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Farmers, Livestock Agents, Valuers & Development Land Owners

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Shetland transmission project: Consultation on proposed Final Needs Case and Delivery Model

We, GB & AM Anderson Ltd, are farmers, livestock agents and land developers in Shetland. We have involvement, as land owners, in two consented windfarm projects on Shetland, the Viking Energy Windfarm and the Mossy Hill Windfarm. We also have shares in the Energy Isles Windfarm which has reached the planning process.

We are writing to show our support for the Viking Energy Wind Farm project and the proposed 600MW High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) subsea transmission link between mainland Scotland and Shetland.

Shetland is in great need of a grid connection to mainland Scotland because:

- Due to its power system and isolation, Shetland electricity generation is currently very expensive and is heavily subsidised by GB consumers.
- The renewable energy generation potential in Shetland cannot be exploited to its full without a link. There are many renewables projects in Shetland, many with planning permission which cannot move ahead without the transmission link.
- Shetland is not able to contribute to Scotland and the UK's decarbonisation goals, despite abundant renewable energy resources.
- The transmission link is vital to the future economy of Shetland which needs to diversify, especially as the oil and gas industries are replaced by renewable energy sources. Shetland's economy will also gain from returns on the community's investment in Viking, direct community benefit funds and those residents who have invested in Shetland renewable projects will benefit in any gains on projects.
- Shetland has an exceptional wind resource and operates when other parts of GB do not.

We welcome the opportunity to respond to this consultation and encourage Ofgem to approve the needs case for the 600MW Shetland HVDC subsea transmission link, subject to Viking being given the go ahead by SSE Renewables. This link would be a connection to the future offering new life, new hope and tremendous possibilities.

Yours sincerely