

Mona Offshore Wind Limited
Chertsey Road
Sunbury On Thames
Middlesex
TW16 7BP

13 July 2022

EXCEPTION UNDER REGULATION 10 OF THE MARINE WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2007 (AS AMENDED) (DEFERRAL OF EIA CONSENT DECISION)

Dear Richard Haydock,

Mona Offshore Wind Project is an Offshore Wind Farm (OWF) located in the east Irish Sea with the offshore wind turbines located approximately 28.2km from the north coast of Wales. The Mona Offshore Wind Project would consist of up to 107 wind turbines, with a proposed capacity of 1.5GW.

Mona Offshore Wind Limited has applied to Natural Resources Wales (NRW) for a scoping opinion under The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007 (as amended) for the above stated works. The Mona Offshore Wind Project requires a Marine Licence under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.

Deferral of EIA Consent Decision

NRW considers that the proposed works fall under Schedule A2 paragraph 21 of the Regulations:

21. Installations for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (wind farms).

In addition to a Marine Licence the project also requires a Development Consent Order from the Secretary of State under the Planning Act 2008. In accordance with The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 the Secretary of State must not make an Order granting development consent for EIA development unless an EIA has been carried out in respect of that application.

Under Reg 10(1)(b) of the Marine Works Regulations, NRW may determine that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is not required, in relation to a Marine Licence application if we are satisfied that an assessment of any significant effects on the environment of the project in question has already been, is being or is to be carried out,

by another consenting authority and the assessment is or will be sufficient to meet the requirements of any law of any part of the United Kingdom that implemented the EIA Directive in relation to that project.

Based upon the information received to date, in accordance with Regulation 10(1)(b) of the Marine Works Regulations, NRW consider that an EIA is not required for the purpose of determination of the Marine Licence, on the basis that an assessment of any effects on the environment of the project in question is being / is to be carried out by the Secretary of State as part of the determination process for a Development Consent Order under the Planning Act and that this is, or will be, sufficient to meet the requirements of any law of any part of the United Kingdom that implemented the EIA Directive.

Under Regulations 10 (4)(a) of the Marine Works Regulations (as amended) NRW cannot determine the marine licence application until we are satisfied that to do so would be sufficient to meet the requirements of the EIA Directive and be compatible with the measures identified by the Secretary of State to ensure compliance with any law of any part of the United Kingdom that implemented the EIA Directive.

Therefore, in these circumstances, a marine licence for this project can only be legally granted after the completion of the consideration of the EIA and associated decision made by the Secretary of State.

Information required from other appropriate authority

As regulator for the determination of the Marine Licence under the Marine and Coastal Access Act (2009), in compliance with Reg 10(4A), NRW must take into account the following information relating to the Secretary of State's determination of the EIA assessment:

- Conclusion of EIA assessment
- Conditions considered necessary in relation to likely significant environmental effects
- Description of features/measures to avoid, prevent, reduce and offset likely significant adverse effects on the environment
- Monitoring measures considered necessary
- Any further comments of relevance

Withdrawal of deferral

Notwithstanding the above, in the event that further information is presented or made available to NRW at any point during the determination of the marine licence application, which results in NRW concluding that the exception under Regulation 10 can no longer be relied upon, NRW may determine that an EIA is required under the Marine Works (EIA) Regulations 2007. You will be notified of this as soon as reasonably practicable.

Yours sincerely



Name: Peter Morrison

Position: Lead Specialist Officer

Date: 13 July 2022

Copies to: Secretary of State