

SSE Renewables



Derogation Case

2024





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INTRODUCTION 1.

- 1. This document sets out the outline for the detailed Compensation Implementation and Monitoring Plan (CIMP) that will be developed by the Applicant post-consent. The CIMP will detail the final delivery proposals for the compensatory measures, in view of the Appropriate Assessment findings and the outcome of consultation with key stakeholders.
- 2. The CIMP will be developed in accordance with the Compensation Plan (appendix 2), which is being submitted as part of this Derogation Case. The Compensation Plan provides Scottish Ministers with detailed information on the two proposed compensatory measures - Mink Control and Bycatch Reduction - to give them the confidence that the measures can be delivered and secured post consent.
- 3. It is proposed that the requirement to produce a CIMP will be a condition of the Array's section 36 consent. The Applicant has provided proposed text for this condition within the Compensation Plan (appendix 2).

CIMP STRUCTURE 2.

- 4. The CIMP will be structured as follows:
 - Section 1: Introduction •
 - Section 2: CIMP Structure •
 - Section 3: Background
 - Section 4: Consultation •
 - Section 5: Strategic Compensation •
 - Section 6: Mink Control in Scotland
 - Section 6.1: Scale and Location _
 - Section 6.2: Implementation of Measure
 - _ Section 6.3: Delivery Mechanism
 - Section 6.4: Partnership Agreements
 - _ Section 6.5: Monitoring and Adaptive Management
 - Section 6.6: Reporting _
 - Section 6.7: Programme for Implementation and Delivery _
 - _ Section 6.8: Discharge of Consent Condition
 - Section 7: Bycatch Reduction •
 - Section 7.1: Scale and Location
 - Section 7.2: Implementation of Measure
 - Section 7.3: Delivery Mechanism _
 - Section 7.4: Partnership Agreements _
 - Section 7.5: Monitoring and Adaptive Management _
 - _ Section 7.6: Reporting
 - Section 7.7: Programme for Implementation and Delivery _
 - Section 7.8: Discharge of Consent Condition

BACKGROUND 3.

5. This section will provide context to the CIMP, confirming the reason for its need, its aims and objectives, and the latest project status.

CONSULTATION 4

6. This section will summarise all relevant consultation that has taken place with key stakeholders during the development of the CIMP. It will capture any key decisions, agreements, and where relevant any outstanding issues under discussion (with clarity as to the steps necessary to resolve any such matters). Ongoing engagement, for example to provide updates on monitoring, (post-discharge of the detailed CIMP) will be outlined here. The final list of key stakeholders will be defined in the CIMP post-consent, however, for mink control it will likely involve NatureScot, Scottish Invasive Species Initiative (SISI), relevant land managers and/or owners, Marine Directorate Licensing - Operations Team (MD-LOT) and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB). For bycatch reduction, key stakeholders would likely be: NatureScot, MD-LOT, the Sociedade Portuguesa para o Estudo das Aves (SPEA, translated in English to the Portuguese Society for the Study of Birds) and the RSPB.

5 STRATEGIC COMPENSATION

- 7. This section will review the status of strategic compensation and assess its suitability for inclusion within the CIMP, either in addition to, or in replacement of Mink Control and Bycatch Reduction.
- 8. If strategic compensation is a viable route, the proposed plan for delivery will be detailed in the CIMP in an appropriate format (however, the example subsections below provide a likely suitable approach which can be adapted).

MINK CONTROL IN SCOTLAND 6

6.1. SCALE AND LOCATION

9. This section will identify the scale of compensation proposed to be provided and how this relates to the consent decision made by the Scottish Ministers. This section will also detail the specific location(s) at which the compensation will be delivered. The evidence base provided in support of the Compensation Plan, any updates to this evidence base and engagement with the key stakeholders will be used to identify the scale and locations required to achieve adequate levels of compensation. The results of any monitoring carried out pre-implementation will also be detailed here as this may influence the scale and locations.

6.2. IMPLEMENTATION OF MEASURE

10. This section will specify the approach for the Mink Control programme proposed. The design will incorporate the evidence base provided in support of the Compensation Plan, any updates to this evidence base and engagement with the key stakeholders. It will also incorporate any best practice standards for Mink Control (as described in the Compensation Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment (RIAA): Appendices 5 and 6).

6.3. DELIVERY MECHANISM

11. This section will detail the actions needed to accomplish Mink Control. It will outline key members involved in the delivery, their role in the process and responsibilities associated with implementation. It will also confirm the nature and status of any consents, access agreements, and any other relevant approvals that were necessary to secure the implementation of the compensation measure and include a programme for delivery of any outstanding approvals.



6.4. PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS

12. This section will include details of the agreement with the relevant delivery partner of the compensation measure, anticipated to be the SISI, to ensure the implementation of the measure. It will also include any other relevant approvals and/or funding arrangements that are necessary to secure the implementation of the compensation measures and include a programme for delivery.

6.5. MONITORING AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

13. This section will identify and detail how Mink Control will be monitored and the approach to adaptive management. The latter will include the scenarios under which adaptive management measures are required. This section will be developed in line with the evidence base provided in support of the Compensation Plan, any updates to this evidence base and engagement with the key stakeholders.

6.6. REPORTING

This section will set out the reporting requirements associated with the monitoring and adaptive 14. management, including objectives and timescales for the reporting.

PROGRAMME FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND DELIVERY 6.7.

This section will confirm the programme for the implementation and long term delivery of the compensation. 15.

6.8. DISCHARGE OF CONSENT CONDITION

This section will confirm how, based on the content of the CIMP, the Scottish Ministers can discharge the 16. condition relating to the delivery of the compensation required for identified AEOI on relevant Special Protection Areas (SPA).

7. BYCATCH REDUCTION

7.1. SCALE AND LOCATION

17. This section will identify the scale of compensation proposed to be provided and how this relates to the consent decision made by the Scottish Ministers. This section will then also detail the specific location(s) at which the compensation will be delivered. The evidence base provided in support of the Compensation Plan, any updates to this evidence base and engagement with the key stakeholders will be used to identify the scale and locations required to achieve adequate levels of compensation. The results of any monitoring carried out pre-implementation will also be detailed here as this may influence the scale and locations.

7.2. IMPLEMENTATION OF MEASURE

18. This section will specify information relating to the final approach to implementation of the proposed Bycatch Reduction programme. The approach will incorporate the evidence base provided in support of the Compensation Plan, any updates to this evidence base and engagement with the key stakeholders. It will also incorporate any best practice standards for Bycatch Reduction (as described in the Compensation EIA and RIAA: Appendices 5 and 6).

7.3. DELIVERY MECHANISMS

19. This section will detail the actions needed to accomplish Bycatch Reduction. This section will outline key members involved in the delivery, their role in the process and responsibilities associated with implementation. This section will also confirm the nature and status of any consents, access agreements, and any other relevant approvals that were necessary to secure the implementation of the compensation measure and include a programme for delivery of any outstanding approvals.

7.4. PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS

20. This section will include details of the agreement with the relevant delivery partner of this compensation measure, anticipated to be SPEA to ensure the implementation of the measure. It will also include any other relevant approvals and/or funding arrangements that are necessary to secure the implementation of the compensation measures and include a programme for delivery.

7.5. MONITORING AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

This section will identify and detail how Bycatch Reduction will be monitored and the approach to adaptive 21. management. The latter will include the scenarios under which adaptive management measures are required. This section will be developed in line with the evidence base provided in support of the Compensation Plan, any updates to this evidence base and engagement with the key stakeholders.

7.6. REPORTING

This section will set out the reporting requirements associated with the monitoring and adaptive 22. management, including objectives and timescales for the reporting.

PROGRAMME FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND DELIVERY 7.7.

This section will confirm the programme for the implementation and long term delivery of the compensation. 23.

DISCHARGE OF CONSENT CONDITION 7.8.

24. This section will confirm how, based on the content of the CIMP, the Scottish Ministers can discharge the condition relating to the delivery of the compensation required for the identified AEOI on SPAs.



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