Cenos Offshore Windfarm Limited



Cenos EIA Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report

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ACRONYMS

ACRONYM	DEFINITION
CES	Crown Estate Scotland
EICC	Export/Import Cable Corridor
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
GW	Gigawatt
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drilling
HVAC	High Voltage Alternating Current
HVDC	High Voltage Direct Current
IAC	Inter-Array Cables
INTOG	Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas
MCA	Maritime and Coastguard Agency
MD-LOT	Marine Directorate Licensing Operations Team
MHWS	Mean High Water Springs
MLA	Marine Licence Applications
МРА	Marine Protected Area
MW	Megawatt
NCMPA	Nature Conservation Marine Protected Area
NLB	Northern Lighthouse Board
NM	Nautical Mile
OSCP	Offshore Substation Converter Platforms
PAC	Pre-Application Consultation
RLB	Red Line Boundary
SEPA	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
SFF	Scottish Fishermen's Federation
SWFPA	Scottish White Fish Producers Association
TEPCO	Tokyo Electric Power Company
UK	United Kingdom
WTG	Wind Turbine Generators



GLOSSARY

TERM	DEFINITION
2023 Scoping Opinion	Scoping Opinion received in June 2023, superseded by the 2024 Scoping Opinion.
2023 Scoping Report	Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report submitted in 2023, superseded by the 2024 Scoping Report.
2024 Scoping Opinion	Scoping Opinion received in September 2024, superseding the 2023 Scoping Opinion.
2024 Scoping Report	EIA Scoping Report submitted in April 2024, superseding the 2023 Scoping Report.
Area of Opportunity	The area in which the limits of electricity transmission via High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC) cables can reach oil and gas assets for decarbonisation. This area is based on assets within a 100 kilometre (km) radius of the Array Area.
Array Area	The area within which the Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs), floating substructures, moorings and anchors, Offshore Substation Converter Platforms (OSCPs) and Inter-Array Cables (IAC) will be present.
Cenos Offshore Windfarm ('the Project')	'The Project' is the term used to describe Cenos Offshore Windfarm. The Project is a floating offshore windfarm located in the North Sea, with a generating capacity of up to 1,350 Megawatts (MW). The Project which defines the Red Line Boundary (RLB) for the Section 36 Consent and Marine Licence Applications (MLA), includes all offshore components seaward of Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) (WTGs, OSCPs, cables, floating substructures moorings and anchors and all other associated infrastructure). The Project is the focus of this Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).
Cenos Offshore Windfarm Ltd. (The Applicant)	The Applicant for the Section 36 Consent and associated Marine Licences.



TERM	DEFINITION
Cumulative Assessment	The consideration of potential impacts that could occur cumulatively with other relevant projects, plans, and activities that could result in a cumulative effect on receptors.
Developer	Cenos Offshore Windfarm Ltd., a Joint Venture between Flotation Energy and Vårgrønn As (Vårgrønn).
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	The statutory process of evaluating the likely significant environmental effects of a proposed project or development. Assessment of the potential impact of the proposed Project on the physical, biological and human environment during construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning.
Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations	This term is used to refer to the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations which are of relevance to the Project. This includes the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017, the Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 (as amended); and the Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007.
Environmental Impact Assessment Report	A report documenting the findings of the EIA for the Project in accordance with relevant EIA Regulations.
Export/Import Cable	High voltage cable used to export/import power between the OSCPs and Landfall.
Export/Import Cable Bundle (EICB)	Comprising two Export/Import Cables and one fibre-optic cable bundled in a single trench.
Export/Import Cable Corridor (EICC)	The area within which the Export/Import Cable Route will be planned and the Export/Import Cable will be laid, from the perimeter of the Array Area to MHWS.
Export/Import Cable Route	The area within the Export/Import Export Corridor (EICC) within which the Export/Import Cable Bundle (EICB) is laid, from the perimeter of the Array Area to MHWS.



TERM	DEFINITION
Floating Turbine Unit (FTU)	The equipment associated with electricity generation comprising the WTG, the floating substructure which supports the WTG, mooring system and the dynamic section of the IAC.
Flotation Energy	Joint venture partner in Cenos Offshore Windfarm Ltd.
Habitats Regulations	The Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/ECC) and the Wild Birds Directive (Directive 2009/147/EC) were transposed into Scottish Law by the Conservation (Natural Habitats &c) Regulations 1994 ('Habitats Regulations') (up to 12 NM); by the Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 ('Offshore Marine Regulations') (beyond 12 NM); the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (of relevance to consents under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989); the Offshore Petroleum Activities (Conservation of Habitats Regulations 2001; and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. The Habitats Regulations set out the stages of the Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) process required to assess the potential impacts of a proposed project on European Sites (Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, candidate SACs and SPAs and Ramsar Sites).
Habitats Regulations Appraisal	The assessment of the impacts of implementing a plan or policy on a European Site, the purpose being to consider the impacts of a project against conservation objectives of the site and to ascertain whether it would adversely affect the integrity of the site.
High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC)	Refers to high voltage electricity in Alternating Current (AC) form which is produced by the WTGs and flows through the IAC system to the OSCPs. HVAC may also be used for onward power transmission from the OSCPs to assets or to shore over shorter distances.
High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC)	Refers to high voltage electricity in Direct Current (DC) form which is converted from HVAC to HVDC at the OSCPs and transmitted to shore over longer distances.
Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD)	An engineering technique for laying cables that avoids open trenches by drilling between two locations beneath the ground's surface.



TERM	DEFINITION
Innovation and Targeted Oil & Gas (INTOG)	In November 2022, the Crown Estate Scotland (CES) announced the Innovation and Targeted Oil & Gas (INTOG) Leasing Round, to help enable this sector-wide commitment to decarbonisation. INTOG allowed developers to apply for seabed rights to develop offshore windfarms for the purpose of providing low carbon electricity to power oil and gas installations and help to decarbonise the sector. Cenos is an INTOG project and in November 2023 secured an Exclusivity Agreement as part of the INTOG leasing round.
Inter-Array Cable (IAC)	The cables which connect the WTGs to the OSCPs. WTGs may be connected with IACs into a hub or in series as a 'string' or a 'loop' such that power from the connected WTGs is gathered to the OSCPs via a single cable.
Joint Venture	The commercial partnership between Flotation Energy and Vårgrønn, the shareholders which hold the Exclusivity Agreement with CES to develop the Cenos site as an INTOG project.
Landfall	The area where the Export/Import Cable from the Array Area will be brought ashore. The interface between the offshore and onshore environments.
Marine Licence	Licence required for certain activities in the marine environment and granted under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 and/or the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010.
Marine Protected Area (MPA)	Marine sites protected at the national level under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 out to 12 NM, and the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 between 12-200 NM. In Scotland MPAs are areas of sea and seabed defined so as to protect habitats, wildlife, geology, underseas landforms, historic shipwrecks and to demonstrate sustainable management of the sea.
MPA Assessment	A three-step process for determining whether there is a significant risk that a proposed development could hinder the achievement of the conservation objectives of an MPA.
Mean High Water Springs (MHWS)	The height of Mean High Water Springs is the average throughout the year, of two successive high waters, during a 24-hour period in each month when the range of the tide is at its greatest.



TERM	DEFINITION
Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS)	The height of Mean Low Water Springs is the average throughout a year of the heights of two successive low waters during periods of 24 hours (approximately once a fortnight).
	Measures considered within the topic-specific chapters in order to avoid impacts or reduce them to acceptable levels.
Mitigation Measures	 Primary mitigation - measures that are an inherent part of the design of the Project which reduce or avoid the likelihood or magnitude of an adverse environmental effect, including location or design; Secondary mitigation – additional measures implemented to further reduce environmental effects to 'not significant' levels (where appropriate) and do not form part of the fundamental design of the Project; and
	 Tertiary mitigation – measures that are implemented in accordance with industry standard practice or to meet legislative requirements and are independent of the EIA (i.e. they would be implemented regardless of the findings of the EIA).
	Primary and tertiary mitigation are referred to as embedded mitigation. Secondary mitigation is referred to as additional mitigation.
Mooring System	Comprising the mooring lines and anchors, the mooring system connects the floating substructure to the seabed, provides station-keeping capability for the floating substructure and contributes to the stability of the floating substructure and WTG.
Nature Conservation Marine Protected Area (NCMPA)	MPA designated by Scottish Ministers in the interests of nature conservation under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010.
Offshore Substation Converter Platforms (OSCPs)	An offshore platform on a fixed jacket substructure, containing electrical equipment to aggregate the power from the WTGs and convert power between HVAC and HVDC for export/import via the export/import cable to/from the shore. The OSCPs will also act as power distribution stations for the Oil & Gas platforms.
Onward Development	Transmission projects which are anticipated to be brought forward for development by 3 rd party oil and gas operators to enable electrification of assets via electricity generated by the Project. All Onward Development will subject to separate marine licensing and permitting requirements.
Onward Development Area	The area within which oil and gas assets would have the potential to be electrified by the Project.



TERM	DEFINITION
Onward Development Connections	Oil and gas assets located in the waters surrounding the Array Area will be electrified via transmission infrastructure which will connect to the Project's OSCPs. These transmission cables are referred to as Onward Development Connections.
Project Area	The area that encompasses both the Array Area and EICC.
Project Design Envelope	A description of the range of possible elements that make up the Project design options under consideration and that are assessed as part of the EIA for the Project.
Study Area	Receptor specific area where potential impacts from the Project could occur.
Transboundary Assessment	The consideration of impacts from the Project which have the potential to have a significant effect on another European Economic Area (EEA) state's environment. Where there is a potential for a transboundary effect, as a result of the Project, these are assessed within the relevant EIA chapter.
Transmission Infrastructure	The infrastructure responsible for moving electricity from generating stations to substations, load areas, assets and the electrical grid, comprising the OSCPs, and associated substructure, and the Export/Import Cable.
Vårgrønn As (Vårgrønn)	Joint venture partner in Cenos Offshore Windfarm Ltd.
Wind Turbine Generator (WTG)	The equipment associated with electricity generation from available wind resource, comprising the surface components located above the supporting substructure (e.g., tower, nacelle, hub, blades, and any necessary power transformation equipment, generators, and switchgears).
Worst-Case Scenario	The worst-case scenario based on the Project Design Envelope which varies by receptor and/or impact pathway identified.



PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION (PAC) REPORT

1 Introduction

1.1 The Applicant

Cenos Offshore Windfarm ('the Project') is being developed by Cenos Offshore Windfarm Ltd. ('the Applicant'), a joint venture between Flotation Energy and Vårgrønn AS (Vårgrønn).

Flotation Energy has a developing project pipeline of offshore wind projects with a total of more than 13 Gigawatt (GW) in the UK, Ireland, Taiwan, Japan, and Australia. Now part of the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) Group, with its combination of technology and experience and aim of achieving environmental improvements, Flotation Energy holds a strong position in offshore wind development.

Norway-based offshore wind company, Vårgrønn, is a joint venture between the energy company Plenitude (Eni) and the Norwegian energy entrepreneur and investor HitecVision. The company is an agile powering the energy transition through the development, construction, operation, and ownership of offshore wind projects. Vårgrønn's pipeline of projects and prospective projects spans in the UK, Ireland, and Norway, in addition to early-stage initiatives in the Baltics. The company also hold a 20% share in Dogger Bank, the world's largest windfarm currently under construction.

1.2 Project Overview

The Project is a floating offshore windfarm, which is located 200 km offshore east of Aberdeen from the closest edge of the Project Array Area, in the Central North Sea (see Figure 1). The Project is part of the Innovation and Targeted Oil & Gas (INTOG) leasing process which was undertaken by Crown Estate Scotland (CES). The Project shall generate renewable electricity to the UK grid from up to 95 Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) in addition to enabling efficient electrification of offshore oil and gas assets within the Onward Development Area. When wind speeds are insufficient to power the oil and gas assets directly, additional electricity would be imported from the UK grid through the Export/Import Cable. The Project's lifetime is expected to exceed that of the oil and gas assets and, therefore, would continue to produce renewable electricity to the UK grid after those assets are decommissioned.





Figure 1 Project location



1.3 Purpose of Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report

The Marine Licensing (PAC) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 were laid before the Scottish Parliament on 10th October 2013. They prescribe the marine licensable activities that are subject to pre-application consultation and, in combination with the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, set out the nature of the pre-application process. The legislation came into force on 1st January 2014 and applies to all relevant Marine Licence Applications (MLAs) submitted to Marine Directorate Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT) on or after 6th April 2014. Elements of the Project require that the Applicant provide a PAC Report.

The PAC Report provides a detailed overview of the stakeholder engagement and public consultation activities undertaken by the Applicant in regard to the Project. The PAC Report describes the legislative context, the PAC process, stakeholder and public events delivered by the Applicant, and a summary of the findings from feedback received. These activities were carried out alongside the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process. Although the main purpose of the PAC Report is to document activities relating to public consultation, it does also include a summary of stakeholder engagement and consultation. More details pertaining to stakeholder engagement are available within in **EIAR Vol. 2, Chapter 6: Stakeholder Engagement**.

2 Legislative context and relevant guidance

2.1 Consenting requirements up to 12 NM

The relevant policies and guidance related to the engagement consultation requirements for a Marine Licence application between 0 and 12 Nautical Miles (NM) are outlined below.

The Project will submit applications for Marine Licences in accordance with the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, and Section 36 under the Electricity Act 1989 (Figure 2). For further information on the legislative context and regulatory requirements on the wider offshore planning policy, please see EIAR Vol. 2, Chapter 3: Policy and Legislative Context.

Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 and the Marine Licences under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 are required for transmission infrastructure and the section of the Export/Import Cable that is located 12 NM and beyond. The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 applies to the section of the Export/Import Cable that is located within 0-12 NM of the coast.

Sections 22 to 24 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 state that PAC is a requirement for developments of a certain scale, or involve particular works, located in Scottish territorial waters, alongside the Marine Licensing (PAC) (Scotland) Regulations 2013. The requirements of Section 7 of the Regulations state that the Applicant must hold at least one PAC event to allow stakeholders and members of the public to provide comments on the proposed licensable marine activity¹ to the Applicant. Applicants are required to publish a PAC Notice in a local newspaper, describing the activity,

¹ As defined under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010: <u>https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2010/5/section/21</u>



details of where further information may be found, the date and location of the event and details on how comments and feedback should be provided to the Applicant.



Figure 2 Outline of relevant consent applications for the Project

PAC provides a system to allow the public to provide feedback on the Project, which can be addressed in the licence application that is supported by the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and is not considered to be a direct representation to Scottish Ministers.

The Applicant published a PAC Notice (Figure 3) on 20th August 2024, which met the requirements detailed above, and confirmed to MD-LOT on 28th August 2024 that the Notice had been published. It included a Project overview summarising the Applicant's proposals, an indicative map of the Project Area including the Export/Import Cable Corridor and a summary of their consultation approach. Copies of this document were also distributed to the following stakeholders:

- Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA);
- MD-LOT;
- NatureScot;
- Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB);
- Salamander;
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA); and
- Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF).



CENOS OFFSHORE WINDFARM LIMITED MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010 THE MARINE LICENSING (PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013

Notice is hereby given that Cenos Offshore Windfarm Limited, (Hobart House, 80 Hanover Street EH2 1EL) plans to hold a pre-application consultation event regarding a proposed licensable marine activity within Scottish Territorial Waters east of Peterhead (central grid reference 1° 25' 46" E, 57° 07' 19" N). The proposed Cenos Offshore Wind Farm is located approximately 200km due east of shore from Aberdeen, Peterhead is the closest coastline approximately 190km from the array boundary. The activity within Scottish Territorial Waters consists of a single submarine export cable bundle from the wind farm site to landfall and associated rock deposits within the cable trench(es) to ensure complete burial. Further information, can be obtained concerning the proposed floating offshore windfarm development from:

https://cenosoffshorewind.com/

The pre-application consultation event will be held at Peterhead football Club, Balmoor Stadium, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead, AB2 1EQ on 1st October 2024, in accordance with The Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013. Two sessions will be held on 1st October from 12 - 3pm and 4 - 7pm.

Persons wishing to provide comments on the proposed floating offshore wind farm development can do so by writing to the prospective applicant at: hello@cenosoffshorewind.com

Or by post to Christopher Pearson, Ground Floor, North East Suite, iQ Building, 15 Justice Mill Lane, Aberdeen, AB11 6EQ, in either case not later than 16th October 2024.

Comments should be dated and should clearly state the name (in block capitals) and full return email or postal address of those making comment. Comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to the Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT). If Cenos Offshore Windfarm Ltd submits an application for a marine licence to MD-LOT, an opportunity will be given for representations to be made to the Scottish Ministers on the application.

Figure 3 The Applicant's PAC Notice which was published on the 20th August 2024 in the Press & Journal (the P&J) and the Buchan Observer



2.2 PAC compliance

This PAC Report details the activities conducted by the Applicant and is submitted with the Marine Licence application to Scottish Ministers. This PAC Report describes the consultation work that the Applicant has undertaken to fulfil the statutory requirements for PAC. Table 1 provides details on the activities carried out by the Applicant and the requirements to which they correlate. More specific detail on the stakeholder engagement carried out to inform the EIAR is provided in **EIAR Vol. 2, Chapter 6: Stakeholder Engagement**.

Table 1 Compliance with legislation

REF	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE	PAC REPORT REFERENCE	
Marine (Scotland) Act 2010				
Section 23 (1)	A prospective applicant must give notice that an application for a marine licence is to be submitted.	PAC Notice – The Notice was published on 20 th August 2024; confirmation that the Notice was published was sent to MD-LOT on 28 th August 2024.	Figure 3	
Section 23 (2)	A period of at least 12 weeks must elapse between giving the notice and the submission of the application.	 PAC Notice – The Notice was published on 20th August 2024; confirmation that the Notice was published was sent to MD-LOT on 28th August 2024. A minimum of 12 weeks has therefore elapsed between the submission of the notice and the Marine Licence application in December 2024. 	Figure 3	
Section 23 (3) (a)–(d)	 This notice must contain: a) A description in general terms of the activity to be carried out; b) A plan or chart showing the outline of the location at which the activity is to be carried out, which is sufficient to identify the location; c) Details as to how the prospective Applicant is to be contacted; and d) Such other information as may be prescribed by Scottish Ministers. 	 PAC Notice - The notice contained all relevant details including a general description, where to find the plan of the location and details of how the Applicant could be contacted, amongst other details. a) A description in general terms of the activity: "The proposed Cenos Offshore Wind Farm is located approximately 200km due east of shore from Aberdeen, Peterhead is the closest coastline approximately 190km from the array boundary. The activity within Scottish Territorial Waters consists of a single submarine export cable bundle from the wind farm site to landfall and associated rock deposits within the cable trench(es) to ensure complete burial. Further information, can be obtained concerning the proposed floating offshore windfarm development from: https://cenosoffshorewind.com/"; b) Plan or chart of activity: "The central grid reference of the proposed licensable marine activity within Scottish Territorial Waters east of Peterhead is 1° 25' 46" E, 57° 07' 19" N." 	See Section 2.1, Figure 3	

Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report



REF	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE	PAC REPORT REFERENCE
		 A plan of the Project was provided on the Project website with links provided in the notice; c) Details of how Applicant is to be contacted: <i>"Persons wishing to provide comments on the proposed floating offshore wind farm development can do so by writing to the prospective applicant at: hello@cenosoffshorewind.com Or by post to Christopher Pearson, Ground Floor, North East Suite, iQ Building, 15 Justice Mill Lane, Aberdeen, AB11 6EQ, in either case not later than 16th October 2024";</i> d) Such other information as may be prescribed by Scottish Ministers: <i>"No further information was requested by Scottish Ministers."</i> 	
Section 24 (1) and (2)	A PAC Report must be prepared prior to submitting the application and be in the prescribed format.	This document, the PAC Report, meets the requirement and is in the prescribed format.	N/A
Marine Licensing	(PAC) (Scotland) Regulations 2013		
Regulation 5	A prospective Applicant for a marine licence may notify the Scottish Ministers requiring a PAC statement from them.	This document meets the requirement for a PAC Report. The Notice was published on 20 th August 2024; confirmation that the Notice was published was sent to MD-LOT on 28 th August 2024.	N/A
Regulation 6 (2)	 The prospective Applicant for a marine licence must give notification that an application for a marine licence is to be submitted to: (a) The Commissioners of Northern Lighthouses; (b) The Maritime and Coastguard Agency; (c) The Scottish Environment Protection Agency; (d) Scottish Natural Heritage; and 	 The following stakeholders were issued the notice of the application via email: Aberdeenshire Council; MCA; MD-LOT; NatureScot; NLB; Salamander; SEPA; and 	See Section 2.1



Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report

REF	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE	PAC REPORT REFERENCE
	(e) Any delegate for a marine region (where the activity is wholly or partly to be carried out).	• SFF.	
Regulation 7 (1) (a)	The prospective applicant for a marine licence must hold at least one PAC event at which persons identified in Regulation 6(2) and members of the public may provide comments to the prospective applicant as regards the licensable marine activity to which the application for a marine licence is to relate.	One PAC event was held on Tuesday 1 st October 2024. Comments were invited and / or collected from persons identified in Regulation 6(2) and members of the public.	See Section 4.2.
		The PAC event notice contained all relevant details including:	
Regulation 7 (1)(b)	 The prospective applicant must publish in a local newspaper containing: A description, including the location, of the licensable marine activity for which the marine licence is to be sought; Details as to where further information may be obtained; The date and place of the pre-application event; and A statement that comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to the Scottish Ministers and that there will be an opportunity for representations to be made to the Scottish Ministers on the application for a marine licence. 	 A description, including the location, of the licensable marine activity for which the marine licence is to be sought; <i>"The proposed Cenos Offshore Wind Farm is located approximately 200km due east of shore from Aberdeen, Peterhead is the closest coastline approximately 190km from the array boundary. The activity within Scottish Territorial Waters consists of a single submarine Export/Import Cable bundle from the wind farm site to landfall and associated rock deposits within the cable trench(es) to ensure complete burial;</i> Details as to where further information may be obtained; <i>"Further information, can be obtained concerning the proposed floating offshore windfarm development from: https://cenosoffshorewind.com/";</i> The date and place of the pre-application event; <i>"The pre-application consultation event will be held at Peterhead football Club, Balmoor Stadium, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead, AB2 1EQ on 1st October 2024, in accordance with The Marine Licensing (Pre-</i> 	Figure 3

Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report



REF	REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE	PAC REPORT REFERENCE
		 Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013. Two sessions will be held on 1st October from 12-3pm and 4-7pm"; A statement explaining how persons wishing to provide comments to the prospective applicant relating to the proposed licensable marine activity may do so, and the date by which this must be done "Persons wishing to provide comments on the proposed floating offshore wind farm development can do so by writing to the prospective applicant at: hello@cenosoffshorewind.com Or by post to Christopher Pearson, Ground Floor, North East Suite, iQ Building, 15 Justice Mill Lane, Aberdeen, AB11 6EQ, in either case not later than 16th October 2024;" A statement that comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to be made to the Scottish Ministers; "Comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to the prospective applicant are not representations to the Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT)". 	
Regulation 7 (2)	 A PAC event must be held no earlier than six weeks after the later of: a) The date on which the notification of the event is given; and b) The date of notification that an application for a marine licence is to be submitted 	The advertisement for the Cenos Public Consultation Event was published in the Press and Journal and the Buchan Observer on the 20 th of August 2024. A minimum of 6 weeks has therefore elapsed between the submission of the notice and the PAC event on 1 st October 2024.	See Section 4.2.
Regulation 8	A PAC Report must be in the form prescribed as in Schedule 1.	This document is in the prescribed format as in Schedule 1.	N/A



3 Engagement approach and methodology

3.1 Engagement objectives

The Applicant's main objectives for the stakeholder engagement strategy are as follows:

- To identify and actively engage with statutory bodies, non-governmental organisations, other national and international organisations and members of the public who may be affected by the Project;
- Maintain open and honest communications with all stakeholders; and
- Recognise the interests and viewpoints of stakeholders and where appropriate, use their feedback to inform the Project including the Scoping process and EIA.

The Applicant aimed to meet regulatory requirements and best practice by:

- Providing a detailed programme of engagement with a variety of technical stakeholders (both statutory and nonstatutory);
- Actively engaging with the community;
- Hosting a PAC event (Section 4);
- Submitting a robust PAC Report detailing how the feedback received from the public was utilised to inform the development of the Project; and
- Committing to engaging with stakeholders through the lifecycle of the Project.

The Applicant has recognised that early engagement is critical to ensure that stakeholders have an opportunity to comment on a project and allow feedback and discussion on key topics. The engagement strategy for the Project has been developed around engaging in a meaningful way at key periods, to ensure there is opportunity to raise concerns and allow the Project team to take account of local concerns.

The implementation of the engagement strategy to date has included multiple approaches such as in-person meetings within the local area, advertisements in local papers, newsletters, as well as multiple online media outlets, including a Project specific website (Figure 4). The aim of all these approaches is to engage as many stakeholders as possible. The Applicant has endeavoured to ensure that all concerns, expectations, and contributions of all stakeholders are well understood and continues using collaborative efforts to foster transparent and mutually beneficial relationships.





Figure 4 Project consultation tools

3.2 Consultation area

The Project has sought to engage all residents and stakeholders that might be impacted by establishing a wide consultation zone based on proximity to both the offshore and onshore infrastructure. The consultation zone was aligned with local Community Council boundaries.

3.3 Availability of information

Ahead of the PAC event (Section 3.5), the Applicant submitted an EIA Scoping Report in February 2023 (referred to as the '2023 Scoping Report') to Scottish Ministers to support a Scoping Opinion request. A Scoping Opinion was received by the Applicant in June 2023, which provided valuable feedback from the Scottish Ministers. Since the submission of the 2023 Scoping Report, the Project evolved significantly and, subsequently, the Scoping Report was updated, resulting in the submission of a new Scoping Report in 2024 (the '2024 Scoping Report'). The 2024 Scoping Report is available on the Project website (https://cenosoffshorewind.com/documents/).

Hard copies of the Marine Licence application together with the EIAR and other documentation will be available to view publicly at:

- Peterhead Library (51 St Peter St, Peterhead AB42 1QD);
- Buchan House (St Peter Street, Peterhead, AB42 1QF); and
- Online through the Project website: <u>https://cenosoffshorewind.com/documents/</u>



3.4 How to get in touch

Further information can be obtained concerning the Project from: <u>https://cenosoffshorewind.com/</u>

Persons wishing to provide comments on the Project can do so by writing to the prospective Applicant at: <u>hello@cenosoffshorewind.com</u>

Or by post to:

Christopher Pearson, Ground Floor, North East Suite, iQ Building, 15 Justice Mill Lane, Aberdeen, AB11 6EQ,

An opportunity will be given by MD-LOT for representations to be made to the Scottish Ministers on the Marine Licence application.

3.5 Commitment to engagement

The Applicant recognises that effective and meaningful consultation is an integral part of its development activities and is committed to ensuring that it maintains a transparent approach to consultation and stakeholder engagement throughout the lifecycle of the Project. The Applicant will continue to consult with stakeholders beyond consent application submission. This will include addressing any comments or concerns raised during the determination period. Assuming successful award of Project consent, stakeholder engagement will continue in support of successful discharge of licence conditions and in the development of relevant protocols and procedures. Further public events may also occur post consent and regular Project updates will also be posted on the Applicant's website.

4 Consultation/PAC events

4.1 PAC event

In accordance with the marine licensing legislation (see Section 2), the Applicant hosted a PAC event to provide an opportunity for the local community and other stakeholders to find out more about the Project, meet the team, and provide feedback. Details on the PAC event are presented in Table 2.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
	Session one: 12-3pm	Peterhead Football Club,
	Session two: 4-7pm	Balmoor Stadium,
Tuesday 1 st October		Balmoor Terrace,
		Peterhead,
		AB2 1EQ

Table 2 Details of the Cenos Floating Offshore Windfarm's PAC event



4.2 Publicising the consultation event

PAC events are a legislative requirement of the consenting process and must be formally publicised following the marine licensing and planning consent legislation. The Applicant published formal PAC Notices in the Press & Journal and the Buchan Observer on the 20th August 2024; two relevant local newspapers (Figure 3). Notification of the PAC event was sent to MD-LOT via email on 28th August 2024. The Applicant also published details of the PAC event on social media and the project website, and prepared a media release which was published in a local newspaper and on local media and social media pages to reach as many stakeholders as possible. The details of the publications are listed below:

- Press and Journal 20th August 2024;
- The Buchan ('the Buchanie) Observer 20th August 2024;
- Renews.Biz 24th September 2024 (<u>Renews.Biz Website);</u>
- Peterhead Live Facebook Page 26th September 2024 (<u>Peterhead Live Facebook Page</u>);
- Peterhead Live website 26th September 2024 (<u>Peterhead Live Website</u>);
- OGV Energy News 26th September 2024 (<u>OGV Energy News Website</u>);
- Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce 26th September 2024 (<u>Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of</u> <u>Commerce Website</u>);
- Buchan Live Facebook Page 30th September 2024 (<u>Buchan Live Facebook Page</u>);
- Peterhead Community Council Facebook Page 30th September 2024 (<u>Peterhead Community Council Facebook Page</u>); Flotation Energy LinkedIn Post 30th September 2024 (<u>Flotation Energy LinkedIn</u>); and
- Cenos website news page 23rd September 2024.

The event was attended by 23 individuals with a range of interests in the project, including:

- Representatives from SFF and Scottish White Fish Producers Association (SWFPA);
- Individuals and representatives of businesses working in Peterhead's fishing industry;
- A representative of the offshore wind industry;
- Local residents;
- Representatives of businesses keen to engage with the Project; and
- One attendee, who was also a participant in and shared anecdotal information about the University of Aberdeen's £2 million project to study rapid evolution in Scottish seabird populations.



4.3 Consultation materials

A number of consultation materials were used at the PAC event to ensure there was full access to Project information.



A series of display boards with information about the Project were provided at the PAC event. This presented information on:

- Project overview;
- Community benefits and commitments; and
- The EIA process and preliminary findings.



• Members of the Project team available to answer any questions asked by the attendees and ensure a complete understanding of any issues.



 Attendees were asked to complete a feedback form to gather feedback on the Project, to inform the Project's understanding of the key themes, to help guide future engagement, and to gauge an understanding of how the public perceive the Project. There was an option to complete the feedback form online, which remained open until 16th October 2024.



• The results from the feedback forms are discussed in Section 4.4. Examples of the consultation materials are displayed in Figure 5.



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Figure 5 Example of materials used for the PAC event



4.4 Feedback form outcome

Nine feedback forms were submitted at the event and one was submitted online. Key topics of discussion included:

- Potential impacts of the Project on inshore fishing close to the landfall point;
- Potential impacts of offshore Export/Import Cable on the commercial fishing industry;
- Potential impacts on the commercial fishing industry in Array Area; and
- Impact of landfall and onshore Export/Import Cable plans on local residents, including traffic on A90.

All feedback has been logged and recorded into a database. All information collected through the feedback forms is subject to the Cenos Offshore Windfarm Privacy Statement included on the feedback forms. Feedback has been discussed and reviewed by the Project team, before determining whether any follow-up actions were required. The feedback and comments provided have been used to inform the Project understanding of the key themes and will help to guide future engagement.

From the feedback it was clear that there was strong agreement on the need for the Project and also strong support for the Project as a whole (Figure 6). No Disagree/Strongly disagree or Object/Strongly object responses were provided. Further responses are summarised within Table 3.



Figure 6 Responses to the Project collation from the feedback forms



Table 3 Key responses from feedback forms

QUESTION	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDEES			
	Positively	Negatively	No impact	
Do you see this project impacting local lifestyles/quality of life?	72%	14%	14%	
Do you see this project impacting local services (e.g. schools, leisure facilities, public transport)?	50%	12%	38%	
Do you see this project impacting local social problems (e.g. crime, ill-health, deprivation, safety)?	17%	50%	33%	
Do you see this project impacting local education and training?	60%	0%	40%	
Do you see this project impacting local community character or image?]	50%	17%	33%	
Do you see this project impacting the local economy (e.g. fishing industry)?]	17%	83%	0%	
Do you see this project impacting local tourism activities?	14%	14%	72%	

5 Conclusions

The Project is being developed by the Applicant, a joint venture between Flotation Energy and Vårgrønn AS (Vårgrønn). The PAC Report provides a detailed overview of the stakeholder engagement and public consultation activities undertaken by the Applicant in regard to the Project. In line with regulatory requirements (the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and the Marine Licensing (PAC) (Scotland) Regulations 2013), and as part of the Project's wider engagement and consultation strategy, a PAC event was held. This event allowed stakeholders and members of the public to provide comments on the proposed licensable marine activity to the Applicant. The PAC event was held on Tuesday 1st October at Peterhead Football Club. The PAC event was advertised within two local newspapers and across a variety of relevant social media, news pages, and a local newspaper to reach as many stakeholders as possible. Nine feedback forms were submitted at the event and one was submitted online. The feedback has been collated and is being used by the Applicant in the development of the Project.

The Applicant is committed to continuing engagement with consultees and the general public across the lifecycle of the Project.



6 References

Electricity Act 1989, c. 29, s. 36. Available online at: <u>https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/29/section/36</u> [Accessed on 10/07/2024].

Marine Directorate – Licensing and Operations Team (2024). Scoping Opinion for Cenos Offshore Windfarm. Available online: <u>https://marine.gov.scot/sites/default/files/scop_0044 - cenos_offshore_wind_farm - scoping_opinion.pdf</u>

Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, asp 5. Available online at: <u>https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2010/5/contents</u> [Accessed on 10/07/2024].

Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, c. 23. Available online at: <u>https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2009/23/contents</u> [Accessed on 10/07/2024].

Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013, SSI 2013/286. Available online at: <u>https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2013/286/contents/made</u> [Accessed on 10/07/2024].



APPENDIX A PAC EVENT PRESENTATION SLIDES

Cen (\$)S

Project overview

With a nominal capacity of up to 1350 MW, Cenos is a pioneering offshore windfarm project aiming to electrify and decarbonise offshore oil and gas platforms in the North Sea, and provide electricity to the UK grid.

Set to be delivered as part of Crown Estate Scotland's Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas (INTOG) leasing round, once complete Cenos will be one of the world's largest floating offshore windfarms, providing up to 5.5 TWh of renewable power to the UK grid each year.

Cenos provides an opportunity to cement Scotland and the UK as a world leader in floating offshore wind.

What Cenos delivers:

- The project will play a key role in helping deliver UK Government targets for offshore wind power capacity, and specifically floating offshore wind
- Contributes to Scotland's 2045 net zero target
- Supporting the North Sea Transition Deal in reducing offshore oil and gas sector emissions





platforms

Project partners

FLOTATION ENERGY



Flotation Energy Headquartered in Edinburgh, Scotland, sits at the heart of the energy transition and is determined to support the big switch to sustainable, clean and affordable energy through the application of innovative offshore wind technology.

An ambitious offshore wind developer, Flotation Energy has a 13GW portfolio that covers both fixed and floating developments globally, with projects in the UK, Ireland, Taiwan, Japan and Australia. Whilst Flotation Energy develops projects independently, it also recognises the strategic value of partnership and collaboration to deliver proven, costeffective solutions.

Vårgrønn's current pipeline of projects and prospective projects spans England, Scotland, Ireland and Norway in addition to early-stage initiatives in the Baltics. Vårgrønn holds a 20% share in Dogger Bank, the world's largest windfarm under construction.



vårgrønn

Vårgrønn is an agile, Norway-based offshore wind company powering the energy transition through development, construction, operation, and ownership of offshore wind projects and related infrastructure. Vårgrønn is a joint venture between the energy company Plenitude (Eni) and the Norwegian energy entrepreneur and investor HitecVision.





Timelines





Scan the QR code to fill in the Cenos Public Feedback Form

engagement regarding project

*Contract For Difference



Cents

Landfall

Landfall at cliffs between **Boddam and** Long Haven

Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) will be utilised at landfall

The cable tunnel will start approximatley 190m from the cliff where the water depth is 26m

There will be 3 boreholes drilled: one for each of the High-Voltage **Direct Current** (HVDC) cables; and one for the fibre optic cable





Scan the QR code to fill in the Cenos Public Feedback Form

Import grid backup to oil field. Export surplus wind power to grid.

Continuous electrical supply to oil field







Scan the QR code to fill in the Cenos Public Feedback Form

Import grid backup to oil field. Export surplus wind power to grid.

Continuous electrical supply to oil field





Environmental and social considerations

We are currently preparing an application for offshore consent, which will be supported by an **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). We** are considering the environmental and social impacts of the project, including the following:

- Benthic ecology
- Ornithology
- Coastal processes
- Fish ecology
- Socioeconomics & tourism
- Marine archaeology ٠
- Marine mammals ٠
- Commercial fisheries
- Civil and military aviation
- Carbon and greenhouse gases
- Sediment and water quality
- Shipping and navigation ٠
- Infrastructure and other users











Consents and Impact Assesment



Onshore The onshore infrastructure

connecting Cenos to the grid has been consented through NorthConnect. All overlapping environmental and social impacts will be assessed where relevant.



Offshore We are in the process of applying for the necessary offshore licences to construct the windfarm and its associated infrastructure.

Import grid backup to oil field.

Export surplus wind power to grid.

Continuous electrical supply to oil field

Scan the QR code to fill in the Cenos Public Feedback Form



Impact Assesment An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is being undertaken which serves to identify any potential impacts resulting from the Project.





What is INTOG

Cenos is being delivered as part of Crown Estate Scotland's Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas (INTOG) leasing round for offshore wind projects. It allows the Cenos Offshore windfarm to help reduce emissions by powering oil and gas platforms in the North Sea. This helps cut carbon emissions and supports the energy transition towards renewable sources.



Import grid backup to oil field Export surplus wind power to grid.

Continuous electrical supply to oil field







Array area

The Cenos Offshore Windfarm is located over 200 km from the Aberdeenshire coastline, well beyond the visual horizon, ensuring no adverse effects on coastal landscapes or visual amenities.



Cents

Floating wind turbines

Floating substructure supports the wind turbine in deeper water.

Substructure types under consideration:

Semi-submersible: This design has three columns and a mooring system to keep the structure stable and in place.

Tension-Leg Platform (TLP): This design uses three or more columns/legs and strong cables (tendons) to keep the structure stable and anchored.









Mooring and anchoring

Floating substructure supports the wind turbine in deeper water.

Mooring configurations for floating turbines:

Semi-submersible floating turbine:

- Mooring types: Semi-taut or taut moorings
- Number of mooring lines: About 6 lines per turbine

Tension-leg platform (TLP) floating turbine:

- Mooring types: Vertical tendons
- Number of tendons: About 9 tendons per turbine

Mooring line composition:

- Materials used: A mix of steel chains, steel wire ropes, and/or synthetic ropes

Anchor types:

- Considered pptions: Driven or suction piles, and novel piling solutions
- Not considered: Drag embedment anchors









Cables

Array cables for the project:

Voltage: The cables will operate at 66kV to 132kV AC

Types of Sections:

- Static Sections: Run along the seabed from the offshore substation
- Dynamic Sections: Hang in the water between the seabed and the floating turbine, with extra protection

Dynamic Cables: Have additional layers for protection and need special features like bend protection and buoyancy Design: All cables are three-core and use High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC)

O&G Interconnector Cables: These will be similar to the static array cables and connect from the substation to oil and gas platforms

Export cables for the project:

Voltage: Will operate from 320kV to 520kV DC Cable Setup: Two static cables will run from the offshore substation to the shore Length: Each cable can be up to 230km long **Design:** The cables are single-core and use High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC)







Cables

Offshore Substation with fixed jacket foundation

Foundation: Fixed jacket foundation.

Function: Converts AC power from the wind turbines into DC power for transmission.

Voltage: Increases the voltage from the generation level to the transmission level.

Cable Burial

Cable Placement: Buried along the export cable route. **Protection:** If the cable can't be buried deep enough, rocks will cover it for about 600 meters.

Rock Volume: Approximately 766 cubic meters of rock will be used for protection.

Crossings

Number of Crossings: About 15 cables and pipelines will be crossed along the export cable route. **Protection:** Rocks will be used to protect both the existing cables/pipelines and the new export cable at each crossing. **Rock Volume:**

- For Cable Crossings: 2,879 cubic meters.
- For Pipeline Crossings: 2,934 cubic meters.







Peterhead Developers Forum

As offshore activity increases to meet the UK's Net Zero targets, the demand for seabed space continues to grow. With several major infrastructure projects underway in the Peterhead area, efficient use of marine space is more important than ever. Cenos plays an active role in the Peterhead Developers Forum, working collaboratively to ensure successful project delivery by focusing on:

Aims:

- Share understanding between developers and asset owners with projects making landfall, or potentially making landfall in the Peterhead area
- Consider the possibility of collaborating in relevant areas

Objectives:

- Reducing disruption caused to the local community and other affected stakeholders
- Expediting delivery of clean energy projects
- Reducing overall cost of delivery and operation of clean energy projects



Import grid backup to oil field Export surplus wind power to grid.

Continuous electrical supply to oil field



Socioeconomic and community impact

We are working with Scottish community & economic consultants Glic to conduct detailed socioeconomic assessments to help us understand the project's potential impact on local communities and economies.

These assessments look at factors like job creation, local spending, and community benefits, while also identifying potential challenges.

Key socioeconomic and community impact areas

- Economy direct and indirect
- Sociocultural values
- Local services
- Education and training
- Community capacity
- Tourism
- Job creation

Consequences will be assessed, in both positive and negative directions. Direct stakeholders will be engaged to ensure a complete understanding of potential effects.





Continuous electrical supply to oil field









BOOGIE!

Community engagement



Scan the QR code to fill in the Cenos Public Feedback Form

in the bar

 \bigcirc





Peterhead Community Trust (PACT)

Boogie in the Bar

Commercial fisheries

Inshore fisheries - within 12nm

- Static gear . E.g. creel pots
- Mobile scallop fishing

Offshore fisheries – outwith 12nm

- Limited static gear
- Mobile sector
 - Demersal (nephrops and white fish species)
 - Seine net fishing

CONSULTATION: Ongoing engagement throughout project development

Local representatives: Scottish Fisherman Federation Scottish White Fish Producers Association











Import grid backup to oil field. Export surplus wind power to grid.

Continuous electrical supply to oil field

