1. Due to its success at the first PCE in November 2023, VR headsets were again made available, to provide a 3D demonstration of the size, location and operation of turbines in the Array Area.

## 6.5. ATTENDANCE

- 6.5.1. The PAC event at Peterhead on the 26<sup>th</sup> of March 2024 was attended by 31 people and 62 people attended the event in Longside on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March 2024.

## 6.6. FEEDBACK

- 6.6.1. To facilitate feedback from attendees, multiple feedback options were provided. Links to digital feedback forms were located on the virtual PCE, and QR codes were included on the physical exhibition boards linking to the online feedback form. Paper versions of the feedback form

were also offered to event attendees. Examples of the Feedback forms made available are provided in Annex 1F.

- 6.6.2. Feedback on the Proposed Development from this 1<sup>st</sup> PAC event was focussed on the following:
- Fisheries related queries and concerns;
  - Cable burial;
  - The landfall location;
  - Salmon migratory issues; and
  - Sea trout at the River Ugie.
- 6.6.3. There was general positive feedback about the overall running of the event, the friendliness and helpful nature of staff, and how the public felt engaged with the Project.
- 6.6.4. The Developer was supported in consultation with fisheries representatives and local fishing personnel by Brown and May Marine Ltd. The PAC event followed on from a catchup discussion between the Project team, the EIA team and fisheries representatives on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2024.
- 6.6.5. A further meeting was held on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2024 at the offices of the Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF). Attendees included the Project team, the EIA team, the SFF, and the Scottish White Fish Producers Association (SWFPA). The objective was for the Developer, the SFF and SWFPA to share baseline and updated survey information, discuss the impact assessment, process, and potential effects and mitigation.

## **6.7. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

- 6.7.1. This round of consultation followed the submission on 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2024 of notifications that an application for a Marine Licence would be submitted by the Developer. PAC Notices were published in The Press and Journal on the 6<sup>th</sup> of February 2024 and The Buchan Observer on the 13<sup>th</sup> of February 2024 for the first formal PAC events. These actions fulfilled the requirement that the Developer undertake pre-application consultation in respect of the Proposed Development, per the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and the Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) Scotland Regulations 2013.
- 6.7.2. A full Statement of Compliance can be found in Section 2.3 of this PAC Report.

## **7. THIRD ROUND OF CONSULTATION (SECOND FORMAL PAC EVENT)**

### **7.1. DATE AND LOCATION**

- 7.1.1. The third round of consultation for the Proposed Development (second formal PAC event) was carried out on the following date and location:
- 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2024: Peterhead Football Club, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead, AB42 1EQ.
- 7.1.2. The objective was to provide further update on the Proposed Development and progress of the EIAR since the 1<sup>st</sup> formal PAC event in March 2024.
- 7.1.3. To those that could not attend the in-person event, a third virtual PCE was available to access from the 25<sup>th</sup> of September until the application for consent has been submitted in November 2024.
- 7.1.4. The Developer undertook a full health and safety assessment on the venue. An accessibility review was also carried out to ensure all those who wished to attend the event could readily access and participate. Break-out rooms were provided at the event so those with feedback/concerns/opinions could inform relevant Project team members.

### **7.2. NOTIFICATIONS AND ADVERTISEMENT**

- 7.2.1. As detailed in Section 4.5, multiple actions were taken by the Developer to raise awareness of the event, and to maximise engagement and attendance.
- 7.2.2. In compliance with the Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) Scotland Regulations 2013, notifications that an application for a marine licence would be submitted by the Developer were sent to required parties on 13<sup>th</sup> of August 2024 (Annex 2B to 2E).

### **NEWSPAPERS AND MEDIA**

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- 7.2.3. This event was advertised in local newspapers greater than six weeks before it took place, with information in the adverts as required by the Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) Scotland Regulations 2013. Adverts were placed in the following papers:
- Press and Journal (13<sup>th</sup> of August 2024) (Annex 2A); and
  - The Buchanie (13<sup>th</sup> of August 2024) (Annex 2A).

### **COMMUNITY COUNCIL NOTICE**

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- 7.2.4. All nine community councils in the area and Aberdeenshire Council were informed and invited to the event via email, see Annex 3.
- 7.2.5. The nine community councils contacted were:
- Boddam Community Council;
  - Buchan East Community Council;
  - Longside Community Council;

- Deer Community Council;
- Mintlaw Community Council
- Peterhead Community Council;
- Cruden Community Council;
- New Pitsligo Community Council; and
- Strichen Community Council.

## **ADDITIONAL CONSULTEES**

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- 7.2.6. The emailed invite sent to the community councils was also sent to the consultees in the stakeholder list in Annex 4

## **7.3. INFORMATION PROVIDED**

- 7.3.1. As per the first PAC event in March 2024, exhibition boards were used to provide updated information on progress of the Proposed Development. The aim was again to facilitate and maintain discussion and feedback at the event, see Annex 6B. Updates on the Proposed Development since the March 2024 event included further findings from the offshore EIA process, potential key effects identified and summary of proposed mitigation.
- 7.3.2. In addition, a booklet was made available to all attendees to take away, including similar information as presented on the exhibition boards, along with direction on how to provide feedback and engage with the Project team (Annex 6C).

## **7.4. 3D VISUALISATION**

- 7.4.1. Due to its success at the first event in March 2024, VR headsets were again made available, to provide a 3D demonstration of the size, location and operation of turbines in the Array Area.

## **7.5. ATTENDANCE**

- 7.5.1. 31 people attended the PAC event at Peterhead on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2024.

## **7.6. FEEDBACK**

- 7.6.1. To facilitate feedback from attendees, multiple options were provided. Links to digital feedback forms were located on the virtual PCE, and QR codes were included on the physical exhibition boards linking to the online feedback form. Paper versions of the feedback form were also offered to event attendees. Examples of the Feedback forms made available are provided in Annex 2F.
- 7.6.2. Feedback on the Proposed Development from this event was focussed on the following:
- Fisheries related queries and concerns;
  - Cable burial and nearshore EMF effects; and
  - The landfall location.



- 7.6.3. As with the first PAC event in March 2024, there was general positive feedback about the overall running of the event, the usefulness of the 3D visualisation, and how the public felt engaged with the Project.
- 7.6.4. The Developer was again supported in consultation with fisheries representatives and local fishing personnel by Brown and May Marine Ltd.

## **7.7. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

- 7.7.1. This round of consultation followed the submission on the 13<sup>th</sup> of August 2024 of notifications that an application for a Marine Licence would be submitted by the Developer. PAC Notices were published in The Press and Journal on the 13<sup>th</sup> of August 2024 and The Buchanie on the 13<sup>th</sup> of August 2024.
- 7.7.2. In addition to the 1<sup>st</sup> formal PAC event in March 2024, these actions further fulfilled the requirement that the Developer undertake pre-application consultation in respect of the Proposed Development, per the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and the Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) Scotland Regulations 2013.
- 7.7.3. A full Statement of Compliance can be found in Section 2.3 of this PAC Report.

## 8. HOW THE DEVELOPER TOOK ACCOUNT OF THE VIEWS RAISED

- 8.1.1. A primary objective of the stakeholder engagement and consultation process is to acknowledge the views raised by consultees and use them to inform the progress and design of the Proposed Development.
- 8.1.2. The Proposed Development's 'design envelope' includes a necessary degree of flexibility to accommodate further refinement during detailed design, carried out during the post-consent stage. For example, flexibility is required in the choice of foundation options, specific siting of infrastructure, and construction methodologies, to ensure that anticipated changes in available technology and project economics can be accommodated within the final design. The final Proposed Development design will depend on factors including ground conditions, wave and tidal conditions, project economics and procurement approach.
- 8.1.3. At the time of production of the Scoping Report (June 2023), the Proposed Development had retained several options associated with different aspects of the design, including floating foundation options, electrical infrastructure and cable landfall installation techniques.
- 8.1.4. Since the submission of the Offshore EIA Scoping Report, and following the offshore consultation process, several refinements have been made to the design envelope presented in the EIAR. These refinements are summarised below with further details presented in Volume 1, Chapter 3 (Project Description):
- Refinement of Offshore ECC;
  - Reduction in the dimensions of all floating foundation options;
  - Selection of High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC) OEP(s) (and abandonment of High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) option);
  - Removal of gravity base OEP foundation option;
  - Removal of subsea OEP option;
  - Selection of HVAC offshore export cables (and abandonment of HVDC cables);
  - Reduction in maximum offshore export cable length from 360 km to 270 km; and
  - No Obstacle Zone for fishing mitigation.
- 8.1.5. Table 8-1 provides a summary of the key issues raised by PAC event attendees and how the Developer took account of these, and where further information can be found.

*Table 8-1 Key issues raised by PAC event consultees regards the Proposed Development*

<b>Issue Raised</b>	<b>Our Action</b>	<b>Further Information</b>
Effect on commercial fisheries from reduced access to fishing areas	The Developer has introduced a 'No Obstacle Zone' in the south west corner of the Array Area, to reduce the adverse effect on commercial fisheries.	See Volume 2, Chapter 13 (Commercial Fisheries)
Effect on commercial fish stocks	Development of a mitigation plan to limit the effect of underwater noise on fish ecology.	See Volume 2, Chapter 10 (Fish and Shellfish Ecology) and Volume 4, Appendix 10 (In Principle Fish Mitigation Plan).
Effect of Electromagnetic Fields (EMF) from subsea cables	The Developer has undertaken an assessment of EMF effects on fish and shellfish ecology, and marine mammals as part of the EIAR.	See Volume 2, Chapter 10 (Fish and Shellfish Ecology), and Volume 2, Chapter 12 (Marine Mammals).
Effect on migratory fish species	The Developer has undertaken an assessment of potential impacts to diadromous and migratory fish as part of the EIAR.	See Volume 2, Chapter 10 (Fish and Shellfish Ecology).

## 9. CONCLUSIONS

- 9.1.1. The Developer has carried out one informal and two formal rounds of pre-application consultation on the Proposed Development and maintained regular and wide reaching stakeholder engagement prior to submitting consent application to the Scottish Government.
- 9.1.2. The Developer has thoroughly considered the views raised during each round of consultation, and has acted to address these issues, and responded to feedback wherever possible.
- 9.1.3. The Developer has demonstrated how the PAC process has directly and positively influenced the Proposed Development. The Developer believes the consultation described in this report satisfies the requirements associated with the consent application.

## 10. REFERENCES

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). (2020b). Policy paper. Offshore wind Sector Deal. Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/offshore-wind-sector-deal/offshore-wind-sector-deal> (Accessed April 2024).

Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ). (2022). Policy paper. Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener. Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/net-zero-strategy> (Accessed April 2024).

Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Limited. (2024). Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment.

Scottish Government. (2017). Scottish Energy Strategy: The future of energy in Scotland. Available online at: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-energy-strategy-future-energy-scotland-9781788515276/> (Accessed April 2024).

Scottish Government. (2020a). Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind Energy. Available online at: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/sectoral-marine-plan-offshore-wind-energy> (Accessed April 2024).

## **ANNEX 1**

### **Notifications PAC Event 1 March 2024**

#### **A) PAC 1 NEWSPAPER ADVERTS**





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Buchan Giving Tree receives a £1500 donation. Page 3

## Seedy Sunday is back!

Page 4



### Feature



### Contribution to project

Pages 8&9

### Recycling



### Amendment to strategy

Page 17

### Environment



### River tests launched

Page 11



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## PUBLIC NOTICES

## GENERAL NOTICES

**Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm  
Marine (Scotland) Act 2010**
**Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013  
NOTICE OF PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION EVENT**

Notice is hereby given that Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Limited, (company number SC717262 with its registered office at 4 Jackson's Entry, Holyrood Road, Edinburgh, Scotland, EH8 8PJ) will hold a pre-application consultation (PAC) event regarding a proposed application for a marine licensable activity, being the deposit of up to two submarine export cables within the Scottish marine area east of Peterhead, as further described below.

The licensable activity consists of the installation of up to two submarine export cables in, on or under the seabed in the Scottish marine area and crossing the inter-tidal boundary to a landfall location in the vicinity of Peterhead, within the areas of search at the following coordinates:

Central grid references:

- The location of the offshore export cable route at the 12 nautical miles (nm) boundary of the Scottish marine area:
  - Northern area of search: 57° 31' 17.630" N 001° 23' 41.266" W
  - Southern area of search: 57° 25' 35.688" N 001° 24' 34.488" W
- The mid-point of the offshore export cable route between landfall and the 12 nm boundary of the Scottish marine area:
  - Northern area of search: 57° 31' 52.012" N 001° 35' 6.534" W
  - Southern area of search: 57° 25' 40.907" N 001° 36' 9.187" W
- The centre point of the area of search for the landfall location:
  - Northern area of search: 57° 32' 19.855" N 001° 48' 22.309" W
  - Southern area of search: 57° 25' 47.344" N 001° 48' 55.734" W

The cables form part of the offshore transmission infrastructure for the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm, with the array area located approximately 63 kilometres (km) east of Peterhead.

A second round of public events has been arranged as follows:

**In Person Drop in events will take place at the following locations and times below**

Location	Time and Date
Peterhead Football Club, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead AB42 1EQ	26th March 2024, from 2pm-7pm
Longside Parish Church Hall, 4-13 Inn Brae, Longside AB42 4XN	27th March 2024, from 2pm-7pm

An additional event is expected to be arranged in due course to provide further opportunity to comment on the licensable activity.

A virtual public exhibition will also be made available at [www.muirmhor.co.uk](http://www.muirmhor.co.uk), until 17th May 2024.

Various options will be available for persons to provide comments on the project, including the following:

- The virtual exhibition will include a link to a feedback form where comments and questions on the proposal can be submitted directly to the project team.
- QR codes will also be available at the drop-in events linking to this feedback form.
- Paper copies of the feedback form will also be available at the drop-in events.
- Alternatively, feedback can be given by emailing [info@muirmhor.co.uk](mailto:info@muirmhor.co.uk)
- Comments can also be shared by post to Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Ltd, 120 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 2EN. Full name and return email or postal address of those making comments should be clearly marked.

We request that comments on the proposals be submitted by 17th May 2024.

Further information on the proposed Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm (including the project Offshore Scoping report), is available at the following webpage: <https://muirmhor.co.uk/document-library/>.

Please note that comments made to the Muir Mhòr project team are not representations to the Scottish Ministers or its Marine Directorate Licensing Operations Team. If Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Limited submits a license application, there will be an opportunity to make representations to the Scottish Ministers on that application.

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**FULL COVERAGE – PAGES 2, 3, 4 & 5**



PAGES 57-60

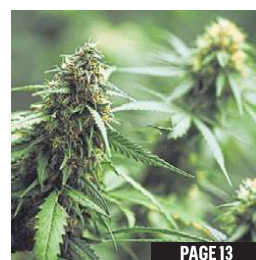
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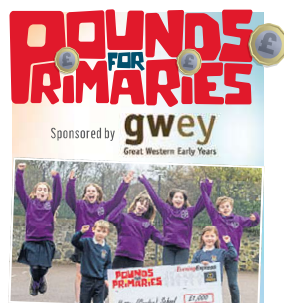
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PULLOUT INSIDE



PAGE 13

**Five in court  
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See page 34



## Notice Board

### Public Notices

#### Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 NOTICE OF PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION EVENT

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- Comments can also be shared by post to Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Ltd, 120 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 2EN. Full name and return email or postal address of those making comments should be clearly marked.

We request that comments on the proposals be submitted by 17th May 2024.

Further information on the proposed Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm (including the project Offshore Scoping report), is available at the following webpage: <https://muirmhor.co.uk/document-library/>

Please note that comments made to the Muir Mhòr project team are not representations to the Scottish Ministers or its Marine Directorate Licensing Operations Team. If Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Limited submits a license application, there will be an opportunity to make representations to the Scottish Ministers on that application.

### Public Notices

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**YOUNG** Person's mid-size irons, from 3 to pitching wedge and sand wedge, full set, excellent condition, £40. Tel: 07516 556330 ABERDEEN

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## **B) NOTIFICATION TO NLB**

## Muir Mhor Offshore Wind Farm - Notification of Application for a Marine License (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013

From Chris Coleby <Redacted>

Date Tue 30/01/2024 13:22

To <Redacted>

Cc Martha Lovatt <Redacted>  
Lauren Kirkland <Redacted>

; McConville Miles <Redacted>

;

Dear Adam,

My name is Chris Coleby, I am the Project Manager for the Environmental Impact Assessment for the Muir Mhor Offshore Windfarm project ([Offshore Scoping Report](#)).

In line with The Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013, the Muir Mhor Project would like to notify you that an application for a marine license will be submitted in June 2024.

In addition, we wish to notify you that a Pre-Application Consultation Event in support of this application will take place at the following dates/locations:

Location	Time and Date
Peterhead Football Club, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead AB42 1EQ	26 <sup>th</sup> March 2024, from 2pm-7pm
Longside Parish Church Hall, 4-13 Inn Brae, Longside AB42 4XN	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2024, from 2pm-7pm

We look forward to further engagement with the NLB as we prepare the marine license application and would welcome your attendance and input at the PAC event in March.

Kind regards,

Chris Coleby



[www.gobeconsultants.com](http://www.gobeconsultants.com)

Chris Coleby MSc MIMarEST CMarSci

Senior Consultant, GoBe Consultants

M: <Redacted>

HQ: 01626 323890

[Microsoft Teams](#)

Suites B2 & C2, Higher Mill, Higher Mill Lane, Buckfastleigh, Devon, TQ11 0EN



## **C) NOTIFICATION TO SEPA**

## Muir Mhor Offshore Wind Farm - Notification of Application for a Marine License (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013

From Chris Coleby <Redacted>

Date Tue 30/01/2024 13:33

To planning.north@sepa.org.uk <planning.north@sepa.org.uk>

Cc Martha Lovatt <Redacted> ; McConville Miles <Redacted>  
Lauren Kirkland <Redacted>

Dear Alison,

My name is Chris Coleby, I am the Project Manager for the Environmental Impact Assessment for the Muir Mhor Offshore Windfarm project ([Offshore Scoping Report](#)).

In line with The Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013, the Muir Mhor Project would like to notify you that an application for a marine license will be submitted in June 2024.

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Longside Parish Church Hall, 4-13 Inn Brae, Longside AB42 4XN	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2024, from 2pm-7pm

We look forward to further engagement with SEPA as we prepare the marine license application and would welcome your attendance and input at the PAC event in March.

Kind regards,

Chris Coleby



[www.gobeconsultants.com](http://www.gobeconsultants.com)

Chris Coleby MSc MIMarEST CMarSci

Senior Consultant, GoBe Consultants

M: <Redacted>

HQ: 01626 323890

[Microsoft Teams](#)

Suites B2 & C2, Higher Mill, Higher Mill Lane, Buckfastleigh, Devon, TQ11 0EN



## **D) NOTIFICATION TO MCA**

---

## Muir Mhor Offshore Wind Farm - Notification of Application for a Marine License (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013

---

From Chris Coleby <Redacted>

Date Tue 30/01/2024 13:26

To <Redacted>

Cc Martha Lovatt <Redacted>  
Lauren Kirkland <Redacted>

McConville Miles <Redacted>

;

Dear Nick,

My name is Chris Coleby, I am the Project Manager for the Environmental Impact Assessment for the Muir Mhor Offshore Windfarm project ([Offshore Scoping Report](#)).

In line with The Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013, the Muir Mhor Project would like to notify you that an application for a marine license will be submitted in June 2024.

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We look forward to further engagement with the MCA as we prepare the marine license application and would welcome your attendance and input at the PAC event in March.

Kind regards,

Chris Coleby



[www.gobeconsultants.com](http://www.gobeconsultants.com)

Chris Coleby MSc MIMarEST CMarSci

Senior Consultant, GoBe Consultants

M: <Redacted>

HQ: 01626 323890

[Microsoft Teams](#)

Suites B2 & C2, Higher Mill, Higher Mill Lane, Buckfastleigh, Devon, TQ11 0EN





## **E) NOTIFICATION TO NATURESCOT**

## Muir Mhor Offshore Wind Farm - Notification of Application for a Marine License (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013

From Chris Coleby <Redacted>

Date Tue 30/01/2024 13:38

To <Redacted>

Cc Martha Lovatt <Redacted>  
Lauren Kirkland <Redacted>  
<Redacted>

McConville Miles <Redacted>  
<Redacted>

Hello Jenna,

In line with The Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013, the Muir Mhor Project would like to notify NatureScot that an application for a marine license will be submitted in June 2024.

In addition, we wish to notify you that a Pre-Application Consultation Event in support of this application will take place at the following dates/locations:

Location	Time and Date
Peterhead Football Club, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead AB42 1EQ	26 <sup>th</sup> March 2024, from 2pm-7pm
Longside Parish Church Hall, 4-13 Inn Brae, Longside AB42 4XN	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2024, from 2pm-7pm

We look forward to further engagement with NatureScot as we prepare the marine license application and would welcome your attendance and input at the PAC event in March.

Kind regards,

Chris Coleby



[www.gobeconsultants.com](http://www.gobeconsultants.com)

Chris Coleby MSc MIMarEST CMarSci

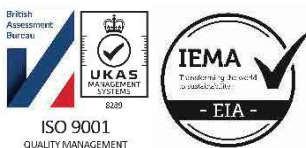
Senior Consultant, GoBe Consultants

M: <Redacted>

HQ: 01626 323890

[Microsoft Teams](#)

Suites B2 & C2, Higher Mill, Higher Mill Lane, Buckfastleigh, Devon, TQ11 0EN



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## **F) FEEDBACK FORM FOR PAC1**

# Muir Mhòr Project Public Consultation Event

## Community Questionnaire/Feedback Form

We are keen to receive your feedback which we will use to inform and influence the development of the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Project.

This questionnaire is one of the ways in which you can express your opinion/comment/about the project.

As a project team we would also be interested to receive your comment /review of our consultation and any suggestions that you may have for our future engagement activities.

This feedback survey can be anonymous, or you can provide your contact details which we will use to contact

you in the future about the Muir Mhòr project. The results of the feedback survey will be summarised (will not disclose any personal details) and presented at the next Public Consultation Event to be held Summer 2024.

Please note as consent applications have not yet been submitted, written comments submitted on this form will be received and reviewed by the Muir Mhòr project only at this stage.

There will be an opportunity for representations to be made to Marine Scotland and Aberdeenshire Council when the formal consent applications are made.

### Public Consultation Events

Tuesday 26th March 2024 - Peterhead Football Club, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead, from 2-7pm.

Wednesday 27th March 2024 - Longside Parish Church Hall, Longside, from 2-7pm

To aid future communication relating to the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Project, could you please provide your contact details.

NAME

EMAIL

ADDRESS OR POSTCODE

ARE YOU RESPONDING  
AS AN INDIVIDUAL?

PLEASE STATE ORGANISATION

Yes ☐ No ☒

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE EVENT?

- ☐ Newspaper ☐ Invitation  
☐ Radio ☐ Press Coverage  
☐ LinkedIn ☒ Other

PLEASE STATE

OR: WOULD YOU LIKE TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS?  
(IN WHICH CASE WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD  
PLEASE PROVIDE THE TOWN IN WHICH YOU LIVE.)

☐

DO YOU SUPPORT  
RENEWABLE ENERGY?

☐ Yes ☐ No

IN GENERAL, WHAT IS YOUR OPINION TOWARDS OFFSHORE WIND PROJECTS.

- ☐ I like them ☐ I would like to receive further information so I can develop an informed view ☐ I do not have a view on offshore wind projects

DO YOU AGREE IN PRINCIPLE THAT THERE IS A NEED  
TO DEVELOP OFFSHORE WIND PROJECTS TO COMBAT  
CLIMATE CHANGE AND IMPROVE ENERGY SECURITY?

☐ Yes ☐ No

HAVE THE MUIR MHÒR PROJECT TEAM ADEQUATELY  
EXPLAINED THE PROJECT?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I would like more information



WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER TO BE THE POTENTIAL BENEFITS ASSOCIATED WITH THE MUIR MHÒR PROJECT?

- ☐ Improving energy security
- ☐ Employment and training opportunities
- ☐ Employment during the development/ construction and operational phases.
- ☐ Supply chain/business opportunities
- ☐ Combating climate change
- ☐ Other PLEASE STATE

DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIFIC COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROPOSED MUIR MHÒR PROJECT AND ITS ONSHORE/OFFSHORE INFRASTRUCTURE?

ARE YOU AWARE OF THE WORK OF OTHER ON/OFFSHORE DEVELOPERS AND THEIR PLANS/PROPOSALS FOR THEIR PROJECTS THE LOCAL AREA?

☐ Yes ☐ No

PLEASE PROVIDE ANY FEEDBACK ON THE PROJECT YOU WOULD WISH THE MUIR MHÒR PROJECT TEAM TO CONSIDER.

DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE MUIR MHÒR CONSENTS APPLICATION PROCESS?

PLEASE INDICATE TO WHAT EXTENT YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS.

The event or exhibition has enhanced my knowledge of the Muir Mhòr Windfarm.

The event or exhibition has given me a good opportunity to participate in commenting on the development plans to-date.

I have been presented with enough information on the Muir Mhòr Project.

I prefer to attend face-to-face consultation events.

I prefer to attend online virtual consultation events.

Agree      Neither agree or disagree      Disagree

<input type="radio"/>	_____	<input type="radio"/>	_____	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	_____	<input type="radio"/>	_____	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	_____	<input type="radio"/>	_____	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	_____	<input type="radio"/>	_____	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	_____	<input type="radio"/>	_____	<input type="radio"/>

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE CONSIDER THE VIEWS OF LOCAL PEOPLE WHEN DEVELOPING THIS WINDFARM PROPOSAL AND WE WOULD VALUE YOUR INPUT ON HOW BEST TO ENGAGE WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES. DO YOU HAVE FURTHER COMMENTS ABOUT HOW WE ENGAGE WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND HOW WE CONSULT WITH YOU.

DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE MUIR MHÒR CONSENTS APPLICATION PROCESS?

IN FUTURE, HOW WOULD YOU LIKE US TO KEEP YOU UPDATED ON THE PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT? PLEASE CIRCLE

EMAIL	PRESS/MEDIA COVERAGE
POST/LEAFLET THROUGH THE DOOR	SOCIAL MEDIA
WEBSITE/VIRTUAL EXHIBITION	DON'T UPDATE ME
FACE-TO-FACE EVENTS	

PLEASE SEND US YOUR FEEDBACK FORM

PLEASE POST TO: Muir Mhor Offshore Wind Farm  
4th Floor, 120 Bath Street  
Glasgow, G2 2EN

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS/SUGGESTIONS AS TO HOW WE SHAPE OUR MUIR MHÒR PROJECT COMMUNITY BENEFITS IN RELATION TO THE COMMUNITIES WITHIN THE LOCAL AREA?

Thank you for completing this questionnaire.

All the information that you have provided will be processed in accordance with your rights under the Data Protection Act and the General Data Protection Regulations in line with our privacy policy.

By providing us with your contact details you are giving us your consent to use your data to keep you updated on the Muir Mhor Project only.

## **ANNEX 2**

### **Notifications - PAC Event 2 September 2024**

#### **A) PAC 2 NEWSPAPER ADVERTS**





# The Buchananie

SINCE 1863

The new name for the Buchan Observer

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

£1.30



## Entries for Tractor Day

Page 3



## Trip to the Seychelles

Page 11



Volunteers from EGL2 project teams helped clear-up picturesque Sandford Bay

by Dawn Renton

Reporter  
dawn.renton@nationalworld.com

Over 25 tonnes of rubbish has been removed from a popular beach near Peterhead in a record-breaking effort to clean up the area by volunteers working on the development of the Eastern Green Link 2 subsea electricity cable project.

The record-breaking amount of

litter collected – which is roughly the same weight as four African elephants – was removed from the sandy shores of Sandford Bay in Peterhead by a team of 32 volunteers from across SSE Transmission, Keltbray and David Smith Contractors.

Sandford Bay lies just south of Peterhead and marks the spot where the planned 436km high voltage direct current (HVDC) subsea transmission cable – the longest in the UK – will run to Drax in

North Yorkshire.

The team were keen to roll up their sleeves and swap their usual tools for litter picks and bin bags in a bid to clear-up the popular beach and help keep the picturesque sea-side setting litter-free.

Over the course of a single day, the team cleared away enough litter to completely fill 30 construction bags and two skips – including removing car tyres, fishing nets and ropes from the shores. Between

them they walked and litter-picked throughout the day, covering a 600m stretch along the shore.

The rubbish was collected by specialist vehicles the following day.

The beach clean was part of an initiative led by not-for-profit partner East Grampian Coastal Partnership, who had teamed up with the EGL2 team as part of their Turning The Plastic Tide project.

The initiative involves coor-

dinating beach cleans along the Grampian coastline between Fraserburgh and St Cyrus, working together to ensure they can be carried out safely and effectively, and targeting any particular litter hot spots.

The organisation outlined that the amount of rubbish collected broke the Turning The Plastic Tide project record for the most collected in one day.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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### PUBLIC NOTICES

### PLANNING NOTICES

**Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013**

#### NOTICE OF PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION EVENT

Notice is hereby given that **Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Limited**, (company number SC717262 with its registered office at 4 Jackson's Entry, Holyrood Road, Edinburgh, Scotland, EH8 8PJ) will hold a pre-application consultation (PAC) event regarding a proposed application for a marine licensable activity, being the deposit of up to two submarine export cables within the Scottish marine area east of Peterhead, as further described below.

The licensable activity consists of the installation of up to two submarine export cables in, on, or under the seabed in the Scottish marine area and crossing the inter-tidal boundary to a landfall location in the vicinity of Peterhead, within the areas of search at the following coordinates:

- Central grid references:**
- The location of the offshore export cable route at the 12 nautical miles (nm) boundary of the Scottish marine area:
    - o Northern area of search: 57° 31' 17.630" N 001° 23' 41.266" W
    - o Southern area of search: 57° 25' 35.688" N 001° 24' 34.488" W
  - The mid-point of the offshore export cable route between landfall and the 12 nm boundary of the Scottish marine area:
    - o Northern area of search: 57° 31' 52.012" N 001° 35' 6.534" W
    - o Southern area of search: 57° 25' 40.907" N 001° 36' 9.187" W
  - The centre point of the area of search for the landfall location:
    - o Northern area of search: 57° 32' 19.855" N 001° 48' 22.309" W
    - o Southern area of search: 57° 25' 47.344" N 001° 48' 55.734" W

The cables form part of the offshore transmission infrastructure for the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm, with the array area located approximately 63 kilometres (km) east of Peterhead.

A public pre-application drop-in consultation event will be held at:

- Peterhead Football Club, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead AB42 1EQ – 25 September 2024, from 2pm-7pm.

A virtual public exhibition will also be made available at [www.muirmhor.co.uk](http://www.muirmhor.co.uk), until 23 October 2024.

Further information (including the Offshore Scoping report) may be obtained at: <https://muirmhor.co.uk/document-library>

Persons wishing to make comments on the proposal should do so before 23 October 2024 by:

- Completing a feedback form available at the drop-in event or at the virtual exhibition;
- Emailing to [info@muirmhor.co.uk](mailto:info@muirmhor.co.uk); or
- Posting to Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Ltd, 120 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 2EN.

Please note that comments made to the Muir Mhòr project team are not representations to the Scottish Ministers. If Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Limited submits a licence application, there will be an opportunity to make representations to the Scottish Ministers on that application.

### TRAFFIC NOTICES

#### ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL (CLERKHILL ROAD, PETERHEAD) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF WAITING

"The Aberdeenshire Council (Clerkhill Road, Peterhead) (Temporary Prohibition of Waiting) Order, 2024" has been made under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1994.

The order will operate from 19 August 2024 for 53 Days and will prohibit any vehicle from waiting on the Clerkhill Road, Peterhead from Dales Court to Baylands Crescent on both sides of the road, at any time.

The temporary waiting restriction is necessary in the interests of public safety due to the resurfacing of the footway and the installation of street lighting.

Details of the temporary restriction can be viewed online at <https://online.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/apps/roadworks/>. Any queries should be directed to Lisa Mair on 01467 539751.

Head of Service, Legal and People, Woodhill House, Westburn Road, Aberdeen, AB16 5GB



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**£500k repairs  
under way at  
north-east  
harbours**

See page 9

**Miovski deal will net  
Dons record windfall**

Spanish side to pay £6.8m for star



See pages 54&55

## Demolition starts after battle over Cafe 52 hut

Demolition crews yesterday began dismantling a pavilion at an Aberdeen restaurant following a lengthy legal battle.

Police were also called to the scene as the covered seating area outside Cafe 52 on the Green was taken apart.

The council won a court fight after it argued the structure was delaying work on the new £40 million market project.

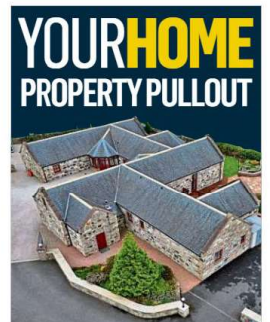
Full story: Page 5



## Child abuse videos fiend is locked up



## Labour vow to support energy jobs



# Residents in Shire owe £42.5m in council tax

One household has racked up debt of almost £60k, FOI reveals

BY ALASTAIR GOSSIP

HOUSEHOLDS in Aberdeenshire have accrued a whopping £42.5 million in council tax arrears, The Press and Journal can today reveal.

Residents owe the local

authority the staggering sum dating back to 1993, according to freedom of information (FOI) figures.

Our investigation unearthed the cumulative debt across the region.

It comes just months after

Aberdeenshire Council was forced to slash tens of millions from public spending, with school crossing patrollers and language therapists being axed.

The highest sum owed by any one household is £59,701.

It is in the AB21 postcode area

which includes Newmachar, Blackburn, Kinellar, Hatton of Fintray and Whiterashes.

A council spokesman said that, over the 2023-24 financial year, the collection rate is a healthy 99.65%.

Full story: Page 3



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Wedding Notices

## Public Notices

### CROSSROADS CARING SCOTLAND

Company No:

SC085401

PETITION:

COS-P659-24

NOTICE is hereby given that on 7 August 2024, a Petition was presented to the Court of Session at Edinburgh by CROSSROADS CARING SCOTLAND, a company incorporated under the Companies Acts (with company registration number SC085401) as a private company limited by guarantee and having its registered office at c/o Enable Scotland, Unit 3, Melisa House, 3 Brand Place, Glasgow, G51 1DR craving the Court inter alia to make an order under section 1021 of the Companies Act 2006 that the whole right and title to the subjects known as and forming 42, 44 and 46 Barclay Street, Stonehaven registered in the Land Register of Scotland under title number KNC2856 vests in the said Crossroads Caring Scotland, in which Petition Lord Sandison at Edinburgh by Interlocutor dated 7 August 2024 appointed notice of the import of the Petition and First Deliverance to be advertised once in "The Edinburgh Gazette" and "The Press & Journal" newspapers and allowed any party claiming an interest to lodge Answers with the Principal Clerk of Session at Parliament House, Edinburgh EH1 1RQ within 21 days after such publication, service and advertisement; all of which notice is hereby given.

Brian Pollock  
Lindsay  
100 Queen Street  
G1 3DN  
Tel No: 0141 302 8451  
Ref: BP/CRO793/79

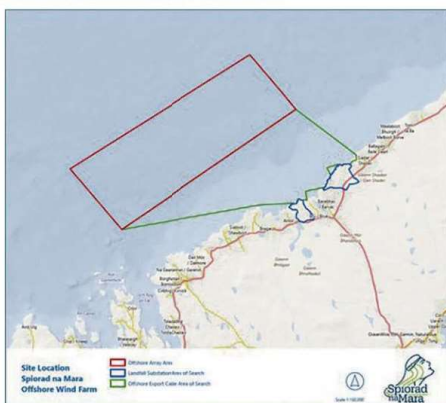
## Public Notices

### Spiorad na Mara Offshore Wind Farm Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 Electricity Act 1989

Notice is hereby given that Spiorad na Mara Offshore Wind Farm Limited (Company Number SC717716 with registered office at the Regus Building, 1st Floor, 93 George Street, Edinburgh, United Kingdom, EH2 3ES) intends to submit marine licence applications to construct an offshore wind farm and associated transmission infrastructure for the Spiorad na Mara Offshore Wind Farm. The proposed Spiorad na Mara wind farm is located 5-13 kilometres (km) off the coast of Lewis (Western Isles). The licensable activity consists of:

- Up to 66 wind turbines connected via inter-array cables.
- Up to 12 offshore cables from array to the landfall location on the west coast.
- An offshore substation, connected to the turbines via inter-array cables.

The map below details the location of the proposed Spiorad na Mara Offshore Wind Farm and its associated transmission infrastructure.



Information about the proposed licensable activities and the Spiorad na Mara Offshore Wind Farm can be obtained at the following pre-application consultation events, held at the times and locations below. The consultations will provide an opportunity for the public and stakeholders to obtain information about, and to consider and comment on, the prospective application(s).

Date	Location
Tuesday 24th September 2024	Clan MacQuarrie Centre, Borve, Isle of Lewis HS2 0RY 3-8 pm
Wednesday 25th September 2024	Barvas & Brue Community Centre, Barvas, Isle of Lewis HS2 0RA 3-8 pm
Thursday 26th September 2024	Old School Shawbost, 43 N Shawbost, Isle of Lewis HS2 9BQ 3-8pm
Monday 30th September 2024	Stornoway Town Hall, 20 South Beach, Stornoway HS1 2BJ 3-8pm
Tuesday 1st October 2024	Carloway Community Centre, Knock, Carloway, Isle of Lewis HS2 9AU 3-8pm
Wednesday 2nd October 2024	Uig Community Hall, Uig, Isle of Lewis 3-8pm
Thursday 3rd October 2024	Great Bernera Community Centre, Breacleite, Great Bernera, Isle of Lewis 3-8pm

Information about the proposed licensable activities can also be obtained in a virtual exhibition available 24 hours a day from 23rd September to 23rd October accessed via the project website <https://northlandpowerscotwind.co.uk/spiorad-na-mara/>. Further information about the project is also available, at all times, on the same project website.

There are multiple ways that people can provide feedback during this consultation process, including:

- Completing an online feedback form via the project website <https://northlandpowerscotwind.co.uk/spiorad-na-mara/>
- Completing a hard copy feedback form at a public consultation event and leaving it with us, or sending it back to us by post at Spiorad na Mara Office, UHI Lewis Castle Campus (2nd floor), Stornoway, HS2 0XR
- Contacting us directly via [spioradnamara@northlandpower.com](mailto:spioradnamara@northlandpower.com);
- Calling our project phone number +44 7396818000

Comments should be dated and clearly state the name (in block capitals) and full return email or postal address of those making the comment.

All comments need to be received by Friday 25th October 2024.

Please note that all feedback provided during this consultation process will be to the Spiorad na Mara project team and not to the Scottish Government. There will be an opportunity to make submissions to the Scottish Ministers once the project submits its application(s) and associated Environmental Impact Assessment Report, at a later date.

## Public Notices

### Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 NOTICE OF PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION EVENT

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The licensable activity consists of the installation of up to two submarine export cables in, on, or under the seabed in the Scottish marine area and crossing the inter-tidal boundary to a landfall location in the vicinity of Peterhead, within the areas of search at the following coordinates:

Central grid references:

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  - o Southern area of search: 57° 25' 35.688" N 001° 24' 34.488" W
- The mid-point of the offshore export cable route between landfall and the 12 nm boundary of the Scottish marine area:
  - o Northern area of search: 57° 31' 52.012" N 001° 35' 6.534" W
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  - o Southern area of search: 57° 25' 47.344" N 001° 48' 55.734" W

The cables form part of the offshore transmission infrastructure for the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm, with the array area located approximately 63 kilometres (km) east of Peterhead.

A public pre-application drop-in consultation event will be held at:

- Peterhead Football Club, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead AB42 1EQ – 25 September 2024, from 2pm-7pm.

A virtual public exhibition will also be made available at [www.muirmhor.co.uk](http://www.muirmhor.co.uk) until 23 October 2024.

Further information (including the Offshore Scoping report) may be obtained at: <https://muirmhor.co.uk/document-library>

Persons wishing to make comments on the proposal should do so before 23 October 2024 by:

- Completing a feedback form available at the drop-in event or at the virtual exhibition;
- Emailing to [info@muirmhor.co.uk](mailto:info@muirmhor.co.uk) or
- Posting to Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Ltd, 120 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 2EN

Please note that comments made to the Muir Mhòr project team are not representations to the Scottish Ministers. If Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Limited submits a licence application, there will be an opportunity to make representations to the Scottish Ministers on that application.

### THE TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED) AND THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013

#### REGULATION 7(2) (AS AMENDED) NOTICE OF PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION PUBLIC EVENT

Dandara Scotland give notice of their intention to submit a planning application for the proposed development as follows:

Site at Criche, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire  
Residential led Mixed Use Development including Local Centre and land for a Primary School with associated infrastructure (including roads, parking, landscaping, open space, allotments, park and choose facility and SUDS).

Further information on the proposed development will be available at a 2nd public exhibition, being held as follows:

1400-1900 on 20 August 2024 at:  
Acorn Centre, West High Street, Inverurie, AB51 3SA  
Any persons wishing to make comments relating to the proposal or wishing to obtain further information may do so by contacting:  
Christine Dalziel – Stantec (Agent)  
[christine.dalziel@stantec.co.uk](mailto:christine.dalziel@stantec.co.uk) or 0131 222 4806  
or by post to Stantec, Capital Square, 3rd Floor, 58 Morrison Street, Edinburgh, EH3 8BP.

Comments should be submitted to the prospective applicant at the address above by 3 September, 2024. Please note, comments on these proposals are to the prospective applicant and not formal representations to Aberdeenshire Council Planning. If a subsequent planning application is submitted there will be a further opportunity to make formal representations on the application to Aberdeenshire Council Planning during the statutory notification period.

## Public Notices

### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010 THE MARINE LICENSING (PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 NOTICE OF PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION

Proposed development of Land and Marine areas at Banff Bridge, Banff (including land at The Greenbanks, Banff) for installation of scour protection measures in the River Deveron at Banff Bridge.

In respect of a forthcoming application for a Marine Licence associated with the installation of scour protection measures at Banff Bridge, a Pre-Application Consultation will be held at the following time, location, and date:

- Monday 30th September 2024 – Deveron Community and Sports Centre, Bellevue Road, Banff, AB45 1BY – from 13:00-19:30.

The proposed development will comprise: Installation of scour protection measures in the riverbed of the River Deveron at Banff Bridge. Measures will take the form of rock filled mattresses which will extend up to 20m upstream and downstream of the existing bridge piers.

Application for a Marine Licence:

Installation of scour protection measures, including:

- Removal of existing rock armour surrounds to the existing bridge pier aprons, including the riverbed.
- Installation of rock filled mattresses, which will be fixed in place using ground anchors, drilled into the riverbed. Further information may be obtained from Donald Macpherson, Bridges Manager, Aberdeenshire Council on 01467 535841. Persons wishing to make comments on the proposed development should do so by 27/09/2024 to Aberdeenshire Council, Environment and Infrastructure, Roads and Infrastructure (Structures Section), Woodhill House, Westburn Road, Aberdeen, AB15 5GB or [bridges@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:bridges@aberdeenshire.gov.uk).

Any comments made during this pre-application stage are to the prospective applicant and are not representations to Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team (MS-LOT). Upon submission of a formal Marine Licence application to Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team, there will be periods within which to make formal representations to the regulatory authority.

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The Press and Journal  
Classified

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01224 691212

## **B) NOTIFICATION TO NLB**



**Chris Coleby**

---

**From:** Giulia Agnisola <Redacted>  
**Sent:** 13 August 2024 11:58  
**To:** <Redacted>  
**Cc:** Martha Lovatt; McConville Miles; Chris Coleby  
**Subject:** Muir Mhòr - Pre-application Consultation Event Notification - 25/09/24

**Notice under Regulations 6(2) of the Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation)(Scotland) Regulations 2013**

Good morning Adam,

I hope this email finds you well.

My name is Giulia Agnisola, I am the Offshore Consents Manager for the Muir Mhòr Offshore Windfarm project ([Scoping Opinion - Muir Mhor](#)).

In line with the abovementioned regulations, we wish to formally notify you that an application for a marine licence application will be submitted in November 2024. The licensable activity covered by this application consists of the installation of up to two submarine export cables in, on, or under the seabed in the Scottish marine area and crossing the inter-tidal boundary to a landfall location in the vicinity of Peterhead. The cables form part of the offshore transmission infrastructure for the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm, with the array area located approximately 63 kilometres east of Peterhead, for which a marine licence for construction will also be submitted in November 2024.

In addition, we wish to notify you that a pre-application consultation (PAC) event in support of this application will take place as follows:

- Peterhead Football Club, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead AB42 1EQ – 25 September 2024, from 2pm-7pm.

We look forward to further engagement with NLB as we prepare the marine licence application and would welcome your attendance and input at the PAC event in September.

Kind regards,

Giulia



**Giulia Agnisola**  
Offshore Consents Manager  
<Redacted>

<Redacted>  
[www.muirmhor.co.uk](http://www.muirmhor.co.uk)

## **C) NOTIFICATION TO SEPA**

---

**Muir Mhòr - Pre-application Consultation Event Notification - 25/09/24**

---

From Giulia Agnisola <Redacted>  
To planning.north@sepa.org.uk <planning.north@sepa.org.uk>  
Cc Martha Lovatt <Redacted> ; McConville Miles <Redacted>  
Chris Coleby <Redacted>

**Notice under Regulations 6(2) of the Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation)(Scotland) Regulations 2013**

Good morning,

I hope this email finds you well.

My name is Giulia Agnisola, I am the Offshore Consents Manager for the Muir Mhòr Offshore Windfarm project ([Scoping Opinion - Muir Mhor](#)).

In line with the abovementioned regulations, we wish to formally notify you that an application for a marine licence application will be submitted in November 2024. The licensable activity covered by this application consists of the installation of up to two submarine export cables in, on, or under the seabed in the Scottish marine area and crossing the inter-tidal boundary to a landfall location in the vicinity of Peterhead. The cables form part of the offshore transmission infrastructure for the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm, with the array area located approximately 63 kilometres east of Peterhead, for which a marine licence for construction will also be submitted in November 2024.

In addition, we wish to notify you that a pre-application consultation (PAC) event in support of this application will take place as follows:

- Peterhead Football Club, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead AB42 1EQ – 25 September 2024, from 2pm-7pm.

We look forward to further engagement with SEPA as we prepare the marine licence application and would welcome your attendance and input at the PAC event in September.

Kind regards,

Giulia



**Giulia Agnisola**  
Offshore Consents Manager  
<Redacted>

<Redacted>  
[www.muirmhor.co.uk](http://www.muirmhor.co.uk)

## **D) NOTIFICATION TO MCA**

---

**Muir Mhòr - Pre-application Consultation Event Notification - 25/09/24**

---

From Giulia Agnisola <Redacted>

To <Redacted>

Cc Martha Lovatt <Redacted>  
Chris Coleby <Redacted>

McConville Miles <Redacted>

**Notice under Regulations 6(2) of the Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation)(Scotland) Regulations 2013**

Good morning Nick,

I hope this email finds you well.

My name is Giulia Agnisola, I am the Offshore Consents Manager for the Muir Mhòr Offshore Windfarm project ([Scoping Opinion - Muir Mhor](#)).

In line with the abovementioned regulations, we wish to formally notify you that an application for a marine licence application will be submitted in November 2024. The licensable activity covered by this application consists of the installation of up to two submarine export cables in, on, or under the seabed in the Scottish marine area and crossing the inter-tidal boundary to a landfall location in the vicinity of Peterhead. The cables form part of the offshore transmission infrastructure for the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm, with the array area located approximately 63 kilometres east of Peterhead, for which a marine licence for construction will also be submitted in November 2024.

In addition, we wish to notify you that a pre-application consultation (PAC) event in support of this application will take place as follows:

- Peterhead Football Club, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead AB42 1EQ – 25 September 2024, from 2pm-7pm.

We look forward to further engagement with MCA as we prepare the marine licence application and would welcome your attendance and input at the PAC event in September.

Kind regards,

Giulia



**Giulia Agnisola**  
Offshore Consents Manager  
<Redacted>

<Redacted>  
[www.muirmhor.co.uk](http://www.muirmhor.co.uk)



## **E) NOTIFICATION TO NATURESCOT**

---

**Muir Mhòr - Pre-application Consultation Event Notification - 25/09/24**

---

From Giulia Agnisola <Redacted>

To <Redacted>

Cc Martha Lovatt <Redacted>  
Chris Coleby <Redacted>

McConville Miles <Redacted>

**Notice under Regulations 6(2) of the Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation)(Scotland) Regulations 2013**

Good morning Jenna,

I hope this email finds you well.

I am contacting you regarding the Muir Mhòr Offshore Windfarm project ([Scoping Opinion - Muir Mhor](#)).

In line with the abovementioned regulations, we wish to formally notify you that an application for a marine licence application will be submitted in November 2024. The licensable activity covered by this application consists of the installation of up to two submarine export cables in, on, or under the seabed in the Scottish marine area and crossing the inter-tidal boundary to a landfall location in the vicinity of Peterhead. The cables form part of the offshore transmission infrastructure for the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm, with the array area located approximately 63 kilometres east of Peterhead, for which a marine licence for construction will also be submitted in November 2024.

In addition, we wish to notify you that a pre-application consultation (PAC) event in support of this application will take place as follows:

- Peterhead Football Club, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead AB42 1EQ – 25 September 2024, from 2pm-7pm.

We look forward to further engagement with NatureScot as we prepare the marine licence application and would welcome your attendance and input at the PAC event in September.

Kind regards,

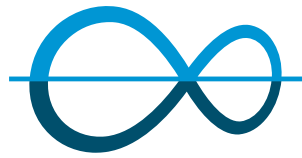
Giulia



**Giulia Agnisola**  
Offshore Consents Manager  
<Redacted>

<Redacted>  
[www.muirmhor.co.uk](http://www.muirmhor.co.uk)

## **F) FEEDBACK FORM FOR PAC2**



MUIR MHÒR  
OFFSHORE WIND FARM

A joint venture between Fred. Olsen Seawind & Vattenfall

## Muir Mhor Public Consultation

### Community Questionnaire Feedback Form

The Muir Mhòr Project Team values your feedback and recognises its importance. We are keen to hear your comments and views.

1. Have we clearly explained the need for the Muir Mhòr project?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Any further comments.

2. Do you feel that sufficient information has been provided to help you understand what is being proposed and why?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Any further comments.

3. Do you believe the approach taken by the project team in selecting the site is reasonable, and has it been clearly explained?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Any further comments.

4. Are there any social or environmental factors that you think have not been considered or have been overlooked during the site selection?

5. Do you have any specific questions or concerns you would like addressed by the project team regarding:

- The site location/ preference?
- The Muir Mhor project in general?

6. Do you have any general comments on today's event or the Muir Mhòr Project you would like the Project Team to address/respond to?

Date

Name

Contact details

7. Would you be interested in being kept updated on the project developments?

Yes

☐

No

☐

8. Would you be willing to share your views at the various stages of project development?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Thank you for taking the time to complete the feedback form.

NB: The results of feedback survey will be summarised (we will not disclose any personal details) and presented at the next Public Consultation Event to be held in autumn.

## ANNEX 3

### Additional Stakeholder Contact

Dear ....

The Muir Mhòr Project is a floating offshore wind farm located approximately 65 km from the Aberdeenshire coast and covers an area of approximately 200 km<sup>2</sup>. The intended capacity of the wind farm is expected to be up to 1GW and will have the equivalent capability of powering over 1 million homes per year. The award to develop the site was made by Crown Estate Scotland in January 2022. Muir Mhòr is a 50/50 Joint Venture (JV), between Fred Olsen Seawind and Vattenfall combining industry leading experience.

I am writing to advise the Muir Project Team will be holding 2 Public Consultation events and to invite you and any of your colleagues from who would like to attend.

Also, if there are any students with an interest in the Energy Sector that would like to drop into the Event, they would be very welcome.

The Muir Mhòr Project Team will be in attendance to engage and consult on the proposals and future development plans.

The Events are planned for:

- Tuesday 26th March 2024 at the Peterhead Football Club Venue, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead, AB42 1EQ from 2-7pm
- Wednesday 27th March 2024 at Longside Parish church Hall 4-13 Inn Brae, Longside AB42 4XN from 2-7pm.

These events will be held in person and online.

Our Virtual Exhibition will be available online at <https://muirmhòr.co.uk/consultation/> from the 26th of March 2024.

We hope you are available to attend and look forward to meeting you on the day.

If you require any further information on the Public Consultation Events, please access <https://muirmhòr.co.uk/consultation/>

or have any general enquiries on the Muir Mhòr Project, please contact [info@muirmhòr.co.uk](mailto:info@muirmhòr.co.uk)

Kind regards

## ANNEX 4

### Stakeholders Invited to PAC Events

- **Political:**

- Andrew Bowie MP;
- Stephen Flynn MP;
- Richard Thomson MP;
- David Duguid MP;
- Kirsty Blackman MP;
- Dave Doogan MP;
- Karen Adam MSP;
- Gillian Martin MSP;
- Kevin Stewart MSP;
- Audrey Nicoll MSP;
- Alexander Burnett MSP;
- Mairi Gougeon MSP;
- Liam Kerr MSP;
- Maggie Chapman MSP;
- Maurice Golden MSP;
- Douglas Lumsden MSP;
- Michael Marra MSP
- Mercedes Villalba MSP;
- Tess White MSP;
- Edward Mountain MSP;
- Fiona Hyslop MSP
- Ash Regan MSP
- Jackie Dunbar MSP
- Monica Lennon MSP;
- Mark Ruskell MSP;
- Darren Jones MP
- Tonia Antoniazzi MP;
- Alan Brown MP
- Richard Fuller MP
- Nusrat Ghani MP
- Paul Howell MP
- Mark Jenkinson MP
- Andy McDonald MP
- Charlotte Nicols MP
- Mark Pawsey MP
- Alexander Stafford MP

- **Local Authority (Councillors):**

- Aberdeen City Council
  - Nural Hoque Ali
  - Alison Alphonse
  - Sarah Cross
  - Jessica Mennie
  - Desmond Bouse;
  - Dell Henrickson



- Michael Hutchison;
- Sandra Macdonald
- Richard Brooks
- Alex Nicoll
- Miranda Radley
- Lynn Thomson
- Ross Grant
- Alexander McLellan
- Karin Van Sweeden
- Christian Allard
- Lee Fairfull
- Michael Kusznir
- Simon Watson
- Alex Nicoll
- Richard Sweetman
- Angela Scott
- Ian Yuill

— Aberdeenshire Council

- James Adams;
- Ann Bell;
- Dawn Black;
- Sarah Dickinson;
- Seamus Logan;
- Doreen Mair;
- Alan Turner;
- Andrew Hassan
- Paul Johnston
- Jenny Nicol
- Derek Ritchie
- David Aitchison
- Shirely Burnett
- Mel Sullivan
- Catherine Victor
- Dianne Beagrie
- Alan S Buchan
- Matthew James
- Leeann McWhinnie
- George Hall
- Colin Simpson
- Stephen Smith
- Wendy Agnew
- Mark Findlater
- Jim Savege
- Alan Wood
- Paul Macari

• **Governmental Stakeholders:**

- The Cabinet;
- Crown Estates;
- Marine Directorate (MD-LOT);
- Scottish Government (Marine Policy Team);
- Nature Scot;
- Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC);
- SEPA;
- Historic Environment Scotland (HES);

- Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB);
- Maritime Coastguard Agency (MCA);
- Scottish Offshore Wind Energy Council (SOWEC);
- Ministry of Defence (MoD)
- OFGEM
- Highland and Island Enterprise (HIE)
- Committee on Climate Change (CCC)
- Health and Safety Executive (HSE)
- National Air Traffic Service (NATS)
- Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)
- Aberdeenshire Council Harbours Authority;
- Aberdeen City Council;
- Scottish Development International;
- National Grid
- **Environmental Organisations:**
  - Fisheries Management Scotland (FMS);
  - Atlantic Salmon Trust;
  - British Trust for Ornithology (BTO);
  - Centre for Environment Fisheries and Aquaculture Science;
  - Cetacean Research and Rescue Unit (CRRU)
  - Inshore Fisheries Group Sea Fisheries;
  - Keep Scotland Beautiful;
  - Marine Conservation Society (MCS);
  - Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB);
  - Scottish Wildlife Trust (SWT);
  - Sea Fish Industry Authority;
  - Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS); and
  - Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society (WDCS)
- **Community Councils – Peterhead Aberdeenshire**
  - Buchan East;
  - Peterhead Community Council;
  - Boddam and District Community Council;
  - Longside and District Community Council;
  - Mintlaw and District Community Council;
  - Deer Community Council;
  - New Pitsligo Community Council;
  - Cruden Community Council; and
  - Strichen and District Community Council;
  - Slains and Collieston Community Council;
  - Bellhelvie Community Council;
  - Foveran Community Council;
  - Bridge of Don Community Council;
  - Cove and Altens Community Council;
  - Newton, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council;
  - Stonehaven and District Community Council; and
  - Catterline, Kineff and Dunnottar Community Council.
- **Business Groups/Organisations:**

- Scottish Council for Development and Industry (SCDI);
- Offshore Catapult;
- Opportunity North East (ONE);
- Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce;
- Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group (AREG);
- Energetica;
- HIE;
- Nigg Energy Park;
- NorthConnect;
- Offshore Energies UK (OEUK);
- Renewable UK;
- Scottish Chamber of Commerce;
- Scottish Development International (SDI);
- Scottish Enterprise;
- Scottish Renewables;
- Skills Development Scotland (SDS);
- Aberdeen Science Centre;
- Invest Aberdeen;
- Aberdeen Harbour Board;
- Opportunity North East;
- **Academic Skills and Interest:**
  - Aberdeen University;
  - North East Scotland College;
  - Peterhead Academy;
  - Peterhead Central School;
  - Buchanhaven Primary School;
  - Clerkhill Primary School;
  - Anna Ritchie Primary School;
  - Dales Park Primary School;
  - Burnhaven Primary School;
  - Robert Gordon University;
  - James Hutton Institute;
  - Stem; and
  - Developing Young People.

## **ANNEX 5**

### **PAC Consultation Report Form (Schedule 1)**

# SCHEDULE

Regulation 8

## *Form*

### PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION REPORT

#### Marine (Scotland) Act 2010: Section 24

##### 1. Proposed Licensable Marine Activity

Please describe below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form the proposed licensable marine activity, including its location

A full description of the Proposed Licensable Marine Activity can be found in Annex 1 of the attached Pre Application Consultation Report (PAC Report).

##### 2. Applicant Details

Title	Initials	Surname
Ms	Martha	Lovatt

Trading Title  
(if appropriate)

Muir Mhor Offshore Wind Farm Limited

Address

120 bath Street, Glasgow, G2 2EN

Name of contact  
(if different)

Position within Company  
(if appropriate)

Senior Development & Consents Manager

Telephone No.  
(inc. dialing code)

Fax No.  
(inc. dialing code)

<Redacted>

Company Registration No.  
SC717262

Email  
<Redacted>

Is this prospective applicant the proposed licensee?

YES ☒

NO ☐

If NO, please complete Section 3 below.

**3. Proposed Licensee Details**

Title	Initials	Surname

Trading Title  
(if appropriate)

Address

Name of contact  
(if different)

Position within Company  
(if appropriate)

Telephone No.  
(inc. dialing code)

Fax No.  
(inc. dialing code)

Company Registration No.

Email

**4. Pre-application Consultation Event**

Please describe below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form the pre-application consultation event

A full description of the Pre-Application Consultation Event can be found in Section 6 and 7 of the PAC Report

**5. Information provided by the Prospective Applicant at the Pre-application Consultation Event**

Please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form details of any information provided by the prospective applicant for a marine licence at the pre-application consultation event

A full description of all information provided at the Pre-Application Consultation Event can be found in Section 4.5, 6.3, 7.3 and Annex 6 of the PAC Report.

**6. Information received by the Prospective Applicant at the Pre-application Consultation Event**

Please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form details of any comments and objections received by the prospective applicant for a marine licence at the pre-application consultation event

A full description of comments received throughout the Pre-application Consultation phase of the Project can be found in Section 6.6 and 7.6 of the PAC Report.

**7. Amendments made, or to be made, to the Application for a Marine Licence by the Prospective Applicant following their Consideration of Comments and/or Objections received at the Pre-application Consultation Event**

Where any amendments are made, or are to be made, by the prospective applicant for a marine licence to the marine licence application as a direct result of their consideration of comments and/or objections received at the pre-application consultation event, please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form details of such amendments

A full description of amendments made or to be made to the Application for a Marine Licence can be found in Sections 8 of the PAC Report.



**8. Explanation of Approach taken by the Prospective Applicant where, following Relevant Comments and/or Objections being received by the Prospective Applicant at the Pre-application Consultation Event, no Relevant Amendment is made to the Application for a Marine Licence**

Where, following comments and/or objections having been received by the prospective applicant for a marine licence at the pre-application consultation event, no relevant amendment is made to the application for a marine licence by the prospective applicant, then please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form an explanation for the approach taken

No amendments were required to the marine licences following the pre-application consultation event. However various amendments for different elements of the Project have been made throughout the consultation phase and are detailed in the attached PAC report

**CERTIFICATION**

**Insert name**

Martha Lovatt

**Insert Address**

120 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 2EN

**Town**

**County**

**Postcode**

I certify that I have complied with the legislative requirements relating to pre-application consultation and that the pre-application consultation has been undertaken in accordance with the statutory requirements.

<Redacted>

Signature Martha Lovatt

Date 20/11/2024

## **ANNEX 6**

### **Additional PAC materials**

#### **A) COMMUNITY POSTERS**



**MUIR MHÒR**  
OFFSHORE WIND FARM

# Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm

## Public Consultation Exhibitions

Join the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm team at our public consultation exhibitions to hear about the updated proposals for the wind farm and associated onshore infrastructure, and provide your feedback.

### **Tuesday** **26th March**

**2pm-7pm**

Peterhead Football Club,  
Balmoor Terrace,  
Peterhead  
AB42 1EQ

### **Wednesday** **27th March**

**2pm-7pm**

Longside Parish Church Hall,  
4-13 Inn Brae,  
Longside  
AB42 4XN



For further information on our proposal, and to view our virtual exhibition room, visit **[www.muirmhor.co.uk](http://www.muirmhor.co.uk)**



You can contact our team at **[info@muirmhor.co.uk](mailto:info@muirmhor.co.uk)**  
Provide feedback on the proposal at **[feedback@muirmhor.co.uk](mailto:feedback@muirmhor.co.uk)**

Please note that any comments received by the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm project team are not representations to the planning authority. Representations to the planning authority can be made once the planning applications have been submitted to Marine Scotland and Aberdeenshire Council.

## **B) EXHIBITION BOARDS PAC 2 SEPTEMBER 2024**

## Meet the Team



**David Hinshelwood**  
Project Director



**Marie-Laurence Carruezo**  
Deputy Project Director & Technical Project Manager



**Martha Lovatt**  
Development & Consents Manager



**Bridget Casey**  
Stakeholder Liaison Officer



**John Kennedy**  
Land Manager



**Miles McConville**  
Consents Manager



**Nikki Keddie**  
Stakeholder & Communications Manager



**Erin McLeod**  
Supply Chain & Stakeholder Coordinator



**Helen Snodin**  
Grid & Regulation Manager



**Andrew Hynd**  
Technical Interface Manager



**Gillies Munro**  
Project Development Manager



**Stephen Kennedy**  
Procurement & Commercial Manager



**Patrick Sweeney**  
Ports & Logistics Manager



**James Herring**  
Health & Safety Manager

## SUPPORTED BY

### GoBe Consultants



**Chris Coleby**  
Offshore EIA Project Manager



**Belina Collington**  
Offshore EIA Asst Project Manager



**Joanna Wright**  
Director of Environmental Planning



**Zoe Laurence**  
Fisheries Consultant



**Vedran Bucko**  
Lead Developer of 3D Tech Visualisation Project

### Land Use Consultants

### Brown May

### 3DW



# Why are we developing?

Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm is being developed to help meet the Scottish Government's target of net-zero emissions of all greenhouse gases by 2045. Muir Mhòr will significantly contribute to the UK's target of deploying up to 50GW of offshore wind by 2030, with up to 5GW coming from floating offshore wind projects.

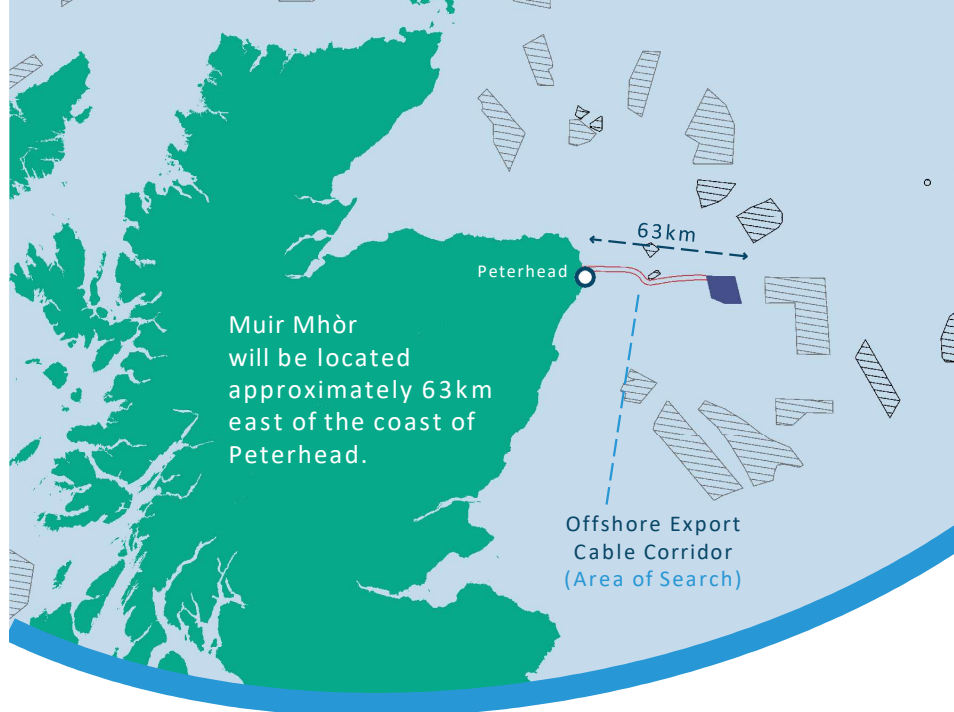
With a capacity of up to 1GW of floating offshore wind technology, the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm will make a significant contribution in helping to achieve these outcomes.

## Our grid connection

Power from the wind farm will be exported onto the main transmission system. The offshore transmission system connects into the onshore transmission system at SSEN's proposed Netherton hub.

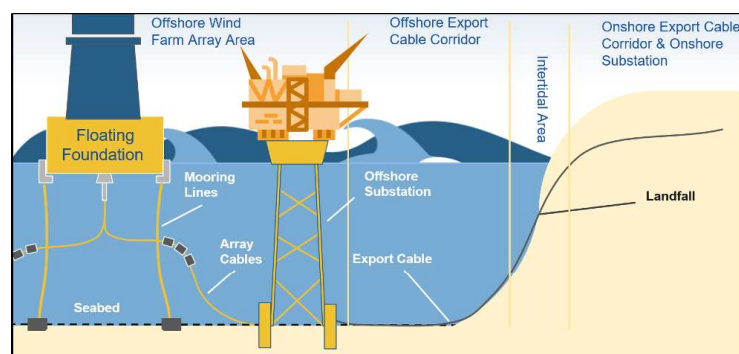
Muir Mhor's connection to the transmission system has been informed by the Holistic Network Design (HND) process run by National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO). The HND is a strategic appraisal of the most effective 'holistic' connection solution for accommodating offshore wind farms within a wider network solution which balances the needs of consumers, local and national stakeholders, and the environment.





## Project Key Information

<b>Location</b>	63km East of Peterhead
<b>Capacity</b>	Up to 1GW
<b>No of turbines</b>	Up to 67
<b>Development Area</b>	200km <sup>2</sup>
<b>Water depth</b>	60-100m
<b>Landfall location</b>	North of Peterhead
<b>Grid connection location</b>	SSEN's Netherton Hub

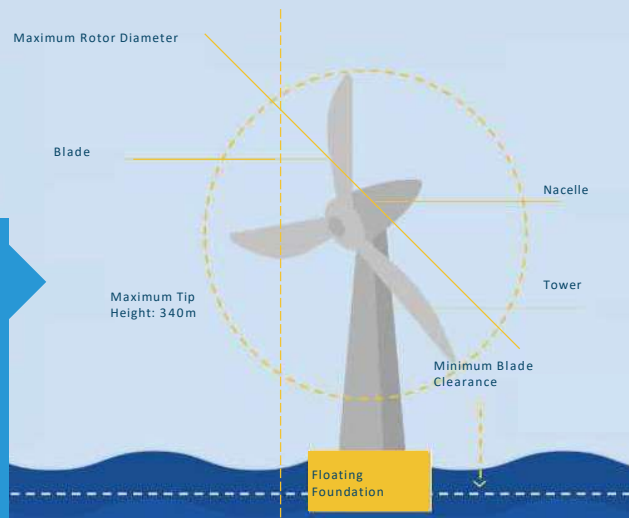


# Offshore Infrastructure

The offshore infrastructure will consist of the following components required to generate electricity and provide a route into the main transmission system.

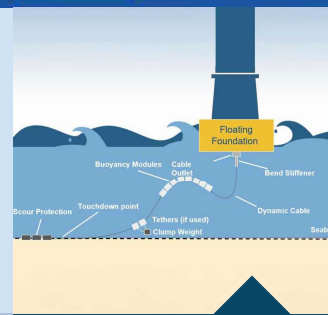
## Wind Turbines

It is currently estimated the project will use a maximum of 67 turbines, with a minimum of 1000m spacing between each turbine.



## Offshore Cable

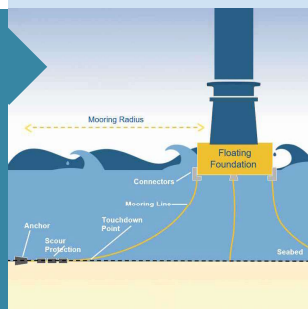
These cables will transmit electricity to shore, where they will be connected to the national grid. A maximum of 3 offshore cables are being considered, each with a maximum length of 120km.



3 offshore cables with max lengths of 120km each

## Mooring & Anchoring

The mooring and anchoring systems keep the foundation on station, maintaining the position of the wind turbine generator within a limited area:

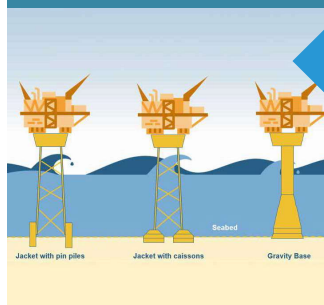


## Inter-array Cables

The flexible inter array cable connect the individual wind turbines together and then to the Offshore Substation Platform(s).

## Offshore Substation Platform

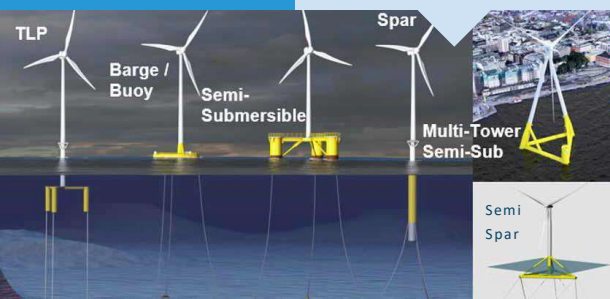
This is where the electricity generated by the turbines is collected and transmitted landward by the offshore export cables. There will be up to 3 platforms. These will be either an above-sea (surface) platform or a subsea platform on the seabed.



## Floating Foundations

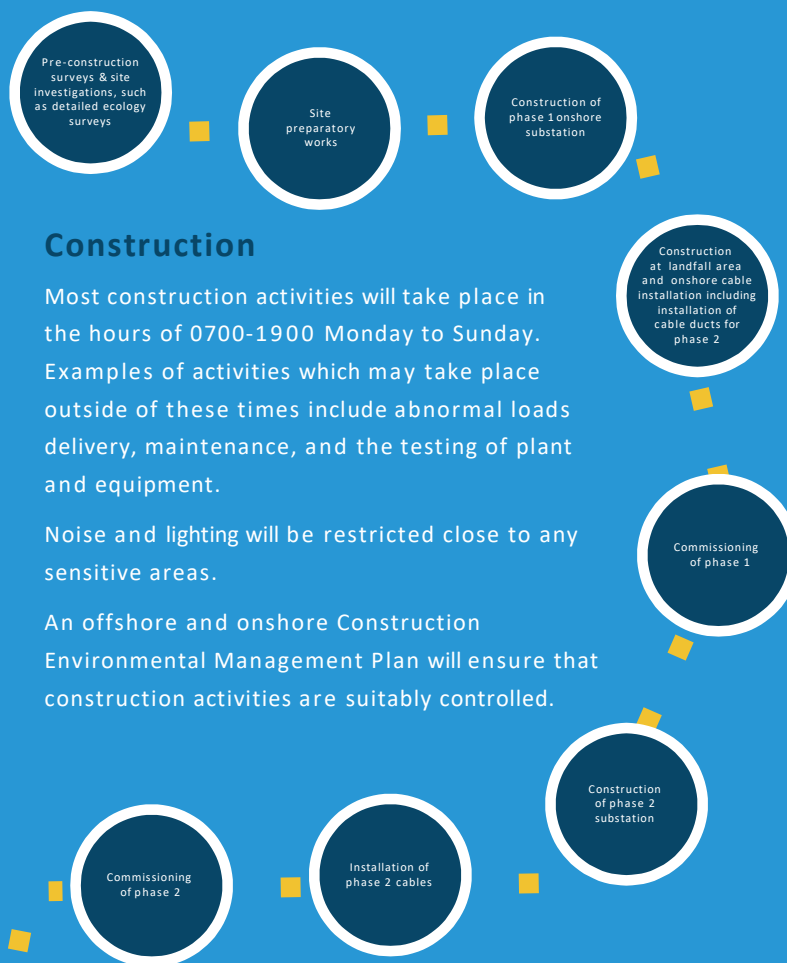
Wind turbine generators will be supported by a floating foundation with associated mooring/anchoring systems to keep the foundation 'on station'. Several floating foundation types are under consideration currently:

Example Subsea OSP



# Onshore Construction & Operation

The construction of the onshore grid infrastructure will likely include two phases. It is anticipated that the onshore grid connection is part of a coordinated connection allowing wind farms to share infrastructure (please see Grid Connection board for more information). The key stages associated are likely to include:



## Construction

Most construction activities will take place in the hours of 0700-1900 Monday to Sunday. Examples of activities which may take place outside of these times include abnormal loads delivery, maintenance, and the testing of plant and equipment.

Noise and lighting will be restricted close to any sensitive areas.

An offshore and onshore Construction Environmental Management Plan will ensure that construction activities are suitably controlled.

## Onshore Operation & Maintenance

During operation, it is expected the presence of staff onsite will be limited to inspection, maintenance, and servicing visits by one or two service engineers on a regular basis.

# Indicative Project Schedule

## Development

Scotwind awards  
Muir Mhòr Option  
Agreement  
**January 2022**

Submission of  
Offshore & On-  
shore Scoping  
Reports  
**June 2023**

Offshore Environmental  
Surveys Complete  
**2023**

Scottish Ministers Adopt Scoping Opinion  
**September 2023**

2nd Public  
Consultation Event  
**Spring 2024**

Submission of Offshore  
& Onshore applications  
**Summer 2024**

Project Consent  
Granted  
**Mid 2025**

Final  
Investment  
Decision  
**2027-8**

Construction  
Begins  
**Late 2020s**

Power Grid  
Connection  
& First Generation  
**Early 2030s**

Full Commercial  
Operational

## Construction

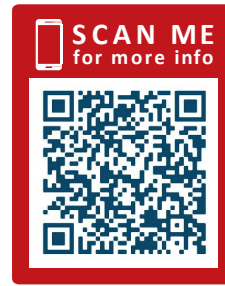
## Operations





# Offshore Surveys

The following surveys are in progress to inform the Offshore EIA and the design of offshore infrastructure:



## Wind Metocean Data Collection

In February 2023, a Floating Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) buoy was installed to collect 12-months of wind and metocean data to help inform overall wind farm design. A seabed mounted Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP) has also been installed at the turbine area to provide complementary measurements of currents and waves to those obtained by the LiDAR buoy.

## Geophysical Surveys

Offshore geophysical surveys were conducted spring and summer 2023 to collect data on physical conditions within the development area. This included factors such as seabed depth and character, geohazards such as boulders and debris and potential archaeological wrecks. Additional geotechnical surveys will be undertaken to further characterise the seabed environment.

## Offshore Digital Aerial Surveys (Marine Mammals/Birds)

Between April 2021 and March 2023, aircraft mounted video cameras have collected high resolution imagery of marine mammal and bird presence within the proposed Muir Mhòr turbine area. Each survey captured data along 26 transects, each 2.5 km apart, allowing calculation of population estimates to inform the EIA process.

## Offshore Ecology Survey

A variety of offshore ecological surveys were undertaken over summer 2023 to understand current baseline conditions in the proposed development area. This included sediment and water sampling, underwater video and photography and environmental DNA sampling. The aim being to characterise sensitive habitats and species.

### Examples of Conspicuous Fauna

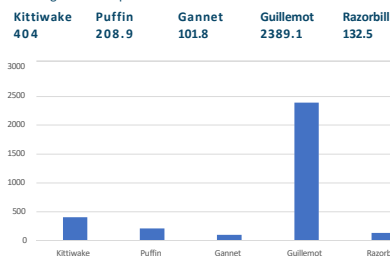


Scallop  
(*Pecten maximus*)



Cushion Star  
(*Porania Pulvillus*)

Average Month Species Abundancies:



Output from geophysical survey showing sand ridges and a ship wreck



# Onshore Surveys

The following surveys are in progress to inform the Onshore EIA and the design of onshore infrastructure:

SCAN ME  
for more info



## Habitat Surveys

The majority of habitats recorded within the site boundary are either agricultural pasture or cropland, with some areas of marshy or rank grassland. Suitable habitat for bats and otter has been identified along the embankments of the River Ugie, and suitable badger habitat is present in the area. Ecology surveys are ongoing, however limited evidence of the presence of protected species has been identified to date.

## Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Coastal Processes and Peat

Hydrology and geomorphology walkover surveys have been undertaken. There are a number of watercourses within the site boundary and all water bodies, watercourses and known areas of flood risk have been mapped and identified to inform the Project design.

## Ornithology Surveys

Ornithology surveys have been undertaken at the proposed landfall October 2022. The surveys have shown that the proposed landfall site and local area provides limited roosting and foraging for gulls and waders with waterfowl species including ducks and divers recorded offshore. Surveys have also taken place over the winter in the area of the proposed substation to establish use by wintering geese. During these surveys, flocks of pink-footed geese were recorded commuting over the site, but they have not been observed using the site itself.

## Archeology and Cultural Heritage Surveys

Initial walkover surveys have been undertaken which have found that there appears to be a general lack of noticeable above-ground archaeological activity within the site boundary outside of the known non-designated heritage assets, however, this does not preclude the presence for buried archaeological remains.



# Optioneering Process

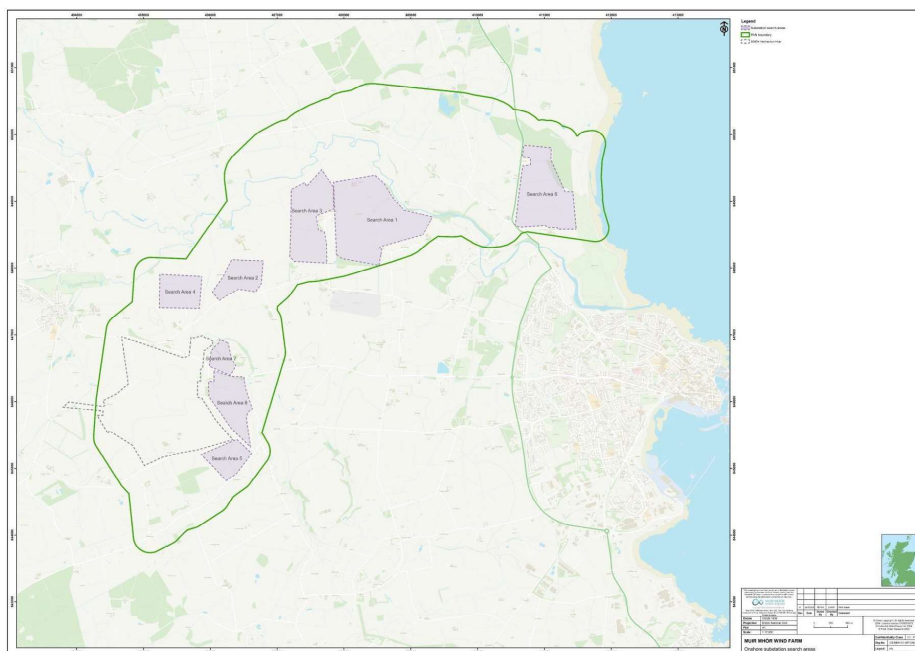
Outlining the steps taken to identify and select the landfall and potential substation locations.

Holistic Network Design sets onshore connection point

Landfall location selected north of Peterhead

Onshore substation located between landfall and Netherton hub

- Appropriate landfall sites were identified following desk and field-based assessments.
- The preferred landfall location was selected because of: intertidal and onshore infrastructure requirements; engineering; environmental constraints and geology.
- A landfall location just north of Peterhead was selected as the preferred landfall location.
- An area of search was drawn for the cable corridor between landfall north of Peterhead and the Netherton Hub.
- A shortlist of 8 substation option sites have been taken forward for review following desktop analysis.
- Search Areas are still subject to environmental and technical review. A preferred location will be selected following this review and subject to feedback from this consultation.



# Onshore Infrastructure

The onshore infrastructure will transport energy from the offshore wind turbines to the national grid and will consist of the following key components:

## Landfall Site

The landfall site is where the offshore cables from the offshore substation arrive on land and get jointed to the onshore cables. The cables will be horizontally directionally drilled under the intertidal area meaning no disruption to the beach and dune area.

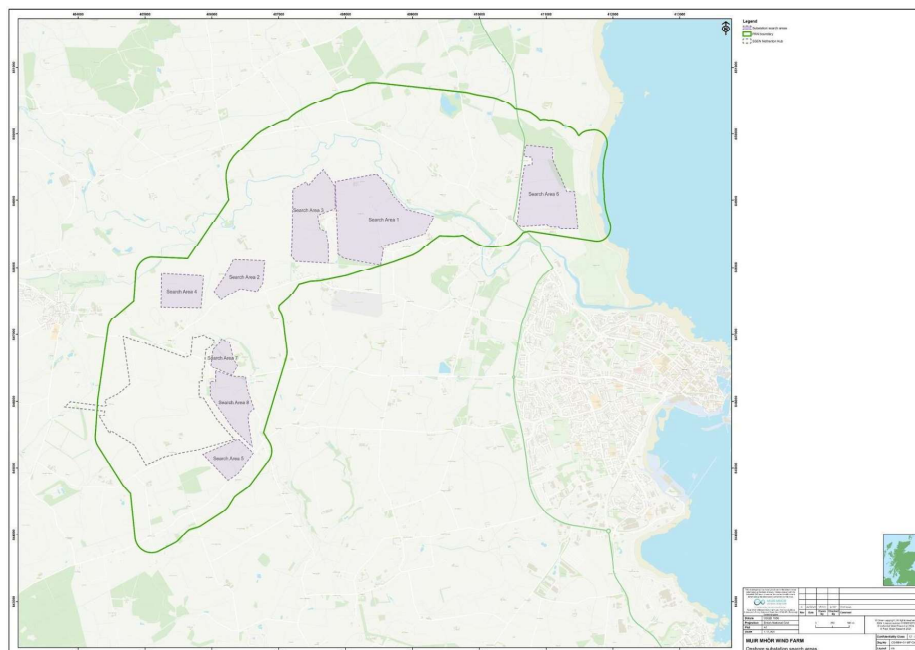
## Underground Cables

All cables will be buried under ground from landfall to the onshore substation. The cable corridor will be refined following further technical and environmental review. Once construction is complete, land along the cable route will be reinstated and agricultural uses can resume.

## Onshore Substation

The proposed onshore substation buildings will be a maximum height of 20m and a maximum footprint of 400m by 500m. Additional land will be required beyond the substation buildings & infrastructure for landscaping, drainage, access, and security fencing.

The onshore substation will connect with the main transmission system at the SSEN Netherton Hub.



# Contact & Feedback

Until August 2024, you can visit our virtual public exhibition at [muirmhòr.co.uk](https://muirmhòr.co.uk)

**For further information and details on drop-in sessions, pick up a copy of our Public Consultation Booklet available here today.**

**Your thoughts and feedback are essential for us to make this project a success.**

## TO SEND US YOUR FEEDBACK DIGITALLY:

Scan this QR code to  
access our online form



Please feel free to email our team directly with your comments at the following address: [\*\*feedback@muirmhòr.co.uk\*\*](mailto:feedback@muirmhòr.co.uk)

For general enquiries please contact:  
[\*\*info@muirmhòr.co.uk\*\*](mailto:info@muirmhòr.co.uk)

**We kindly request you submit feedback on this event by 17th May 2024.**

An additional consultation event will be scheduled in Summer 2024, around application submission. This event will summarise the final EIA Report and provide information on the formal consultation process.

## How your feedback will be used

Please note that comments provided today are not formal representations to the determining authorities. Following submission of the applications and licences in 2024, there will be periods during which formal representations can be made to Scottish Ministers, Marine Scotland and Aberdeenshire Council on the offshore and onshore elements of the project.

## **C) BOOKLET**





# MUIR MHÒR

OFFSHORE WIND FARM

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A joint venture between Fred. Olsen Seawind & Vattenfall

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<b>Page 3</b>	Meet the Team
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<b>Page 19</b>	Offshore Overview
<b>Page 21</b>	Offshore Key EIA Findings

# Why are we developing?

Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm is being developed to help meet the Scottish Government's target of net zero emissions of all greenhouse gases by 2045. Muir Mhòr will significantly contribute to the UK's target of deploying up to 50GW of offshore wind by 2030, with up to 5GW coming from floating offshore wind projects.

We want local communities, members of the public and other stakeholders to engage, ask questions and share their local knowledge.



MUIR MHÒR  
OFFSHORE WIND FARM

A joint venture between  
Fred Olsen Seawind & Vøtex

# Meet the Team



David  
Hinchelwood  
Project Director



Marie-Laurence  
Carruezo  
Deputy Project  
Director & Technical  
Project Manager



Martha Lovatt  
Senior  
Development  
& Consents  
Manager



Corinne Gallagher  
Stakeholder &  
Communications  
Manager



Helen Snodin  
Senior Grid  
& Regulation  
Manager



Andrew Hynd  
Technical  
Interface  
Manager



Stephen Kennedy  
Procurement  
& Commercial  
Manager



James Herring  
Health & Safety  
Manager



Patrick Sweeney  
Ports & Logistics  
Manager



John Kennedy  
Land  
Manager



Bridget Casey  
Stakeholder  
Liaison Officer



Gillies Munro  
Deputy Interface  
Manager



Erin McLeod  
Supply Chain  
& Stakeholder  
Coordinator



Miles  
McConville  
Consents  
Manager



Rachel O'Donnell  
Onshore  
Consents  
Manager

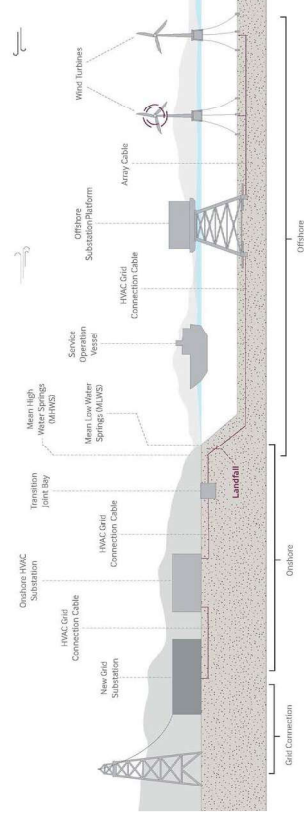


Giulia Agnisola  
Offshore  
Consents  
Manager

# Key Information

<b>Location</b>	~63km east of Peterhead
<b>Capacity</b>	Up to the equivalent of 1.2 million homes
<b>No of turbines</b>	Up to 67
<b>Development Area</b>	~200km <sup>2</sup>
<b>Water depth</b>	~60-100m
<b>Landfall location</b>	North of Peterhead
<b>Grid connection location</b>	SSEN's Nethererton Hub

Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm will be located approximately 63km east off the coast of Peterhead.



# Project Background

Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm is applying decades of industry expertise to deliver one of the world's first commercially viable floating wind projects.

The deep-water location of the project is well-suited to floating turbine technology, and its location and size allow for efficient project delivery, utilising nearby ports and mobilising the strong marine supply chain on the east coast of Scotland.



**MUIR MHÒR**  
OFFSHORE WIND FARM

A joint venture between  
Fred. Olsen Seawind & Vattenfall

## The Partners

Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Limited is a 50/50 joint venture between Fred. Olsen Seawind Limited and Vattenfall Wind Power Limited.

Together, we bring a unique combination of financial, technical, and project development capabilities, with a clear commitment to delivery and a distinct vision for the project.





## ScotWind Auction

Crown Estate Scotland manages, on behalf of Scottish Ministers, most of the seabed off Scotland's coasts. They are responsible for awarding and managing leases and other types of agreements to organisations who want to build offshore wind farms.

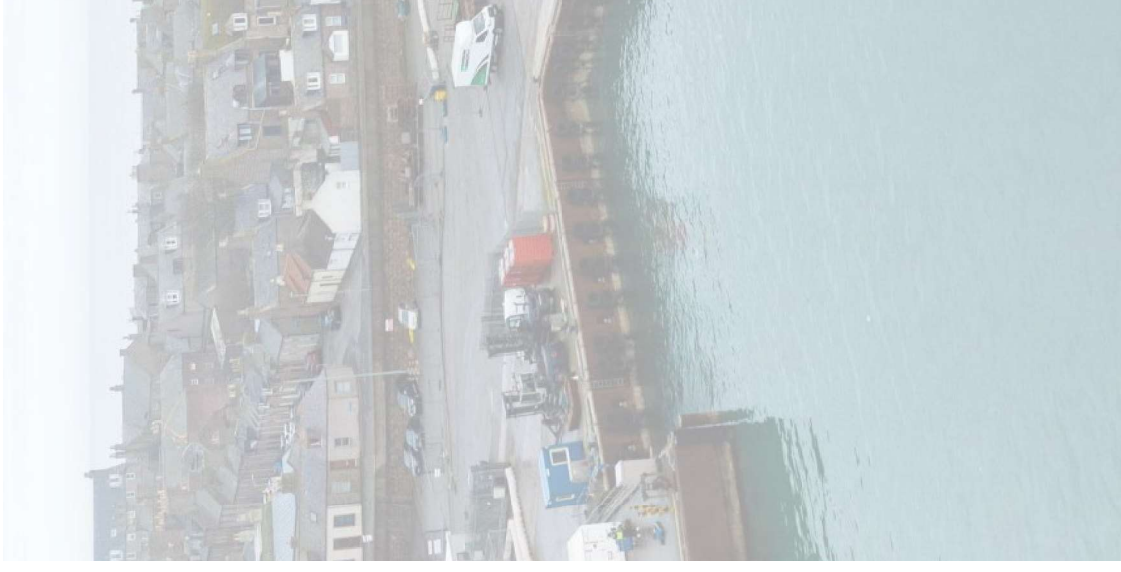
The Crown Estate Scotland 'ScotWind' Leasing process concluded in January 2022 and Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Limited was awarded an Option Agreement within the ScotWind Process at the project site.

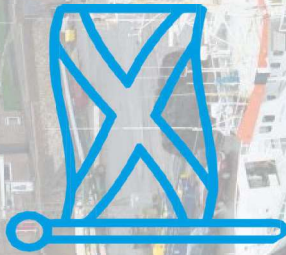
# Our Supply Chain

We are committed to working closely with the supply chain.

We are actively exploring local opportunities to engage and work with the supply chain both locally and throughout **Scotland**. We are fully focused on delivering a project **underpinned by the local supply chain**, while undertaking proper, transparent, and fair procurement processes.

The Muir Mhòr team is **committed to working with local suppliers** to build their capacity to support us. Our **collaborative approach to supply chain development** ensures that we provide clear guidelines on qualifying for procurement opportunities at all levels for business.





**Scottish**  
based office



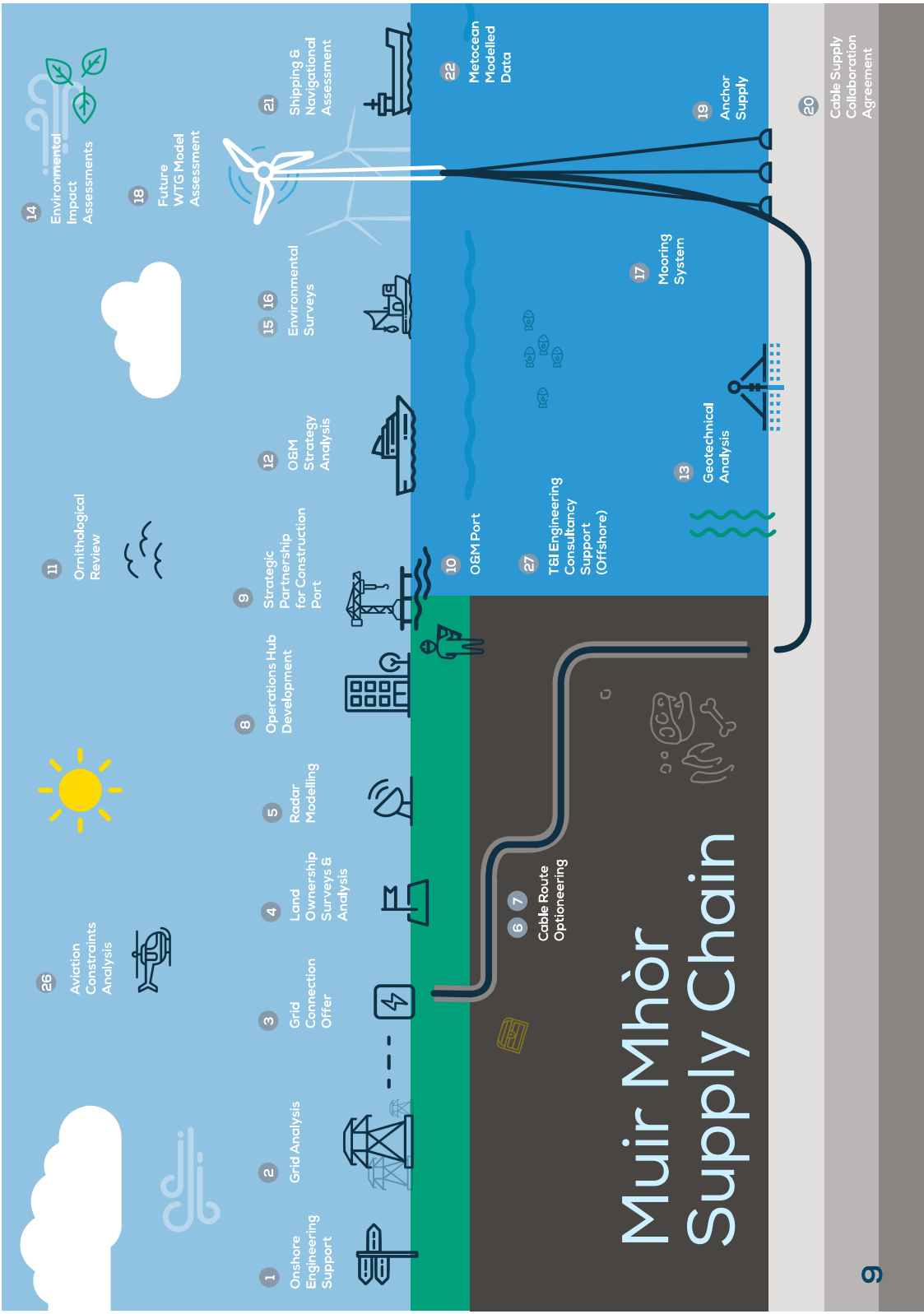
**£6.3 million**  
local content  
spend to date



**Job Creation**  
local and national

We encourage businesses of all sizes to get in touch.

To register your interest please visit [muirmhor.co.uk/our-supply-chain](http://muirmhor.co.uk/our-supply-chain).







# Working with the Community

We have a history of working with local communities to create opportunities for residents. At Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm, we are dedicated to bringing real benefits to the local area. Our community benefit fund will be developed in partnership with local people, focusing on their priorities.

We are committed to using local businesses for this project, following fair and clear processes. The Muir Mhòr team will work closely with local suppliers to support them.

Transparency is important to us. We will thoroughly study the supply chain, seek out local opportunities, and explore possibilities in Scotland. Our aim is to create numerous opportunities for local businesses and provide environmental and social benefits throughout Scotland. The project will provide a multi-million-pound boost to the local, regional, and national economy.

We are dedicated to improving the skills of the Scottish offshore wind workforce at all levels, starting from school age. We recently had the pleasure of hosting 32 pupils who are studying the Girls in Energy course at Mintlaw Academy.



## Investing in Future Engineers

The Future Leaders' Fund is UHI's largest ever scholarship bursary fund and aims to retain high-achieving and talented engineering students in the Highlands and Islands – helping to build pathways for students from their academic studies into future work opportunities.



## Scottish Based Location

Scotland is the base for all Muir Mhòr's development, consenting, early engineering and management, and represents the commitment of the joint venture partners to accelerate the project and deliver one of the world's first commercially viable floating offshore wind farms.



## Committed to Local Engagement

The Project is actively seeking opportunities from the communities on local initiatives we can get involved in.



## Geophysical Survey Charity Campaign

The Project undertook a pioneering initiative to encourage a proactive safety culture across all operations which saw £1,000 for every month of the campaign donated to local charities supporting communities across North East Scotland to mark the clean health and safety bill of the campaign.

## Public Consultation

Having completed events over 2023 and 2024 in Peterhead and Longside, welcoming residents, community organisations and local decision-makers we are now in the final stages of preparing the onshore and offshore applications.

Community engagement is crucial for us, feedback received at previous events, alongside results from environmental surveys will inform the forthcoming onshore and offshore applications. We are excited to continue working together and look forward to receiving feedback from this event and the submissions.

## Offshore Wind 4 Kids Partnership

In the summer of 2023 we joined forces with OW4Kids to host two exciting demonstration days at Aberdeen Bay and Portobello Beach. This special initiative invited people of all ages to participate in installing their very own offshore wind turbines.

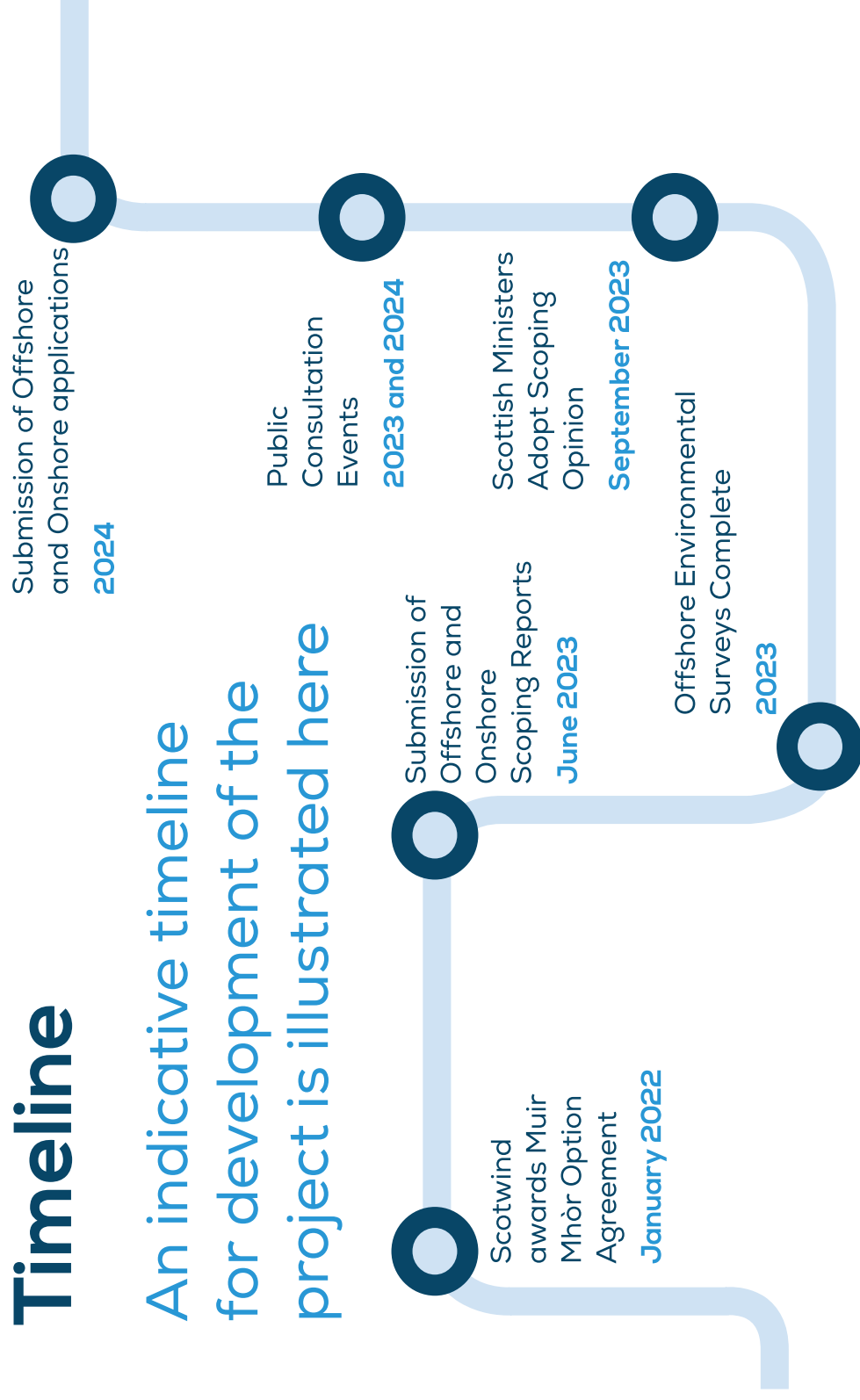


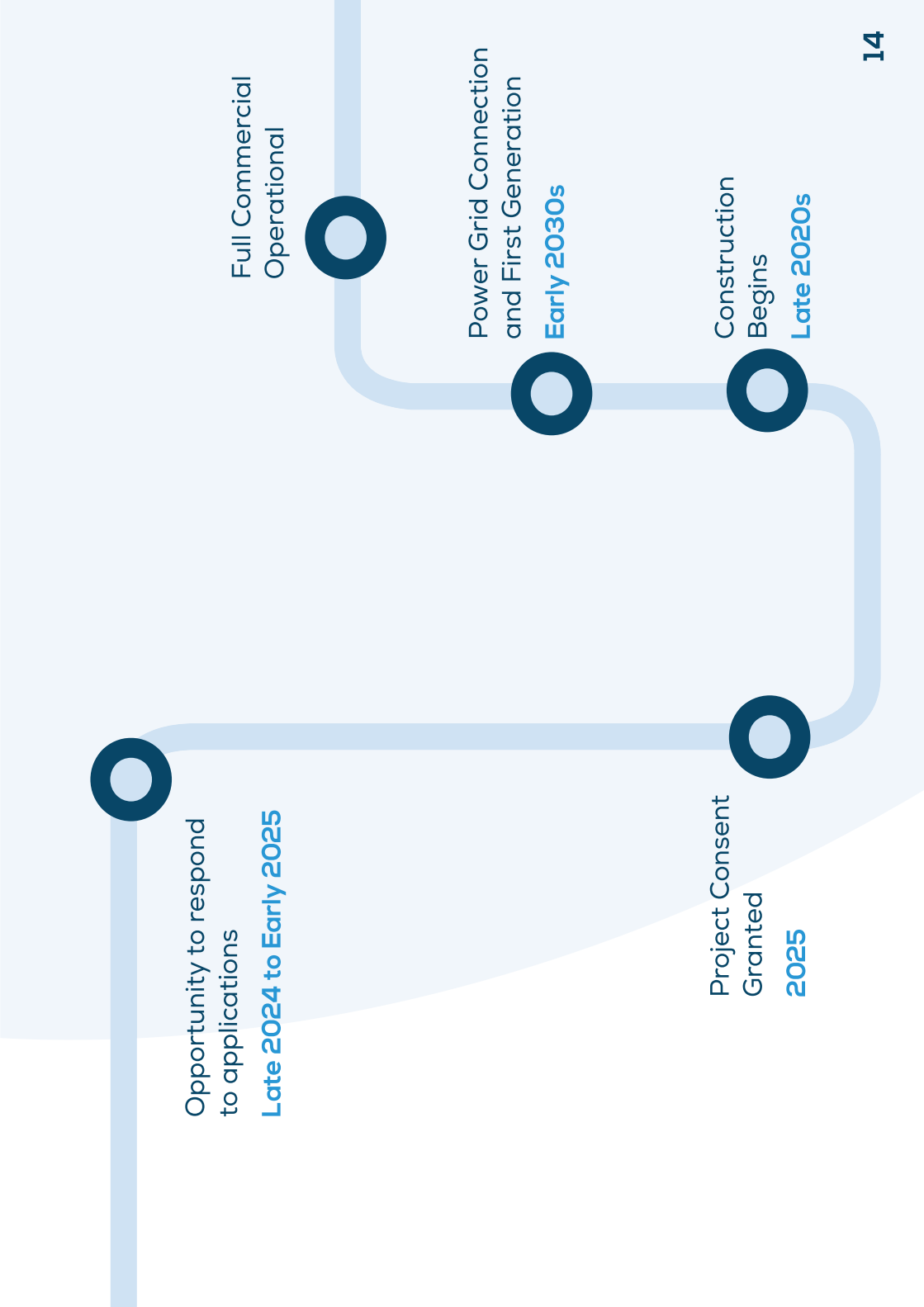
**MUIR MHÒR**  
OFFSHORE WIND FARM

A joint venture between  
Fred. Olsen Seawind & Vattenfall

# Timeline

An indicative timeline for development of the project is illustrated here





# Onshore Overview

The purpose of the onshore infrastructure is to transmit power generated by the offshore project to the point it is fed into the Netherton Hub and the National Grid network.

The key components of the onshore infrastructure are:

## The landfall zone

The landfall zone serves as the transition point between the project's onshore and offshore components, it is where the cables from the offshore wind farm arrive on land.

## The cable zone

All cables will be buried underground and travel from the landfall zone to the onshore substation and then to the Netherton Hub. The cable route will be refined after further technical and environmental reviews. Once constructed, land along the cable route will be reinstated, allowing agricultural activities to resume.

## The onshore substation

The proposed onshore substation buildings will be a maximum height of 15m and a maximum footprint of 200 by 250m.



## Substation location



# Onshore Key EIA Findings

The key onshore surveys have been completed and results assessed to identify and address any potential impacts.

These results will be written up and presented in the onshore application.

## The surveys include:

- Hydrology, hydrogeology and coastal geomorphology
- Terrestrial ecology and ornithology
- Archaeology and cultural heritage
- Landscape and visual amenity
- Noise and vibration
- Traffic and transport
- Soils, agriculture and land use
- Socio-economics, tourism, and recreation



## Environment\* Potential Impact Proposed Mitigation

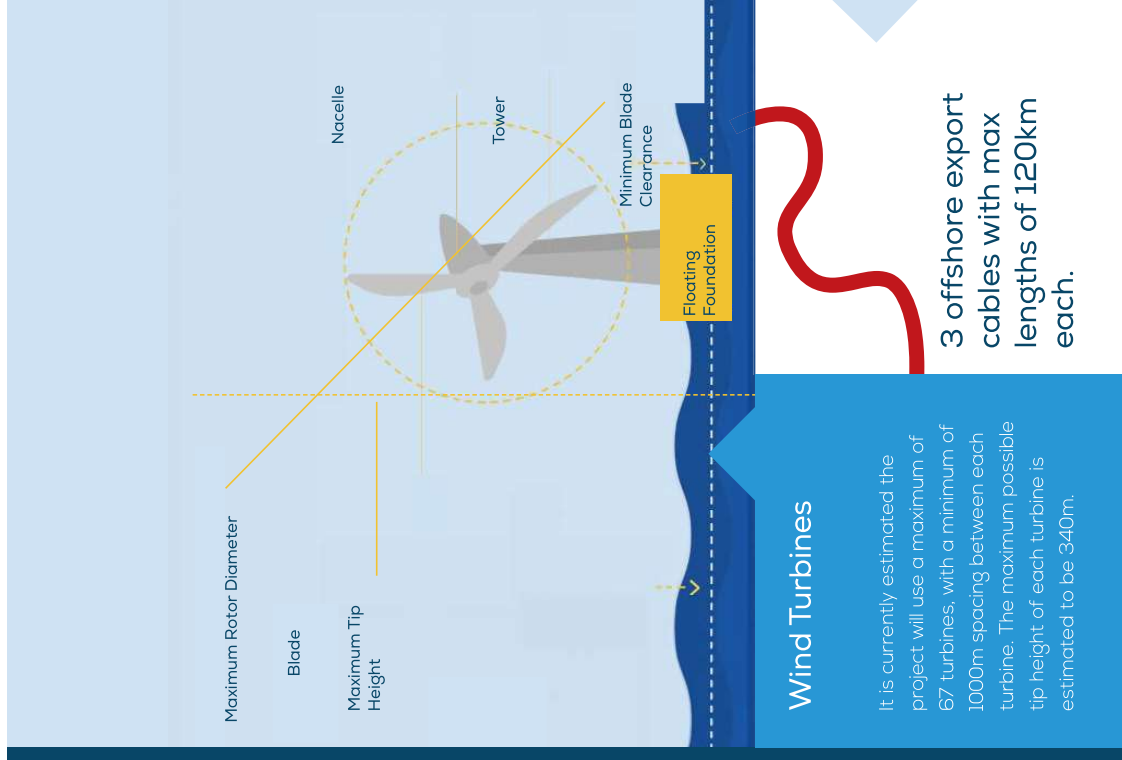
Landscape and Visual Amenity	Visual impact of the substation building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation of landscape, planting and reinstatement plans, including ensuring appropriate screening and bunding around the onshore substation to reduce visual impact.</li> </ul>
Noise and Vibration	Noise and vibration impacts during construction and operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation and implementation of a Construction (and Decommissioning) Environmental Management Plan (CEMP/DEMP). This will include, but not be limited to, specific sections on noise and vibration management; dust and air quality management; and soil resource management.</li> <li>Installation of anti-vibration mounts at the onshore substation.</li> <li>Any noise from the substation during its operation will comply with stringent limits in line with British Standards and Aberdeenshire Council requirements.</li> </ul>
Terrestrial Ecology and Ornithology	Impacts on birds, wildlife and habitats during construction and operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation and agreement of Species and Habitat Protection Plans.</li> <li>Preparation of a Biosecurity Management Plan to avoid the introduction and spread of marine and terrestrial non-native species.</li> <li>Appointment of a qualified Ecological Clerk of Works (ECOW) to monitor the implementation of approved mitigation measures.</li> </ul>
Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Impacts upon any archaeological features or designated assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of a working protocol should unrecorded archaeological features be discovered, secured by a Written Scheme of Investigation which will be agreed with relevant consultees prior to commencement.</li> </ul>
Traffic and Transport	Damage to local road network, disruption during constructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP).</li> <li>Use trenchless crossing construction techniques such as horizontal directional drilling (HDD) under main roads, where possible, e.g. the A90.</li> </ul>
Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Coastal Geomorphology	Impacts on any sensitive watercourses and private water supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation of a Drainage Management Plan, which will apply to the operational phase.</li> <li>Use trenchless crossing construction techniques such as HDD under major river crossings and sand dunes.</li> <li>Implementation of measures to protect any private water supplies identified in proximity to the proposed development.</li> </ul>
Soils, Agriculture and Land Use	Impacts upon any agriculture land or soils throughout the construction period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appropriate site investigation, soil testing, remediation and validation during the pre-construction stage.</li> <li>Preparation of a Soil Resource Management Plan.</li> </ul>

\*Examples listed are not exhaustive.

# Offshore Overview

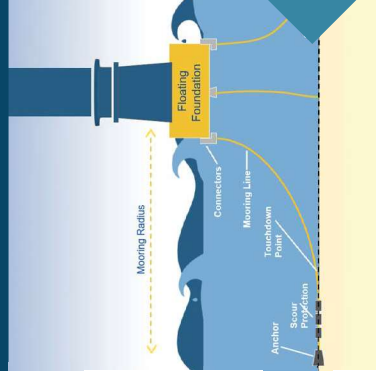
The offshore infrastructure captures the energy produced by wind and generates electricity that is then fed into the main transmission system through the export cable that connects with the landfall zone (see onshore section).

19



## Inter-Array Cables

The inter-array cables connect the individual wind turbines together and then to the Offshore Substation Platform(s). These cables will be flexible in the water to accommodate the movement of the floating foundations.

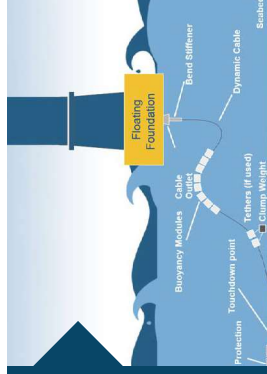


## Offshore Cable

The offshore cables will transmit electricity to shore, where they will be connected to the national grid. A maximum of three offshore cables are being considered.

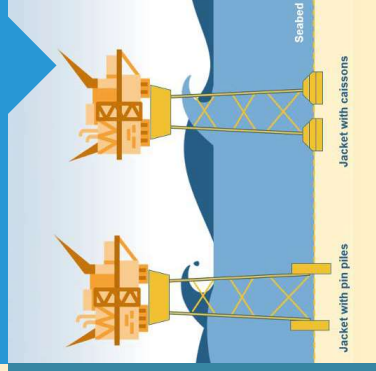
## Offshore Substation Platform

This is where the electricity generated by the turbines is collected and transmitted landward by the offshore export cables. There will be up to a maximum of two platforms.



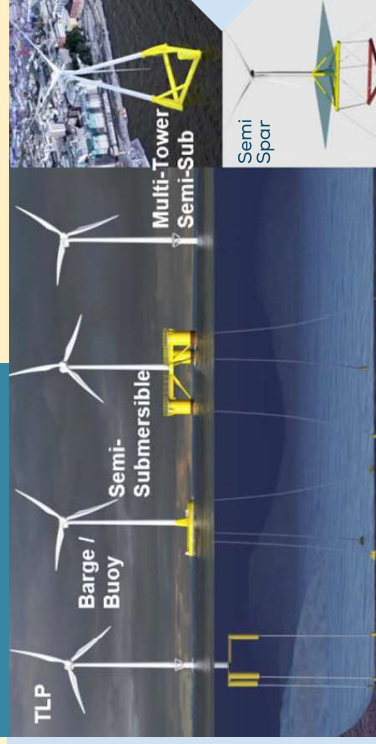
## Mooring and Anchoring

The mooring and anchoring systems keep the foundation on station, maintaining the position of the WTG and foundation within a limited area.



## Floating Foundations

The wind turbine generators (WTGs) will be supported by a floating foundation with associated mooring and anchoring systems to keep the foundation 'on station'. There are several floating foundation types under consideration by the project.



# Offshore Key EIA Findings

The offshore Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is ongoing and will be submitted as part of the offshore application.

## The EIA is based on a combination of:

- Desk based assessments and field surveys
- Evaluating magnitude of impact
- Consideration of mitigation/design changes to project
- Identification of monitoring measures

To reduce potential impacts that may arise from the proposed offshore development, mitigation measures will be put in place. The table on the following page lists some of the mitigation measures that are proposed as part of the design and development process. The final list will be included in the EIA Report.

Topic	Potential Impact	Mitigation
Benthic Subtidal and Intertidal Ecology	Damage, disturbance or loss of seabed habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offshore infrastructure will be micrositied, where possible, around sensitive seabed habitats to avoid impacts.</li> </ul>
Fish and Shellfish Ecology	Disturbance of sandeel habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The export cable corridor has been routed to avoid crossing the Turbot Bank Nature Conservation Marine Protected Area (designated for sandeels).</li> </ul>
Offshore Ornithology	Collision risk for sea birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum air gap of 30m (i.e. distance between sea level and lower sweep of turbine blades) has been incorporated to minimise collision risk.</li> </ul>
Marine Mammals	Underwater noise from construction activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A foundation piling strategy and Marine Mammal Mitigation Plan will be developed and adhered to.</li> </ul>
Commercial Fisheries	Cable snagging leading to damaged fishing gear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Company Fisheries Liaison Officer will be appointed to ensure clear communication with commercial fisheries.</li> </ul>
Shipping and Navigation	Collision and/or allision between offshore wind farm structures & vessels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Vessel Management Plan, Lighting &amp; Marking Plan and Navigational Safety Plan will be developed &amp; adhered to.</li> </ul>
Marine Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Loss or damage to archaeological assets (e.g. shipwrecks)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Archaeological analysis of pre-construction survey data to identify archaeological assets.</li> <li>Offshore infrastructure and works will be micrositied, where possible, around identified wrecks to avoid impacts.</li> </ul>

# Contact & Feedback

Thank you for taking the time to visit and engage with our project. Consultation plays a crucial role in our development process. We value your feedback and opinions. Please consider filling out a feedback form or contacting our team to discuss the plans in more detail.

## TO SUBMIT FEEDBACK

### DIGITALLY:

Scan this QR code  
with your phone



General enquiries: **[info@muirmhor.co.uk](mailto:info@muirmhor.co.uk)**

Supply chain enquiries: **[supplychain@muirmhor.co.uk](mailto:supplychain@muirmhor.co.uk)**

Consent enquiries: **[consent@muirmhor.co.uk](mailto:consent@muirmhor.co.uk)**

Website: **[www.muirmhor.co.uk](http://www.muirmhor.co.uk)**



## **D) SOCIAL MEDIA**



## Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm

Published by Harley Lothian



September 10 · 🌐



Come along to hear more about the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind project:

📅 Wednesday 25th September 2024, 2-7pm

📍 Peterhead Football Club, Balmoor Terrace Peterhead, AB42 1EQ

You will be able to chat to the team and provide feedback on our plans so far.

For more information visit [www.muirmhor.co.uk](http://www.muirmhor.co.uk)

If you can't make it along, please send any feedback to [feedback@muirmhor.co.uk](mailto:feedback@muirmhor.co.uk).



MUIR MHÒR  
OFFSHORE WIND FARM

A joint venture between Fred. Olsen Seawind & Vattenfall

You are invited to the

## Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Public Consultation Event



2-7pm, Wednesday 25th September 2024



Peterhead Football Club, Balmoor Terrace  
Peterhead, AB42 1EQ



[www.muirmhor.co.uk](http://www.muirmhor.co.uk)

## **D) NEWSLETTERS**



**MUIR MHÒR**  
OFFSHORE WIND FARM

A joint venture between Fred. Olsen Seawind & Vattenfall



## Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm

### A Joint Venture between Fred. Olsen Seawind and Vattenfall

Muir Mhòr is a floating offshore wind farm located off the east coast of Scotland.

A joint venture between Fred. Olsen Seawind and Vattenfall, the project will put people first, and collaborate with industry, communities and the supply chain to deliver tangible benefits for the local and national economy.

Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm brings together decades of Scottish industry expertise to develop a highly innovative renewable energy project that will lead the energy transition – putting the UK on track to hit its target to generate 5GW from floating offshore wind by 2030.

Fred. Olsen Seawind and Vattenfall both have an established track record in Scotland. Working together, we are committed to securing Scotland's energy future and green economy.



## ABOUT THE PROJECT

Having been awarded seabed rights in the Crown Estate Scotland ScotWind auction in January 2022, the project is at an early stage.

Ecological and environmental survey work is currently underway in collaboration with other developers, which will inform our approach to the project. We are awaiting the final grid connection location from HND2, and intend to work closely with communities on the onshore aspects of our proposal from an early stage. We will begin consultation with the community on an initial proposal in 2023.

We are committed to delivering this project to leading standards of health and safety.

Subject to planning and grid infrastructure provision, we are on schedule to generate in 2030 – putting the UK on track to meet its target of 5GW of floating wind by 2030.

## OUR TEAM



Fred. Olsen Seawind and Vattenfall are consistent and trustworthy renewable leaders in Scotland, the UK and Europe with considerable expertise in technology and innovation, and a vast combined portfolio of successful onshore and offshore projects.

The Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm project team has expertise across site development, engineering, grid, consents, supply chain and stakeholder engagement.

**David Hinshelwood, Muir Mhor Project Director:**

*"Our team will collaborate with partners, key stakeholders and the supply chain to capitalise on the massive Scottish offshore wind opportunity – bringing forward a project that will support Scotland's renewable future and ambitions to reach net zero."*

## VATTENFALL

Vattenfall has been working in the UK for more than ten years, developing fossil fuel-free energy projects.

Vattenfall currently operates more than 1GW of wind energy capacity in the UK. In Scotland our operational wind farms comprise a total generating capacity of 175MW, powering over 130,000 homes. This includes the 96.8MW European Offshore Wind Deployment Centre in Aberdeen Bay which offers the domestic supply chain the chance to test and demonstrate the latest innovations in a real-world environment. Vattenfall is also constructing South Kyle, a 240MW onshore wind project in South West Scotland.

## Fred. Olsen Seawind

Fred. Olsen Seawind AS is an established offshore wind developer building on Fred. Olsen Renewables' 25 years wind track record, market presence and portfolio.

Utilising the extensive experience in Scotland gained through over 25 years of development, construction and operation of onshore wind in the region, Fred. Olsen Seawind is committed to progressing offshore wind projects in Scotland.

Fred. Olsen Seawind is active in Ireland, Norway and Scotland and is exploring opportunities in new markets.

## — OUR COMMITMENTS —

### Community

We are committed to developing Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm in close collaboration with communities in the North East of Scotland. As experienced developers, Fred. Olsen Seawind and Vattenfall have a track record of working with local communities to build capacity and deliver opportunities for local people across skills development, local employment, and direct investment.

**Specific initiatives** for Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm will be developed in tandem with local people, and will be bespoke to the priorities of the local community.

We intend on holding initial community consultation events in **2023**, after we have conducted and collated the outcomes of our early-stage survey works.

### Education and Skills

Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm is supporting education and skills across all learning stages and in workforce development.

Our **Future Leaders Fund** with UHI is providing long-term funding for the next generation of civil and energy engineers. Our partnership with **UHI** is also supporting the wider student body move into the workforce through mentoring programmes.

Our team are trained STEM Ambassadors, and are supporting **Developing the Young Workforce** Scotland STEM initiatives.



### Supply Chain

We are committed to working closely with the supply chain – exploring local opportunities and actively investigating what is feasible in Scotland. Our collaborative approach to supply chain development ensures that we provide feedback on development plans, work with others to realise opportunities and deliver value through the supply chain where possible.

Over **£3 million** has already been awarded to Scottish suppliers in development contracts, with a further **£10 million** under procurement.

As active members of SOWEC's Collaborative Framework Working Group, we are working jointly with other developers to create supply chain opportunities – and providing feedback on development plans, communicating project requirements and timelines.

We are **collaborating** with service providers and actively developing work packages – we have MoUs in place with Green Marine and Leask Marine in Orkney to explore opportunities.



*"Muir Mhòr has conducted the earliest & best supply chain engagement to date"*



*Our team are exploring port capabilities, undertaking visits to port facilities*





Our team and Offshore Wind 4 Kids on Aberdeen Beach, June 2022

## CONTACT US

The Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm project is at a very early stage, but our project team is enthusiastic to engage with all stakeholders as the project develops.



[info@muirmhor.co.uk](mailto:info@muirmhor.co.uk)



[www.muirmhor.co.uk](http://www.muirmhor.co.uk)



[@MuirMhorOWF](https://twitter.com/MuirMhorOWF)



MUIR MHÒR  
OFFSHORE WIND FARM

A joint venture between Fred. Olsen Seawind & Vattenfall

## NEWSLETTER 2 - AUTUMN 2023

# Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm

Muir Mhòr is a floating offshore wind farm located off the east coast of Scotland.

A joint venture between Fred. Olsen Seawind and Vattenfall, the project will put people first, and collaborate with industry, communities and the supply chain to deliver tangible benefits for the local and national economy.

Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm brings together decades of Scottish industry expertise to develop a highly

innovative renewable energy project that will lead the energy transition, and put the UK on track to hit its target to generate 5GW from floating offshore wind by 2030.

Fred. Olsen Seawind and Vattenfall both have an established track record in Scotland. Working together, we are committed to securing Scotland's energy future and green economy.

## ABOUT THE PROJECT

Having been awarded seabed rights in the Crown Estate Scotland ScotWind auction in January 2022, ecological and environmental survey work has been underway both onshore and offshore, which has been vital to informing our early-stage proposals.

The wind farm will be located on the east coast of Scotland approximately 63 km from the coast of Peterhead. Once operational the wind farm will be able to generate up to 1 Gigawatt of power, enough to provide electricity for up to 850,000 UK homes annually.

The Project's deep-water conditions are well-suited to floating turbine technology, and its location and size allow for efficient project delivery, utilising nearby ports and mobilising the strong marine supply chain on the east coast of Scotland.

The experienced team leading the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm has expertise across project development, from site development, engineering, grid, and consents, to supply chain and stakeholder management.

Once consented and constructed, Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm will be among the world's first commercially-viable floating wind projects.





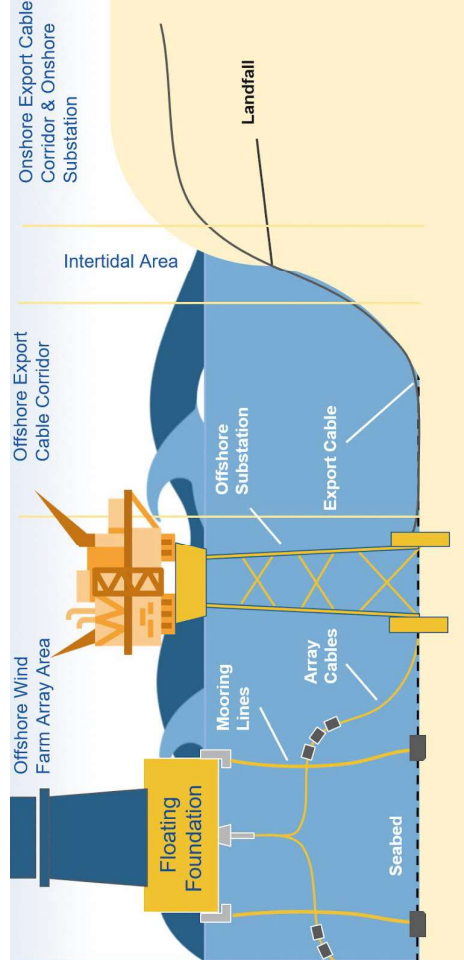
## The Muir Mhòr Project is split into four distinct areas:

**Array Area:** This is the offshore energy generation site, where up to 67 wind turbines will be located. Our key objective in determining the turbine layout will be to ensure the most effective use of the available wind resource, while ensuring any impacts on the marine environment and other marine users are minimised.

**Offshore Export Cable Corridor:** This is the offshore area containing the export cables which connect the Array Area to the grid connection point on the Scottish mainland. Up to three offshore export cables will be situated in this area, all of which will be buried along most of their length, with additional protection added if required.

**Intertidal Area:** This is the area between where the export cable transitions towards 'landfall' and the onshore infrastructure. The landfall site is where the offshore electricity export cables from the offshore substation arrive on land. The export cables will be buried under the seabed and will remain underground as they come onshore.

**Onshore Export Cable Corridor & Onshore Substation:** All onshore cables will be buried underground and will connect to the new onshore substation.



## THE PROJECT SO FAR

The Muir Mhòr Project is in the **pre-application** stage.

Offshore and onshore **scoping exercises** have recently been undertaken, resulting in the submission of an offshore scoping Report to the Marine Directorate, and a separate onshore scoping report to Aberdeenshire Council. The objective is to obtain expert opinion on the required focus and content of the subsequent Environmental Impact Assessments.

Copies of the Offshore and Onshore scoping reports can be accessed in the document library on our project website: [www.muirmhor.co.uk](http://www.muirmhor.co.uk).

An **Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EiAR)** is required to support applications for offshore and onshore consents, licences and permissions. Two separate EiARs will be prepared for the Project, to cover the respective onshore and offshore elements of the project.

The purpose of the EIA is to identify the potential impacts that a project could have on the environment, in addition to cumulative effects with other relevant projects and activities, and measures to reduce or remove such impacts (known as 'mitigation measures').

Further to our first round of public consultation events, the onshore and offshore EIA process will continue with extensive surveys, including:

### Offshore

- Physical marine environment
- Biological marine environment
- Socio economic activity in the marine environment - including commercial fisheries, shipping and navigation, and military and civil aviation

### Onshore

- Ecology and birds
- Hydrology, hydrogeology, coastal processes and peat
- Landscape and visual amenity
- Archaeology and cultural heritage
- Noise and vibration
- Traffic and transport
- Socioeconomics, tourism and recreation
- Soil, agriculture and land use
- Air quality



## Community

Consultation and engagement with the local community is a key element of our approach to developing the project. We are eager to work closely with local people to hear your views on the Muir Mhòr project, the energy transition within the North East of Scotland, and priorities for the associated employment and skills benefits that the project will bring to the area.

Specific initiatives for Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm will be developed in tandem with local people, and will be bespoke to the priorities of the local community.

Having held our first round of public consultation events in November 2023 to hear the community's feedback on our initial proposals, we will take time to analyse feedback and amend our proposal before holding a second round of exhibitions in spring 2024.

## Education and Skills

Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm is supporting education and skills across all learning stages and in workforce development.

Our **Future Leaders Fund** with UHI will support the next generation of civil and energy engineers, providing £200,000 over 20 years. Our partnership with **UHI** is also supporting the wider student body move into the workforce through mentoring programmes.

Our team are trained **STEM Ambassadors**, and are supporting **Developing the Young Workforce** Scotland STEM initiatives.

In 2022 and 2023 we have sponsored **Offshore Wind 4 Kids** demonstrations on Aberdeen beach, engaging with the local community about the vast opportunities in Scotland's offshore wind and renewable energy sector.



## Supply Chain

ScotWind represents a major investment in Scotland's green energy future. The Muir Mhòr project is committed to a collaborative, transparent and innovative approach towards the development of a world-class Scottish supply chain, and cultivating future industry leaders.

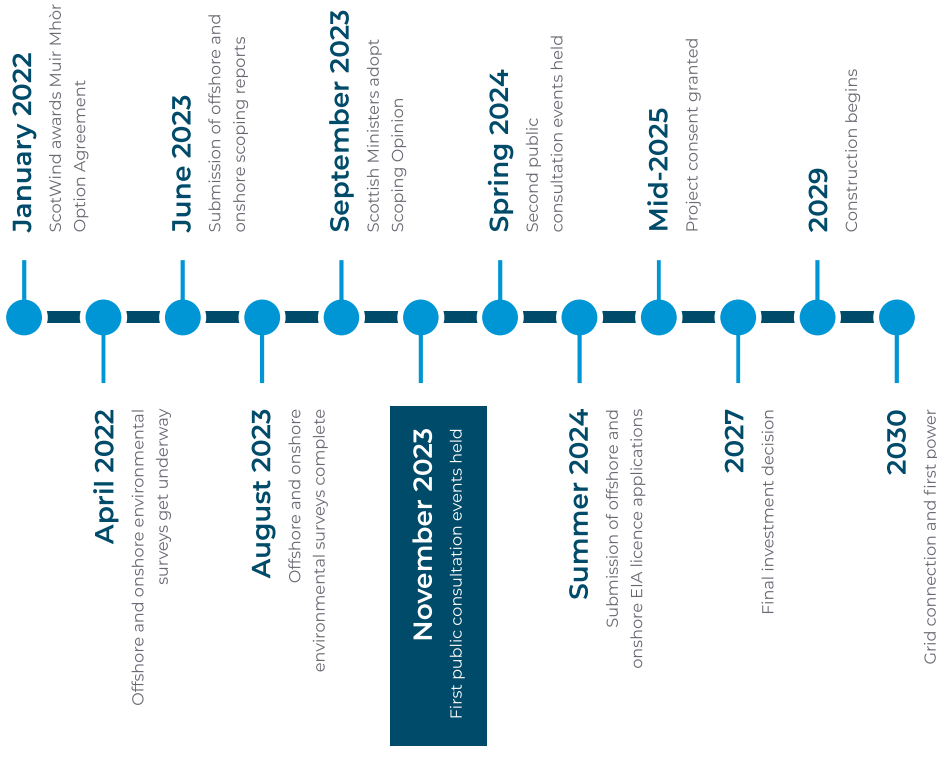
We are committed to spending over **£200 million** in Scotland as part of the project's supply chain development commitments. More information can be found in our dedicated supply chain area: [muirmhor.co.uk/our-supply-chain](http://muirmhor.co.uk/our-supply-chain).

We are in the process of establishing our supplier registration process and a series of supplier events, which will be advertised on our project website in due course.

Please contact us at [supplychain@muirmhor.co.uk](mailto:supplychain@muirmhor.co.uk) to register your interest in supply chain opportunities.



Offshore Wind 4 Kids demonstration, Aberdeen Beach, June 2022.



## Find out more

You can find detailed information on the proposed onshore and offshore infrastructure in our virtual exhibition room, which can be accessed at: [www.muirmhor.co.uk](http://www.muirmhor.co.uk).

You can contact our team to provide your feedback and ask questions about the proposal at: [info@muirmhor.co.uk](mailto:info@muirmhor.co.uk).

## **Fred. Olsen Seawind**

Fred. Olsen Seawind AS is an established offshore wind developer building on Fred. Olsen Renewables' 25 years wind track record, market presence and portfolio.

In 2021, the Fred. Olsen Renewables offshore wind assets and activity was organised within a distinct corporate structure in Fred. Olsen Seawind AS, and is 100% controlled by Bonheur ASA.

Utilising the extensive experience in Scotland gained through over 25 years of development, construction and operation of onshore wind in the region, Fred. Olsen Seawind is committed to progressing offshore wind projects in Scotland.

Fred. Olsen Seawind is active in Ireland, Norway and Scotland and is exploring opportunities in new markets.

## **VATTENFALL**

Vattenfall is one of Europe's largest producers and retailers of electricity and heat with approximately 20,000 employees.

Vattenfall currently operates more than 1GW of wind energy capacity in the UK. In Scotland our operational wind farms comprise a total generating capacity of 175MW, powering over 130,000 homes. This includes the 96.8MW European Offshore Wind Deployment Centre in Aberdeen Bay which offers the domestic supply chain the chance to test and demonstrate the latest innovations in a real-world environment. Vattenfall has recently finished construction of South Kyle, a 240MW onshore wind project in South West Scotland.

## — CONTACT US —

The Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm project team is enthusiastic to engage with local residents, community groups and all other interested parties as the project develops.



[info@muirmhor.co.uk](mailto:info@muirmhor.co.uk)



[www.muirmhor.co.uk](http://www.muirmhor.co.uk)



Muir Mhor OWF



**MUIR MHÒR**  
OFFSHORE WIND FARM

A joint venture between Fred. Olsen Seawind & Vattenfall

## NEWSLETTER 3

# Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm

Welcome to the latest project newsletter from the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm project team - a joint venture between Fred. Olsen Seawind and Vattenfall.

With our established track record in Scotland, we are committed to securing Scotland's energy future and green economy through the delivery of this highly innovative floating offshore wind farm project.

## ABOUT THE PROJECT



**2022**

SEABED RIGHTS AWARDED IN  
THE CROWN ESTATE SCOTLAND  
SCOTWIND AUCTION



**63km**

DISTANCE FROM THE  
COAST OF PETERHEAD



COVERING AN  
AREA OF AROUND  
**200m<sup>2</sup>**



GENERATING UP TO  
**1 Gigawatt**  
OF POWER ONCE OPERATIONAL



UP TO **67**  
FLOATING OFFSHORE  
WIND TURBINES



POWERING UP TO  
**850,000**  
HOMES ANNUALLY



**£5.39 million**  
SPENT ON LOCAL SUPPLY  
CHAIN CONTRACTS TO DATE





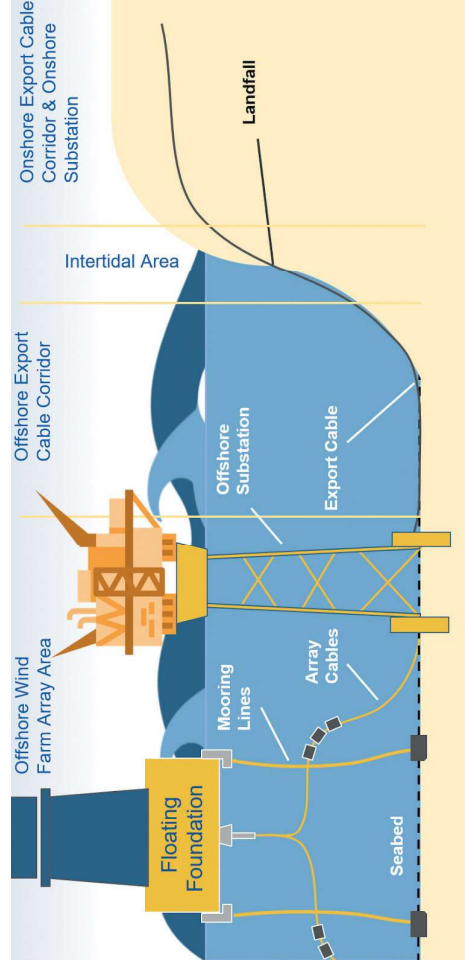
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**Intertidal Area:** This is the area between where the export cable transitions towards 'landfall' and the onshore infrastructure. The landfall site is where the offshore electricity export cables from the offshore substation arrive on land. The export cables will be buried under the seabed and will remain underground as they come onshore.

**Onshore Export Cable Corridor & Onshore Substation:** All onshore cables will be buried underground and will connect to the new onshore substation.



For illustrative purposes only

### Community engagement events

In November 2023, we held two successful community engagement events in Peterhead and Longside where we welcomed over 70 residents and local stakeholders who met our team and provided feedback on the early-stage proposals. We are analysing feedback from the events and incorporating it into the plans for Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm, ahead of a second round of community engagement events.



### NEW SENIOR DEVELOPMENT AND CONSENT MANAGER JOINS THE TEAM



Martha Lovatt is the Senior Development and Consent Manager for the project, and has recently joined Fred. Olsen Seawind from SSE Renewables where she worked for 12 years. She has experience of consenting onshore and offshore wind projects across the UK and in Europe, and has supported wind farm projects through the seabed lease, development, and construction process, including the discharging of conditions and on the due diligence side of the sale and acquisition of numerous wind farms. In her spare time Martha enjoys sewing her own clothes and getting muddy at cross country running races.

### Progressing the project

Geophysical and environmental surveys have been underway since 2022 both onshore and offshore, which are informing our approach to the project design, engineering and turbine and cable packages. Fraserburgh, Peterhead and Aberdeen ports have all been utilised for project works such as offshore surveys and maintenance of survey equipment.

In February 2024, the project marked one year of wind and wave data collection from the floating LiDAR buoys which are currently deployed on the offshore site. The data collected by this, and other, surveys helped us to finalise the design envelope for the engineering design which will allow us to progress with detailed exploration of all technical packages, including turbine foundations, inter-array cables and onshore civil engineering infrastructure.

More information on the onshore and offshore Environmental Impact Assessment process can be found [overleaf](#).

### Supply chain

The Muir Mhòr project is committed to a collaborative, transparent and innovative approach towards the development of a world-class Scottish supply chain, and cultivating future industry leaders. We are proud that over £5.39 million has now been awarded to local suppliers in development contracts.

In 2023, we launched our supply chain portal and we invite any prospective suppliers to contact us at [supplychain@muirmhor.co.uk](mailto:supplychain@muirmhor.co.uk) to register interest in supply chain opportunities.

### CONSULTING WITH LANDOWNERS AND OCCUPIERS

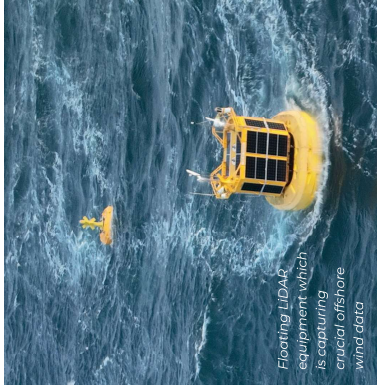


The Muir Mhòr project team is resolute in the commitment to actively consult and engage with all parties who have a vested interest in our proposals, and ensuring we minimise the impact of the proposed onshore infrastructure on landowners and occupiers. Once the design is finalised we will seek to secure the appropriate land rights from landowners and occupiers. If you think you may be impacted by our proposals and you are not already in touch with our land team, then please get in touch with our Land Manager, John Kennedy, at [<Redacted>](#)

# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The Muir Mhòr Project is in the pre-application stage. An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) is required to support applications for offshore and onshore consents, licences and permissions. Two separate EIARs will be prepared for the Project to cover the respective onshore and offshore elements of the project.

Extensive surveys are currently underway both onshore and offshore to inform the EIA process.

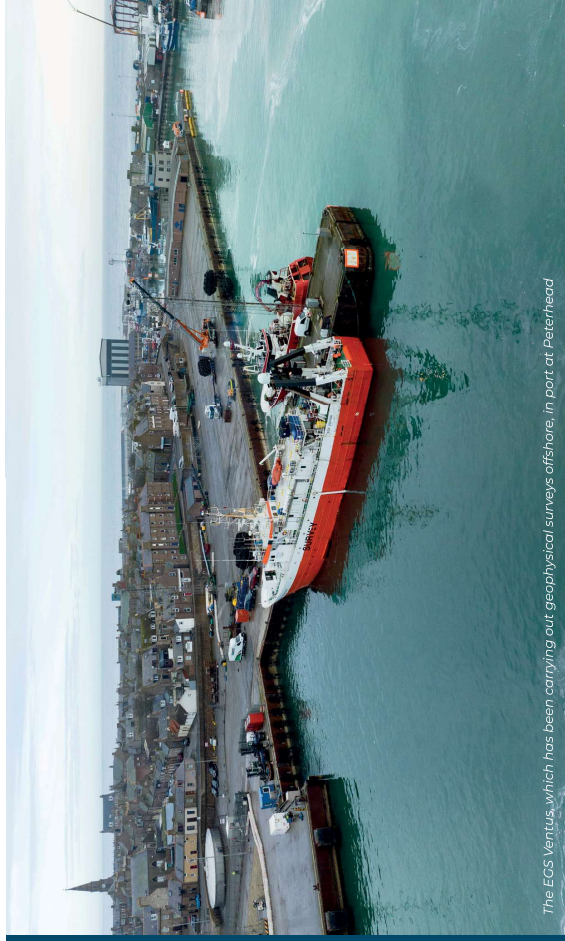


Floating LIDAR equipment which is capturing crucial offshore wind data

## Offshore EIA

The Muir Mhòr Offshore EIA process has progressed well through 2023 and into 2024. Major milestones include the submission of the offshore **scoping report** to the Marine Directorate in June 2023, completion of offshore **environmental and navigation surveys**, continued engagement with offshore **stakeholders** and incorporation of consultee views and guidance into the assessment of the proposed development.

The offshore project boundary was first presented for discussion at the public consultation events in Peterhead and Longside in November 2023. Attendees were invited to view 3D virtual models of the proposed turbine area, 63 km east of Peterhead. Positive discussions with the local community took place and their comments have been fully acknowledged. The offshore EIA is scheduled for submission to the Marine Directorate in mid-2024.



The EGS Veritas, which has been carrying out geophysical surveys offshore, in port at Peterhead

## Onshore EIA

An extensive programme of onshore surveys has been ongoing since the publication of the EIA Scoping Report in 2023.

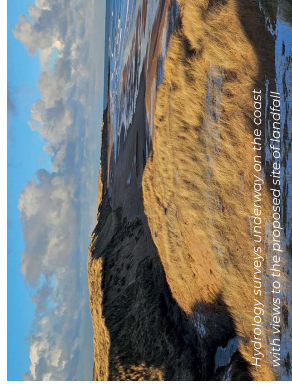
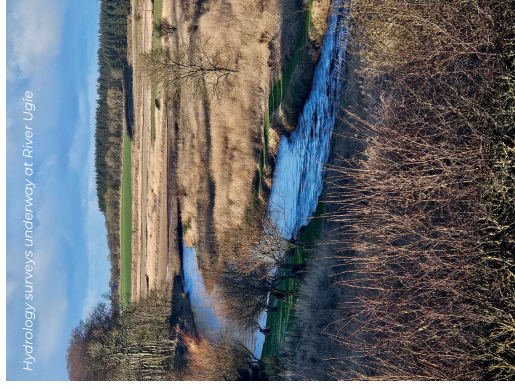
We are gathering data on a vast range of issues, including the following:

- Identification of **terrestrial ecological** and ornithological habitats.
- **Ornithological** surveys which have been underway since October 2022.
- Identification of **watercourses and private water supplies** as part of ongoing hydrology, hydrogeology and coastal geomorphology surveys.
- Assessments of the local landscape and impacts on **landscape and visual amenity** from infrastructure such as the substation. The EIAR will include visualisations that show how the substation would look in the surrounding landscape from key viewpoints which will be agreed with consultees, including Aberdeenshire Council and NatureScot.
- Initial walkover surveys have been carried out to survey the **archaeology and cultural heritage** of the site. The optioneering approach has avoided known archaeological sites.
- Detailed noise surveys have been undertaken at nearby properties to establish the existing noise conditions. An assessment of **potential noise and vibration effects** associated with the operational substation will be undertaken.
- The assessment of potential effects on **traffic and transport** will be focussed on local road, walking, cycling and public transport networks.
- An assessment of potential effects on **socio-economics, tourism and recreation** is being undertaken as part of the EIA.
- Initial surveys to understand **soils, agriculture and land use** within the site boundary have been undertaken.
- An assessment of potential **air quality** impacts is being undertaken.

Coastal ornithology surveys have been underway throughout the winter months



Hydrology surveys underway at River Ugie



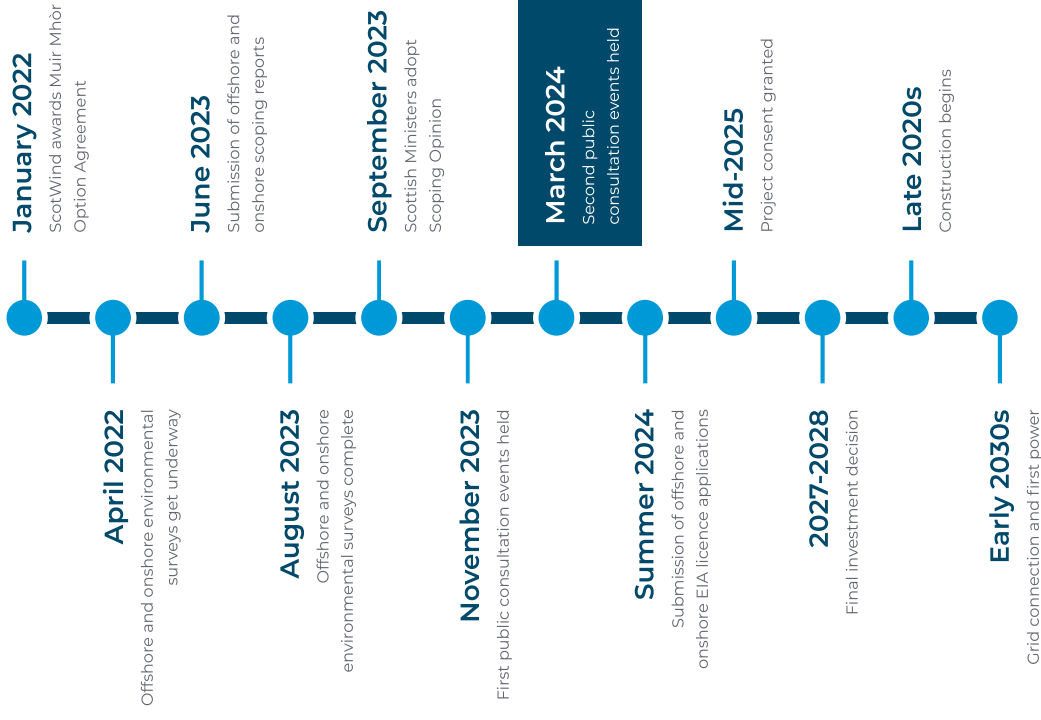
Hydrology surveys underway on the coast with views to the proposed site of landfill

## Read our Scoping Reports

You can read the Offshore and Onshore Scoping Reports, which seek expert opinion on the required focus and content of the EIA, in the document library on our project website: [www.muirmhor.co.uk](http://www.muirmhor.co.uk).



We are working to an accelerated project timeline to put the Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm project on track to generate first power by 2030.



## Community

Consultation and engagement with the local community is key to our approach to the project. We are eager to work closely with local people to hear your views on the Muir Mhòr project, the energy transition within the North East of Scotland, and priorities for the associated employment and skills benefits that the project will bring to the area.

Specific initiatives for Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm will be developed in tandem with local people, and will be bespoke to the priorities of the local community.

Having held our first round of public consultation events in November 2023 to hear the community's feedback on our initial proposals, we are analysing feedback and amending our proposal before holding a second round of exhibitions in spring 2024.

## Education and Skills

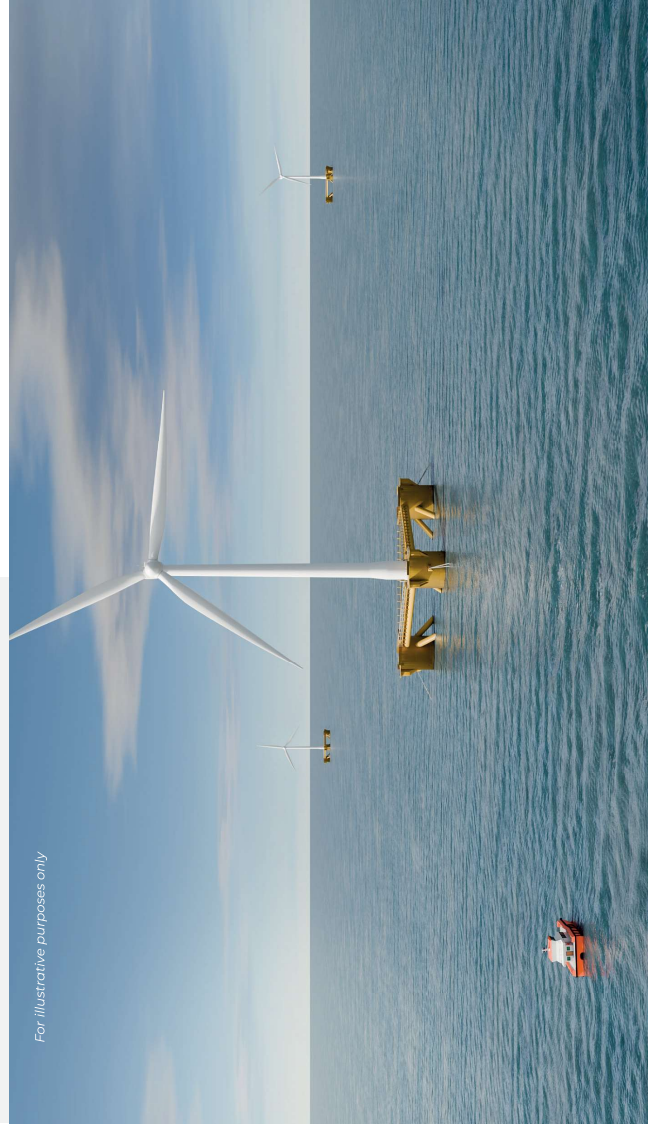
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Our **Future Leaders Fund** with UHI will support the next generation of civil and energy engineers, providing £200,000 over 20 years. This partnership with UHI is also supporting the wider student body move into the workforce through mentoring programmes.

Our team are trained STEM Ambassadors, and are supporting **Developing the Young Workforce** Scotland STEM initiatives.



*For illustrative purposes only*



## FIND OUT MORE

You can find detailed information on the Muir Mhor project and the proposed onshore and offshore infrastructure in our virtual exhibition room, which can be accessed at: [www.muirmhor.co.uk](http://www.muirmhor.co.uk).

## CONTACT US

The Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm project team is enthusiastic to engage with local residents, community groups, prospective suppliers and all other interested parties as the project develops.



General and media inquiries  
[info@muirmhor.co.uk](mailto:info@muirmhor.co.uk)

Supply chain inquiries  
[supplychain@muirmhor.co.uk](mailto:supplychain@muirmhor.co.uk)

Community feedback  
[feedback@muirmhor.co.uk](mailto:feedback@muirmhor.co.uk)



[www.muirmhor.co.uk](http://www.muirmhor.co.uk)



Muir Mhor OWF