

Stromar Offshore Wind Farm

Proposed Onshore Development

Environmental Impact Assessment: Scoping Report

Appendix 3.2: Onshore Commitments Register



Contents

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| 1 Glossary and Acronyms | Presents defined terms and acronyms used within the Onshore Commitments Register. |
| 2 Relevant Documents | Provides a list of the relevant additional documents required to secure commitments, for example outline plans and management strategies. |
| 3 Overview | Provides an overview of the Onshore Commitments Register and how to use it. |
| 4 Commitments Register | A Register of all Proposed Onshore Development Commitments. |



1. Glossary and Acronyms

Glossary

Term	Definition
Approval of Matters Specified in Conditions (AMSC)	The second stage of a Planning Permission in Principle (PPP) application under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 when the approval, consent or agreement of the Planning Authority for any detailed aspects of the development is sought.
Commitment	A term used interchangeably with mitigation and enhancement measures. Commitments are Embedded Mitigation Measures. The purpose of Commitments is to reduce and/or eliminate Likely Significant Effect (LSE), in EIA terms.
Developer	Stromar Offshore Wind Farm Limited. A consortium comprising Ørsted, Renantis, and BlueFloat Energy.
Embedded Commitment	Primary (design) and tertiary (inherent) measures that are included in the design of the Project.
Enhancement Commitment	Commitments made by the Project to provide broader environmental enhancement that Stromar seek to deliver across a range of environmental aspects. Enhancement commitments are not required to mitigate environmental impacts of the Project.
Onshore Grid Connection Cable Corridor (OnGCC)	The temporary working corridor within which the Onshore Grid Connection Cables will be laid.
Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD)	A method of cable installation where the cable is drilled beneath a feature without the need for trenching.
Landfall	The location (from Mean Low Water Springs) where the Offshore Export Cables will interface with and are connected to the Onshore Export Cables at a transition joint bay.
Mitigation Commitment	Commitments made by the project to reduce or eliminate environmental impacts including avoidance, best practice and design commitments, which are classified into primary or tertiary measures in accordance with the IEMA 'Guide to Shaping Quality Development' (2015) definitions. Mitigation commitments are embedded within the assessment at the relevant point in the EIA (eg. at Scoping or EIAR).
Onshore Export Cables	The cables running from the transition joint bay at landfall to the Onshore Substation.
Onshore Export Cable Corridor (OnECC)	The temporary working corridor within which the Onshore Export Cables will be laid. This will typically be approximately 100 m wide, though may be wider in areas where additional temporary working areas for watercourse and infrastructure/utilities crossings are required. This corridor will contain up to three cable trenches plus temporary soil storage areas, a temporary haul road and temporary drainage arrangements.
Onshore Grid Connection Cable Corridor (OnGCC)	The temporary working corridor within which the Grid Connection Cables will be laid.
Onshore Substation/Converter Station (OnSS)	Comprises a compound containing the electrical components for transforming the power supplied from Stromar to 400 kV and to adjust the power quality and power factor, as required to meet the UK System-Operator Code for supply to the national electricity transmission network. If a HVDC system is used the Onshore Substation will also house equipment to convert the power from HVDC to HVAC.
Planning Permission In Principle (PPP)	An alternative consenting route under Section 59 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 which separates the consideration of matters of principle for a proposed development from the final detailed design of the development. The permission in principle consent route has two application stages: the first stage (the permission in principle application) seeks to establish whether a site is suitable in principle and is granted subject to conditions requiring the approval of certain matters before the development can commence; and the second stage (the approval of matters specific in conditions application) when the details of these outstanding matters are subsequently submitted for approval.
Primary Commitment	Measures that form an intrinsic part of the design that are described in the design evolution narrative and included within the project description e.g. reducing development heights to reduce visual impact.
Project	Stromar Offshore Wind Farm.
Proposed Onshore Development	The onshore Project elements to which the Onshore Scoping Report relates.
Secondary Commitment	Measures that require further activity in order to achieve the anticipated outcome, e.g. development of the optimal reinstatement measures for restoring a disturbed sensitive natural habitat.
Tertiary Commitment	Measures which will be required regardless of the EIA process as they are imposed e.g. as a result of legislative requirements and/or standard industry practices e.g. via a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) or similar.
Onshore Reactive Compensation Station (OnRCS)	Due to the cable length a Reactive Compensation Station is required to compensate for reactive power losses and to ensure the efficiency of the power transmission. This could be on or offshore.

Acronyms

Acronym	Definition
ACAS	Aberdeenshire Council Archaeological Service
AMP	Access Management Plan
AMSC	Approval of Matters Specified in Conditions
BPM	Best Practicable Means
BPP	Bird Protection Plan
BREP	Biodiversity Restoration and Enhancement Plan
CAR	Controlled Activities Regulations
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
CoCP	Code of Construction Practice
CTMP	Construction Traffic Management Plan
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
EnvCoW	Environmental Clerk of Works
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drilling
HES	Historic Environment Scotland
MHWS	Mean High Water Springs
MLWS	Mean Low Water Springs
NVMP	Noise and Vibration Management Plan
OnECC	Onshore Export Cable Corridor
OnGCC	Onshore Grid Connection Cable Corridor
OnRCS	Onshore Reactive Compensation Station
OnSS	Onshore Substation/Converter Station
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PPP	Planning Permission in Principle
RPSS	Route Planning and Site Selection
SEPA	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
SMP	Soil Management Plan
SPP	Species Protection Plan
SSEN	Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks
S, T & R	Socioeconomics, Tourism and Recreation
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation



3. Overview

The Developer will adopt a number of Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Commitments (see glossary for definitions) as part of the EIA process in order to avoid or reduce impacts where possible.

This Appendix details all Commitments that the Developer has committed to adopt at this Scoping Stage for the Proposed Onshore Development and provides details of how it is anticipated these Commitments are to be secured. A list of documents which are relevant to these Commitments and it is anticipated will be submitted in support of the Planning Permission in Principle (PPP) application for the Proposed Onshore Development is set out in Section 2.

This Commitments Register is intended to be a live document and will be developed and updated throughout the route planning and site selection (RPSS), EIA and pre-application consultation process. A list of Commitments that the Developer has committed to at Application Stage will then be included in a final Commitments Register in the EIA Report (EIAR) in support of the PPP application.

The following tables provides an overview of the information contained within the Commitment Register.

Table 1: Commitment Register (Section 4) Explained

Commitment Reference	Each Commitment has a unique ID assigned to it to enable consultees to easily track the evolution of commitments throughout the development of the Project.
Commitment Stage	Relates to the stage of the Project when the Commitment was made.
Mitigation / Enhancement	Identifies whether the commitment is a Mitigation Commitment or Enhancement Commitment (see Glossary).
Type	Details whether the Commitment is Primary, Secondary, Tertiary or Enhancement (see Glossary).
Commitment	Details the Commitment made by the Project.
Project Phase	Details the Project phase the commitment is relevant to (e.g. construction).
Project Element	Details the Project ecomponent the commitment is relevant to (e.g. onshore substation).
Onshore Topic relevance	Details the onshore EIA topics which the Commitment is relevant to. The user can filter by topic to allow all Commitments relevant to a specific topic to be seen. The Commitment will also be detailed within the identified Chapters of the Onshore Scoping Report.
How will the Commitment be secured?	Details the mechanism for how the Commitment is to be legally secured (for example through inclusion of a consent condition).
When will the Commitment be implemented?	Where Commitments are secured though a management Strategy or Plan (for example the Code of Construction Practice) this column provides details in relation to the timing for final approval of the Strategy or Plan.
Relevant Application Documents	Where Commitments are to be secured though a Plan, this colum identifies the relevant Plan. An overview of outline plans which will be submitted in support of the PPP application can be found in Section 2 of this Onshore Commitments Register

Stromar Onshore Scoping Report

December 2023

Commitment Reference	Commitment Stage	Type	Commitment	Project Phase	Project Element					Onshore Topic of Relevance										How will the Commitment be secured?	When will the Commitment be implemented?	Which document is/will the commitment be secured in?	
					OnECC	OnGCC	Landfall	OnSS	OnRCS	Geology	Hydrology	Ecology	LVA	Cultural Heritage	Land Use	Traffic	Noise	Air Quality	S, T & R				GHG / CC
C-ONS-001	Scoping	Primary	Location of onshore infrastructure (including any associated temporary working areas) will avoid designated nature conservation sites of international, national and local importance.	Construction	X	X	X	X	X			X									General location of Proposed Onshore Development to be approved through grant of Planning Permission in Principle (PPP) consent. Final location (including any micro-siting allowance) to be approved through Approval of Matters Specified in Conditions (AMSC) consent.	-	-
C-ONS-002	Scoping	Primary	The onshore cable duct installation strategy (if ducts are used) is proposed to be conducted in a sectionalised approach in order to minimise impacts. Construction teams would work on a sectional approach (approximately 600-1500 m) and once the cable ducts have been installed, the section would be backfilled and the top soil replaced before moving onto the next section. This would minimise the amount of land being worked on at any one time and would also minimise the duration of works on any given section of the route.	Construction	X	X				X					X						Planning condition attached to PPP or AMSC consent requiring approval of a Construction Method Statement.	Pre-construction	Construction Method Statement
C-ONS-003	Scoping	Primary	There will be no permanent High Voltage infrastructure installed above surface within 200 m of residential properties and sub surface infrastructure (including the OnECC and OnGCC) within 50 m of residential properties.	Construction, Operation	X	X	X	X	X				X				X				Location and design of Proposed Onshore Development to be approved through grant of PPP consent. Final design to be approved through AMSC consent.	-	-
C-ONS-004	Scoping	Primary	The OnECC and OnGCC will be buried underground for their entire length. Following reinstatement, the only above ground structures related to the OnECC and OnGCC will be link box lids where there are joints in the cable. These will typically take the form of a set of manhole covers surrounded by a small post and rail fenced enclosure.	Operation	X	X						X	X	X	X				X		Location and design of the OnECC and OnGCC, including any permanent above ground structures, to be approved through AMSC consent.	-	-
C-ONS-005	Scoping	Primary	The location of the OnSS and OnRCS will avoid areas of known flood risk.	Construction, Operation				X	X	X											General location of OnSS and OnRCS to be approved through grant of PPP consent.	-	-
C-ONS-006	Scoping	Primary	No development or construction works to take place within 100 m of a Scheduled Monument or Category A listed building	Construction	X	X	X	X	X					X							Planning condition attached to PPP or AMSC consent restricting works within 100m of any Scheduled Monument or Category A listed building.	Pre-construction	-
C-ONS-007	Scoping	Primary	Suitable access points and appropriate locations for ancillary works will be identified as part of Project refinement. All access/egress shall be formed and constructed in accordance with the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges or Aberdeenshire Council Roads Standards as appropriate and as approved in writing by Aberdeenshire Council in consultation with Transport Scotland.	Construction, Operation	X	X	X	X	X							X					Planning condition attached to PPP or AMSC consent requiring design of all access/egress points to be agreed with Aberdeenshire Council.	Pre-construction	Access junction design
C-ONS-008	Scoping	Primary / Tertiary	For any works taking place near watercourses, a buffer of 50 m will be applied where possible (with the exception of watercourse crossings, which would be minimised). Where other constraints mean this is not possible, a justification would be provided in the EIAR and additional mitigation measures to safeguard the water environment will be undertaken in accordance with SEPA guidance and in line with the requirements of the Controlled Activities Regulations (CAR) to prevent or reduce adverse effects to the watercourse.	Construction	X	X	X	X	X	X	X										Planning Condition attached to PPP consent requiring CEMP to be submitted and approved by Aberdeenshire Council.	Pre-construction	CEMP (Pollution Prevention & Mitigation)
C-ONS-009	Scoping	Tertiary	Production and compliance with a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). An Outline CEMP will be produced and included alongside the Onshore EIAR to support the PPP application. A detailed CEMP will then be submitted to Aberdeenshire Council for approval (in consultation with NatureScot and Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)) prior to construction of the development. The CEMP will then be implemented to avoid, minimise or mitigate effects on the environment during the construction phase.	Construction	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Planning Condition attached to PPP consent requiring CEMP to be submitted and approved by Aberdeenshire Council.	Pre-construction	CEMP
C-ONS-010	Scoping	Tertiary	Core working hours for the construction of the Proposed Onshore Development will be Monday to Saturday from 07:00 to 19:00hrs. Activities carried out during mobilisation and maintenance will not generate significant noise levels (such as piling, or other such noisy activities). In circumstances outside of core working practices, specific works may have to be undertaken outside the core working hours. Aberdeenshire Council will be informed in writing.	Construction	X	X	X	X	X		X						X		X		Planning Condition attached to PPP consent.	-	-

Stromar Onshore Scoping Report

December 2023

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					OnECC	OnGCC	Landfall	OnSS	OnRCS	Geology	Hydrology	Ecology	LVA	Cultural Heritage	Land Use	Traffic	Noise	Air Quality	S, T & R				GHG / CC
C-ONS-011	Scoping	Tertiary	An Access Management Plan (AMP) will be developed in conjunction with Aberdeenshire Council and through consultation with local stakeholders. Where public access will be temporarily disrupted during construction, a suitable diversion which minimises the length of path affected will be put in place along with the display of signage at each end of the route where the route is diverted.	Construction	X	X	X	X	X							X	X		X	Planning Condition attached to PPP consent requiring AMP to be submitted and approved by Aberdeenshire Council.	Pre-construction	AMP	
C-ONS-012	Scoping	Tertiary	A Dust and Air Quality Management Plan within the CEMP will include detailed best practice measures as described in Institute of Air Quality Management (IAQM) Guidance to effectively control and/or mitigate the release of dust emissions arising from construction activities on human and ecological receptors, and a complaint investigation and resolution procedure.	Construction	X	X	X	X	X			X							X	Planning Condition attached to PPP consent requiring CEMP to be submitted and approved by Aberdeenshire Council.	Pre-construction	CEMP (Dust and Air Quality Management Plan)	
C-ONS-013	Scoping	Tertiary	The CEMP will include measures relating to the control of emissions from Non-Road Mobile Machinery (NRRM), including the type, quantity and use of the NRRM.	Construction	X	X	X	X	X										X	Planning Condition attached to PPP consent requiring CEMP to be submitted and approved by Aberdeenshire Council.	Pre-construction	CEMP (Dust and Air Quality Management Plan)	
C-ONS-014	Scoping	Tertiary	The construction works would use Best Practicable Means (BPM) to limit the impacts of noise at sensitive receptors. These measures would be set out in a construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan (NVMP) within the CEMP, which will include the hours of operation for construction related activities, detailed measures for the mitigation of construction noise and vibration and a routine noise monitoring and complaint investigation and resolution procedure.	Construction	X	X	X	X	X									X		Planning Condition attached to PPP consent required CEMP to be submitted and approved by Aberdeenshire Council.	Pre-construction	CEMP (Noise and Vibration Management Plan)	
C-ONS-015	Scoping	Tertiary	Refuelling of machinery will be undertaken within designated areas where spillages can be easily contained. Machinery will be routinely checked to ensure it is in good working condition. Any tanks and associated pipe work containing oils and fuels will be double skinned and be provided with intermediate leak detection equipment. Areas at risk of spillage, such as vehicle maintenance areas and hazardous substance stores (including fuel, oils and chemicals) will be bunded and carefully sited to minimise the risk of hazardous substances entering soils, groundwater, drainage systems or local watercourses. Additionally the bunded areas will have impermeable bases to limit the potential for migration of contaminants into potential receptors following any leakage/spillage. Bunds used will store fuel, oil etc. to have a 110% capacity. Excavated material will be placed in such a way as to avoid any disturbance of areas near to the banks of watercourses and any spillage into the local earth/water environment. Construction materials will be managed in such a way as to effectively minimise the risk posed to the environment. All plant machinery and vehicles will be maintained in a good condition to reduce the risk of fuel leaks. Consultation with SEPA to be ongoing throughout the construction period to promote best practice and to implement proposed mitigation measures.	Construction, Operation, Decommissioning	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X									Planning Condition attached to PPP consent requiring CEMP to be submitted and approved by Aberdeenshire Council.	Pre-construction	CEMP (Pollution Prevention & Mitigation)
C-ONS-016	Scoping	Tertiary	A Soil Management Plan (SMP) will be submitted and agreed with Aberdeenshire Council prior to the commencement of development to ensure that soil resources are managed in accordance with best practice. During construction, all soils to be excavated, handled, stored and reinstated in accordance with the approved SMP.	Construction	X	X	X	X	X	X						X				Planning Condition attached to PPP consent required CEMP to be submitted and approved by Aberdeenshire Council.	Pre-construction	CEMP (Soil Management Plan)	
C-ONS-017	Scoping	Tertiary	Post-construction all temporary working areas will be reinstated to pre-existing conditions as far as reasonably practical in line with DEFRA 2009 Construction Code of Practice for the Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites PB13298 or latest relevant available guidance.	Construction	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X				Planning Condition attached to PPP or AMSC consent requiring approval of a scheme for the reinstatement of all temporary working areas following completion of construction.	Pre-construction	Reinstatement scheme.	
C-ONS-018	Scoping	Tertiary	In areas subject to vehicle and heavy plant movement the topsoil and subsoil will be stripped and stored on site within the temporary working corridor. The topsoil and subsoil will be stored in separate stockpiles and post-construction these working areas will be reinstated to pre-existing condition as far as reasonably practical in line with DEFRA 2009 Construction Code of Practice for the Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites PB13298 and The Scottish Soil Framework.	Construction	X	X				X						X				Planning Condition attached to PPP consent requiring CEMP to be submitted and approved by Aberdeenshire Council.	Pre-construction	CEMP (Soil Management Plan)	
C-ONS-019	Scoping	Tertiary	A Pollution Prevention and Management Plan would be developed. This will detail a pollution control strategy to be implemented in accordance with Controlled Activities Regulations (CAR) licence regulations, incorporating measures for protecting ground and surface water during construction and operational phases. Details on appropriate fuel and chemical storage will be provided, along with measures associated with water abstraction and incident response procedures.	Construction, Operation	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X				Planning Condition attached to PPP consent requiring CEMP to be submitted and approved by Aberdeenshire Council.	Pre-construction	CEMP (Pollution Prevention & Mitigation)	
C-ONS-020	Scoping	Tertiary	Potential risks to human health from any encountered (unexpected) ground contamination will be avoided by the use of appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and by adopting appropriate working practices.	Construction	X	X	X	X	X	X										Planning Condition attached to PPP consent required CEMP to be submitted and approved by Aberdeenshire Council.	Pre-construction	CEMP (Pollution Prevention & Mitigation)	

Stromar Onshore Scoping Report

December 2023

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C-ONS-021	Scoping	Tertiary	Any contamination encountered during the construction phase would be subject to appropriate risk assessment and if necessary, either removed, treated and/or mitigated as part of the Project.	Construction	X	X	X	X	X	X												Planning Condition attached to PPP consent required CEMP to be submitted and approved by Aberdeenshire Council.	Pre-construction	CEMP (Pollution Prevention & Mitigation)
C-ONS-022	Scoping	Tertiary	Production and compliance with a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) outlining the mechanisms for managing the movement of construction related traffic. The CTMP will be developed post-consent and submitted for the approval of Aberdeenshire Council in consultation with relevant parties.	Construction	X	X	X	X	X							X	X	X		X	X	Planning Condition attached to PPP consent requiring CTMP to be submitted and approved by Aberdeenshire Council.	Pre-construction	CTMP
C-ONS-023	Scoping	Tertiary	Development of, and adherence to a Travel Plan to endeavour to minimise the impact of vehicle movements associated with construction workers, including the promotion of public transport and car sharing.	Construction	X	X	X	X	X							X					X	Planning Condition attached to PPP consent requiring Travel Plan to be submitted and approved by Aberdeenshire Council.	Pre-construction	Travel Plan
C-ONS-024	Scoping	Tertiary	An Outline Biodiversity Restoration and Enhancement Plan (BREP) will be provided as part of the planning application process to detail the proposed biodiversity enhancements. A detailed BREP would subsequently be produced and agreed post consent/pre-construction phase.	Construction, Operation	X	X	X	X	X			X										Planning Condition attached to PPP consent requiring detailed BREP to be submitted and approved by Aberdeenshire Council.	Pre-construction	BREP
C-ONS-025	Scoping	Tertiary	All construction works to be undertaken under the guidance of an Environmental Clerk of Works (EnvCoW). The EnvCoW's scope of work shall include monitoring compliance with the mitigation measures within the EIAR and any planning conditions.	Construction	X	X	X	X	X		X	X				X						Planning Condition attached to PPP consent requiring appointment of an EnvCOW in consultation with Aberdeenshire Council.	-	-
C-ONS-026	Scoping	Tertiary	Drainage works to be constructed to relevant statutory guidance and approved via consultation with Aberdeenshire Council and SEPA prior to the commencement of construction.	Construction, Operation	X	X	X	X	X		X											Detailed design to be approved through AMSC consent.	-	-
C-ONS-027	Scoping	Tertiary	The surface drainage network would be designed to minimise the surface water discharge rate, such that it does not exceed the higher of; the peak run-off rate in it's greenfield condition, or the maximum discharge rate set by Scottish Water.	Construction, Operation	X	X	X	X	X		X	X										Detailed design to be approved through AMSC consent.	-	-
C-ONS-028	Scoping	Tertiary	Areas of required hardstanding (temporary and permanent) will benefit from a positive drainage system and sustainable drainage systems (SuDS), which will be incorporated into the detailed design so that incident rainfall is collected and treated prior to discharge.	Construction, Operation	X	X	X	X	X		X											Detailed design to be approved through AMSC consent.	-	-
C-ONS-029	Scoping	Tertiary	Where the Proposed Onshore Development is not required for electricity transmission purposes beyond the operational life of the Project, the onshore components would be decommissioned, and the land reinstated. Details of the decommissioning and restoration scheme shall be submitted to Aberdeenshire Council within 24 months of the permanent cessation of electricity generation.	Decommissioning	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X						X	Planning Condition attached to PPP consent required approval of decommissioning and site restoration plan.	Pre-decommissioning	Decommissioning Plan