

Marine Directorate – Licensing Operations Team

Marine Directorate – Licensing Operations Team,
Scottish Government,
375 Victoria Road,
Aberdeen,
AB11 9DB

08 January 2024

Hywind Scotland Pilot Park Non-Material Variation Request

Dear Marine Directorate – Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT),

At a meeting between Equinor / Hywind Scotland Pilot Park and MD-LOT on 11 December 2023, MD-LOT advised that Hywind's current marine licence (05515/17/0) would require a non-material variation to update the current wording of "construction, operation and deposits" to "construct, alter and improve". During the meeting, the Project noted that it considered the main bearing exchanges to fall under 'operation' and that a variation may not be required. However, MD-LOT confirmed that the requirement to update the current wording of the marine licence comes from the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, specifically regulation 21(1)5 which outlines what is considered a licensable marine activity:

21 Licensable marine activities

(1) For the purposes of this Part, it is a licensable marine activity to do any of the following—

5. To construct, alter or improve any works within the Scottish marine area either—

(a) in or over the sea, or

(b) on or under the seabed

It is the position of MD-LOT that "construction, operation and deposits" is not a licensable marine activity; therefore, the Project must vary its marine licence before the main component exchange works are undertaken. MD-LOT requested that the Project request this variation at the same time as it submits the marine licence application for the temporary deposits. MD-LOT recommended that Hywind do this as a separate letter or an email at the same time as submitting the licence application for the main component exchange works.

The Project therefore request that a variation to the current marine licence (05515/17/0) is made to update the current wording of "construction, operation and deposits" to "construct, alter and improve". As per the MD-LOT position, this variation is considered to be non-material.

I trust that the necessary information to enable MD-LOT to perform the variation request is provided in this letter however please let me know if further information is required.

Yours sincerely,
[Redacted]

Polly Haslam