



Spiorad na Mara Offshore Wind Farm

Offshore Project

Environmental Impact Assessment Report

Chapter 1: Introduction, Volume 1a

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1.1.1 In response to the climate crisis, the Scottish Government has set an ambition to achieve net zero emissions by 2045. Alongside the Scottish Government's original target to install offshore wind capacity of 11 gigawatts (GW) of energy by 2030, the intention of the ambition is to secure energy supply for the future while reducing Scotland's impact on the climate.
- 1.1.1.2 Under the Crown Estate Scotland's (CES) ScotWind leasing process, launched in June 2020, areas of seabed were released that were identified as suitable for renewable energy development. The ScotWind leasing round resulted in 17 developments being awarded Option Agreement Areas (OAA) in January 2022, a further three developments were awarded OAAs in April 2022 as part of the ScotWind clearing process. With the additional clearing process, the ScotWind leasing round surpassed the Scottish Government's target of 11 GWs with 27.6 GWs of potential energy supply from 20 developments.
- 1.1.1.3 As part of the first ScotWind leasing round, Spiorad na Mara Limited (the Applicant) was successfully awarded an OAA (N4 Plan Option) to develop an Offshore Wind Farm (OWF) located approximately 5-13 kilometres (km) off the northwest coast of the Isle of Lewis/*Eilean Leòdhais*. The name for the wind farm, Spiorad na Mara, was developed by working in close partnership with the local community and was inspired by Hebridean folklore as well as reflecting the local area, its heritage, culture and history (Scottish Gaelic for 'Spirit of the Sea').
- 1.1.1.4 The remainder of this chapter is structured as follows:
- Section 1.2: Introduction to the Project - provides an overview of the Spiorad na Mara Offshore Wind Farm's location, main components, project boundaries, and consenting approach;
 - Section 1.3: Purpose of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) – states the aim of the EIAR;
 - Section 1.4: The Applicant - describes Spiorad na Mara Ltd and its ownership structure;
 - Section 1.5: Structure of the EIAR – outlines how the EIAR is presented;
 - Section 1.6: The EIAR Team - lists the specialist consultancies and experts responsible for preparing the EIAR and their respective roles;
 - Section 1.7: Offshore Project application accompanying documents - summarises the key supporting documents submitted with the application;
 - Section 1.8: Obtaining further information and making representation - provides details on how to access the EIAR, where to view physical copies, and how to submit representations or comments on the application.

1.2 INTRODUCTION TO THE PROJECT

1.2.1 PROJECT OVERVIEW

1.2.1.1 The Spiorad na Mara offshore wind farm (the 'Project') is located off the northwest coast of the Isle of Lewis/*Eilean Leòdhais* in the Western Isles/*Na h-Eileanan Siar*, Scotland/*Alba*. The location of the Project is shown on **Figure 1.1: Project Location, Volume 1b**.

1.2.1.2 The Project will generate and transmit renewable electricity to the National Grid. The Applicant has a connection agreement with Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) for a connection to the grid network on mainland Scotland via SSEN's Alternating Current (AC) Substation and High-Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) Converter Station (referred to as the SSEN Lewis Hub).¹

1.2.1.3 The Applicant is submitting separate consent applications for the Offshore Project (component infrastructure seaward of Mean High Water Springs (MHWS)), which is the subject of this EIAR, and the Onshore Transmission Works (OTW) Project (component infrastructure landward of Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS), for which a further consent application will be sought. The consenting approach for the Project is provided in Section 1.2.2.

1.2.1.4 Key components of the Offshore Project include:

- Wind turbine generators (WTGs) on fixed foundations;
- Offshore Substation Platform (OSP) on a fixed foundation (if required);
- Offshore Cables that connect the WTGs together / to the OSP, and to the Landfall site;
- A Landfall site that will be the interface between the offshore and onshore elements for the Project as the Offshore Cables come ashore. The Landfall site is located at a coastal cliff near *Barvas/Barabhas* and will connect to the OTW Project via Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD).

1.2.1.5 The Offshore Project is located within the Offshore Project Boundary which is situated off the northwest coast of Isle of Lewis/*Eilean Leòdhais*, shown in **Figure 1.2: Offshore Project Location, Volume 1b**. The Offshore Project Boundary can be divided into 3 distinct areas:

- **Array Area** – the total area within which WTGs and associated foundations, Array Cables, and the OSP (if required) will be located. The Array Area is located approximately 5-13 km offshore with water depths ranging from 35 m - 67 m, except for a localised depression in the southwest corner where depths reach approximately 72 m, and is approximately 161 km² in size;
- **Turbine Area** - a reduced area within the Array Area where above water surface infrastructure would be located (i.e. WTGs or the OSP). The Turbine Area is approximately 140 km² in size;
- **Offshore Cable Area of Search (OCAS)** – the area within which the Offshore Cables between the Array Area and Landfall will be located. The OCAS is approximately 47 km² in size.

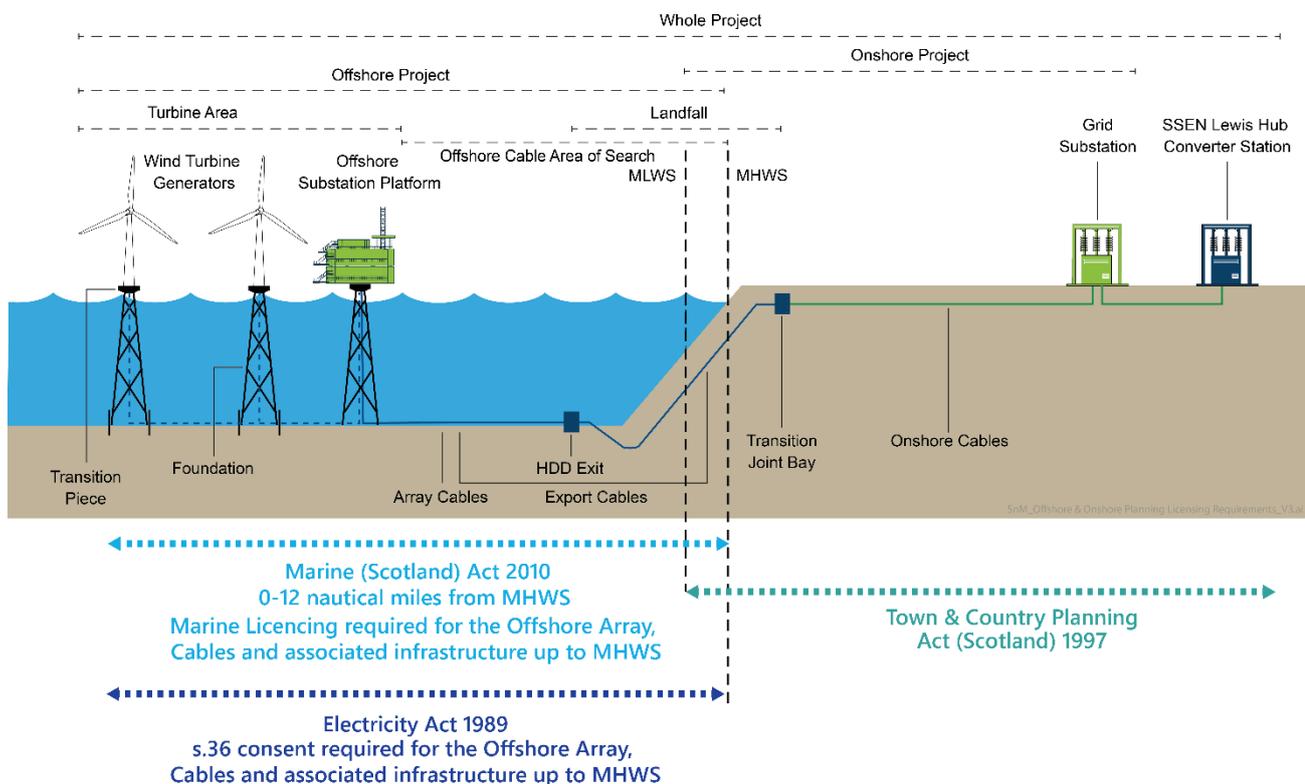
¹ The SSEN Lewis Hub is not part of the Project and is to be developed as part of the upgraded Western Isles HVDC Link. Spiorad na Mara Offshore Project EIAR Chapter 1: Introduction, Volume 1a

1.2.1.6 A full description of the Offshore Project is provided in **Chapter 3: Project Description, Volume 1a**.

1.2.2 CONSENT APPLICATIONS

- 1.2.2.1 The Applicant is submitting separate consent applications for the Offshore Project (seaward of MHWS) and for the OTW Project (landward of MLWS). This EIAR assesses the Offshore Project. For the Offshore Project, the Applicant is seeking the following consents, licences, and permissions:
- Section 36 (s.36) consent under the Electricity Act 1989, for the generating station and offshore transmission infrastructure;
 - Marine licences under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 with respect to prescribed marine licensable activities (between 0 and 12 nm) during the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of the Offshore Project.
- 1.2.2.2 The Scottish Government is the competent authority in respect of the necessary offshore consents and licences required for the construction, operation, and decommissioning stages of an OWF project. Within the Scottish Government, this application process is administered by the Marine Directorate - Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT), on behalf of the Scottish Ministers.
- 1.2.2.3 Further to the Offshore Project consents, the Applicant will seek permission under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended) for the OTW Project, which will be submitted to Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (CnES) separately for approval.
- 1.2.2.4 **Plate 1-1** provides an indicative illustration of the relevant consenting regimes and jurisdictions across the marine-terrestrial interface pertinent to the Project. Further information regarding the infrastructure required for the Offshore Project is provided in **Chapter 3, Volume 1a**.

Plate 1-1 Offshore and onshore planning and licensing requirements



1.3 PURPOSE OF THE EIAR

1.3.1.1 This EIAR for the Offshore Project has been prepared to demonstrate compliance with relevant Scottish legislation mentioned below (for further information refer to **Chapter 2: Policy and Legislative Context, Volume 1a**):

- The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 for applications that require an EIA for a Marine Licence from 0 to 12 nm;
- Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 applying to all applications that require an EIA for Section 36 Consent.

1.3.1.2 This EIAR provides the environmental information required to enable a robust assessment of the potential significant effects on identified receptors throughout the Offshore Project's life cycle. Potential impacts that may arise from all phases of the Offshore Project are considered in this report including Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Decommissioning (as detailed in **Chapter 3, Volume 1a**).

1.3.1.3 This EIAR has been informed by the Spiorad na Mara offshore wind farm Scoping Report which outlined the scope of both the offshore and onshore elements of the Project (Spiorad na Mara Ltd, 2023) and the Scoping Opinion from MD-LOT (MD-LOT, 2024), as well as engagement with statutory stakeholders and public consultation. A full description of the consultation undertaken

for the Offshore Project can be found in **Chapter 5: Approach to EIA, Volume 1a** and **Appendix 5.4: Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement, Volume 1c**.

- 1.3.1.4 Key terms and abbreviations used throughout the EIAR are described in **Appendix 1.1: Glossary and Abbreviations, Volume 1c**. A glossary of terms and abbreviations is also provided at the end of each document (for this chapter, see Section 1.10). The EIAR should be read in conjunction with **Appendix 1.1, Volume 1c**.

1.4 THE APPLICANT

- 1.4.1.1 Spiorad na Mara Ltd is the company that owns the Project (the Applicant). Northland Power Inc. (Northland) is the indirect owner of 75.5% of the share capital of the Applicant and Electricity Supply Board (ESB) indirectly owns the remaining 24.5%.
- 1.4.1.2 Northland is a Canadian independent power producer focused on the development, construction, and operation of renewable energy projects. Founded in 1987, the company has a diverse portfolio, including offshore and onshore wind, solar, and thermal power plants. Northland is committed to advancing clean energy solutions and has established a strong presence in both North America and international markets, particularly in Europe and Asia. The company emphasises sustainability and reducing its carbon footprint while aiming to meet the growing demand for renewable energy. Through strategic investments and partnerships, Northland continues to expand its operations and contribute to the global transition to low-carbon energy.
- 1.4.1.3 ESB is a leading Irish energy company that operates in the generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity. Established in 1927, ESB plays a pivotal role in Ireland's energy sector, providing reliable power to homes, businesses, and industries. The company has a diverse energy mix, including renewable energy sources like wind (onshore and offshore), solar and hydroelectric power, alongside conventional thermal plants. ESB is committed to sustainability and reducing carbon emissions, with a strategic focus on decarbonising its operations and increasing its renewable energy capacity with an expanding presence across Great Britain. The company also explores innovative solutions in energy storage, electric vehicle infrastructure, and smart grid technology, aiming to support the transition to a low-carbon energy future.
- 1.4.1.4 The Applicant adopts a build-to-own approach from the start of any development, considers the long term when making decisions, and will work to strengthen the solid bonds already formed with communities and stakeholder representatives in Scotland's Western Isles and Northwest. As part of this approach, the Applicant will eventually transfer the offshore transmission assets to an Offshore Transmission Owner (OFTO). An OFTO is responsible for operating and maintaining the offshore electric power transmission infrastructure, ensuring the efficient delivery of electricity from the wind farm to the National Grid. This transfer process is managed through a competitive tender process overseen by Ofgem, which aims to partner wind farm developers with the most efficient

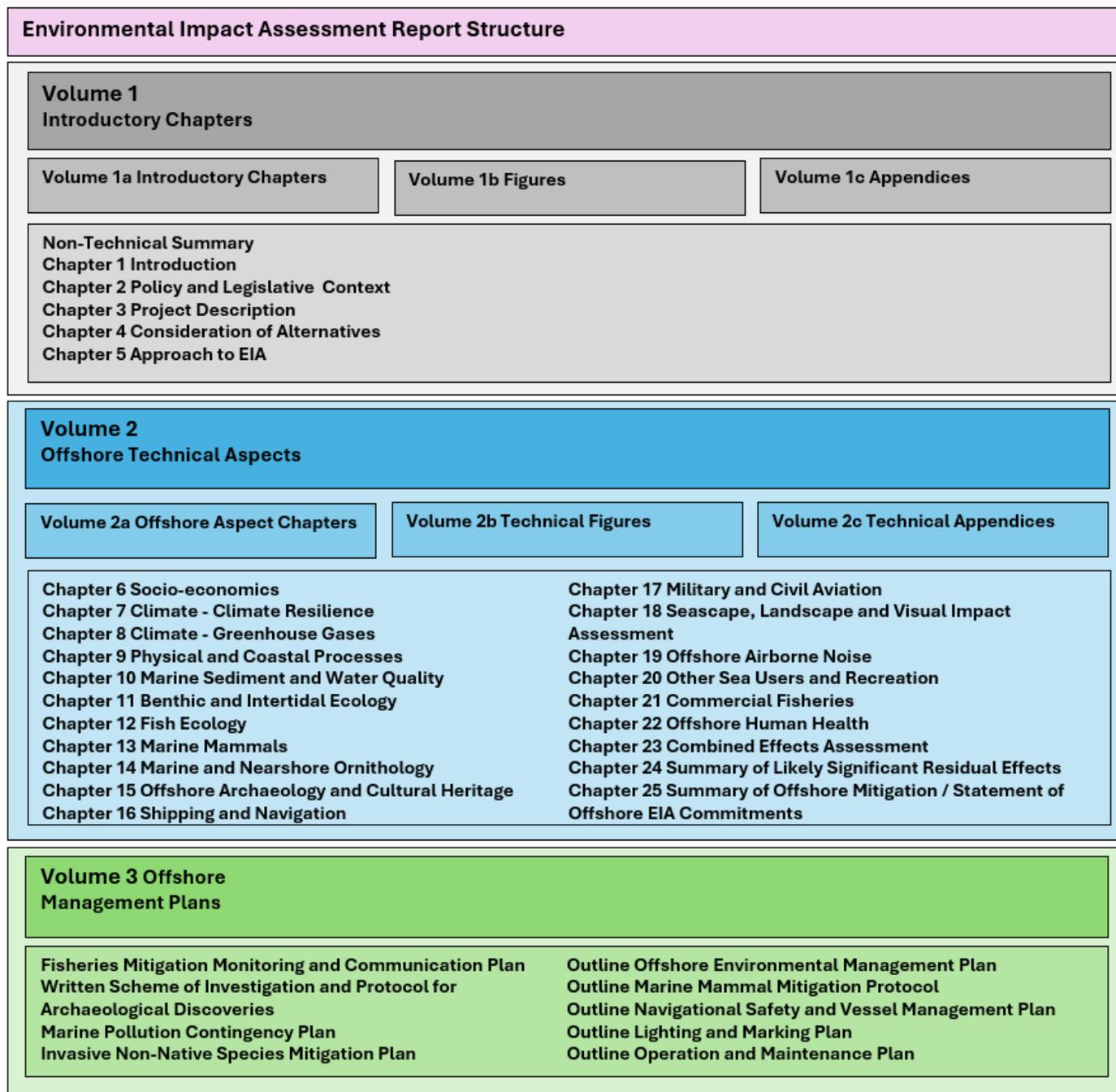
and competitive transmission operators. This ensures that the transmission infrastructure is maintained to high standards, ultimately benefiting both the generators and consumers.

1.5 STRUCTURE OF THE EIAR

1.5.1.1 To direct the reader to aspects relevant to the offshore application, this EIAR comprises of three volumes, as outlined below, and shown in **Plate 1-2**:

- **Volume 1: Introductory chapters** (comprising Volume 1a (chapters); Volume 1b (figures); and Volume 1c (appendices));
- **Volume 2: Offshore technical aspects** (comprising Volume 2a (chapters); Volume 2b (figures); and Volume 2c (appendices));
- **Volume 3: Management Plans.**

1.5.1.2 This EIAR also includes a **Non-Technical Summary** that summarises the findings of the EIA in 'plain English' without using overly technical language.



1.6 THE EIA TEAM

1.6.1.1 Several specialist consultancies have provided expert input into the EIA, as indicated in **Table 1-1**. Unless otherwise indicated, all appendices and figures associated with the chapters listed in **Table 1-1** have been completed by the same authors. All assessments have been prepared by competent experts, as shown in **Appendix 1.2: Competent Experts, Volume 1c**. Eversheds Sutherland has been instructed by the Applicant as legal advisers supporting the delivery of the application. ERM delivered the EIA Scoping Report (Spiorad Na Mara Ltd, 2023).

Table 1-1 Spiorad na Mara's EIAR Team

EIAR	Leading Author
Volume 1a Introductory Chapters	
Chapter 1: Introduction	WSP UK
Chapter 2: Policy and Legislative Context	WSP UK
Chapter 3: Project Description	WSP UK
Chapter 4: Consideration of Alternatives	WSP UK
Chapter 5: Approach to EIA	WSP UK (ERM for specific stakeholder engagement appendix)
Volume 2a Offshore Aspects	
Chapter 6: Socio-Economics	ERM and Atlantic58
Chapter 7: Climate - Climate Resilience	WSP UK
Chapter 8: Climate - Greenhouse Gases	WSP UK
Chapter 9: Physical and Coastal Processes	WSP UK
Chapter 10: Marine Sediment and Water Quality	WSP UK
Chapter 11: Benthic and Intertidal Ecology	WSP UK
Chapter 12: Fish Ecology	WSP UK
Chapter 13: Marine Mammals	WSP UK (Subacoustech, SAMS, APEM, SMRU for specific appendices)
Chapter 14: Marine and Nearshore Ornithology	Niras
Chapter 15: Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	WSP UK (MSDS for specific appendix)
Chapter 16: Shipping and Navigation	Anatec Ltd
Chapter 17: Military and Civil Aviation	Cyrrus Ltd and Mackenzie Renewables Ltd
Chapter 18: Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment	SLR Consulting
Chapter 19: Offshore Airborne Noise	WSP UK
Chapter 20: Other Sea Users and Recreation	ERM
Chapter 21: Commercial Fisheries	Nima Consultants Ltd
Chapter 22: Offshore Human Health	ERM
Chapter 23: Combined Effects Assessment	WSP UK
Chapter 24: Summary of Likely Significant Offshore Residual Effects	WSP UK

EIAR	Leading Author
Chapter 25: Summary of Offshore Mitigation / Statement of Offshore EIA Commitments	WSP UK
Volume 3 Management Plans	
Fisheries Mitigation Monitoring and Communication Plan	ERM
Offshore Written Scheme of Investigation and Protocol for Archaeological Discoveries	WSP UK
Marine Pollution Contingency Plan	WSP UK
Invasive Non-Native Species Mitigation Plan	WSP UK
Outline Offshore Environmental Management Plan	WSP UK
Outline Marine Mammal Mitigation Protocol	WSP UK
Outline Navigational Safety and Vessel Management Plan	Anatec Ltd
Outline Lighting and Marking Plan	Anatec Ltd
Outline Offshore Operation and Maintenance Plan	WSP UK

1.7 OFFSHORE PROJECT APPLICATION ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS

1.7.1.1 To support the consents, licences, and permissions for the Offshore Project, the application includes the accompanying documents listed in **Table 1-2**. An overview of the accompanying documents is provided below.

1.7.2 PLANNING STATEMENT

1.7.2.1 The **Offshore Planning Statement** considers the compatibility of the Offshore Project in the context of existing and emerging development plan and national energy planning policies. **Chapter 2, Volume 1a** provides an overview of the relevant planning and energy policy context for the Offshore Project.

1.7.3 PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION REPORT

1.7.3.1 The **Offshore Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report** provides an overview of the stakeholder consultation and engagement carried out by the Applicant for the Offshore Project prior to the submission of the application. The purpose of a marine Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) PAC report in Scotland is to summarise and document the public and stakeholder engagement that occurred before a marine license application was submitted.

1.7.3.2 The report details the feedback received from stakeholders and other interested parties, and explains how feedback has influenced the Offshore Project's design and development to address concerns and sensitivities.

1.7.4 GAP ANALYSIS

1.7.4.1 The **Offshore Gap Analysis** documents scoping advice published in May 2024 within the Sporad na Mara offshore wind farm Scoping Opinion (MD-LOT, 2024) and the Applicant’s responses. The analysis highlights stakeholder concerns and illustrates where the stakeholder comments have been addressed within the application and where the concerns will be managed via existing legislation or good practice.

1.7.5 HABITATS REGULATIONS

1.7.5.1 The Habitats Regulations require consideration of potential effects from projects and plans on European sites, including Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Ramsar sites. A Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) Screening Report (Sporad na Mara Ltd, 2024) was submitted to the Marine Directorate in September 2024, which outlined the details of the Project and assessed whether there was the potential for the Project, individually or in combination with another plan or project, to have potential for Likely Significant Effect (LSE) on a European site. A HRA Screening Opinion from MD-LOT was received in November 2024 (MD-LOT, 2024). MD-LOT advised that a Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment is provided to support the application that has regard for the European sites and features for Benthic, Subtidal and Intertidal Ecology; Marine Mammals; Offshore and Intertidal Ornithology; Migratory Fish and Freshwater Pearl Mussel; and Terrestrial Ecology and Ornithology.

1.7.5.2 An **Offshore Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment** (RIAA) has been submitted alongside this EIA to provide MD-LOT with the information required to assist them in undertaking an Appropriate Assessment and determining whether there are any implications for European Sites from the Offshore Project whether alone and in-combination with other plans and projects (including the OTW Project).

Table 1-2 Offshore Project application accompanying documents

Application accompanying documents	Leading Author
Offshore Planning Statement	WSP UK
Offshore Pre-Application Consultation Report	The Applicant/ERM
Offshore Gap Analysis	The Applicant/WSP UK/ERM
Offshore Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment	NIRAS
Offshore Application: HRA Derogation Case	The Applicant/NIRAS
HRA: Compensation Plan Roadmap	The Applicant/NIRAS

1.8 OBTAINING FURTHER INFORMATION AND MAKING REPRESENTATION

1.8.1 FURTHER INFORMATION

1.8.1.1 In accordance with legislative requirements and industry best practices, submission of the Offshore Project application will be advertised, and this EIA will be publicly available.

1.8.1.2 The EIA and supporting documentation are available to view online at the following dedicated Project website: <https://northlandpowerscotwind.co.uk/spiorad-na-mara/>.

1.8.1.3 Hard copies of the EIA can be purchased by request via the Project website, whilst copies of the Non-Technical Summary are available free of charge. Requests can also be made by writing to:

Northland Power,
93 George Street,
Edinburgh,
EH2 3ES

1.8.1.4 Paper copies of the entire application submission (EIA and other documentation) are available to view publicly at the following locations:

Table 1-3 EIA Viewing Locations

Location	Address	Opening Hours
Stornoway Library	19 Cromwell St, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, HS1 2DA	Tuesday - Friday 10:00 – 17:00 Saturday 10:00 – 16:00
Horshader Community Development	Raebhat House, North Shawbost, Isle of Lewis, HS2 9BD	Monday – Thursday 9:00 – 17:00 Friday 9:00 – 16:00
Carloway Community Centre	Knock, Carloway, Isle of Lewis, HS2 9AU	Monday – Friday 9:30 – 18:00 Saturday 10:00 – 18:00

1.8.1.5 The application documents are also available via the MD-LOT's website: <https://marine.gov.scot/?q=ml/spiorad-na-mara>

1.8.2 REPRESENTATION

1.8.2.1 For the Offshore Project (all works seaward of MHWS), any representations should be made to the MD-LOT via the online portal above, and within the representation period specified in the relevant newspaper advert. Alternatively, please email MD-LOT at: ms.marinerenewables@gov.scot, or write to: Marine Directorate Licensing Operations Team, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB.

1.9 REFERENCES

Marine Directorate - Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT), May 2024. *Scoping Opinion - Sporad na Mara Offshore Wind Farm*. Available at: <https://marine.gov.scot/?q=data/scoping-opinion-sporad-na-mara-limited-sporad-na-mara-offshore-wind-farm> [Accessed January 2026].

Marine Directorate - Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT), November 2024. *HRA Screening Opinion - Sporad na Mara Offshore Wind Farm*. Available at: <https://marine.gov.scot/?q=ml/spiorad-na-mara> [Accessed January 2026].

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Sporad na Mara Ltd, 2024. *HRA Screening Report - Sporad na Mara Offshore Wind Farm*. Available at: <https://marine.gov.scot/?q=node/25614> [Accessed January 2026].

1.10 GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

1.10.1.1 A list of key terms and acronyms used in this chapter are provided in **Table 1-4** and **Table 1-5**.

Table 1-4 Acronyms and abbreviations

Term	Definition
AC	Alternating Current
CnES	Comhairle nan Eilean Siar
CES	Crown Estate Scotland
ESB	Electricity Supply Board
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
GW	gigawatts
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drilling
HRA	Habitats Regulations Appraisal
HVDC	High-Voltage Direct Current
LSE	Likely Significant Effect
MD-LOT	Marine Directorate - Licensing Operations Team
MHWS	Mean High Water Springs
MLWS	Mean Low Water Springs
OAA	Option Agreement Areas
OCAS	Offshore Cable Area of Search
OFTO	Offshore Transmission Owner
OSP	Offshore Substation Platform
OTW	Onshore Transmission Works
OWF	Offshore Wind Farm
PAC	Pre-Application Consultation
RIAA	Report to inform Appropriate Assessment
s.36	Section 36
SSEN	Southern Electricity Networks
SAC	Special Areas of Conservation
SPA	Special Protection Area
WTG	Wind Turbine Generator

Table 1-5 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

Term	Meaning
	which further below water infrastructure (foundations and cables) may also be located.
Array Cable	<p>The offshore electrical and communication cables that connect infrastructure located within the Array Area, for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenario 1: Array Cables will used to connect Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) to each other, and to connect WTGs to the OSP; • Scenario 2: Array Cables will used to connect WTGs to each other.
Effect	Term used to express the consequence of an impact. The significance of an effect is determined by correlating the magnitude of the impact with the importance, or sensitivity, of the receptor or resource in accordance with defined significance criteria.
Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)	The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) prepared to assess the likely significant effects of the Project on the environment.
Embedded or 'Designed-in' Mitigation	Mitigation measures to avoid or reduce environmental effects that are directly incorporated into the preferred design for the Project. This can include standard practice in accordance with or without guidance. Embedded Mitigation is considered as part of the impact assessment, before effect significance is identified.
Grid Substation	The onshore substation located adjacent to and connecting to the SSEN Lewis Hub. This allows the voltage to be increased to meet onward transmission requirements.
Impact	Change that is caused by an action; for example, foundation installation (action) during construction which results in habitat loss (impact).
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.
Landfall Substation	The optional onshore substation located on the west side of the Isle of Lewis/ <i>Eilean Leòdhais</i> . Includes the platform, buildings and associated components which allows the voltage to be increased to meet onward transmission requirements.
Offshore Application	The application for a marine licence 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 cable infrastructure between the Array Area and Landfall up to Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) will be located.
Offshore Project	The offshore 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.

Term	Meaning
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 onshore components of the Sporad na Mara offshore wind farm (the Project) located landward of Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS). The Applicant will seek consent for the OTW Project through a separate application and so does not form part of this application.
Project	The Sporad 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.
Scoping Opinion	A report presenting the written opinion of the Scottish Ministers, with input from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (CnES) for the OTW, as to the scope and level of detail of information to be provided in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Project.
Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) Lewis Hub	This is the National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) interface. A transmission system operator substation into which the Project will connect for onward transmission through the existing grid network.
Turbine Area	A reduced area within the Array Area where above water surface infrastructure would be located i.e. wind turbine generators (WTG) or Offshore Substation Platform (OSP) (if required). This area has been developed and refined through stakeholder consultation 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.