



**Marine
Management
Organisation**

Screening Opinion

15 December 2015

The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007, as amended ("the Regulations"):

Title: Hornsea One Offshore Wind Farm (OWF) - Variation to Schedule 11 (Deemed Marine Licence 4) Part 2 (Licence conditions), conditions 1(1)(b) and 1(3)(b).

Undertaker: Heron Wind Limited

Address of applicant:

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London
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MMO Reference No: DCO/2013/0009

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Proposal

The undertaker (Heron Wind Ltd) has applied to the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) on 30 October 2015 to amend condition 1 of Schedule 11 (Transmission Asset Deemed Marine Licence) within The Hornsea One Offshore Wind Farm Order 2014 (as amended by The Hornsea One Offshore Wind Farm (Correction) Order 2015).

In Schedule 11 the applicant proposes an amendment to the wording of condition 1 to increase the width and area of the offshore High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC) collector substation (OSS) platform, and the width and area of the offshore HVAC Reactive Compensation Substation (RCS) platform. The proposed amendments are detailed below:

- (1) Each offshore HVAC collector substation forming part of Work No. 4 must not—
 - (a) exceed 60 metres in height above MHWS;
 - (b) have a platform which at its greatest extent exceeds ~~1,800~~ **2,400** m² or **40** metres in width.

- (3) The offshore reactive compensation substation comprised in Work No. 5 must not—
 - (a) exceed 63 metres in height above MHWS;
 - (b) have a platform which at its greatest extent exceeds ~~1,800~~ **2,500** m² or **45** **50** metres in width.

Location

Hornsea One Offshore Wind Farm (OWF), which was awarded consent in December 2014, is located approximately 120 km off the Yorkshire coast and covers approximately 407 square km.

Hornsea One OWF will comprise up to:

- 332 wind turbines,
- 2 offshore accommodation platforms;
- 5 offshore HVAC collector substations;
- 2 offshore High-Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) converter stations;
- 1 offshore HVAC reactive compensation substation;
- subsea inter-array electrical circuits;
- a marine connection to the shore approximately 150 km in length;
- foreshore connection and from the proposed landfall point at Horseshoe Point; and
- onshore cables which will connect the offshore wind farms to the onshore electrical transmission station.

Potential Impacts of the Project

There is unlikely to be any changes to the environmental impacts assessed in the original Environmental Statement (ES) as a result of the proposed change in the platform topside dimensions of the offshore substation. Whilst the topside dimensions have increased, the worst case scenario for the number of OSS substations assessed within the ES was five and only three substations are now required for the Hornsea One OWF. Overall, the impacts can therefore be considered to fall within the envelope previously assessed as part of the ES submitted in support of the Development Consent Order (DCO) application. There will be no physical change to the seabed, as the top side does not touch the seabed and therefore there is no interaction with the environment. Navigationally the change has no impact (see consultees).

Screening opinion

Whilst the Hornsea One OWF does constitute a project which falls under Annex II of Directive 2011/92/EU, the MMO considers that the requested variation does not fall within article 13(a) of the Directive:

“13(a) Any change or extension of projects listed in Annex I or this Annex [II], already authorised, executed or in the process of being executed, which may have significant adverse effects on the environment...”

The MMO does not consider that this variation will bring about significant adverse effects and therefore an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) does not need to be undertaken.