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Abbreviations and Acronyms

EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ES	Environmental Statement
HES	Historic Environment Scotland
ICOL	Inch Cape Offshore Limited
MS-LOT	Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team
MSPs	Members of the Scottish Parliament
PAC	Pre-application Consultation
RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
SEPA	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
SFF	Scottish Fishermen's Federation
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage

5 Stakeholder Engagement

5.1 Introduction

1 This chapter summarises the approach Inch Cape Offshore Limited (ICOL) has taken during engagement with statutory bodies and other stakeholders in carrying out this Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). In accordance with good practice in EIA, individuals, including the public, and organisations whose interests might be affected by the Development have been consulted for their views and to obtain any relevant information during the course of preparing this EIA Report.

2 This chapter is supported by the following chapters and appendices:

- *Chapter 4: Process and Methodology*; and
- *Appendix 5A: Pre-application Consultation (PAC) Report*.

5.2 Policy and Guidance for Stakeholder Engagement

3 There is currently no statutory inclusion of public participation within the provisions of the *Electricity Act 1989*. However, Marine Scotland expects applicants to carry out a PAC with stakeholders and members of the public in line with best practice.

4 Section 24(1) *Marine (Scotland) Act 2010* requires that a PAC report is submitted with a Marine Licence application. The *Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013* give effect to this requirement. The Regulations came into force on 6 April 2014 and set out the requirements for the PAC process.

5 Together with the Regulations, Marine Scotland has published additional guidance relating to the PAC process. This includes, *Guidance on Marine Licensable Activities subject to Pre-Application Consultation* (Marine Scotland, 2013), and *Guidance for Marine Licence Applicants* (Marine Scotland, 2015). The guide states:

Applications affected will include those activities covered by the *Marine (Scotland) Act 2010* with the potential to have significant impacts upon the environment, local communities and other legitimate uses of the sea. The purpose of these new requirements is to allow local communities, environmental groups and other interested parties to comment upon proposed marine developments at an early stage, before an application is submitted to MS-LOT.' (Marine Scotland, June 2015, p7).

5.3 Approach to Stakeholder Engagement

5.3.1 Identification of Stakeholders

6 At the beginning of the EIA process, an exercise was undertaken to identify relevant stakeholders. The basis of this which stemmed from the extensive stakeholder engagement carried out for the Inch Cape 2013 Environmental Statement (ES) and subsequent engagement through the post submission process and consent. Therefore, ICOL already have long standing established relationships with many of the key stakeholders which has been used to inform discussions on the scope of this EIA Report.

7 In order to provide structure to this process, stakeholders were broadly categorised according to specific areas of interest and expertise. The stakeholders groups are:

- Statutory consultees;
- Strategic stakeholders; and
- Community stakeholders.

Statutory Consultees

8 Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team (MS-LOT) is responsible for conducting formal stakeholder consultation in relation to applications it receives for Section 36 consent and Marine Licence. Applications for Section 36 consent for developments within 12 nautical miles will be subject to consultation with Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Historic Environment Scotland (HES) and any appropriate Local Authorities. Statutory consultees for Marine Licence applications include SNH and SEPA as well as the Northern Lighthouse Board and the Maritime Coastguard Agency.

9 ICOL has, and will continue to, engage with statutory consultees as they have brought much to the discussion on the scope and merits of the assessments through their experience and perspective.

Strategic Stakeholders

10 This group includes the organisations and individuals who have a specific interest or expertise in the Development at national, regional or local level. Strategic stakeholder views and expertise in a particular aspect of the Development's impact are important, although they are not statutory consultees. These stakeholders often have specialist subject or local knowledge, or the Development may have a specific bearing on their activities. Strategic stakeholders include organisations such as the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and the Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF).

Community Stakeholders

11 This group includes organisations or individuals, who may be interested in the Development because they live, work, or pursue other activities in the vicinity of the Development and

include the general community, community councils, local councillors and Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs).

Broader Public Consultation

- 12 On submission of this EIA Report, the application will be advertised, and any member of the public has the opportunity to make a submission on this Development. All submissions will be taken into account by the Scottish Ministers in making their determination.

5.3.2 Engagement

- 13 Engagement has been important in helping to scope the EIA and to ensure that the assessments are focussed on issues that are most important.
- 14 As part of a comprehensive approach to ensuring appropriate engagement has been undertaken, five distinct activities have been completed to date:
- Scoping;
 - Post-scoping meetings;
 - On-going consultations;
 - Public engagement; and
 - Pre-submission meetings.
- 15 This process has helped to identify the scope of assessments, merits of the Development, and to highlight opportunities and constraints which have been incorporated into the EIA process.
- 16 Stakeholders' views and responses to the scope of the EIA are summarised at the beginning of each relevant technical chapter. Feedback gathered throughout the on-going consultation has also been included in the consultation section of the relevant technical chapter. A gap analysis was carried out and submitted to MS -LOT as part of the gatecheck process.
- 17 Results of public engagement can be found in *Appendix 5A*.

Website

- 18 A dedicated website has been developed by ICOL (www.inchcapewind.com). This website provides information on the Development and provides access to this EIA Report, Scoping Report and the Onshore application EIA Report.

5.4 Scoping

5.4.1 Scoping Report Summary

- 19 In April 2017, ICOL submitted a request for a formal Scoping Opinion from Marine Scotland, accompanied by a Scoping Report. The Scoping Report was intended to solicit the opinion of consultation bodies and stakeholders on the level of information required for the EIA Report. The purpose of a scoping consultation with stakeholders is to ensure the EIA is comprehensive and robust. As identified in *Chapter 4: Process and Methodology*, further consultation has been undertaken with the relevant stakeholders which, along with recognised best practice, has informed the methodology for the assessment of the Development, and the scope of this EIA Report.
- 20 The Scoping Report has been publicly available since May 2017, and can be found on Marine Scotland's website¹.

5.4.2 Scoping Methodology

Meetings with Stakeholders

- 21 Following the submission of the Scoping Report ICOL held meetings with MS-LOT and key stakeholders across a range of topics. These meetings provided ICOL with the opportunity to provide clarity and answer any questions prior to stakeholders completing their scoping responses. Meetings with key stakeholders continued throughout the compilation of the EIA Report, providing meaningful, on-going consultation and input from key organisations, details of which are provided in the relevant technical chapters.

5.4.3 Scoping Responses

- 22 Nineteen respondees (listed in Table 5.1), from both statutory and non-statutory consultees, responded to the Scoping Report, all of which are detailed in the Scoping Opinion issued by Marine Scotland in July 2018 (addendums for Ornithology and Marine Mammals were issued in August 2018). Advice was also sought from Marine Scotland Science which is included in the Scoping Opinion. ICOL also received an additional response from Aberdeenshire Council.
- 23 Each technical chapter of this EIA Report includes a summary of relevant scoping responses and other advice and identifies the section(s) where they are considered. *Appendix 5A* provides a summary of the responses received at scoping and ICOL's response.

¹ <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine/scoping/ICOLRevised-2017> [last accessed 13/06/2018]

Table 5.1: List of stakeholders who provided responses through the EIA scoping process

Marine Scotland (The Scottish Government)- Consultee Responses in Scoping Opinion	
Angus Council	Northern Lighthouse Board
British Telecom Radio Network Protection Team	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Defence Infrastructure Organisation	Royal Yachting Association
Dundee City Council	Scottish Borders Council
East Lothian Council	Scottish Environmental Protection Agency
Fife Council	Scottish Fishermen's Federation
Historic Environment Scotland	Scottish Natural Heritage
Mainstream Renewable Power Ltd	Sport Scotland
Maritime and Coastguard Agency	Transport Scotland
National Air Traffic Services	
Response to Scoping (Outside Marine Scotland Scoping Opinion)	
Aberdeenshire Council	

5.5 On-going Consultation

- 24 During the compilation of the EIA, targeted engagement was undertaken with a series of stakeholders (including the local planning authorities, SNH, RSPB and the fishing industry within the vicinity of the Development). This engagement was to ensure ICOL continued to communicate and consult with key stakeholders throughout the preparation and finalisation of this EIA Report and built on stakeholder relationships formed throughout the scoping phase. Details of any relevant consultations are provided in the individual technical chapters.
- 25 Engagement has focused on ensuring a sound understanding of responses received as part of scoping exercise and communicating on how ICOL will apply these in the EIA, thus ensuring the robustness of the EIA Report. Further details of this engagement is included in each technical chapter.
- 26 Upon submission of the application, further formal consultation with the stakeholders will be undertaken by ICOL.

5.6 Pre-Application Consultation (PAC)

- 27 In combination with the *Marine (Scotland) Act 2010*, the *Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013*, requires certain classes or descriptions of licensable marine activity to carry out PAC.

- 28 A PAC provides the opportunity for the local communities which may be affected by the Development to also provide input into the developing project. Accordingly, ICOL presented information at two major public festival events in the relevant areas, and conducted a further two project specific exhibitions where the public could ask questions and have their views recorded. The events were clearly branded and notification about the events was placed in the local media. Staff from the project were available at all times at the events
- 29 As the application for this Development requires a PAC to be carried out, ICOL has prepared a PAC report in support of this application, full details of the consultations and the process adopted can be found in *Appendix 5A*.

References

Great Britain Parliament (1989). *Electricity Act 1989*. Available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/29/contents> [Accessed 05/04/2018]

Marine Scotland (2013). *Guidance on Marine Licensable Activities subject to Pre-Application Consultation*. Available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0043/00439649.pdf> [Accessed 09/04/2018]

Marine Scotland (2015). *Guidance for Marine Licence Applicants*. Available at: <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00524064.pdf> [Accessed 09/04/2018]

Scottish Parliament (2010). *Marine (Scotland) Act 2010*. Available at: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2010/5/pdfs/asp_20100005_en.pdf [Accessed 05/04/2018]

Scottish Parliament (2013). *Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013*. Available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2013/286/contents/made> [Accessed 09/04/2018].