



Historic England

Patricia Dunne  
Offshore Coordination  
Ofgem

*Correspondence by email only*

7<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Dear Ms Dunne,

**Offshore Transmission Network Review - Multi-Purpose Interconnectors:  
Minded-to Decision on interim framework – consultation**

The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England, otherwise known as Historic England, is the Government's statutory adviser on all matters relating to the historic environment in England. We are a non-departmental public body established under the National Heritage Act 1983 and sponsored by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). Our purpose is to improve people's lives by championing and protecting the historic environment and our vision is for a heritage that is valued, celebrated and shared by everyone. A historic environment that people connect with and learn from and that we are proud to pass on to future generations.

We are aware that "Offshore Transmission Network Review - Multi-Purpose Interconnectors: Minded-to Decision on interim framework" was published on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2022 following publication of the British Energy Security Strategy, which increases the offshore wind target to 50GW of offshore wind by 2030.

We therefore understand that the purpose of this consultation is for a series of minded-to decisions related to the development of an interim regime to facilitate and regulate near-term Multi-Purpose Interconnectors (MPIs) as part of the Offshore Transmission Network Review (OTNR).

In our response to the previous consultation exercise on the "Enduring Regime and Multi-Purpose Interconnectors workstreams of the OTNR" (our letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021), we acknowledged that the present model for connecting each



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offshore wind farm development to the terrestrial electrical grid system required attention in consideration of the expected scale of deployment in the next few years. In particular, to reduce environmental impacts by installing fewer electricity export cables.

We offer the following response to the questions set out in the consultation document:

*Question 1: Do you have any concerns with the minded-to decisions set out in Section 2?*

We understand that two MPI models are under consideration:

- OFTO-led model; and
- interconnector-led (IC-led) model.

We appreciate that the key difference is how the assets are classified and licenced and that the minded-to decision is not to limit the interim framework to one MPI model and that other models could also be considered. We also note the minded-to decision regarding licence applications for multi-use assets to demonstrate the expected primary or main use of the asset. We have no further comment to offer regarding any of the other 'minded-to decisions' in this section as the matters addressed are not relevant to our role and responsibilities.

*Question 2: Do you have any comments or concerns with the updates provided on wider policy considerations, as set out in Section 3?*

We have no comment to offer regarding any of the policy issues considered in this section as the matters addressed are not relevant to our role and responsibilities.

Yours sincerely,



**Dr Christopher Pater**  
**Head of Marine Planning**



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