



# **Spiorad na Mara Offshore Wind Farm**

## **Offshore Project**

### **Environmental Impact Assessment Report**

#### **Appendix 6.2: Focus Group Summary Report, Volume 1d**

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1.1 OVERVIEW

1.1.1.1 This Appendix of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) presents a summary of the findings of a series of focus groups and interviews conducted with residents and interest groups in Lewis/*Eilean Leòdhais* who may be directly impacted by the construction and operation of the proposed Spiorad na Mara Offshore Wind Farm (hereafter referred to as the Project). This Appendix accompanies Chapter 6 of the EIAR.

1.1.1.2 This Appendix should be read in conjunction with the project description provided in **Chapter 3: Project Description, Volume 1a** and the relevant parts of the following chapters and appendices, which are informed by the findings of the focus groups:

- **Chapter 6: Socio-economics, Volume 2a;**
- **Chapter 20: Other Sea Users, Volume 2a;**
- **Chapter 22: Offshore Human Health, Volume 2a; and**
- **Appendix 6.1: Detailed Social and Economic Baseline, Volume 1d.**

## 1.1.2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

1.1.2.1 Spiorad na Mara Limited (hereafter referred to as 'the Applicant') is proposing to develop the Project. The Project is an offshore wind farm (OWF) that will consist of up to 60 fixed-bottom wind turbine generators (WTGs).

1.1.2.2 The Project will include both offshore and onshore infrastructure. This EIAR supports the application for the offshore components of the Project as outlined in **Chapter 1: Introduction, Volume 1a**. The offshore components of the Project (the Offshore Project) include all infrastructure and activities located seaward of Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) within the Array Area and Offshore Cable Area of Search (OCAS) (**Figure 1.2: Project Layout, Volume 1c**). Further detailed information is provided in **Chapter 3: Project Description, Volume 1a**.

1.1.2.3 The Offshore Project is situated off the northwest coast of Isle of Lewis/*Eilean Leòdhais* and the Array Area is located approximately 5-13 km offshore and is approximately 161 km<sup>2</sup> in size. It will comprise WTGs, foundations, Offshore Cables, Offshore Substation Platform (OSP) (if required), and Landfall. The Array Area combined with the OCAS is defined as the Offshore Project Boundary. The water depths across the Array Area range from 37 m-67 m with the southwest corner of the Array Area reaching 72 m. The proposed WTGs and fixed foundations will be located within a Turbine Area of approximately 140 km<sup>2</sup>, within the Array Area.

1.1.2.4 The focus groups and interviews discussed the Project as a whole, including both offshore and onshore elements. The term 'Project' is therefore used hereafter, except where referring specifically to the offshore infrastructure.

## 1.2 PURPOSE OF THIS APPENDIX

1.2.1.1 This Appendix describes the following:

- The approach and methodology for the focus groups in Section 2, including:
- A summary of the findings of the focus groups in Section 3; and
- Conclusions and next steps, including details of how the findings have informed the EIA in Section 4.

1.2.1.2 The approach and methodology section in Section 2 sets out the following:

- The objectives of the research;
- Method and ethical considerations;
- Structure of the discussion;
- Recording and analysis;
- Limitations; and
- How focus group findings have been used.

1.2.1.3 The summary of the findings of the focus groups in Section 3 covers the following themes:

- Community values;
- Experience of previous developments;
- Perceptions of potential impacts;
- Spatial and demographic variation; and
- Mitigation for perceived impacts.

## 2 APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 OBJECTIVES OF THE RESEARCH

2.1.1.1 The objectives of this engagement were to:

- Identify characteristics and values which might underpin community concerns or priorities;
- Identify perceived social and economic impacts of the development proposals and compare those impacts with those which had already been identified through desk-based research, scoping responses and other consultation responses;
- Understand how impacts arising from the Project might affect different people and areas in different ways, to inform the definition of meaningful epicentres of impact and predict how they may change;
- Gather local knowledge and experience to gain a greater understanding of how the values and past experiences of the community underpin concerns or priorities with respect to the Project; and
- Gather the community's views on potential mitigation strategies to enhance positive or neutral impacts and reduce negative impacts.

2.1.1.2 It was not expected that the focus groups would necessarily be a representative sample of the wider island community. Instead, they sought to gather in-depth, qualitative information around people's concerns and priorities that may not be captured through desk-based research or more quantitative approaches such as larger-scale surveys.

2.1.1.3 The target size of focus groups was four to eight participants, as recommended in social research guidance (Reading University, 2020). Smaller groups of around this size tend to result in better quality of data, as participants feel able to engage in discussions. Community-level organisations, including all community councils in Lewis/*Eilean Leòdhais*, were approached to invite participation. Word of mouth recruitment was encouraged by suggesting that people expressing an interest invite others to take part and advertise the focus groups in local newsletters or in other forums.

2.1.1.4 A total of 39 participants (one of whom later chose to withdraw from the research) contributed, which included six focus groups of between four and eight participants, four interviews, and two responses received in writing. The age range of participants was roughly 16–75, with more female than male participants. To ensure engagement across age ranges, a dedicated focus group was established with people aged 16–25 to understand perspectives from younger people on the island.

2.1.1.5 Focus groups were carried out in July and August 2024 and took place in locations around Lewis/*Eilean Leòdhais* requested by participants (one in each of Carloway/*Càrlabhagh*, Stornoway/*Steòrnabhagh* and Bernera/*Beàrnaraigh* Estates, and three groups in Barvas/*Barabhas*

Estate). Participants were not asked for their exact place of residence but it was assumed from participants' choices of location for the focus groups, and their contributions, that they lived across Lewis/*Eilean Leòdhais* in communities within Ness/*Nis*, Galson/*Gabhann*, Barvas/*Barabhas*, Carloway/*Càrlabhagh*, Dalmore/*Dail Mhor*, Bernera/*Beàrnaraigh*, Uig/*Ùig*, and Stornoway/*Steòrnabhagh*.

2.1.1.6 To ensure that discussions were productive and so that participants would feel comfortable to speak freely, participants were asked to organise the groups themselves. For this reason, the six focus groups were supplemented by four community interviews which were offered to individuals or couples who were not able to organise groups. These were run either in person in Stornoway/*Steòrnabhagh* or online at the convenience of participants. The same questions formed the basis of the interviews, but they tended to be shorter than focus groups in duration. Two later submissions were received in writing by participants who had been unable to attend in person.

## 2.2 METHOD AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

2.2.1.1 The planning and organisation of the focus groups was carried out in line with the UK Research Institute's policy and guidance on the governance of good research practice (UKRI, 2024), and took account of Scottish Government guidance on consulting island communities (Scottish Government, 2020). Risk and benefit to researchers and participants that might arise because of the research, as well as knowledge exchange, dissemination activity and future re-use of the data were considered as part of the ethical approach.

2.2.1.2 The ethical foundations of the research included:

- **Informed consent:** Participants gave their free, prior and informed consent to take part after receiving information about the purpose, risks and benefits of their involvement in the focus groups and were offered digital and printed copies of information about their participation;
- **Anonymity and confidentiality:** Anonymity of participants' views and safeguarding personal information was done through paraphrase of quotes and secure data storage practices;
- **Right to withdraw:** Participants were free to withdraw from the research at any time including after taking part;
- **Self-organised groups:** Participants were asked to form their own groups comprised of people who were comfortable speaking together, to avoid conflict or stress related to the community responses to the Project and protect anonymity to the highest extent possible in a group setting; and
- **Researcher reflexivity**, i.e. the practice of the researchers reflecting critically on the assumptions they might be making due to their own biases or values.

## 2.3 STRUCTURE OF THE DISCUSSION

2.3.1.1 The duration of the focus groups was up to two hours, following a semi-structured format to ensure that the discussions could be guided around the relevant subjects, but also allow participants to lead the discussion to topics that were relevant to their own lives. The discussion included the questions set out below:

- What are your priorities and concerns regarding the potential social impacts of the Project?
- What would change, be lost or gained because of the impacts?
- Are there ways to reduce or prevent negative impacts?
- How could neutral impacts be improved?
- How could positive impacts be enhanced?
- What are your experiences of social impacts on the island from previous developments or proposed developments?
- How might impacts affect different people in the community or different geographical areas?
- Of everything discussed, what is your main priority or concern?

2.3.1.2 The focus groups also involved an optional mapping exercise to understand the participants' priorities in terms of the relationship between the topics and places that were important to them. Participants were provided with a paper copy of a map of Lewis/*Eilean Leòdhais* and invited to mark places that were important to them.

## 2.4 RECORDING AND ANALYSIS

2.4.1.1 Focus group meetings were attended by two staff members and recorded using live transcription with one staff member taking large format notes, and the other facilitating the discussion and writing notes where possible. These notes were then combined into transcriptions which were subsequently shared with participants for them to check accuracy.

2.4.1.2 The resulting meeting transcriptions were analysed using thematic analysis. A coding system was developed according to the content of the discussions to show how the discussion content related to different topics. Coding the transcripts involved labelling each statement or partial statement with topics, creating "coded segments" which could then allow further analysis. This drew out patterns, recurring themes and key findings relating to the objectives of the focus groups.

## 2.5 LIMITATIONS

2.5.1.1 The findings of this research provide an insight into people's concerns and priorities, and a greater depth of contextual detail than could be gained through other research techniques. However, the following limitations should be noted:

- **Representation and bias.** The number of participants who took part is relatively small and may not be representative of the entire community. It is recognised that volunteers for focus

groups tend to be highly motivated individuals who may have strongly positive or negative views about a topic. The time and energy required from participants means that focus groups can only capture the opinions of those who have time and capacity to attend.

- **Qualitative results.** Data in the form of dialogue can be difficult to interpret and harder to digest than quantitative results. To tackle this, the data analysis method described above was used to create a quantitative picture of how the discussion topics were distributed.
- **Stage of development.** The focus groups took place before the formal consultation process or any results of impact assessment, which meant that participants' understanding of the potential Project impacts were based on the information that was available at the time.
- **Community Benefit Package announcement.** An announcement of a £4.5 million Community Benefit Package between the Applicant and the West Side Estates Group (WSEG, made up of Galson/*Ghabhsainn* Estate Trust, Barvas/*Barabhas* Estate, Carloway/*Càrlabhaigh* Estate, and Dalmore/*Dail Mhor* Estate) was made during the process of running the focus groups and affected the information available for discussion in the later focus groups.

## 2.6 HOW FOCUS GROUP FINDINGS HAVE BEEN USED

2.6.1.1 This report provides an overarching summary of focus group and interview findings in relation to a number of identified key themes (see Section 3). More detailed evidence from the focus groups has been included in **Appendix A6.1, Volume 1d**, where relevant, and has also informed the baseline analysis and assessment in the following chapters of the EIAR:

- **Chapter 6, Volume 1b;**
- **Chapter 20, Volume 2a;**
- **Chapter 22, Volume 1b.**

2.6.1.2 The analysis in these chapters and in **Appendix A6.1** reflects the limitations outlined above and recognises that the views shared by focus group participants are not necessarily representative of the wider community.

### 3 FINDINGS

3.1.1.1 This section presents a summary of focus group findings, in relation to community values, experience of previous developments, perceptions of the potential impacts of the Project, spatial and demographic variations, and mitigation for identified impacts.

### 3.2 COMMUNITY VALUES

3.2.1.1 Several themes were repeated in the focus group discussions which revealed community values. These values contribute to a sense of place identity and, combined with some of the other topics raised in discussions, help explain participants’ overall perceptions of the Project’s potential impacts. These community values are summarised in **Table 3-1**.

Table 3-1: Community values

Theme	Community value
<b>Environmental values and connection with place</b>	A strong <b>connection with place</b> was expressed by participants, whether they have ancestral links to Lewis/ <i>Eilean Leòdhais</i> or not.
	<b>Love of nature</b> , the outdoors and intact diverse habitats was cited as a reason outsiders move into the area.
	A sense of <b>environmental stewardship</b> derived from concern for biodiversity combined with a strong connection with place.
	<b>The human-nature connection</b> is embedded in a Gaelic worldview – expressed as a long-term, reciprocal relationship with the rest of biodiversity within the local environment.
	<b>A quieter environment</b> and way of life contributes to wellbeing and high quality of life.
<b>Community ties as resources</b>	<b>Community</b> social life, safety and cohesion are highly valued and contribute to high quality of life.
	<b>Family</b> ties (both to specific areas and across the island) create a distinct sense of identity and belonging.
	A <b>connection with place</b> is also derived from knowledge of ancestry and rootedness.
	<b>High social capital</b> is derived from the interconnections between families and areas of the island.
	There is a high degree of <b>mutual support</b> within communities.
<b>Culture and heritage</b>	<b>Cultural heritage sites</b> are valued for their historical, cultural, personal or spiritual meanings, and are a source of pride. Additional value is derived from their appeal to visitors and associated economic value.
	<b>Local cultural heritage</b> is highly valued. The local variety of Gaelic language is recognised as being different to that of standardised Gaelic, and at a critical point in terms of language survival.

Theme	Community value
	<b>Crofting and other traditional practices</b> are recognised as contributing to a sense of identity.
<b>Landscape/seascape resources</b>	Several specific groups are <b>dependent on resources</b> that are embedded in the landscape. These groups include crofters, fishers, artists, surfers, other coastal recreation groups, and tourism businesses.

### 3.3 EXPERIENCE OF PREVIOUS DEVELOPMENTS

- 3.3.1.1 Participants' local knowledge and experience of previous developments and proposed developments were explored to understand the wider context and the extent to which this has informed local attitudes towards the Project and the potential impacts of the Project. Developments that were discussed included recent onshore and offshore renewables projects (ones that proceeded or are still in development and ones that did not go ahead) in Lewis/*Eilean Leòdhais* and elsewhere in Scotland, proposed commercial developments such as the Arnish Fabrication Yard and the proposed ammonia plant at Uig/*Ùig*, and longer-term historical events such as the Highland clearances and developments in Lewis and Harris/*Leòdhas agus Na Hearadh* led by the industrialist Lord Leverhulme in the early 20th Century.
- 3.3.1.2 The discussion found that many of these developments and proposals were perceived as having been mismanaged or exploitative of people and natural resources. Participants also cited several current proposals or developments in progress which may be creating a sense of fatigue and overwhelm, lack of local control and participation in decisions about their local environment and how it is being managed, and additional burdens on their everyday lives.

### 3.4 PERCEPTIONS OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS

- 3.4.1.1 Potential social impacts had been identified in advance of the focus groups through a review of community feedback, media coverage and stakeholder responses to the EIA Scoping Report. A summary of these impacts was displayed at focus groups and participants were asked for feedback, with the aim of filling gaps or correcting assumptions.
- 3.4.1.2 Discussions around the potential impacts of the Project that had been identified varied depending on the views of participants, with some participants broadly agreeing with the impacts identified, and others in disagreement, and different priorities emerged from different individuals and groups. The themes that emerged from the analysis of these discussions can be categorised as: Political; Health and welfare; Culture, community and attachment to place; Environment; Economy; Landscape and seascape; and Infrastructure. A summary of the topics and concerns raised by participants in relation to each of these themes is provided below in **Table 3-2**.

Table 3-2: Summary of topics and concerns raised by participants

Theme	Topics and concerns raised by participants
<b>Political</b>	Perceived <b>lack of transparency</b> and involvement in decision-making during the ScotWind leasing process.
	<b>Lack of trust</b> in Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, Scottish Government and developers, and sense that the community has little influence.
	A range of views was expressed over the role of <b>community benefit</b> funds and how these should be used.
<b>Health and welfare</b>	The potential impacts of the Project on human health, including in relation to <b>mental health and wellbeing</b> .
	Elevated stress levels associated with the <b>uncertainty</b> of whether the Project would go ahead.
	The perceived impact of turbines on <b>physical health</b> , due to the impact of noise, light pollution and vibration.
	<b>Pre-existing vulnerabilities</b> within the local community.
	Additional <b>pressure on local health services</b> from an incoming construction workforce.
Potential impacts on safety, crime and other <b>social issues</b> during construction.	
<b>Culture, community and attachment to place</b>	Concern that impacts on sense of place and place identity could contribute to depopulation of the rural communities of the west coast of Lewis/ <i>Eilean Leòdhais</i> and impact on <b>Gaelic culture</b> .
	Connection between <b>landscape/seascape, cultural continuity and identity</b> .
	Impacts on <b>practices dependent on resources</b> embedded in the landscape/seascape such as the arts, crofting, fishing, tourism, recreation, and surfing.
	Potential negative impacts on <b>cultural heritage</b> from disruption to place from change in landscape/seascape and amenity.
	Importance and sensitivity of <b>coastal cemeteries</b> , particularly on the west coast of Lewis/ <i>Eilean Leòdhais</i> such as at Barvas/ <i>Barabhas</i> and Bragar/ <i>Bhràdhagair</i> .
<b>Environment</b>	Impacts of <b>noise</b> on human health, animal health/behaviour, amenity and peacefulness, particularly during construction.
	<b>Light pollution</b> from turbine lighting and the onshore substation/s and construction work, and decrease in the quality of dark night skies.
	<b>Biodiversity and habitats</b> , including presence of terrestrial and marine endangered species, and the machair habitat.
	Loss or disruption of <b>access to important places</b> , including for recreation and daily life, and effects of this on wellbeing and sense of place.
<b>Economy</b>	Potential negative impacts on <b>tourism industry</b> , particularly small businesses in rural communities on the west coast of Lewis/ <i>Eilean Leòdhais</i> , including displacement of tourists to other islands.

Theme	Topics and concerns raised by participants
	Risk of <b>displacement</b> of workers and economic activity, including from other key local projects.
	Concerns around impacts on livestock behaviour and use of common grazing land and the machair which could affect <b>crofters</b> .
	Discussions around potential impacts on fish and on the <b>fishing community</b> , including a mix of potential benefits and risks.
	Discussions associated with the creation of <b>new jobs</b> on the island and in the supply chain.
<b>Landscape and seascape</b>	Importance of the landscape/seascape to the <b>sense of identity</b> , culture, livelihoods and recreation.
	Perceptions that the <b>attachment to place</b> derived from the landscape/seascape was felt to be disrupted and threatened by the potential visual and landscape/seascape impacts associated with the Project.
	Particular concern around the potential visual impact of <b>pylons</b> if they were to be used by the Project.
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Potential negative impacts on <b>traffic and road infrastructure</b> from the transportation of material by road, and particular sensitivities around potential use of Barvas Moor Road (A857).
	Lack of <b>housing</b> and potential impacts on availability of accommodation for residents and tourists.
	Importance of <b>ferry services</b> to Lewis/ <i>Eilean Leòdhais</i> and concerns around ability of the service to absorb any increase in capacity.
	Existing <b>lack of capacity</b> in key social infrastructure, including childcare and social care.
	Potential impacts on <b>food security</b> due to higher demand for supplies from construction workers.

### 3.5 SPATIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC VARIATION

3.5.1.1 The findings from the focus groups helped to identify who and where might be particularly affected by impacts in different ways. The mapping exercise was carried out with participants, who were asked to highlight and annotate places that were important to them. They helped identify geographic or demographic sensitivities or variation of impacts. The mapping exercise also contributed to understanding how participants perceived important places on the island, which contributed to drawing out the values in **Table 3-1**, and topics and concerns described in **Table 3-2**.

3.5.1.2 In terms of the geographical distribution of effects, the following distinctions were mentioned in focus groups:

- Attention was drawn to the differences between communities on the island, especially urban-rural distinctions between Stornoway/*Steòrnabhagh* and the rest of the island. The rural

communities were described as relatively undeveloped places with different assets such as landscape and tranquillity, compared with the urban characteristics of Stornoway/*Steòrnabhagh*;

- Discussion of where impacts would occur tended to concentrate on the length of the west coast of Lewis/*Eilean Leòdhais*, or the whole island;
- Concerns were expressed about the potential impacts arising from the arrival of large numbers of construction workers on different areas of the island. Construction phase impacts on housing were highlighted, and comments about the likely accommodation arrangements and location for construction workers highlighted people's concern about local access to housing and related social issues;
- Some obvious distinctions were made about the visibility of the turbines having the biggest impact on the communities of the west coast of Lewis/*Eilean Leòdhais*. It was also pointed out that turbine visibility would extend to high points on Harris/*Eilean Na Hearadh* and elsewhere, so landscape/seascape impacts were seen as affecting the whole island, as well as affecting the closest neighbours to the site the most;
- If an onshore landfall substation were selected, it was felt that the nearest host community (i.e. Barvas/*Barabhas*) would be disproportionately impacted, compared with other communities, in terms of adverse amenity, noise and environmental impacts;
- Coastal cultural heritage impacts were perceived to be concentrated on the west coast of Lewis/*Eilean Leòdhais*. Participants drew attention to potential long term, adverse impacts on everyday sites, especially cemeteries at Bragar/*Bhràdhagair*, Barvas/*Barabhas*, Dalmore/*Dail Mhor* and others along the west coast, as well as sites of national and international cultural heritage importance.

3.5.1.3 A number of specific groups were perceived by participants as being likely to be disproportionately adversely affected by the development. These included groups that are particularly dependent on specific resources embedded in the ecosystem and landscape/seascape of Lewis/*Eilean Leòdhais*, including crofters, surfers, other recreational users of the coast, fishers, artists, and tourism businesses.

## 3.6 MITIGATION FOR PERCEIVED IMPACTS

3.6.1.1 A common statement that emerged from the focus groups was that participants broadly support renewables, including offshore wind, but are concerned about the proximity and scale of the Offshore Project. For this reason, the majority of focus group participants were not able to identify mitigation for the potential impact on landscape/seascape character and were not willing to move beyond this to discuss mitigation for other categories of impacts such as infrastructure and housing, as they felt that this would imply acceptance of the Offshore Project at its proposed location and scale. There was some disagreement among participants around the extent to which the Project is acceptable to the community for the purpose of improving the socio-economic

condition of Lewis/*Eilean Leòdhais*, and around the role of community benefit funds and how these should be administered.

## 4 CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS

### 4.1 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- 4.1.1.1 This report has presented a summary of the findings of the focus groups and interviews, in relation to community values, the experience of previous developments, potential impacts, spatial and demographic variations, and mitigation for perceived impacts.
- 4.1.1.2 The most common theme raised in focus group discussions was in relation to political topics, such as governance, trust in government, and community empowerment, reflecting participants' perceptions of previous developments and proposed developments on the island.
- 4.1.1.3 Other themes included the potential impact of the Project on community and culture, particularly in relation to landscape/seascape character and community identity on the west coast of Lewis/*Eilean Leòdhais*. Some discussions described concerns about the potential for a combination of negative economic impacts, such as jobs displacement and impacts on the tourism industry, whereas a few participants highlighted potential positive economic impacts such as the provision of skilled jobs.
- 4.1.1.4 There was no consensus among focus group participants in relation to mitigation, and disagreement in relation to community benefit funds and how these should be managed.

### 4.2 HOW THESE FINDINGS HAVE INFORMED THE EIA

- 4.2.1.1 As noted in Section 2.6, the findings of the focus groups and interviews have influenced the EIA, in particular:
- **Chapter 6, Volume 1b;**
  - **Chapter 20, Volume 2a;**
  - **Chapter 22, Volume 1b;**
  - **Appendix 6.1, Volume 1d.**
- 4.2.1.2 Key focus group findings are included in the baseline analysis presented in **Appendix 6.1, Volume 1d**, and have informed the baseline and assessment in the chapters identified above.

### 4.3 NEXT STEPS

- 4.3.1.1 Should the Project receive consent, it intends to undertake a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) to meet international standards, such as the Equator Principles (Equator Principles, 2020) and International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standards (IFC, 2012). The SIA will draw on the findings of the focus groups and interviews. The detailed design of the Project will be determined post consent, and will inform the preparation of the SIA.

## 5 GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

5.1.1.1 A list of key terms and acronyms used in this appendix are provided in **Table 5-1** and **Table 5-2**.

Table 5-1: Acronyms and abbreviations

Term	Definition
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drill
IFC	International Finance Corporation
MHWS	Mean High Water Springs
MLWS	Mean Low Water Springs
OCAS	Offshore Cable Area of Search
OSP	Offshore Substation Platform
OTW	Onshore Transmission Works
OWF	Offshore Wind Farm
SIA	Social Impact Assessment
TJB	Transition Joint Bay
UKRI	UK Research Institute
WSEG	West Side Estates Group
WTG	Wind Turbine Generator

Table 5-2: Glossary

Term	Meaning
The Applicant	Spiorad na Mara Limited (the Project owner).
Array Area	The offshore area within which the offshore wind turbine generators (WTGs), associated foundations, Offshore Cables, and Offshore Substation Platform (OSP) (if required), will be located. This area encompasses the Turbine Area that will contain all above water surface infrastructure (WTGs / OSP) and an additional area within which further below water infrastructure (foundations and cables) may also be located.
Array Cables	The offshore electrical and communication cables that connect infrastructure located within the Array Area, for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scenario 1: Array Cables will be used to connect Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) to each other, and to connect WTGs to the OSP.</li> <li>Scenario 2: Array Cables will be used to connect WTGs to each other.</li> </ul>

<b>Term</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
Array Cables to Landfall	The offshore electrical and communication cables located in the Array Area and Offshore Cables Area of Search that connect the wind turbine generators (WTGs) directly to Landfall for Scenario 2.
Aquaculture	Farming of fish, shellfish and other aquatic organisms in controlled environments, either marine or freshwater.
Business unit	The smallest level of business for which statistical information is available. A unit represents an individual site such as a factory or shop within a business enterprise.
Core path	Paths drawn up by local authorities or National Park authorities in Scotland/ <i>Alba</i> to allow public access.
Comhairle nan Eilean Siar	The local authority for the Western Isles/ <i>Na h-Eileanan an Iar</i> .
Crofting	A form of agricultural land tenure in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland/ <i>Alba</i> .
Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)	The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) prepared to assess the likely significant effects of the Project on the environment.
Export Cables	The offshore electrical and communication cables located in the Array Area and Offshore Cables Area of Search that connect the Offshore Substation Platform (OSP) (if required) to Landfall for Scenario 1.
Full-time equivalent	Equivalent to the workload of one full-time employee.
Gàidhealtachd	Term for the area of Scotland/ <i>Alba</i> in which Gaelic is commonly spoken, often synonymous with the Highlands and Islands.
Gross Value Added	Measure of the economic output of an area, industry, or sector of the economy.
Landfall	This consists of works from offshore Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD) exit pits (located below MLWS) to onshore at the Transition Joint Bays (TJB) (located above MHWS). The infrastructure and installation methods associated with the Landfall involves both onshore and offshore components.
Multiple deprivation	A relative measure of deprivation in Scotland/ <i>Alba</i> across seven 'domains': income, employment, education, health, access to services, crime, and housing.
Offshore Application	The application for Marine Licences under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 (between 0 and 12nm) and a Section 36 consent under the Electricity Act 1989.
Offshore Cables	Electrical and communication cables located within the Array Area and Offshore Cable Area of Search. The Offshore Cables consist of Array Cables, Array Cables to Landfall, and Export Cables.
Offshore Cable Area of Search (OCAS)	The area within which the offshore electrical and communication cables between the Array Area and Landfall up to Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) will be located.
Offshore Landfall Area	The area seaward of Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) within the Offshore Cable Area of Search (OCAS) that includes works associated with the Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD) installation, including HDD

Term	Meaning
	exit pit(s) (located below MLWS) and offshore cable connection to the onshore (TJB) (located above MHWS).
Offshore Project	The components of the Spiorad na Mara offshore wind farm (the Project) located seaward of Mean High Water Springs (MHWS).
Offshore Project Boundary	The 'red line boundary' encompassing the Offshore Project.
Offshore Substation Platform (OSP)	The optional offshore substation located within the Turbine Area. Includes the platform and associated components which allows the voltage to be increased to meet onward transmission requirements.
Onshore Application	The application for consent under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended).
Onshore Transmission Works (OTW) / Onshore Project	The components of the Spiorad na Mara offshore wind farm (the Project) located landward of Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS).
Onshore Transmission Works Boundary / Onshore Project Boundary	The 'red line boundary' encompassing all temporary and permanent works associated with the OTW/Onshore Project.
Project	The Spiorad na Mara offshore wind farm development. This term describes the whole development, including all offshore and onshore components.
Project Boundary	The 'red line boundary' encompassing all offshore and onshore components of the Project.
Study Areas	Study Areas are determined for each technical discipline and are described within each technical chapter.
Turbine Area	A reduced area within the Array Area where above water surface infrastructure would be located i.e. wind turbine generators (WTG) and Offshore Substation Platform (OSP) (if required). This area has been developed and refined through stakeholder engagement and environmental assessment.
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
Study Areas	Study Areas are determined for each technical discipline and are described within each technical chapter.
Working age	For the purposes of statistical analysis this is generally taken to be between the ages of 16 and 64.

## 6 REFERENCES

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