



**THE CONSERVATION (NATURAL HABITATS, &c.) REGULATIONS 1994 (AS AMENDED)**

**THE OFFSHORE MARINE CONSERVATION (NATURAL HABITATS ETC) REGULATIONS 2007 (AS AMENDED)**

**LICENCE TO DISTURB MARINE SPECIES**

This licence is granted under regulation 44(2)(e) of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended) and regulation 55(6)(a) of the Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 by the Scottish Ministers who, after consultation with, and having been advised as to the circumstances in which they should grant such licences by Scottish Natural Heritage are satisfied as regards the purpose for which the licence is granted, (namely, for an imperative reason of public health and safety or overriding public interest including that of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment); and that (a) there is no other satisfactory alternative and (b) that the action authorised will not be detrimental to the maintenance of the population of the species concerned at a favourable conservation status in their natural range; and unless revoked by the Scottish Ministers is valid from 7 September 2021 to 31 December 2023 and authorises:

Joseph Deimel  
Beatrice Offshore Windfarm Limited  
1 Waterloo Street  
Glasgow  
G2 6AY

Or any person authorised in writing by him.

To disturb the European protected species of Bottlenose Dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*), Harbour Porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*), Minke Whale (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*), White-Beaked Dolphin (*Lagenorhynchus albirostris*), Risso's Dolphin (*Grampus griseus*), Fin Whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*), Long-finned pilot whale (*Globicephala melas*), Killer Whale (*Orcinus orca*) at Beatrice Offshore Windfarm in the Moray Firth, Scotland, as detailed in the applications for a licence to disturb European protected species and supporting documents but only subject to the under-noted conditions:

**PURPOSE AND CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH ACTION IS REQUIRED**

This licence is granted for the purpose of permitting the disturbance of Bottlenose Dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*), Harbour Porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*), Minke Whale (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*), White-Beaked Dolphin (*Lagenorhynchus albirostris*), Risso's Dolphin

(*Grampus griseus*), Fin Whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*), Long-finned pilot whale (*Globicephala melas*), Killer Whale (*Orcinus orca*) at Beatrice Offshore Windfarm in the Moray Firth, Scotland, for an imperative reason of public health and safety or overriding public interest including that of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment in connection with the Beatrice Offshore Wind Farm Project.

## Location

Bounded by joining the following points, see Annex 1

### Offshore Wind Farm

58° 10.683' N 2° 56.733' W  
58° 08.853' N 2° 59.144' W  
58° 08.067' N 3° 01.295' W  
58° 11.005' N 2° 57.664' W  
58° 12.394' N 3° 00.776' W  
58° 16.968' N 2° 55.827' W  
58° 20.142' N 2° 50.770' W  
58° 17.838' N 2° 45.554' W  
58° 15.752' N 2° 47.817' W  
58° 10.551' N 2° 56.021' W

This licence is granted for permitting disturbance of the above named species as a result of the following activities:

Operational geophysical surveys, benthic survey and inspection operations of the wind farm array related to Beatrice Offshore Wind Farm.

## Licence Conditions

1. The licensee must ensure that all works are carried out in strict accordance with the mitigation and working methods proposed in the application for this licence to disturb European protected species, together with supporting information and all works must be carried out within the timescale(s) given within the application and any subsequent written correspondence between Marine Scotland and the applicant, but subject to the following modifications or amendments made within this licence.
2. The Licensee must ensure that all works are carried out in strict accordance with the BOWL EPS Risk Assessment for Future Surveys Work (Document number A-100631-S02-REPT-001-A01) submitted to Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team ("MS-

LOT”) on 6 March 2020, the Marine Mammal Monitoring Programme but subject to the following modifications or amendments made within this licence.

3. In the event of the licensee becoming aware that any of the information on which the issue of this licence was based has changed, the licensing authority must be notified as soon as reasonably practicable.
4. The licensee must ensure that, if any aspects of the proposed activities differ from the detail submitted in the Noise Registry - Initial Registration Form, a new Initial Registration Form shall be completed and submitted to the licensing authority and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) no later than one week prior to commencement of the licensed activity.
5. The Licensee must ensure that where survey equipment has the capability to undergo a soft start procedure, this is implemented on every occasion survey equipment is switched on.
6. The Licensee must ensure that the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (“JNCC”) 2017 Guidelines for minimising the risk of injury and disturbance to marine mammals from seismic surveys is followed at all times in connection with the undertaking of such surveys as far as it is practical to do so. These are available from the JNCC website [http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/jncc\\_guidelines\\_seismicsurvey\\_apr2017.pdf](http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/jncc_guidelines_seismicsurvey_apr2017.pdf)
7. Prior to start-up of the Ultra-short Baseline (“USBL”) system a trained crew member must be used as a marine mammal observer and scan a 100m zone around the survey vessel to look for marine mammals. If any marine mammals are present within the 100m zone, then system start-up must be delayed until they have moved out of the zone. The trained member of crew must keep a record of any marine mammal sightings and include these in the survey report.
8. Except where it is not relevant to the provisions of this licence, the Licensee must ensure that the Scottish Marine Wildlife Watching Code is adhered to at all times.
9. The Licensee must ensure that copies of the licence are available for inspection by any person authorised by the Scottish Ministers at the office of the Licensee and at all sites where licensed activities are taking place.
10. Any person authorised by the Scottish Ministers must be permitted to inspect the operations relating to the licence at any reasonable time. The Licensee must allow appropriate assistance to facilitate inspection.
11. The Licensee must, no later than one month after the expiry date of this licence, submit to Marine Scotland, Planning and Policy, Licensing Operations Team, a written report detailing all actions taken in accordance with the specified terms and conditions of the licence. This report must detail the procedures, visual observations and include the original Marine Mammal Recording Form(s). Any difficulties encountered, or recommendations should also be noted.

MS EPS 00009454

12. The licence holder must, no later than 12 weeks after completion of the noisy activity, complete a 'close-out' noise registry form. This is available from the JNCC website <https://mnr.jncc.gov.uk/>

Authorised on behalf of Scottish Ministers  
By a member of staff of the Scottish Government

Marine Scotland  
Marine Planning and Policy  
Licensing Operations Team  
375 Victoria Road  
Aberdeen  
AB11 9DB  
7 September 2021

Annex 1

