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Lara Lawrie
Marine Space
and
Marine Licensing Team
Natural Resources Wales
(via e-mail)

Eich Cyf / Your Ref Erebus Floating Offshore Wind
Ein Cyf / Our Ref
Dyddiad / Date 12 September 2019

Dear Ms Lawrie,

**Electricity Act 1989
The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017 ('the 2017 Regulations')**

Proposed Development: Erebus (approx. 96 MW) Floating Offshore Wind

Demonstration Project: A proposed floating offshore wind development comprising between 7 and 10 wind turbine generators with a nameplate rating of between 9.5 MW and 14 MW. The turbines will be housed on floating (semi-submersible) platforms secured to the seabed using catenary moorings. The development will be connected back to the National Grid via 66kV AC cable via a proposed substation near the Pembroke Grid Supply Point.

Developer: Simply Blue Energy Ltd.

Location: Outline area of interest of approx. 43.5 km², situated approximately 44 km off the south west coast of Pembrokeshire. The placement of the platforms within this area, and definition of a formal site boundary, are still to be determined. The proposed substation location and cable route are still to be determined.

This project will be subject to both an application for consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 and for a Marine Licence under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.

Section 36 (10) of the Electricity Act 1989 provides that the Welsh Ministers are the appropriate authority in respect of applications for S36 consent for generating stations which when constructed or extended do not exceed 350 MW. The Planning Inspectorate is authorised to undertake work in respect of these application for the Welsh Ministers.

For the purposes of Regulation 39 (11) of the 2017 Regulations, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) is the Licensing Authority in respect of applications for a Marine Licence in the Welsh inshore area and the Welsh offshore area.

In accordance with Regulation 39 of the 2017 Regulations, I hereby serve notice that, in respect of the above proposed development, the Welsh Ministers are satisfied that:

- a) NRW will undertake an assessment of any significant effect on the environment under the Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007
- b) The marine works assessment will be sufficient to meet the requirements of the EIA Directive
- c) NRW will make the results of the marine works assessment (and any information relating to that assessment that the Welsh Ministers may reasonable require) available to the Welsh Ministers for the purposes of determining the application under S36 of the Electricity Act 1989.

Therefore, under powers provided by Regulation 39 (2) of the 2017 Regulations, the Welsh Ministers have decided there is no need to assess the environmental effects of this proposed development under the 2017 Regulations. Paragraphs (3) to (10) of Regulation 39 of the 2017 Regulations will now apply to the determination of the S36 application.

Accordingly, any application for this project under S36 of the Electricity Act 1989 cannot proceed to a final determination until NRW has concluded the marine works assessment.

If you have any queries, please contact the Inspectorate:

The Planning & Environment Team
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dns.wales@planninginspectorate.gov.uk or 0303 444 5958

Yours sincerely

Rob Sparey

Mr Robert Sparey MPlan

Rheolwr Cynllunio a'r Amgylchedd / Planning & Environment Manager