

Chapter 7 Engagement and Commitments

7.1 Introduction

- 1 The developer has undertaken extensive formal and informal consultation throughout the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) phase of the Neart na Gaoithe offshore wind farm. This has ranged from specific meetings with regulators and stakeholders to open access community events.
- 2 As a result of this project specific consultation and through an understanding of high level strategic requirements, there are a number of commitments and recommendations which have been placed on the development. These range from requirements from regulators, such as Marine Scotland, to suggestions and recommendations from wider stakeholders or consultees.
- 3 This chapter outlines these strategic plans and overarching commitments, as well as highlighting comments through wider project level consultation. Plans for ongoing engagement and liaison with stakeholders are also outlined.
- 4 There are a number of comments and requirements that relate specifically to individual receptors and topics and these are addressed in further detail in relevant individual chapters of this Environmental Statement (ES).

7.2 Strategic and Statutory Engagement

7.2.1 Strategic Plan Level Requirements

- 5 Marine Scotland produced 'Blue Seas - Green Energy - the Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind Energy in Scottish Territorial Waters' ('the Plan') in March 2011 (Marine Scotland, 2011a; Marine Scotland, 2011b). This is the strategic planning document for the development of offshore wind energy in Scottish territorial waters (STW) and contains proposals for development at the regional and national level in the short term (up to 2020) and in the medium term (up to 2030) (Marine Scotland, 2011a). More information on the Plan is provided in Chapter 2: Climate Change and the Need for the Project, and Chapter 3: Regulatory and Policy Context. The proposed Neart na Gaoithe offshore wind farm is one of five remaining short term options in the Plan currently being progressed in STW (refer to Chapter 1: Introduction and Chapter 5: Project Description for further information).
- 6 Under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Plan required that a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) be undertaken. The SEA, carried out by Marine Scotland, identifies key environmental receptors and potential impacts from implementation of the Plan, and indicates potential mitigation measures while providing an early indication of issues to be addressed at the project level.
- 7 Additionally, an appraisal of the Plan was carried out under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994. The Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) is an additional requirement for all plans or programmes that may affect Natura 2000 sites (Chapter 11: Nature Conservation, provides more detail on the Habitats Regulations and HRA).
- 8 The Plan, SEA and HRA process and findings are detailed in Part A: The Plan and Part B: Post Adoption Statement (Marine Scotland, 2011a; Marine Scotland, 2011b). Within these, the Scottish Government has made a series of binding commitments on behalf of the developers of STW sites. These commitments are summarised in Table 7.1. Several are specific to individual receptors and topics and are therefore addressed in more detail in relevant chapters of this ES.
- 9 The EIA process, as outlined in Chapter 6: The Approach to Environmental Impact Assessment, consists of several stages, the second of which is a scoping exercise. The aim of the scoping exercise is to assist the developer in identifying the key environmental issues (and potential mitigation) associated with their proposal. Information from the scoping stage of the EIA process is then incorporated into the preparation of the ES. The Neart na Gaoithe Scoping Report was completed and submitted to Scottish Ministers in November 2009.

10 The response to the Scoping Report (the Scoping Opinion) was received in February 2010 and remains available in the public domain on the Marine Scotland website¹. The full Scoping Opinion is provided in Appendix 6.1: Scoping Opinion.

11 Through the Scoping Opinion, Marine Scotland provided a number of recommendations to the developer, including requirements for the production of this ES, such as 'scoping in' topic requirements to be included in this document. A summary of the Scoping Opinion and a summary of the response, or reference to where these have been considered in the relevant chapters of this ES, are presented in Table 7.2 below.

¹<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Business-Industry/Energy/Infrastructure/Energy-Consents/Applications-Database/Wind/NNG-Index/Scoping>

Topic/Issue	Comment, requirement or commitment in the plan (including SEA and HRA)	Relevance to Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm
General	There is a need to ensure that cumulative and in-combination effects are fully recognised and taken into account at the regional and project level.	Cumulative and in-combination impacts are being assessed in this ES at an individual project level. Also a number of studies have been undertaken and assessment methodologies agreed through collaborative work between developers in the Forth and Tay region. Refer to Chapter 6: The Approach to Environmental Impact Assessment, Chapter 5: Project Description, cumulative documents (Royal Haskoning (2010)) and individual topic chapters.
	Recommendations for mitigation and monitoring have been put forward and should be applied appropriately.	Mitigation is addressed on a topic by topic basis within individual chapters in the ES.
Physical Environment	<p>Several requirements, commitments and recommendations relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Marine geology and bathymetry; ● Coastal processes; ● Water and air quality; and ● Noise and vibration. <p>These include comments such as highlighting the potential for impacts on the seabed from offshore wind developments, and requirements such as a recommendation for assessment work for individual projects to reduce uncertainty regarding impacts on coastal processes.</p>	Requirements and commitments listed in the Plan, SEA and HRA that are relevant to each of these topics are detailed and addressed in the individual chapters in: Chapter 8: Geology and Water Quality; Chapter 9: Physical Processes; and Chapter 10: Air Quality. Impacts from noise are addressed in individual topic receptor chapters.
Biological Environment	<p>Several requirements, commitments and recommendations relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ornithology; ● Marine mammals; ● Benthic ecology; and ● Fish and shellfish ecology. <p>There are several requirements relating to consideration of the biological environment, including the need to conduct a project level HRA for all individual offshore wind farm projects as listed in the Plan.</p>	Requirements and commitments listed in the Plan, SEA and HRA that are relevant to each of these topics are detailed and addressed in individual chapters in: Chapter 12: Ornithology; Chapter 13: Marine Mammals; Chapter 14: Benthic Ecology; and Chapter 15: Fish and Shellfish Ecology. Chapter 11: Nature Conservation provides more detail on the requirements for HRA.
Human Environment	<p>Several requirements, commitments and recommendations relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Commercial fisheries; ● Shipping and navigation; ● Maritime archaeology & cultural heritage; ● Seascape, landscape and visual impact; ● Other human receptors; ● Socioeconomics; and ● Ordnance. <p>Particular requirements relate to a need to consider impacts on particular commercial fisheries in the area, and landscape and seascape character in the region.</p>	Requirements and commitments listed in the Plan, SEA and HRA that are relevant to each of these topics are detailed and addressed in the individual chapters in: Chapter 16: Commercial Fisheries; Chapter 17: Shipping and Navigation; Chapter 18: Military and Aviation; Chapter 19: Archaeology; Chapter 20: Ordnance; Chapter 21: Seascape and Visual; Chapter 22: Other Users; and Chapter 23: Socioeconomics.

Table 7.1: Strategic commitments and requirements from the Plan and accompanying HRA and SEA relevant to Neart na Gaoithe (Source: Marine Scotland, 2011a, Marine Scotland, 2011b; Marine Scotland, 2011c)

Topic	Issue	Comment/opinion	Relevance to Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm
General Approach	Non-Technical Summary (NTS)	NTS of ES should highlight consultation, measures to address stakeholder consultation and suggested mitigation where appropriate.	Comments have been taken into account for the Non-Technical Summary (NTS).
	Assessment approach	Baseline assessments should consider the natural variability in background parameters with regards to normal and extreme conditions.	Current environmental conditions taking into account the background variability in environmental conditions are described in the baseline sections of the individual chapters. Chapter 6: The Approach to Environmental Impact Assessment describes the approach taken within this ES to assessing significance of impacts.
		Environmental and other impacts from operation and maintenance need consideration and the assessment of impacts will need to be carried out for each phase of development.	This ES takes into account potential impacts from construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning of the offshore elements of the wind farm. Following submission of the consent application, further strategies on construction management, maintenance and decommissioning will be produced.
		Request details of the full carbon balance budget for the proposed development detailed in the ES. May include manufacturing and CO ₂ loss from the seabed.	Chapter 2: Climate Change and the Need for the Project provides an explanation of the benefits of the project. A full Lifecycle Carbon Analysis has been undertaken for the project as a whole; refer to Chapter 2: Climate Change and the Need for the Project.
	Assessment approach: construction	Require consideration of prevention and clean-up measures for construction, operation and decommissioning, to address impacts such as increased sediment loading, point source pollution, migration disturbance, spawning disturbance, drainage and water quality issues and contamination.	The ES takes into account potential impacts from construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning of the offshore elements of the wind farm. A CEMP will be produced after the consent application and associated ES have been submitted.
		Recommend submission of an outline Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) with the ES to incorporate principles of all proposed pollution prevention and mitigation measures.	
		ES should include information on waste minimisation during construction (promote use of recycled/renewable materials). This should include identifying all waste streams and developing a site waste management plan (in accordance with National Waste Plan). Guidance available from netregs, Envirowise and Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA).	
	Construction approach	Proposed construction methods need outlining, including contractor arrangements, 'chain of command', timetabling, equipment, delivery routes and port facilities.	
	Decommissioning	A broad overview of decommissioning options should be set out in the ES. Decommissioning proposals should follow the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) ' <i>Decommissioning of offshore renewable energy installations under the Energy Act 2004: Guidance notes for industry</i> '.	A decommissioning plan will be produced after the consent application and associated ES have been submitted and will take into account relevant regulatory requirements and available guidance.
		Request details of proposed mitigation measures for the decommissioning and reinstatement of the site, including a range of scenarios.	A decommissioning plan will be produced after the consent application and associated ES have been submitted and will take into account relevant regulatory requirements and available guidance. If the site is to be re-powered this will be subject to a separate planning application and associated EIA.
Repowering		The environmental, navigational and other effects of repowering the site need addressing in the ES.	If the site is to be re-powered this will be subject to a separate planning application and associated EIA.
Project Design	Turbine design	The description of the development should include specification of the turbines as far as it is known, including the proposed colour(s).	Chapter 5: Project Description provides an overview of the development. This includes detail on the colour(s) of the infrastructure, which is in accordance with requirements from the relevant regulatory authorities.
	Additional infrastructure	The description of the development should also include any other infrastructure that might be necessary and form part of the application. This should include details of the onshore substation and cable routes.	Chapter 5: Project Description provides an overview of the development. This includes all offshore elements of the project. The onshore works associated with the installation of the substation and cable route are dealt with in a separate planning application and EIA.
	Onshore connection	Consideration should be given to the possibility of other offshore wind farms connecting to the sub-sea cable and also coming ashore at Torness or Cockenzie.	Offers for connection points for offshore wind farms are provided by the National Grid's Electricity Transmission System.
Format and Submission	ES format and formal submission requirements	ES should be submitted in PDF format for the Scottish Government website. Issue ESs directly to consultees - addresses available from Energy Consents Unit. Also require eight hardcopies to be issued internally to Scottish Government consultees.	This ES has been submitted in accordance with the regulations as required by Marine Scotland.
		Where applications are located in areas where Gaelic is spoken, developers are encouraged to adopt best practice by publicising the project details in both English and Gaelic.	The application is not located in an area where Gaelic is widely spoken and so the project details are described in English only.
		ES must contain Ordnance Survey plans showing site boundary and all turbines, access tracks and onshore supporting infrastructure in a format compatible with the Scottish Government's Spatial Data Management Environment (SDME), along with appropriate metadata. The SDME is based around Oracle RDBMS and ESRI ArcSDE and all incoming data should be supplied in ESRI shapefile format. The SDME also contains a metadata recording system based on the ISO template within ESRI ArcCatalog (agreed standard used by the Scottish Government); all metadata should be provided in this format.	The ES does not contain an Ordnance Survey plan due to its offshore nature. In accordance with industry best practice the project description and plan are submitted in an ESRI shapefile format and using UKHO admiralty chart references.
Physical Environment	Sediment regime, water quality and air quality	Several comments relating to the physical environment, such as requirements to assess changes in sediment transport, changes in air quality and water quality.	Scoping Opinion requirements and comments relevant to each of these topics are detailed and addressed in Chapters 8-10.
Biological Environment	Receptor specific comments	Several comments relating to the biological environment, including the need to consider potential impacts on several bird species, information on guidance available for assessing biological impacts and comments on indicative approaches to assessment as described in the Scoping Report. Also several comments relate to the need to assess the proposal under the process of HRA for impacts on sites designated as Natura 2000 sites as an Appropriate Assessment (AA) will be required.	Scoping Opinion requirements and comments relevant to each of these topics are detailed and addressed in Chapters 11-15. A project level HRA has also been undertaken alongside this ES. Chapter 11: Nature Conservation provides more detail on the approach and summarises information for HRA and AA.
Human Environment	Receptor specific comments	Several comments relating to the human environment, including those referring to potential impacts on cultural heritage assets, marine users, the economic benefit of the project, and guidance on navigational impact assessment.	Scoping Opinion requirements and comments relevant to each of these topics are detailed and addressed in Chapters 16-23.

Table 7.2: Overview of requirements for this ES from the Neart na Gaoithe Scoping Opinion

7.2.2 Wider Engagement on Environmental Impact Assessment for the Project

- 12 Throughout the EIA process there has been ongoing engagement with regulators and statutory consultees. Consultation was undertaken early in the scoping process, as described in the Scoping Report (available to download from <http://www.neartnagaoithe.com>) and has continued through the EIA process to inform the content and approach.
- 13 Much of this consultation has been on a topic by topic basis, for example, where there has been specific advice on how to address potential impacts on biological receptors from regulators such as Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH). Additionally, there has been broader engagement through meetings with Marine Scotland and other statutory consultees, both on a project level and through the regional developers' group, the Forth and Tay Offshore Wind Developers Group (FTOWDG). FTOWDG was set up to address cumulative issues and for developers to work together on various topics (see Chapter 5: Project Description and Chapter 6: The Approach to Environmental Impact Assessment for further information on FTOWDG and other planned wind farm developments in the Forth and Tay region).
- 14 An overview of specific engagement and consultation with regulators, statutory bodies and other key stakeholders, in addition to the overall requirements at a strategic and scoping level described previously is detailed in Table 7.3. A full list of all consultation meetings held, both with regulators and more widely with other stakeholders, is provided in Appendix 7.1: Consultation and Meeting Log. Additionally, topic specific consultation and engagement with stakeholders is provided in the relevant individual chapters within this ES.

Topic/chapter	Overview of engagement carried out
Physical Processes	Agreement was sought from Marine Scotland on the required scope of works to model potential metocean impacts. Additionally, information on water quality was sought from SEPA. Chapter 8: Geology and Water Quality and Chapter 9: Physical Processes provide more detail.
Nature Conservation, Ornithology, Marine Mammals and other Biological Topics	There has been ongoing engagement with SNH and the Joint Nature Conservation Council (JNCC) on the approach to assessing biological impacts for EIA and HRA purposes. This has been through the FTOWDG and on a project basis and has included specific discussions concerning individual receptors, such as bird, marine mammal and fish species. Additionally, consultation with the fishing community has provided some information on fish species present in the area and perceived potential impacts from the project. Chapter 11: Nature Conservation, Chapter 12: Ornithology, Chapter 13: Marine Mammals, Chapter 14: Benthic Ecology and Chapter 15: Fish and Shellfish Ecology provide more detail.
Commercial Fisheries	A Fisheries Engagement Strategy was developed in conjunction with other developers in the Forth and Tay region through the FTOWDG. Several meetings were held with Fishing Industry Representatives, local Fisheries Boards and Fishermen's Associations. These were used to discuss information on the project as well as to understand the commercial fishing activity in the region and how the project may affect this. Chapter 16: Commercial Fisheries provides more detail.
Shipping and Navigation	A full navigational risk assessment was carried out. As well as including regulatory bodies such as the Northern Lighthouse Board, this included consultation of wider sea users such as representatives from the Royal Yachting Association and Scottish Canoe Association. Chapter 17: Shipping and Navigation provides more detail.
Military and Aviation	Several stakeholders were contacted to inform the baseline and impact assessment work. These include the Civil Aviation Authority, Ministry of Defence and local airports. Chapter 18: Military and Aviation provides more detail.
Maritime Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Consultation has been undertaken with Historic Scotland. Chapter 19: Maritime Archaeology and Cultural Heritage provides more detail.
Other Users	A series of letters was sent to marine and coastal recreation groups in the area surrounding the offshore works area, asking for information on groups such as recreational angling societies, canoeing clubs, surf schools and similar. Direct contact was made with some marine users, such as sailing clubs, to obtain similar information. The feedback from these letters has been used to inform the baseline of this chapter and also to assess potential impacts of the development. Chapter 22: Other Users provides more detail.

Table 7.3: Overview of engagement carried out for specific topics within this ES

7.3 Wider Public Consultation

- 15 This section outlines the wider public consultation undertaken during planning for the Neart na Gaoithe offshore wind farm.
- 16 There are no formal requirements for the developer to carry out consultation for the offshore works application during the development of the ES; however, ongoing consultation is encouraged. For the onshore works application, there are different requirements, including the need to submit evidence of pre-application consultation. The Pre-application Consultation with Communities (PACC) Report produced for the onshore works application, is appended to this ES (Appendix 7.2: PACC Report).
- 17 Throughout the EIA process and the development of the consent application for the project, there has been engagement with wider stakeholders and members of the public. Due to the nature of the project with both onshore and offshore elements, much of this wider engagement with the public has been carried out relating to the whole development (including onshore and offshore aspects).
- 18 Wider engagement was carried out throughout development of the Scoping Report. The results of this are detailed in the Scoping Report and its appendices, available to download from www.neartnagaoithe.com. This section therefore details consultation carried out in development of the ES and does not include any carried out in the earlier stages of EIA.

7.3.1 General Engagement

- 19 The approach to planning engagement with the public has followed published guidance where possible. This has principally been the Planning Aid for Scotland's 'SP=EED' framework (Scottish Planning = Effective Engagement and Delivery) (Planning Aid Scotland, 2011), to design and audit the public consultation for the project.
- 20 This guidance outlines criteria and levels for effective stakeholder engagement. Following the guidance, an audit can be undertaken which seeks to identify to what extent the proposed stakeholder consultation plan has effectively been designed and implemented and whether further engagement activities are required prior to a planning application being submitted. This was undertaken for the project and further detail is presented in Appendix 7.2: PACC Report.
- 21 Following the SP=EED approach, an overall Stakeholder Management Plan (see Appendix 7.2) was developed. This presents the proposed public and stakeholder engagement approach for the project prior to detailed consultation commencing. The plan focused on the key engagement activities that were proposed in the pre-application phase of its development. The document outlined the following:
- Key features of the proposed offshore wind farm;
 - The consenting procedure for similar developments, in particular the consultation responsibilities of the developer;
 - The objectives of the proposed engagement;
 - The process for engaging with its key stakeholders;
 - The key stakeholders and classified them into appropriate groups;
 - A range of different proposed engagement methods for the development;
 - An approach to ensure stakeholder comments are recorded and reported; and
 - Proposed methods for engaging with key stakeholders following the planning submission.
- 22 This document was subject to consultation prior to its publication. Bodies responsible for determining the offshore consent application and onshore planning submission were given an opportunity to comment on the Stakeholder Management Plan (refer to Appendix 7.2: PACC Report), to ensure that it was fit for purpose and met best practice standards before the main pre-application consultation commenced. No responses to the document were received.

7.3.1.1 Use of Events, Exhibitions and Questionnaires

- 23 A number of different engagement methods were used, with the primary method being open public events or exhibitions, designed to give information and seek feedback on the project as a whole. Further consultation was carried out through use of a project website and distribution of letters, as described below. The first public events were held in November 2010 and continued throughout 2011. A combined total of ten community events and exhibitions were held in this period.
- 24 Six public consultation exhibitions were held at community venues on the East Coast of Scotland, in East Lothian, Fife and Angus. A further four exhibitions were held as part of broader community fetes and galas - these events aimed to reach population groups that were not fully represented at the earlier events and 'drop-in' visitors to the galas.
- 25 The public consultation exhibitions were marketed locally where possible, including sending flyers to nearby residents, use of adverts in newspapers and radio advertising. Further information on the marketing of each event is provided in Appendix 7.2: PACC Report.
- 26 Each consultation exhibition and gala stand involved information about the project being displayed on a series of display boards (see Figure 7.3 below). These included overview information on the development, its timeline and the consenting process, as well as indicative photomontages of the development from key viewpoints. Additionally, further detailed information was presented on some of the specific work undertaken for topics within this ES. At all events and exhibitions attendees were encouraged to submit a questionnaire response with any concerns or queries.



Figure 7.2: Photograph showing community consultation event

- 27 The outcomes from each series of events is presented in three separate reports, which are appended to the PACC report (Appendix 7.2: PACC Report):
- A report on Community Consultation Events held in Angus and Fife (winter 2010);
 - A report on Community Consultation Events held in East Lothian (May 2011); and
 - A report on Community Consultation Events held at Fetes and Galas on the East Coast of Scotland (summer 2011).

7.3.1.2 Feedback from Exhibitions and Events

- 28 For the general information events (consultation exhibitions and stands at fetes and galas), a total of 826 individuals attended the events. Further information on the attendees for each event is provided in Appendix 7.2: PACC Report.
- 29 Attendees included a wide range of individuals from local communities and organisations. Representatives attended from the following organisations:
- Community Councils (e.g., Innerwick and East Lammermuir);
 - East Lothian Council;
 - Fife Council;
 - Local Environmental Groups; and
 - Harbour Authorities (e.g., Dunbar Harbour Trust) and marine users (e.g., Royal Yachting Association representatives and local surfers).
- 30 A total of 41% (356) of event attendees completed a questionnaire. Respondents were asked their view on the project itself as well as wider opinions on use of renewable energy and thoughts about climate change. For example, in responding to a question asking the respondent's view on climate change and renewable energy:
- 88% of respondents thought that climate change is something that we should take action about now; and
 - 92% agreed that it is important that we take the development of offshore renewable energy sources seriously.
- 31 The questionnaire also gauged the general opinion of respondents on the development. Overall, 66.7% supported the development, 22.1% neither supported nor objected and 11.2% objected to the project. The greatest concerns raised on potential impacts for the project were those related to the visual impact, birds and marine mammals.
- 32 The greatest number of comments were classed, generally, as supportive. These ranged from general comments such as "I think it is a good idea" and "It's a very important development" to comments identifying opportunities, such as "fantastic for local economies" and "I like the look of them and believe they would be a tourist attraction".
- 33 There were some comments objecting to the project, including comments such as "I do not like the visibility of the project from the shore" and "I think it will spoil the area", as well as some relating to the Gaelic name of the project.
- 34 A large number of comments related to specific impacts from the development and the need for these to be addressed, with comments including respondents being "concerned about effects on local fishing grounds" and that it "may spoil tourism – altering the natural beauty of sites".
- 35 Full results from the questionnaire responses are provided in Appendix 7.2: PACC Report.

7.3.2 Additional Consultation Methods

- 36 In addition to the community events, consultation with the wider public has been, and continues to be, encouraged through promotion of a website designed specifically for the project.

37 This website allows dissemination of information on the consultation events and further outlines information on the project, such as updated information brochures showing progress on the development of this ES. Individuals are able to register on the website and are then sent any updates or information on upcoming consultation events automatically.

38 The website also allows visitors to submit comments or queries on the development. A total of 53 queries have been received through the website to date (January 2012), on a variety of topics ranging from those expressing their opinion to specific queries on the project design and the EIA process. All emails to the website received a tailored response. Further information on emails providing specific information on individual topics is provided in individual chapters of this ES.

39 In addition to email correspondence generated through the project website, for certain topics (e.g., other marine users) written consultation was carried out through letters to interested organisations, to help inform the information presented in the chapter. Further information on this approach is provided in Chapter 22: Other Users.

7.4 Summary and Conclusions

40 Through overarching strategic plans, there are several commitments made on behalf of the developers of STW offshore wind farm projects in terms of requirements for EIA and topics for consideration through the consenting process. These requirements have been assessed on a topic by topic basis and addressed throughout this ES.

41 Additionally, throughout the planning for the Neart na Gaoithe offshore wind farm project, the project team has liaised with relevant regulators and statutory consultees and more widely with other stakeholders. This has resulted in a number of recommendations being made in terms of addressing project design, as well as providing information on individual topics and suggested mitigation and management measures. More widely, such consultation has highlighted broad support for the project from a number of representatives from the local community and allowed the dissemination of information to the wider public.

42 Consultation and engagement with both regulators and wider interested stakeholders will continue as the project develops. In addition to the statutory consultation exercise that will be carried out by Marine Scotland as part of the consent process, ongoing engagement continues with various industry and interest group representatives. The website will continue to be used and further community events will be held such as attendance at further summer galas in 2012. This will ensure that relevant recommendations and views on the project can be taken into account as the project progresses.

7.5 References

Emec and Xodus Aurora, 2010. *Consenting, EIA and HRA Guidance for Marine Renewable Energy Developments in Scotland*. Scottish Government Report (Draft). Available online from: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine/LicensingManual> [accessed Apr 2010].

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Royal Haskoning, 2010. *Scottish Offshore Wind Farms – East Coast. Discussion Document (2) – Approach to Cumulative Effects Assessment*. Report 9V9341 for Forth and Tay Offshore Wind Developers' Group, November 2010.

Appendices

Appendix 7.1: Consultation and Meeting Log

Appendix 7.2: PACC report