



30 March 2023

Lauren Cowan
Casework Officer
Marine Scotland
5 Atlantic Quay,
150 Broomielaw
Glasgow, G2 8LU

Dear Lauren,

Inch Cape Wind Farm: Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 consent Condition 2

I write on behalf of Inch Cape Offshore Limited (ICOL) who were granted consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 on 17 June 2019. As part of the consent ICOL received a series of consent conditions. Condition 2 in the consent states the following:

“The commencement of the Development must be no later than 5 years from the date the consent is granted, or such other date from the date of the granting of this consent as the Scottish Ministers may hereafter direct in writing.

Reason: To ensure the Commencement of the Development is undertaken within a reasonable timescale after consent is granted.”

ICOL applied for but was unsuccessful in securing a Contract for Difference (CFD) in the 2019 Allocation Round (AR). Following this ICOL had to undertake a review of the Wind Farm design, to optimise the project and therefore ensure a competitive and successful application could be entered into the 2022 AR. This review resulted in the need for variations to both the Section 36 and Marine Licence consents. ICOL was successful in AR4 with the contracts offering excellent value for money to the consumer with prices that are considerably less than the wholesale prices over the last couple of years.

Further to this, as has been well documented, the shortages and increasing costs in the supply chain, coupled with increased interest rates over the last few years and geo-political challenges have resulted in the industry having to work very hard to deliver these projects at the AR4 prices resulting in protracted programmes. These challenges are impacting upon ICOL's project programme and consequently commencement of offshore construction is unlikely before June 2024.



The Inch Cape project will be of net benefit to Scottish Government's Net Zero target and support the work undertaken in declaration of the Climate Emergency. The project, once built, will generate the equivalent of the annual power needs of approximately 1.7 m homes.

Prior to the submission of this request, ICOL reviewed the validity of the environmental data and existing consents and can confirm that no new or materially different significant environmental effects will arise as a result of the proposed extension to the commencement date and therefore the conclusions of the Application and subsequent Variations remain valid should the extension be granted.

Therefore, in light of the above, I request that the Scottish Ministers direct that Commencement of Development in the Section 36 consent must be a date no later than 7 years from the date that consent is granted.

Should you require any further information then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted]

Seán Kirwan
Project Manager
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