

NatureScot

Sweeting S (Stephanie)

From: Erica Knott <Erica.Knott@nature.scot>
Sent: 16 December 2021 08:55
To: MS Marine Renewables; MARINEENERGY; planning.north@sepa.org.uk; HMConsultations@hes.scot; pi@aberdeencity.gov.uk; stuart.murison@aberdeenshire.gov.uk; james.hewitt@aberdeenshire.gov.uk; elizabeth.tully@aberdeenshire.gov.uk; Stuart.walters@ogauthority.co.uk
Cc: Sweeting S (Stephanie); McCormack M (Mark)
Subject: RE: SCR-0025 – Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd – Installation of a Hydrogen Electrolyser on One Wind Turbine and Installation of a Flow line, Aberdeen Offshore Windfarm – Consultation on Request for Screening Opinion – Response Required by 16 December 2021

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mark

Thank you for consulting NatureScot on this proposal and screening request for EIA under the Marine Works EIA Regulations. We can confirm that we do not consider there will be significant adverse effects relating to the offshore aspects of this proposal. With regard to the terrestrial works and the flowline connection coming ashore, we welcome the proposal by the applicant to propose HDD. In designing the landfall, we would request the applicant considers the recent findings from the Dynamic Coast project - <https://www.dynamiccoast.com/> - any interactions with the coastline should consider future proofing to avoid further protective measures during a project lifespan.

In addition, we would also advise the applicant to consider further and liaise with the relevant terrestrial planning authority (dependent on which landfall option is taken forward) to agree what information may be required to support a planning application for the associated onshore infrastructure, .

I trust this is of assistance.

Erica

Erica Knott | Marine Sustainability Manager | Sustainable Coasts and Seas | NatureScot | Battleby, Redgorton, Perth PH1 3EW | [Redacted]

[nature.scot](https://www.nature.scot) | [@nature_scot](https://twitter.com/nature_scot) | Scotland's Nature Agency | Buidheann Nàdair na h-Alba

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#YCW2020 - Now is the time to start making a splash about Scotland's Coasts and Waters –
www.nature.scot/YCW2020

SEPA

From: [Planning.North](#)
To: [MS Marine Renewables](#); MARINEENERGY@nature.scot; [Planning.North](#); HMConsultations@hes.scot; pi@aberdeencity.gov.uk; stuart.murison@aberdeenshire.gov.uk; james.hewitt@aberdeenshire.gov.uk; elizabeth.tully@aberdeenshire.gov.uk; Stuart.walters@ogauthority.co.uk
Cc: Erica.Knott@nature.scot; [Sweeting S \(Stephanie\)](#); [McCormack M \(Mark\)](#)
Subject: RE: SCR-0025 – Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd – Installation of a Hydrogen Electrolyser on One Wind Turbine and Installation of a Flow line, Aberdeen Offshore Windfarm – Consultation on Request for Screening Opinion – Response Required by 16 December 2021
Date: 07 December 2021 09:19:25

OFFICIAL

Dear Mark

Thank you for consulting SEPA on the above proposal. We can confirm that in relation to the aspects of the environment on which we usually provide advice to you we consider that EIA is not required for the offshore aspects of this proposal. Please see our standing advice - [lups-gu13.pdf \(sepa.org.uk\)](#) – for further advice and guidance.

We confirm we have had initial conversations with the applicant, Vattenfall, regarding the future onshore elements and welcome the proposal for HDD drilling at landfall. Vattenfall were informed of the PPC and COMAH implications at that time and are also aware of potential CAR issues.

Yours sincerely

Zoe Griffin
Senior Planning Officer
Planning Service, SEPA
Email: planning.north@sepa.org.uk

Please note my normal working hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:30am-3:30pm

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Dh'fhaodadh gum bi am fiosrachadh sa phost-d seo agus ceanglachan sam bith a tha na chois dìomhair, agus cha bu chòir am fiosrachadh a bhith air a chleachdadh le neach sam bith ach an luchd-faighinn a bha còir am fiosrachadh fhaighinn. Chan fhaod neach sam bith eile cothrom fhaighinn air an fhiosrachadh a tha sa phost-d no a tha an cois a' phuist-d, chan fhaod iad lethbhreac a dhèanamh dheth no a chleachdadh arithist. Mura h-ann dhuibhse a tha am post-d seo, feuch gun inns sibh dhuinn sa bhad le bhith cur post-d gu postmaster@sepa.org.uk. Oifis chlàraichte: Taigh Srath Alain, Pàirc Gnòthachais a' Chaisteil, Sruighlea FK9 4TZ. Fo Achd Riaghladh nan Cumhachdan Rannsachaidh 2000, dh'fhaodadh gun tèid an siostam puist-d aig SEPA a sgrùdadh bho àm gu àm.

HES



HISTORIC
ENVIRONMENT
SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD
EACHDRAIDHEIL
ALBA

By email to:

MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot

Marine Scotland (Marine Renewables)
Marine Laboratory
375 Victoria Road
Aberdeen
AB11 9DB

Longmore House
Salisbury Place
Edinburgh
EH9 1SH

Enquiry Line: 0131-668-8716
HMConsultations@hes.scot

Our case ID: 300023042
Your ref: SCR-0025

15 December 2021

Dear Marine Scotland

The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017
SCR-0025 - Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd - Installation of a Hydrogen Electrolyser on One
Wind Turbine and Installation of a Flow line, Aberdeen Offshore Windfarm
Request for Screening Opinion

Thank you for your consultation which we received on 25 November 2021 seeking our comments on an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) screening opinion for the above proposed development. This letter contains our comments for our historic environment interests. That is world heritage sites, scheduled monuments and their setting, category A-listed buildings and their setting, gardens and designed landscapes and battlefields on their respective Inventories.

Your archaeological and conservation advisors will also be able to offer advice for their interests. This may include unscheduled archaeology, category B- and C-listed buildings and conservation areas.

Our Screening opinion

We have no comments to make on the requirement or otherwise for an EIA for this proposed development. As the proposed offshore elements lie within an existing wind farm site it is unlikely that the proposed development would result in significant impacts on our interests. We would welcome further consultation regarding the onshore elements of the development once these plans are finalised.

We hope this is helpful. Please contact us if you have any questions about this response. The officer managing this case is Samuel Fox and they can be contacted by phone on 0131 668 6890 or by email on samuel.fox@hes.scot.

Yours faithfully

Historic Environment Scotland

Historic Environment Scotland – Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH

Scottish Charity No. **SC045925**

VAT No. **GB 221 8680 15**

Aberdeenshire Council

From: [Stuart Murison](#)
To: [MS Marine Renewables](#)
Cc: [Erica.Knott@nature.scot](#); [Sweeting S \(Stephanie\)](#); [McCormack M \(Mark\)](#); [SDDT.Planning](#)
Subject: RE: SCR-0025 – Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd – Installation of a Hydrogen Electrolyser on One Wind Turbine and Installation of a Flow line, Aberdeen Offshore Windfarm – Consultation on Request for Screening Opinion – Response Required by 16 December 2021
Date: 14 December 2021 13:48:51

Good Afternoon,

THE MARINE WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017 (“the MW EIA Regulations”)

CONSULTATION UNDER PART 2, REGULATION 10(5) OF THE MW EIA REGULATIONS

Thank you for consulting us on the below EIA Screening request submitted under the above Regulations. We have considered the proposal with a focus on the interests of Aberdeenshire Council as a terrestrial planning authority with regard to this proposal. Specifically this relates to the potential seascape/visual impacts of the proposed works as well as any potential physical impacts upon land within Aberdeenshire, above the Mean Low Water Springs (focus on flow line Option 1 only – other flow line options have not been included in our analysis).

The works to install Hydrogen Electrolyser infrastructure on the nominated wind turbine to facilitate the development would have a potential seascape and visual impact. Upon review of the submitted Screening Report and with reference to Schedule 3 of the EIA Regulations, I can advise that this aspect is not considered to give rise to any significant adverse impacts in terms of the characteristics of the development, characteristics of potential impacts or the location of the development which would warrant the production and submission of an EIA Report.

The proposed flow line connection has the potential to physically impact land or features of interest to Aberdeenshire Council as terrestrial planning authority. It is noted that flow line Option 1 is the only option which would enter/landfall in Aberdeenshire and that Options 3a and 4 are preferred by the developer at this stage. Notwithstanding, considering the environmental sensitivities of the coastline, potential impacts identified and proposed mitigation, should Option 1 be progressed it is not considered that the works would give rise to significant concerns regarding environmental impacts in EIA Screening terms. Further work, surveys and investigations would be required to address (intertidal) ecology and cultural heritage impacts should this be pursued, but in terms of Schedule 3 considerations, we are in agreement with the developer that the proposal does not constitute EIA development in this regard.

I hope the above is of use to you.

Thanks,

Stuart Murison

Senior Planner
Strategic Development Delivery Team
Planning and Economy
Environment and Infrastructure Services

Aberdeenshire Council

Tel: [REDACTED]

Email: stuart.murison@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/>

Your feedback is important to us and helps us to improve our service – we value your [comments](#).

Please note office working hours – Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm (Variable at present due to Covid19)

Oil and Gas Authority

Sweeting S (Stephanie)

From: Stuart Walters (Oil & Gas Authority) <Stuart.Walters@ogauthority.co.uk>
Sent: 17 December 2021 10:15
To: MS Marine Renewables
Subject: RE: SCR-0025 – Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd – Installation of a Hydrogen Electrolyser on One Wind Turbine and Installation of a Flow line, Aberdeen Offshore Windfarm – Consultation on Request for Screening Opinion – Response Required by 16 December 2021

Dear Mark,

Apologies for the delayed response, I have no comments on the application. Only to confirm that what Vattenfall outline with regards to the Pipeline Works Authorisation discussions with ourselves is accurate. The Petroleum Act, as currently written, does not cover transportation of hydrogen through pipeline, and so a Pipeline Works Authorisation does not appear to be required for the project proposal as we understand it.

Many Thanks,

Stuart Walters | Senior Policy Manager – Energy Transition Policy | Telephone: [Redacted]

From: MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot <MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot>
Sent: 17 December 2021 09:35
To: HMConsultations@hes.scot; pi@aberdeencity.gov.uk; Stuart Walters (Oil & Gas Authority) <Stuart.Walters@ogauthority.co.uk>; bst@beis.gov.uk
Cc: Stephanie.Sweeting@gov.scot; Jessica.Malcolm@gov.scot; Zoe.Crutchfield@gov.scot
Subject: FW: SCR-0025 – Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd – Installation of a Hydrogen Electrolyser on One Wind Turbine and Installation of a Flow line, Aberdeen Offshore Windfarm – Consultation on Request for Screening Opinion – Response Required by 16 December 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

Marine Scotland previously requested for consultation on a screening opinion on 25 November 2021. The consultation period ended on 16 December 2021 and are we are still to receive your comments.

Under part 2, Regulation 10(6) of the EIA Regulations, a consultation body must give its views to the Scottish Ministers within a period of 3 weeks.

I would be grateful if you could provide comments on the screening request or contact me if you have any issues in providing such comments.

Regards

Mark McCormack

Marine Scotland - Marine Planning & Policy

COVID-19: Marine Scotland - Licensing Operations Team(MS-LOT) is working from home and as a result determination of applications may take longer than our stated timelines. In addition MS-LOT is unable to respond to phone enquiries, please communicate with MS- LOT via email. Email addresses are MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot for marine renewables correspondence or MS.MarineLicensing@gov.scot for all licensing queries.

Scottish Government | Marine Laboratory | 375 Victoria Road | Aberdeen | AB11 9DB

General Queries:

Email: ms.marinerenewables@gov.scot

Website: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine>

From: MS Marine Renewables

Sent: 25 November 2021 08:30

To: MARINEENERGY <MARINEENERGY@nature.scot>; 'planning.north@sepa.org.uk' <planning.north@sepa.org.uk>; 'HMConsultations@hes.scot' <HMConsultations@hes.scot>; 'pi@aberdeencity.gov.uk' <pi@aberdeencity.gov.uk>; 'stuart.murison@aberdeenshire.gov.uk' <stuart.murison@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>; 'james.hewitt@aberdeenshire.gov.uk' <james.hewitt@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>; 'elizabeth.tully@aberdeenshire.gov.uk' <elizabeth.tully@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>; 'Stuart.walters@ogauthority.co.uk' <Stuart.walters@ogauthority.co.uk>

Cc: 'Erica Knott' <Erica.Knott@nature.scot>; Sweeting S (Stephanie) <Stephanie.Sweeting@gov.scot>; McCormack M (Mark) <Mark.McCormack@gov.scot>

Subject: SCR-0025 – Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd – Installation of a Hydrogen Electrolyser on One Wind Turbine and Installation of a Flow line, Aberdeen Offshore Windfarm – Consultation on Request for Screening Opinion – Response Required by 16 December 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

THE MARINE WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017 (“the MW EIA Regulations”)

CONSULTATION UNDER PART 2, REGULATION 10(5) OF THE MW EIA REGULATIONS

SCR-0025 - Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd – Installation of a Hydrogen Electrolyser on One Wind Turbine and Installation of a Flow line, Aberdeen Offshore Windfarm

Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd has requested the Scottish Ministers adopt a screening opinion in relation to the above proposed works under regulation 10(1) of the MW EIA Regulations.

I should be grateful if you would please review the information and, as required by regulation 10(5) of the EIA Regulations, provide your view as to whether the above proposed works are an EIA project as defined in the MW EIA Regulations.

The request for a screening opinion and relevant information can be found at [Screening - Aberdeen Offshore Wind Farm - Aberdeen | Marine Scotland Information](#).

Please note that Marine Scotland are considering the regulatory responsibilities surrounding the Flow line, however this shouldn't prevent you from providing a view on whether the works are an EIA project.

In accordance with regulation 10(6) of the MW EIA Regulations, please ensure you provide your view no later than 16 December 2021 (3 weeks from the date of consultation).

Kind regards,

Mark McCormack

Marine Scotland - Marine Planning & Policy

COVID-19: Marine Scotland - Licensing Operations Team(MS-LOT) is working from home and as a result determination of applications may take longer than our stated timelines. In addition MS-LOT is unable to respond to phone enquiries, please communicate with MS- LOT via email. Email addresses are MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot for marine renewables correspondence or MS.MarineLicensing@gov.scot for all licensing queries.

General Queries:

Email: ms.marinerenewables@gov.scot

Website: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine>

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BEIS

Sweeting S (Stephanie)

From: Dacre, Sarah (Energy Development & Resilience) <Sarah.Dacre@beis.gov.uk>
Sent: 22 December 2021 10:23
To: McCormack M (Mark); MS Marine Licensing
Cc: BST; Malcolm J (Jessica); Sweeting S (Stephanie); Bamlett R (Rebecca)
Subject: RE: URGENT: SCR-0025 – Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd – Installation of a Hydrogen Electrolyser on One Wind Turbine and Installation of a Flow line, Aberdeen Offshore Windfarm – Consultation on Request for Screening Opinion – Response Required by 16 December 2

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Malcolm,

Please accept my sincere apologies for not responding to the screening opinion by the 16th December.

I can confirm that OPRED do not have any conflict of interest or safeguarding concerns in relation to the proposals and oil and gas activity.

Hope you have a lovely festive season & all the best for the New Year.

Best wishes,

Sarah



[MHFA Details on BEIS Intranet](#)

Dr Sarah Dacre

Senior Environmental Manager
Environmental Management Team
Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning

Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy
E: sarah.dacre@beis.gov.uk

T: [REDACTED]

M: [REDACTED]

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Aberdeen City Council

From: [Robert Forbes](#)
To: [MS Marine Licensing](#)
Cc: [Gordon McLean](#); [PI](#); [EPConsultations](#); [Karen Van Feden](#)
Subject: RE: URGENT: SCR-0025 – Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd – Installation of a Hydrogen Electrolyser on One Wind Turbine and Installation of a Flow line, Aberdeen Offshore Windfarm – Consultation on Request for Screening Opinion – Response Required by 16 December 2
Date: 22 December 2021 11:16:34

Good morning

Thank you for the consultation regarding the above. Apologies for the delay in replying due to need for internal consultation.

It is noted that the project is classified as a schedule 2 project under the relevant EIA regulations, such that the potential need for EIA is discretionary. Please note that no EIA screening opinion request has been made to this Planning Authority for the proposed on site works, for which we may be the potential consenting body. Notwithstanding this, it is recognised that an important aspect of any competent Environmental Statement is that the potential effects of the project are considered in its totality, rather than broken down and considered as separate component parts, though it is recognised that both Marine Scotland and the Planning Authority have screening and consenting roles in this case.

It is noted that the conclusion of the supporting report is dependent on implementation of mitigation measures and standard environmental good practice to avoid likely significant effects. It is unclear how this would be secured / guaranteed. I note that a number of route options are presented for the proposed pipe route / landfall within the supporting document. Because of the lack of detail on the potential impacts of the routing options, and the potential for likely significant effects, it is considered that a precautionary approach is required in this instance. It is therefore suggested that, in the absence of further information, a formal EIA is required to explore these and identify the preferred option.

Yours sincerely

Robert Forbes
Senior Planner

Development Management
Strategic Place Planning
Aberdeen City Council
Business Hub 4
Marischal College
Broad Street
Aberdeen
AB10 1AB

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