



24 April 2024

Sent to Ofgem via RIIOElectricityTransmission@ofgem.gov.uk

Ocean Winds' response to Statutory consultation on eight SHET Early Construction Funding applications and corresponding proposed modification to Special Condition 3.41 of their electricity transmission licence

Ocean Winds is a 50-50 joint venture between EDP Renewables and ENGIE, focusing on developing and operating offshore wind projects across the globe. Ocean Winds is one of the largest offshore wind developers in the UK with over 6GW of projects representing over 10% of the UK's 2030 offshore wind targets. Ocean Winds' 882MW Moray West Wind Farm is currently under construction and we expect first power this year. This is adjacent to our Moray East project that has been operational since 2022 and provides clean power for over 1 million homes. We have a further 4GW of offshore projects in Scotland currently under development.

Ocean Winds welcomes the opportunity to comment on this consultation and recognises the value of timely delivery of these critical Scottish grid infrastructure improvements. Additionally, we urge for similar consideration to be given to measures that support the expedited delivery of the Eastern Scotland to England link (Peterhead to Drax offshore HVDC) and Eastern Scotland to England 3rd link (Peterhead to the south Humber offshore HVDC). Ensuring sufficient connectivity between Eastern Scotland and England is critical to the ongoing buildout of Scottish offshore wind capacity, and any measures that stakeholders can take to jumpstart these projects will be beneficial to clean energy deployment and in reducing costs to electricity customers.

Sincerely,

Sarah Graham (by email)

Engineering Associate Director



OW is a new 50:50 offshore wind joint-venture, owned and created by EDPR and ENGIE. Both companies believe that offshore wind energy is an essential part of the global energy transition, leading to the sector's rapid growth and increased competitiveness.



Response to Q1: Do you agree with our minded-to position to provide Early Construction Funding (ECF) for the eight projects?

Ocean Winds is supportive of Ofgem's minded-to position to provide ECF to the eight projects (six offshore and two onshore) listed in this consultation. Ocean Winds sees this as a promising move to support expedited development of key grid infrastructure and safeguard the delivery of the proposed works, some of which are critical to the ongoing development of Ocean Winds' projects.

Response to Q2: Do you agree with our proposed modification to adjust ASTIAt in Appendix 1 of SpC 3.41?

Ocean Winds agrees with the proposed modification to adjust ASTIAt in Appendix 1 of SpC 3.41 to allow for ECF to be granted in this instance. These projects will help create much needed strategic grid capacity in Scotland to export renewable electricity south to meet demand, with a substantial contribution towards delivering UK Net Zero targets and in reducing wider costs to electricity customers.