



# MachairWind Offshore Windfarm

## Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Appendix 2

# Pre-Application Consultation Report

## Appendix 2 - Pre-Application Consultation Statement Request



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## GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

Term	Definition
MD-LOT	Marine Directorate – Licensing Operations Team
PAC	Pre-Application Consultation



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## 1 PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION STATEMENT REQUEST

1. This appendix provides the Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Statement request issued by the Applicant in advance of the Statutory Consultation process. The purpose of including this document is to demonstrate the formal initiation of the PAC procedure and to evidence the Applicant's compliance with the relevant consultation requirements. The PAC Statement request outlines the intent to undertake consultation, describes the scope of the proposed engagement, and sets out the information to be shared with statutory and non-statutory consultees.
2. The Applicant requested a PAC Statement from Scottish Ministers on 31 March 2025, in accordance with Regulation 5(1). Marine Directorate – Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT) provided a PAC statement in response to Marine Licence Application on 11 April 2025.



**From:** KANE, ELLEN  
**Sent:** 31 March 2025 17:07  
**To:** @gov.scot  
**Cc:** Wilson, Kiera; Andrieu, Pauline; gov.scot; @gov.scot  
**Subject:** MachairWind-Request for Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Statement  
**Attachments:** MachairWind\_Windfarm Development Area\_12 nm boundary.pdf; ScottishPowerRenewables\_MachairWind PAC Statement Request\_31 March 2025.pdf

Good afternoon Abby,

I hope you're well and had a lovely weekend.

As mentioned in our recent MachairWind-MD-LOT quarterly meeting, please find attached a letter and associated documents on behalf of the MachairWind offshore windfarm project requesting a Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Statement in accordance with Section 4f (construction of a renewable energy structure) and Section 5 of the Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 (the 2013 Regulation). This request is made solely in respect of proposed infrastructure works and components within the Windfarm Development Area (WDA) of the MachairWind Offshore Windfarm, which is located within Scottish territorial waters and in due course will be subject to an application for a Marine Licence under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010.

Upon receipt of a PAC Statement, as per the 2013 Regulation 6(2), notification that an application for a marine licence will be issued to:

- (a) the Northern Lighthouse Board;
- (b) the Maritime and Coastguard Agency;
- (c) the Scottish Environment Protection Agency;
- (d) NatureScot; and
- (e) any delegate for a marine region where the application for a marine licence is for an activity which is to be carried out wholly or partly in that region (such as Clyde Marine Planning Partnership).

As detailed in the attached letter, our intention is to exceed the requirements as set out in the 2013 Regulation, Regulation 7(1) on pre-application consultation event, as we will be holding two rounds of pre-application consultation: the first round will comprise of 6 PAC events from late May to early July 2025 (6 week period), and the second round will comprise of 6 PAC events from September to October 2025 (6 week period). The events will take place on each of our most community islands (Islay, Jura, Colonsay, Mull and Iona), alongside online webinar events and a virtual exhibition space.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions at all about the above or the attached documents.

Thank you for your continued support, Abby.

Kind regards,  
 Ellen



Ellen Kane | Stakeholder Manager | Offshore Development: MachairWind



Take care of the environment. Print only if necessary

### Plate 1.1 PAC Statement Request Email issued 31 March 2025

**From:** @gov.scot  
**Sent:** 11 April 2025 10:05  
**To:** KANE, ELLEN; @gov.scot; @gov.scot  
**Cc:** Wilson, Kiera; Andrieu, Pauline; ScottishPowerRenewables; @gov.scot; @gov.scot  
**Subject:** MachairWind-Request for Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Statement

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**EXTERNAL SENDS:** Be cautious, especially with links and attachments. Report phishing if suspicious.

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Good Morning,  
 The Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013  
 PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION STATEMENT  
 MachairWind Offshore Wind Farm - ScotWind W1 Site, located off the west coast of Scotland, northwest of Islay and west of Colonsay.  
 Thank you for your letter dated 31 March 2025 with accompanying documents seeking a pre-application consultation statement for the infrastructure works and components within the Windfarm Development Area (WDA) of the MachairWind Offshore Windfarm.  
 You have supplied a plan sufficient to identify the area of the Scottish marine area which is the subject of the prospective application, as well as a description of the nature and purpose of the licensable marine activity as well as information on the possible effects on the environment. Marine Directorate - Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT) consider there is sufficient information to give a pre-application consultation statement.  
 MD-LOT is of the opinion that the marine activity is of a class or description prescribed in Regulation 4(f) of the Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 ("the Regulations"). Regulation 4 (f) of the Regulations states "the construction of a renewable energy structure within the Scottish marine area either in or over the sea or on or under the seabed, but only where the total area in which such structure is to be located exceeds 10,000 square metres in extent" is a prescribed licensable marine activity. Therefore your proposed construction works require pre-application consultation.  
**What this means to you**  
 You are required to carry out pre-application consultation prior to making your application. In brief you will need to carry out the following steps:  
 • Notify MD-LOT, NatureScot, SEPA, MCA and NLS and any delegate for a marine region (such as Clyde Marine Planning Partnership) of your intention to apply for a marine licence at least 12 weeks prior to submission of an application. We also recommend that you notify any other relevant local stakeholders, such as local harbour authorities, fisheries groups and recreational users. The prescribed format for this notification is outlined in Section 2(3) of The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 (The Act).  
 • Publish in a local newspaper a notice detailing the licensable marine activity for which the licence is to be sought and the pre-application consultation event. The prescribed format for this advert is detailed in Regulation 7 of the Regulations. Please keep MD-LOT informed of the intended local newspaper in order to confirm it fulfils the necessary requirements.  
 • Hold at least one pre-application consultation event to which the public and the bodies above are invited.  
 • The event must be held no earlier than six weeks of the later of the first two points above, and  
 • Produce a pre-application consultation report using the form detailed in the Regulations.

**Further information or guidance**  
 The rules covering marine licensing can be found at Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010. A copy of the Act 2010 can be obtained at:  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/information/2010-act>  
 A copy of The Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 can be obtained at:  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/information/2013-regulations>  
 Guidance on The Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations can be obtained at:  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/information/2013-regulations>  
 Further information on marine licensing can be obtained from our website at:  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/using/marine>  
 Further guidance on marine licensing can be obtained from our website at:  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/using/marine>  
 It is important that you are fully conversant with all of the rules that apply to your activity and your attention is drawn to the advice given above. If you have a further questions please do not hesitate to get in contact using the details below or by emailing [md.lot@scotland.gov.uk](mailto:md.lot@scotland.gov.uk)  
 Please note that in future if you are confident that PAC is required, you do not need to request a PAC statement.  
 Kind regards,  
 Abby  
 Abby Gray (she/her)  
 Marine Licensing & Consenting Casework Officer, Licensing Operations Team, Marine Directorate  
 Scottish Government | Marine Laboratory | Aberdeen | AB11 1QB  
 @gov.scot

### Plate 1.2 PAC Statement issued 11 April 2025





**Marine Directorate  
Licensing Operations Team**  
Scottish Government  
375 Victoria Road  
Aberdeen, AB11 9DB

Attn:  
Abby Gray  
John Mckay  
Ben Walker

31 March 2025

**Ref: MachairWind Offshore Windfarm – Windfarm Development Area Works - Request for Pre-Application Consultation Statement**

Dear Abby,

I am writing on behalf of MachairWind Ltd, the prospective applicant, in respect of the above development to formally request that the Marine Directorate Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT), acting on behalf of the Scottish Ministers, issue a pre-application consultation (PAC) statement in accordance with Section 4f (construction of a renewable energy structure) and Section 5 of the Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 ('the 2013 Regulation').

This request is made solely in respect of proposed infrastructure works and components within the Windfarm Development Area (WDA) of the MachairWind Offshore Windfarm, which is located within Scottish territorial waters and in due course will be subject to an application for a Marine Licence under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010.

As detailed previously within the MachairWind Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report (September 2024), separate consents will be sought for three development areas: the Windfarm Development Area (WDA), the Offshore Transmission Development Area and the Onshore Transmission Development Area. All works required outside of the WDA will be subject to separate consent applications in due course.

To ensure the project undertakes meaningful and transparent consultation, the offshore substation platform(s) (OSPs), which fall within the Offshore Transmission Development Area, will also be represented in the consultation materials and associated visual aids, given that this infrastructure is located within the WDA and will therefore be visible. At this stage, the size and location of the OSPs are indicative, and this will be made clear within the materials provided. The project will undertake separate PAC events for the offshore transmission development area, including the OSP, at a later date.

Please find enclosed a figure identifying the MachairWind WDA relative to, and wholly within, the 12 nautical miles boundary of the Scottish marine area. Taking account of recent design refinements, the WDA extends to an area of approximately 510 km<sup>2</sup> and is located within the larger Plan Option W1 previously designated within the Sectoral Marine Plan – Offshore Wind Energy (Scottish Government, 2020).





MachairWind Ltd has identified that proposed licensable marine activities within the WDA relating to the construction of a renewable energy structure exceeding 10,000 square metres in extent comprise:

1. Up to 147 Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) on fixed foundations;
2. Inter-Array Cables linking the WTGs together;
3. Scour protection for foundation structures supporting the WTGs (if required); and
4. External cable protection for inter-array cables (if required).

As outlined above, the OSP(s), which are visible and located within the WDA, will also be represented in the consultation materials; at this stage, the size and location of the OSPs are indicative, and this will be made clear within the consultation materials provided.

In relation to possible environmental effects from the proposed licensable activities within the WDA, please refer to the MachairWind WDA EIA Scoping Report (September 2024) and the corresponding EIA Scoping Opinion, received from MD-LOT in January 2025. This Scoping Opinion has been carefully considered and reviewed, in addition to the consultee responses, to inform the approach taken, and continued progress of, the ongoing MachairWind WDA EIA. Should MD-LOT have any queries related to environmental impacts the Project would, of course, be happy to discuss these.

MachairWind Ltd intends to undertake a programme of pre-application consultation during 2025 covering the above works to inform the submission of related consent applications, including an application for a Marine Licence under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010. This will include multiple opportunities for stakeholders and communities to provide views regarding the proposed WDA infrastructure works and components, as well as the project demonstrating how views expressed have been taken into account. MachairWind Ltd intends to hold two rounds of pre-application consultation: the first including, but not limited to, six (6) in-person events across Islay, Jura, Colonsay, Mull and Iona alongside online meetings and virtual exhibition rooms over a six week period from May to July 2025; and the second including but not limited to, six (6) in-person events across Islay, Jura, Colonsay, Mull and Iona alongside online meetings and virtual exhibition rooms over a six week period from September to October 2025.

Following receipt of the requested PAC Statement, in accordance with Regulation 6 of the 2013 Regulations, MachairWind Ltd will notify the requisite stakeholders of planned PAC activities and dates, as well as the intention to subsequently submit an application for a Marine Licence in respect of the proposed licensable marine activities within the WDA, as listed above.

I trust that this letter provides sufficient information to allow MD-LOT to issue the requested PAC Statement within three weeks, in accordance with the 2013 Regulations. Should MD-LOT require any additional information or clarification, please do not hesitate to make contact by emailing [machairwind@scottishpower.com](mailto:machairwind@scottishpower.com) or calling at 07385 004214.

In the first instance, we kindly request acknowledgement of receipt of this submission.

Yours faithfully,

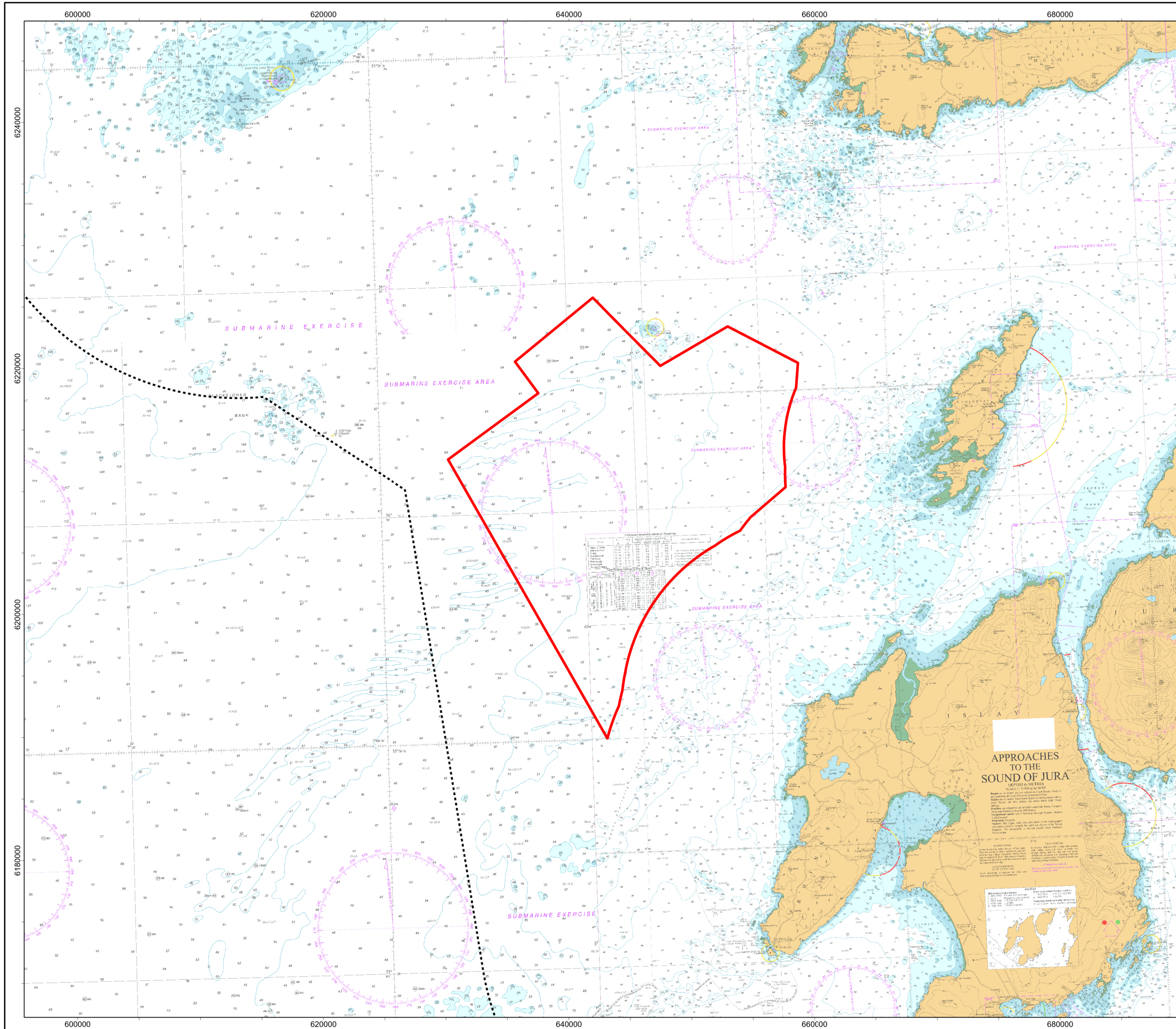
**Ellen Kane**  
Stakeholder Manager





**Enclosed:** WDA 12nm Boundary Figure: MachairWind\_Windfarm Development Area\_12 nm boundary





Windfarm Development Area  
 UK 12nm Offshore Limit



1	27/02/2025	AB	GC	MI	CB
REV	REV DATE	GIS CREATOR	GIS REVIEWER	TECHNICAL CHECKER	TECHNICAL APPROVER

DRAWING NUMBER: MCW-GEN-GIS-MAP-RHS-000092

DATUM	ETRS89	PROJECTION	UTM Zone 29N
SCALE	1:300,000	PAGE SIZE	A3

PROJECT TITLE: MachairWind

### Figure 1 Windfarm Development Area Boundary

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 World Ocean Base: Esri, GEBCO, Garmin, NaturalVue  
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