An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage



Dublin City Council

Customer Services

Block 3, Floor 0

Civic Offices

Wood Quay

Dublin 8

D08 RF3F

By email only to: chiefexecutive@dublincity.ie

8 September 2022

Transboundary Environmental Impact Assessment Public Consultation: Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm

Dear Mr Keegan,

I am writing in accordance with article 132(4)(a) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2022, to advise that Dublin City Council will be the nominated authority with respect to the transboundary EIA consultation on the proposed Awel y Môr offshore windfarm.

For your information, the Minister received notification from the Planning Inspectorate UK, dated 3 August 2022 (attached for information) regarding receipt of a development consent application for the proposed offshore windfarm, Awel y Môr, which will be situated in the Irish Sea off the Welsh coast. This notification is an invitation to participate in transboundary EIA consultation in accordance with the provisions of the 1991 United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention).

In September 2021, at the pre-application stage, a transboundary EIA screening was conducted on behalf of the Secretary of State. This transboundary EIA screening statement (attached for information) identified potential transboundary environmental impacts on Ireland from the proposed development as including; impacts on populations of fish and shellfish, populations of conservation importance (fish, marine mammals and sea birds) and commercial shipping.

This Department issued a response to PINS on 9 August 2022 advising that the consultation period proposed by PINS (6 weeks from date of receipt of the notification) would not be



sufficient to prepare and administer a public consultation on the potential transboundary environmental impact from the proposed development. PINS were advised that the Department would make contact in September to confirm the public consultation timelines, which will be agreed between officials in the EU & International Planning Regulation (EUIPR) unit and appropriate officials in Dublin City Council.

In reference to article 132(4)(b) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2022, that requires a list of all other planning authorities likely to be affected by the proposed development to be submitted to the nominated authority, I wish to advise that, based on the nature of the transboundary issues screened in which are noted above, no planning authority can be excluded. Therefore, Dublin City Council should ensure all planning authorities are consulted with a view to advertising this transboundary EIA public consultation.

Officials from the EU & International Planning Regulation unit will be in touch with the appropriate officials in Dublin City Council in due course to discuss next steps.

Any queries in relation to this letter should be addressed to transboundaryeia@housing.gov.ie

Yours sincerely,

Declar Grehoer

Declan Grehan

Assistant Principal

EU & International Planning Regulation

Planning Division

Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage

Copied:

- Richard Shakespeare, Assistant Chief Executive, Planning and Property (Richard.shakespeare@dublincity.ie)
- Greg Bryan (greg.bryan@dublincity.ie)
- Fiona Mulligan (fiona.mulligan@dublincity.ie)

Attachments:

- Transboundary Screening Statement received from PINS dated 24 September 2021
- Transboundary consultation notification received from PINS dated 3 August 2022