

Moray Offshore Windfarm (West) Limited
C/O Shepard and Wedderburn LLP
Octagon Point
5 Cheapside
London
EC2V 6AA

15 December 2022

Dear

**THE MARINE WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND)
REGULATIONS 2017**

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010

MARINE AND COASTAL ACCESS ACT 2009

**DECISION NOTICE RELATIVE TO APPLICATION FOR MULTI-STAGE REGULATORY
APPROVAL**

**CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE MORAY WEST OFFSHORE WIND FARM
AND ASSOCIATED OFFSHORE TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE,
APPROXIMATELY 22.5KM SOUTHEAST FROM THE CAITHNESS COASTLINE**

1. Description of the Application

- 1.1 On 14 June 2019 the Scottish Ministers, granted in favour of the Company a marine licence under part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 for the construction of the Offshore Transmission Infrastructure (“OfTI”) relative to the above works. The marine licence was subsequently varied by the Scottish Ministers on 11 April 2022 (“the OfTI marine licence”). Condition 3.2.2.7 of the OfTI marine licence requires the Company to submit a Piling Strategy (“the OfTI Piling Strategy”) for approval by the Scottish Ministers prior to commencing the above works.
- 1.2 On 31 May 2022 the Company submitted to the Scottish Ministers a Piling Strategy to cover this activity in respect of the OfTI and the generating station. Following initial consultation with NatureScot and Marine Scotland Science, the Company decided to remove the generating station aspects from the Piling Strategy. The Company submitted the OfTI Piling Strategy on 10 November 2022 and applied for multi-stage regulatory approval in accordance with condition 3.2.2.7 of the OfTI marine licence.

2. Reasons and Considerations on which this decision is based

- 2.1 Following consultation with NatureScot an amended OfTI Piling Strategy was submitted to the Scottish Ministers by the Company on 08 December 2022.
- 2.2 The information contained with the OfTI Piling Strategy is within the parameters of what has already been assessed within the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (“EIA Report”) and additional information submitted in respect of the OfTI marine licence, the generating station marine licence and the Section 36 consent.
- 2.3 The Company was not required to submit additional information under regulation 25 of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 or regulation 27 of the Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 in relation to the application for multi-stage regulatory approval and consent.

3. Determination and Terms of Decision

- 3.1 The Scottish Ministers, hereby approve the OfTI Piling Strategy as submitted on 08 December 2022 and grant multi-stage regulatory approval in relation thereto.
- 3.2 In the event that the Company wishes to update or amend the OfTI Piling Strategy, the Company must submit, in writing, details of the proposed updates or amendments to the Scottish Ministers for their written approval prior to the planned implementation of the proposed updates or amendments. It is not permissible for any works associated with the proposed updates or amendments to process prior to the granting of such approval.

Unless otherwise agreed, in writing by the Scottish Ministers, all works must proceed in accordance with the OfTI Piling Strategy.

- 3.3 This decision notice has been published on the Scottish Government’s website: <https://marine.gov.scot/ml/moray-west-offshore-windfarm>
- 3.4 A copy of this decision notice has also been sent to the relevant planning authorities.

Authorised on behalf of the 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
15 December 2022