

Apply to vary a marine licence

Variation request details

Marine licence number
RML2516

Expiry date of current licence
* 06/07/2026

Licence holder name
Mona Offshore Wind Limited

Variation type
Complex change

Brief description of licence variation that is required.

(Identify licence condition numbers and reference the supporting documents within your current licence which are likely to be affected)

Mona Offshore Wind Limited are seeking a Variation to Marine Licence RML2516 for a geotechnical survey within the Mona Landfall Survey Area. The Marine Licence Variation is being applied for due to a change in survey methodology.

Geotechnical surveys licensed under RML2516 commenced in July 2025. So far, three boreholes have been completed.

For further information relating to activities licensed under RML2516, please refer to the RML2516 Mona Geotechnical Nearshore Supporting Information Document (SID).

This Mona Landfall: Geotechnical Survey Variation SID (uploaded as supporting information) should be read in conjunction with the RML2516 Mona Geotechnical Nearshore Supporting Information Document.

During borehole acquisition at borehole number 7, on 28th July 2025 two artesian water features (high pressure underground pockets of water) at depth within Devensian Till deposits were encountered. The borehole has penetrated the artesian water feature, and the naturally occurring water is currently flowing up through the drill casing and is being released at a low level onto the jack-up barge, and onto the beach.

Current methods licensed under RML2516 allow for all boreholes to be backfilled with either bentonite pellets or cement/bentonite powder. This method has been successful at two borehole locations, but at borehole 7 this backfilling method has been attempted on two occasions and was unsuccessful in providing an effective seal due to the water pressure encountered within the artesian water features at this location. Therefore, following correspondence with NRW Marine Licensing and NRW Advisory teams, on 31st July 2025 a stopper was installed at borehole 7 in an attempt to stop the water flow. However, this has also been found to be unsuccessful, and therefore this Variation is being sought for additional methods to backfill borehole locations where required.

The Variation to Marine Licence RML2516 is, therefore, being sought for four additional methods (the Variation) to provide a number of options to backfill firstly borehole 7, but also the remaining boreholes (up to nine boreholes remaining) as back-up options should this situation occur at further borehole locations. These optional methods are intended to provide an effective seal should any one of the proposed methodologies be unsuccessful in backfilling boreholes.

The proposed Variation will be undertaken within the current licence period within RML2516: 7th July 2025 to 6th July 2026. The Variation will also be subject to the same timeframe restrictions as RML2516, in order to avoid the overwintering period for birds (1st November to 31st March inclusive). Currently, the water leak at borehole 7 is still ongoing. Therefore, it is planned to attempt to install a packer bladder from 6th August 2025 onwards on top of the already installed stopper at borehole 7.

Please upload all supporting information for this request (where applicable)

- File: Mona Geotechnical Nearshore Variation SID v3.0.pdf - [Download](#)
- File: Appendix A - Packer Dimensions.pdf - [Download](#)
- File: Appendix A - Inflatable Packer Specifications.pdf - [Download](#)

When are you looking to start work requiring the variation?

* 06/08/2025

Application fee

Complex variations only

Complex variations are charged at an hourly rate of £120 and are invoiced in arrears. Please complete the details below that are required for invoicing.

Customer name	Environmental Resources Management Ltd.
FAO	Grace Leyton-Smith
Purchase order number	413
Address for invoice	2nd Floor Exchequer Court, 33 St Mary Axe, London United Kingdom EC3A 8AA
Telephone number	02032065116
Email address	grace.leytonsmith@erm.com

Do you want to claim public register confidentiality?

Under The Marine Licensing (Register of Licensing Information)(Wales) Regulations 2011 and the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (Directive 85/337/EEC – as amended), all information contained within or provided in support of this application will be placed on the Public Register unless NRW approve of the applicant's reasons for withholding all or part.

Is there any information that you consider should not be included on the Public Register on the grounds that its disclosure would be contrary to the interest of National Security, or would prejudice to an unreasonable degree you, or some other person's commercial interest of those of a third party? *

No

Declaration

If you would like a copy of your form, please provide your preferred email address below:

grace.leytonsmith@erm.com

I declare that the information in this application is true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that this application may be refused, or approval withdrawn if I give false or incomplete information.

Please type your name and date this form to confirm that the information you have provided is correct.

WARNING: It is an offence under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, under which this application is made, to fail to disclose information or to provide false or misleading information. This could invalidate any licence granted.

Name Grace Leyton-Smith

Date 06/08/25

Position in company Marine Consultant