

ENERGY ACT 2004

NOTICE OF A PROPOSED SAFETY ZONE UNDER SCHEDULE 16(5)

The Scottish Ministers as appropriate minister under section 95 and Schedule 16 of the Energy Act 2004 (“the 2004 Act”) hereby give notice pursuant to Schedule 16(5)(1)(b) of the 2004 Act of a proposal for a safety zone in terms that are materially different from those applied for.

1. Background

1.1 Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Ltd (NnGOWL), (Company Number SC356223, having its registered office at Atria One, 144 Morrison Street, Edinburgh), applied for safety zones at the Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm (NnGOWF).

1.2 NnGOWL applied for up to ten at a time, mandatory “rolling” 500 metre safety zones to be established around each wind turbine generator and offshore substation platform (hereafter referred to as renewable energy installation) and/or their foundations whilst construction works are in progress.

1.3 NnGOWL applied for up to 56 mandatory pre-commissioning 50 metre safety zones to be established around each renewable energy installation and/or their foundations following construction but prior to commissioning or where construction has only been partially completed.

1.4 NnGOWL applied for up to five at a time, mandatory 500 metre safety zones once the NnGOWF has become operational, around all “major maintenance” works.

1.5 Major maintenance works is defined in the Electricity (Offshore Generating Stations) (Safety Zones) (Application Procedures And Control Of Access) Regulations 2007, (the Electricity Regulations 2007).

1.6 The safety zones applied for are all within the NnGOWF, located in the area bounded by the purple line as detailed in Annex 1 and wholly within the Scottish Inshore Region.

2. Notice

2.1 Notice is hereby given that the Scottish Ministers propose a safety zone in terms that are materially different from those applied for.

2.2 In this Notice, the Scottish Ministers have excluded the use of service operation vessels, where these vessels are used during walk to work activities and are not directly involved in maintenance work.

2.3 This proposed safety zone incorporates all other aspects of NnGOWL’s safety zone application.

2.4 The Scottish Ministers propose to include the following provisions:-

- during construction, mandatory “rolling” 500 metre safety zones established around each renewable energy installation and/or their foundations, whilst construction works are in progress, as indicated by the presence of a construction vessel. The safety zones will be triggered when a vessel is on station at a renewable energy installation and undertaking construction activities. Up to ten of these safety zones may be active at any given time;
- during construction, mandatory pre-commissioning 50 metre safety zones established around each renewable energy installation and/or their foundations when construction works have been a) completed but prior to commissioning or b) where construction works have only been partially completed. These safety zones will be active at any renewable energy installation during construction, where a construction vessel is not present. Up to 56 of the 50 metre safety zones will be active at any given time;
- during operation, a 500 metre radius around all major maintenance works being undertaken, major maintenance works being defined in the Electricity Regulations 2007, at Regulation 2, as ‘*works relating to any renewable energy installation which has become operational, requiring the attachment to, or anchoring next to, such an installation of a self-elevating platform, jack-up barge, crane barge or other maintenance vessel*’. The safety zones will be active when a vessel involved in undertaking major maintenance works is attached to, or anchored next to the renewable energy installation; however, these safety zones will not include service operation vessels used during walk to work activities. Up to five safety zones may be active at any given time; and
- a separate application will be made for the decommissioning phase.

3. Objections to this notice

3.1 Objections to this Notice should be made in writing to the Scottish Ministers by email to MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot identifying and specifying grounds for objection, not later than 28 days after serving of this Notice, the 03 July 2020.

Annex 1

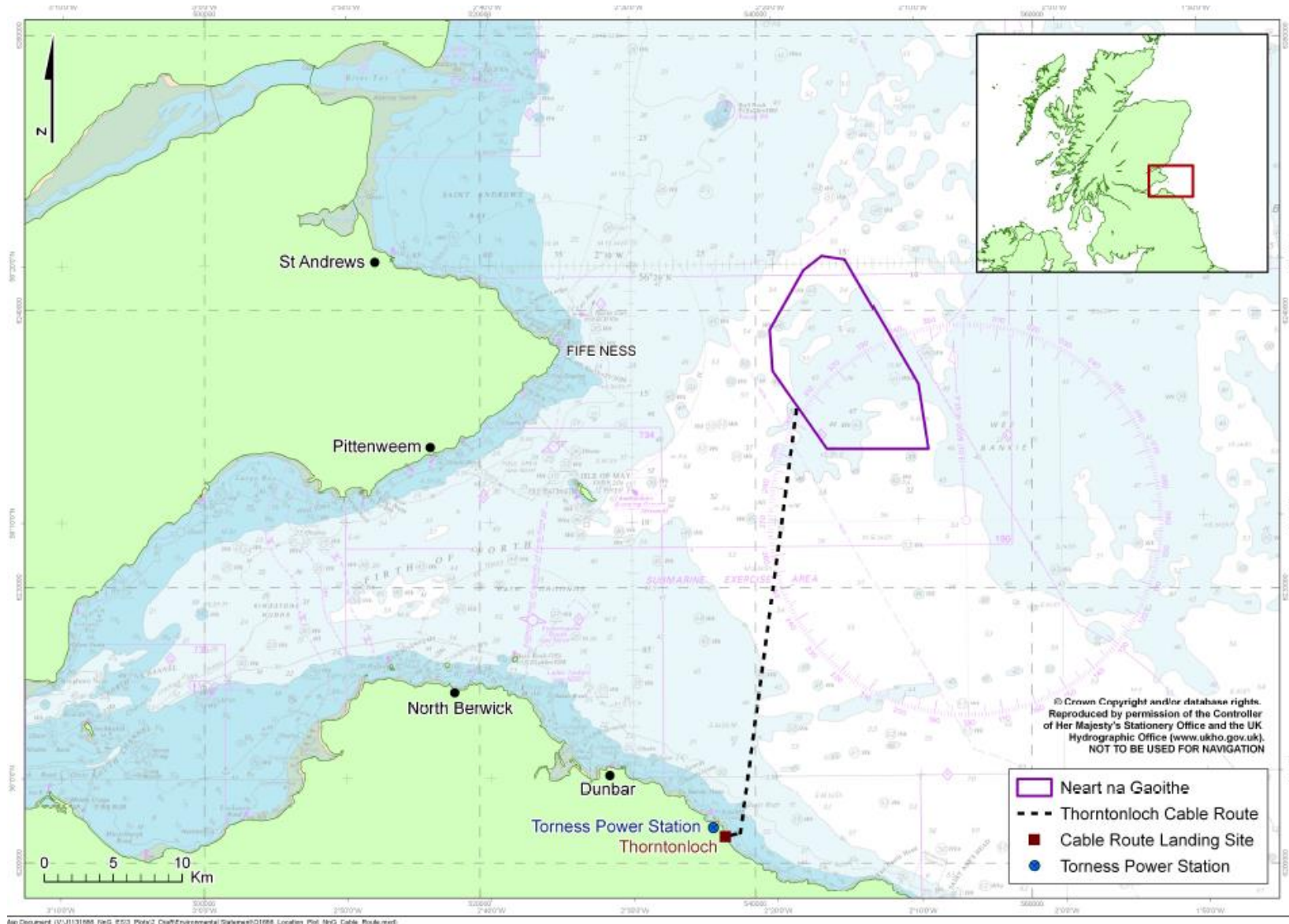
4. Project location

4.1 The safety zones will be located within the site bounded by the purple line as detailed in the map or by joining the following points:

56° 15.271' N 002° 09.898' W	56° 12.721' N 002° 09.255' W
56° 12.752' N 002° 13.998' W	56° 12.766' N 002° 16.293' W
56° 15.479' N 002° 19.628' W	56° 15.827' N 002° 20.055' W
56° 17.430' N 002° 20.232' W	56° 19.752' N 002° 17.826' W
56° 20.312' N 002° 16.518' W	56° 20.171' N 002° 14.910' W

4.2 The Wind Farm Area is located in the outer Firth of Forth, 15.5 km directly east of Fife Ness on the east coast of Scotland. The Wind Farm Area covers approximately 105 km².

4.3 Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind farm Site and Export Cable Corridor to shore at Thorntonloch, East Lothian.



Map Document (V:\1131088_1065_E53_P06v2_CoastalEnvironmentalStatement\01088_Location_Plan_1863_Cable_Route.mxd)