



17<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Mr James Norman,

Our company Springpark Energy Limited are shareholders in a locally based renewable company called Energy Isles Limited, which has submitted a planning application for a 200MW Wind Farm development on the island of Yell in the Shetland Islands.

We support the proposed HVDC Link to Shetland and see this as a positive move as it will provide security of supply. However we note from the consultation document that the highest scenario is 818MW as compared to 704MW in the previous consultation. Given that the existing and planned developments potentially already out way the capacity, we as a local developer feel this is underestimated, especially given the Scottish Governments legislated 2045 Net Zero target.

With this in mind a larger interconnector would have been preferable in order to cater for the potential renewable energy growth in Shetland and the ability to enhance the energy production, allowing lower costs to the consumer and avoiding further expense by adding another HVDC Link in the future but given the choice we strongly support the 600MW link rather than no link at all.

Within the consultation document you ask "Do we agree with your proposal to approve a 600MW link subject to Ofgem being satisfied, by the end of 2020, that Viking Energy Wind Farm (VEWF) is likely to go ahead?"

Our reply strongly supports this proposal, providing Ofgem, NGESO and SHE-T follow the CBA, which clearly shows that, the 600MW can connect at least 818MW of wind generation with constraint payment as the lowest cost scenario (even with no additional demand) and that the SHE-T statement in 2.40 must therefore be rejected.

In short we believe that Wind Power generation in Shetland will be highly successful, and in doing so VEWF plus the other renewable projects shall bring great benefits to the UK consumer, help meet the UK and Scottish Government Net Zero targets and could provide opportunities for the Oil and Gas sector as they look to half their carbon footprint by 2030.

These developments would also support both the social and economic benefits to Shetland and the UK on the whole, especially as we recover from COVID 19 pandemic, which has subsequently seen us witness the huge environmental advantages of clean air around the world thereby emphasising the need to grown the green economy.

We hope that you will consider these comments positively.

Yours sincerely

