

29 April 2024

Dear Sirs/Madam,

Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009: Part 4 – Marine Licensing  
Mona Offshore Wind Limited  
Marine Licence for the proposed Mona Offshore Wind Farm

- 1.1. Mona Offshore Wind Limited (the Applicant) encloses an application to Natural Resources Wales Marine Licencing Team (NRW MLT) for a Marine Licence (ML) under Part 4 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act (MCAA) 2009 (the ML Application).
- 1.2. Mona Offshore Wind Limited is a joint venture of bp Alternative Energies (bp) and Energie Baden-Württemberg AG (EnBW).

## 2. Subject of the application

- 2.1. The ML Application is required for the construction and operation of the transmission assets for the proposed Mona Offshore Wind Project (the Project). The Project is located in the east Irish Sea, with a landfall at Llanddulas, North Wales and a connection to the existing Bodelwyddan National Grid Substation.
- 2.2. The Project comprises up to 96 wind turbine generators and associated onshore and offshore infrastructure. The Project will be located within Welsh offshore and inshore waters and within the counties of Denbighshire and Conwy. At its closest point the Project's array area will be located approximately 29km from the North Wales coast.

## 3. Other consents

- 3.1. In addition to the ML Application, a Development Consent Order (DCO) from the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero is required as the Project is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project as defined by the Planning Act 2008. An application for a DCO was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate on 22 February 2024 (the DCO Application).
- 3.2. The generation assets for the Project are wholly outside Welsh inshore waters and therefore a deemed marine licence has been included as part of the DCO Application. As the transmission assets for the Project are located partially in the Welsh inshore waters, they require a separate ML from NRW MLT.
- 3.3. As well as the DCO and Marine Licence, the other consents and licences required to authorise the Project are listed in the Other Consents and Licences document submitted with the ML Application (document ref: J1)

#### **4. Application formalities**

- 4.1. The ML Application will be administered by NRW MLT on behalf of the Welsh Ministers as Licensing Authority. As set out in section 67(1)(a) of the MCAA 2009, NRW MLT may require an application for a Marine Licence to be made in a prescribed form. The ML Application is made using the appropriate Marine Licence application form prescribed by NRW MLT.
- 4.2. The Project is a development which requires an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to be undertaken. An EIA has been undertaken as part of the DCO Application and is also submitted for the ML Application. This has had regard to the Scoping Opinion provided by the Planning Inspectorate on 15 June 2022 (Mona DCO document ref: J8).

#### **5. Documentation enclosed**

- 5.1. We have transferred the following documents to NRW MLT:
  - a. The completed and signed application form
  - b. The relevant chapters and annexes of the Environmental Statement (ES) submitted with the DCO Application
  - c. Each of the other documents listed as being required for the ML Application in the Guide to the Marine Licence Application document (document ref: A2).
- 5.2. The Applicant is sending the documents electronically which will include redactions if appropriate.
- 5.3. The Applicant would be happy to provide a spreadsheet and shapefile of the coordinates for the Marine Licence application area if that would assist.

#### **6. Description of the project**

- 6.1. The ML Application relates to the transmission assets for the Project as set out below and described in the response to Question 6(a) in ML Application and in full in the Project Description of the ES (document ref F1.3, section 3.5 Offshore infrastructure).
- 6.2. The DCO and Marine Licence will, among other things, authorise:
  - a. The installation, operation and maintenance of up to four subsea export cable circuits, and any associated cable protection, to transmit the electricity generated by the Project's wind turbine generators to shore. The Project's offshore export cable corridor extends south-eastwards from the array area to the proposed landfall at Llanddulas in Conwy;
  - b. The construction, operation and maintenance of up to four offshore substation platforms (OSPs) and their foundations as well as interconnector cables connecting the OSPs to each other, including any associated cable and scour protection; and
  - c. Ground investigation works, removal of accidentally dropped objects, UXO clearance and disposal of sediments to a designated site.

#### **7. Habitats Regulations**

- 7.1. The Application documents include HRA Stage 2 Information to Support an Appropriate Assessment (document ref: E1.1, E1.2 and E1.3). This identifies all relevant European sites and provides sufficient information for the competent authority to determine whether the Project is likely to have an adverse effect on the integrity of any European site.
- 7.2. It concludes that the Project, together with mitigation and monitoring as proposed, is not expected to have an adverse effect on the integrity of any site. The Information to Support an Appropriate Assessment (document ref: E1.1, E1.2 and E1.3) has been discussed in detail with NRW and other relevant stakeholders as part of the Evidence Plan process.

We look forward to hearing from you in relation to this application. If we can be of any assistance in that regard, please do not hesitate to contact Paul Carter on [paul.carter3@bp.com](mailto:paul.carter3@bp.com) or +44 (0)7554 331588.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Carter". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Paul Carter

Mona Consents Lead