

Offshore Renewable Energy Projects
Marine Directorate Licencing Operations
Team
Marine Laboratory
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Aberdeen
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Cerulean Winds Ltd

Neo House,
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Date: 26/08/2025

Reference: Aspen25/08/26

Application by Cerulean Winds Aspen Project Limited for Consent to Construct and Operate a Generating Station, Aspen Floating Offshore Wind Farm**Electricity Act 1989 (as amended)****The Electricity (Applications for Consent) Regulations 1990 (as amended)****The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 (as amended)****Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009****Marine (Scotland) Act 2010****The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007 (as amended)****The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017**

Dear Sir or Madam

The Applicant, Cerulean Winds Aspen Project Limited is proposing the development of The Aspen Floating Offshore Wind Farm herein referred to as the Project. Cerulean Winds is a UK-based renewable energy developer focused on delivering large-scale floating offshore wind infrastructure to support the transition to net zero.

This application is being submitted for Consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 (Section 36 Consent) for the construction and operation of an offshore generating station (the Project).

This letter is also accompanied by applications for the following Marine Licences under Part 4 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 and Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010:

- Marine Licence for the Generating Station consisting of: Wind Turbines Generators (WTGs), WTG foundations, inter array cables and associated scour and cable protection.
- Marine Licence for the Offshore Transmission Infrastructure consisting of: up to three Offshore Substation Platforms (OSPs), OSP foundations, up to four export cables and associated scour and cable protection.

Description of the Works (Generating Station)

The Proposed Development is located within the Aspen Lease Area, 84 km from the Scottish coast at Peterhead at its closest point and covers approximately 333 km². The generating station will provide renewable electricity to oil and gas platforms in the Central North Sea, with any surplus exported to the national grid.

The key parameters of the offshore infrastructure are detailed below. In summary, the Proposed Development comprises of

- WTGs on floating foundations comprising of a tower section, nacelle, hub, three blades and associated floating foundations;
- Foundation anchors and foundation moorings for each floating foundation;
- Inter-array Cables (IACs), which connect the individual WTGs to each other and then to the OSP(s);

Parameter	Maximum Value
Maximum Number of WTGs	72 (no.)
Floating Foundation Type for WTGs	Triangular steel semi-submersible
Maximum number of Anchors per WTG	6 (no.)
Length of Inter array cables	300 km

Description of the Works (Offshore Transmission Infrastructure)

The West of Orkney Windfarm offshore transmission infrastructure will comprise of the following key components:

- OSPs on fixed foundations;
- Inter-link Cables, which connect the OSPs to one another; and
- OTCs running from the OSP(s) to the landfall area up to Mean High Water Springs (MHWS).

Parameter	Maximum Value
Maximum Number of OSPs	3 (no.)
Foundation Type for OSP(s)	Jacket foundation with pin piles
Number of Pin Piles per OSP(s)	8 (2 pins per leg for a four legged jacket)
Maximum Number of OTCs	4 (no.)
Length of Cable per OTC	155 km

Compliance with the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations and Habitats Regulations

An Environmental Impact assessment (EIA) has been completed for the Proposed Development in accordance with The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 (as amended), The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (as amended) and The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007 (as amended). The EIA Report has been submitted as part of this consent application.

A Report to Inform an Appropriate Assessment (RIAA) has been completed based on the outcomes from the Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) Screening (assessment of likely significant effects (LSE)) in order to assist with the Appropriate Assessment to be undertaken in accordance with the Conservation (Natural Habitats, & c.) Regulations 1994, The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 and the Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (collectively referred to as the "Habitats Regulations").

Derogation Case

The Applicant's RIAA concludes that there are no adverse effects on the integrity (AEOI) of any designated sites. However in the event that the Scottish Ministers conclude there are AEOI, the Applicant has provided a without prejudice derogation case. This derogation case provides the Scottish Ministers with the information required under the Habitats Regulations to consent the Project. The derogation case demonstrates that there are no alternative solutions to the Project, that the Project must be carried out for imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI) and that there are adequate compensation measures to secure that the overall coherence of the national site network is protected.

The submission is provided without prejudice to the Applicant's position that it can be concluded beyond reasonable scientific doubt that the Project would not give rise to any Adverse Effect on Integrity for relevant European sites, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

Documents Enclosed

The documents submitted as part of the Section 36 Consent application and associated Marine Licence applications include:

- This cover letter, comprising the cover letter to this application for Section 36 Consent, associated Marine Licences.
- A Marine Licence application and supporting information for the Generating Station.
- A Marine Licence application and supporting information for the Offshore Transmission Infrastructure.
- An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report:
 - o Non-Technical Summary
 - o Volume 1 – Introductory Chapters

- Volume 2 – Offshore EIA Chapters
 - Volume 3 – Offshore EIA Technical Appendices and Annexes including a Navigational Risk Assessment (NRA)
 - Volume 4 – Supporting Documents including Outline Management Plans
- Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment (RIAA)
 - Without Prejudice Derogation Case Documents:
 - Without Prejudice Derogation Case
 - Compensation Measures Plan
 - Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan
 - Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report

Onshore Application

The onshore transmission infrastructure associated with the Aspen Floating Offshore Wind Farm shall be the subject of a separate application for Planning Permission in Principle under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.

Connections to Oil and Gas Installations

The offshore transmission infrastructure associated with the connection from the Project to Oil and Gas facilities shall be the subject of separate applications by the relevant installation operators.

Public Notices and Advertisements

Public notices advising that The Applicant has submitted applications for a Section 36 Consent and Marine Licences to Marine Directorate Licensing and Operations Team (MD-LOT) and inviting the public to submit comments on the application will be placed in the following publications on dates to be agreed with Marine Directorate's Licensing and Operations team:

- The Buchan Observer
- The Herald
- The Press & Journal
- The Scotsman
- Fishing News
- Lloyd's List
- Edinburgh Gazette

The adverts will advise the public how to participate in the consultation on the application, in accordance with The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007, The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017, the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 and the Electricity (Applications for Consent) Regulations 1990.

Hard copies of the application documents will be made available for the public to view in the following locations:

Location	Address	Opening Hours
Stonehaven Library	Evan St, Stonehaven AB39 2ET	Tuesday 9:00 – 18:00 Wednesday and Friday 9:00 – 17:00 Saturday 10:00 – 14:00
Peterhead Library	Leisure and Community Centre, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead AB42 1EP	Tuesday and Wednesday 9:00 – 18:00 Friday 9:00 – 17:00 Saturday 10:00 – 14:00
Aberdeen Central Library	Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen AB25 1GW	Monday and Wednesday 9:00 – 20:00 Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:00 – 17:00 Saturday 9:00 – 17:00
Fraserburgh Library	King Edward St, Fraserburgh AB43 9PN	Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 – 18:00 Friday 9:00 – 17:00 Saturday 10:00 – 14:00

Once the application has been accepted by the Marine Directorate's Licencing and Operations Team, digital copies of the application documents will also be published online at [Aspen Offshore Wind Farm | marine.gov.scot](https://aspen.ceruleanwinds.com/) and <https://aspen.ceruleanwinds.com/>

Hard copies can also be made available on request. These will be subject to a charge of £350 and £10 on CD/USB stick (including post and packaging). Copies of a short non-technical summary are available free of charge. Requests for hard copies of the application documents can be made at: community@ceruleanwinds.com.

We look forward to hearing from you in relation to the formal acceptance of the applications.

Yours Sincerely,

[Redacted]

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