

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above document.

Barrow Borough Council is part of the PPA group and supports their consultation response sent to you in a separate email.

In addition, the Borough Council wishes to submit the following response to Question 4 – additional factors that should be taken into account.

Section 2.32 to 2.35 of the consultation set out OFGEMs assessment of the options for an offshore sub-sea AC cable around Morecambe Bay to Heysham. Whilst ruling this option out on grounds of timing the report reserves its position on costings and which is the most efficient option should the construction programme for Moorside be delayed.

The Borough Council have consistently opposed this subsea route. Creation of a 1.3km wide swathe of 18 cables on a 22km route would in effect prevent any further land to sea pathways for pipelines and cables related to any further offshore energy developments by enclosing the entire shoreline of the Furness Peninsula. Barrow Onshore Gas Terminal has a strategic link to the National Transmission System and the fact that the sub-sea proposal would close off any further access should be of national concern.

The Council is also concerned that a sub-sea route would result in significant additional long term maintenance costs.

Regards,  
Phil Huck  
Executive Director  
Barrow Borough Council