



Dublin City Council
Customer Services
Block 3, Floor 0
Civic Offices
Wood Quay
Dublin 8
D08 RF3F

By email only to: chiefexecutive@dublincity.ie

19 August 2024

**Transboundary Environmental Impact Assessment Public Consultation:
Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Limited**

Dear Mr Shakespeare,

I am writing in accordance with article 132(4)(a) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2024, to advise that Dublin City Council will be the nominated authority with respect to the transboundary EIA consultation on the proposed Morecambe Offshore Windfarm development.

For your information, the Minister received notification from the Planning Inspectorate UK (PINS), dated 26 July 2024 (attached for information) regarding receipt of a development consent application for the proposed offshore windfarm by Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Ltd, which will be situated approximately 30km from the Lancashire coastline. 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 June 2022, at the pre-application stage, a transboundary EIA screening was conducted on behalf of the Secretary of State that identified a number of potential transboundary environmental impact on Ireland. Following acceptance of the development consent order application this year the development was re-screened and a new EIA screening statement (attached) was made that concluded that potential transboundary environmental impacts on Ireland were not likely to be significant. However, the Department decided, in keeping with the procedures for similar developments and the initial screening results, to hold a public consultation to give members of the public an opportunity to make submissions on the proposed development.



This Department issued a response to PINS on 31 July 2024 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 August to confirm the public consultation timelines, which will be agreed between officials in the EU & International Planning Regulation (EUIPR) unit of this Department and appropriate officials in Dublin City Council.

In reference to article 132(4)(b) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2024, 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 EUIPR 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,

Declan Grehan
Assistant Principal
EU & International Planning Regulation
Planning Division
Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage

Copied:

- Greg Bryan (greg.bryan@dublincity.ie)
- Fiona Mulligan (fiona.mulligan@dublincity.ie)

Attachments:

- Transboundary Screening Statement dated 26 July 2024
- Transboundary consultation notification received from PINS dated 26 July 2024
- Table with Documentation Links