

# Technical Appendix 6.2 Pre-Application Consultation Report

Offshore EIA Report: Volume 2

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# Pre Application Consultation Report

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### Green Volt Offshore Windfarm

# Pre-Application Consultation Report

This Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report has been prepared to accompany the Section 36 consent and Marine Licence Applications, for the construction and operation of the Green Volt Offshore Windfarm, to Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team (MS-LOT). This PAC Report has been written in line with the requirements of the Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 ('the Regulations') and the Marine Works and Marine Licensing (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 ('the Amending Regulations').

### 1. **Proposed Licensable Marine Activity**

Please describe below, or where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form the proposed licensable marine activity, including its location.

Green Volt Offshore Wind Limited (hereafter referred to as 'the Applicant') is seeking consent to construct the Green Volt Offshore Windfarm (hereafter referred to as 'the Project'). The Project is a proposed floating offshore windfarm located 80 km east of the Aberdeenshire Coast in the North Sea, with an intended generating capacity of 490 to 560 megawatts (MW) (please see Green Volt Offshore Windfarm Offshore Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report Chapter 5 Project Description). The Project's purpose is to generate and supply renewable electricity to enable the complete electrification of oil and gas installations in the outer Moray Firth area, using Buzzard oil and gas Platform Complex, one of the United Kingdom's (UK) largest oil and gas assets, as base case. With an operational target date of 2027, the Project enables 500,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per year to be mitigated, including at least 300,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> from oil and gas assets in the area. The Project location and export cable corridor route is shown in **Figure 1**.

The Applicant is submitting applications for the following consents:

- A Section36 consent under the Electricity Act 1989 to allow for the construction and operation of the offshore wind farm and transmission works;
- A marine licence under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 for the commencement of marine activities and offshore infrastructure associated with the Buzzard Export Cable Corridor extending beyond 12 nautical miles (nm) from the coast
- A marine licence under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 for the commencement of marine activities and offshore infrastructure associated with the Landfall Export Cable Corridor extending beyond 12 nautical miles (nm) from the coast; and
- A marine licence under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 for the section of Landfall Export Cable Corridor which is within 12 nm of the coast.

Onshore works associated with the Project, i.e., the landward Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) works and the Onshore Export Cable to the New Deer substation, require consent through the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997. Consultation for onshore works is being undertaken separately to offshore works for the Project.

The Applicant has applied for a site lease from Crown Estate Scotland (CES) under the 2022 Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas (INTOG) leasing round, as the Project is located within the proposed Eb area of search.

The Project will comprise of the floating offshore wind structures (up to 35 wind turbines on floating sub-structures with mooring lines and anchors), as well as the offshore transmission infrastructure

(offshore substation, inter array cables, export cables). The Project also provides capacity and opportunity for future connections to additional nearby oil and gas facilities in the Outer Moray Firth. The Project will also be connected to the National Grid by up to two Offshore Export Cables which will make landfall on the coastline near Peterhead in the Northeast of Scotland. Two landfall options are currently included for consideration in the Offshore EIA Report, with a final single option to be chosen following further onshore investigations and assessments. This Landfall Export Cable passes through Scottish territorial waters (within 12 nm).

Any infrastructure that extends beyond 12 nm is not subject to PAC requirements, including the Green Volt Windfarm Site (wind turbines on floating substructures with mooring lines and anchors), inter-array cables, offshore substation, Buzzard Export Cable Corridor and the offshore part of the Landfall Export Cable Corridor. This PAC Report therefore focuses on the activities undertaken with respect to components of the Landfall Export Cable Corridor located between Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) and the 12 nm, as per Regulations 4(a) and 4(d) of the Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013. **Section 2** provides further information on the statutory PAC requirements.

It should be noted that, despite the PAC process formally applying to the works within 12 nm, stakeholders were also invited to comment on all offshore aspects of the project during the PAC process. In addition, any comments raised on the onshore works have been shared with the onshore Project team.



### 2. Applicant Details

Title	Dr	Initials	А	Surname	Quayle
Trading Title (if appropriate)		Flotation Energy Ltd			
Address		12 Alva Street, Edinburgh, Scotland, EH2 4QG			



Name of contact (if different)	
Position within Company (if	Projects Director
appropriate)	
Telephone number (incl.	+44 (0) 1224 548 640
dialling code)	
Fax No. (incl. dialling code)	
Company Registration No.	SC597702
Email	alexanderquayle@flotationenergy.com &
	hello@greenvoltoffshorewind.com

Is the prospective applicant the proposed licensee?

Yes	$\checkmark$

No

### 3. **Pre-Application Consultation Online Event**

Please describe below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form the pre-application online consultation event.

#### **Background**

The Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 apply to all licensable marine activities (as defined under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010) ('the Act') within Scottish territorial waters. As stipulated by the PAC Statement (**Figure 4**), the Applicant has undertaken the PAC in accordance with the Regulations, specifically:

- Regulation 4 (a) which states "the deposit of a submarine cable within the Scottish marine area either in the sea or on or under the seabed from a vehicle, vessel, aircraft, marine structure or floating container" is a prescribed licensable marine activity. The Landfall Export Cable Corridor within 12 nm therefore requires that PAC is undertaken, as the Landfall Export Cables are anticipated to be buried in the seabed by vessel.
- Regulation 4 (d) which states "the construction of any works (with the exception of a renewable energy structure) within the Scottish marine area either in or over the sea or on or under the seabed" is a prescribed licensable marine activity. As the proposed works include the provision for cable protection (e.g. rock deposits or mattresses) in the event that sections of the Offshore Export Cables cannot be buried, PAC is required.

The Applicant requested, on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022, a PAC Statement from MS-LOT via email (**Appendix A1, Figure 3**). MS-LOT, provided a PAC Statement on the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022 (**Appendix A1, Figure 4**) confirming the requirement to undertake PAC under the Regulations after considering the following provided by the Applicant:

- A plan sufficient to identify the area of the Scottish marine area which is the subject of the prospective application;
- A description of the nature and purpose of the licensable marine activity; and
- Information on the possible effects on the environment within the Scoping Report,

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Regulations were amended by the Amending Regulations, which came into force on the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020 and expired on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022. Under the Amending Regulations, where a PAC event must be held, it will be held online, with the public notice reflecting this. The Green Volt PAC event was therefore held online in accordance with these regulations.

#### **Invitations to Stakeholders**

Stakeholders with potential interest in the Project were identified by the Applicant. These included all organisations which had been consulted by Marine Scotland on the Project's Offshore Scoping

Report (Flotation Energy, 2021), alongside any additional stakeholders with interest in the marine / local environment. In total, 112 stakeholders were identified. Of these, 32 stakeholders had already commented on the Offshore Scoping Report and 53 stakeholders had been included in the Scoping consultation but had not provided comment. All stakeholders which received information about the PAC event are identified in **Appendix A2**.

The online PAC event invite was sent via a series of emails to the list of stakeholders. These emails included:

- Email on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022, introducing the Project to stakeholders. This included a Consultation Letter detailing the Project, the PAC process and requirements and figures showing the location of the Project and inviting comment on the Project. The Consultation Letter fulfilled the requirements of Section 23 (2) providing a period of at least 12 weeks notice prior to submitted the application, and Section 23 (3) of the Act by providing:
  - (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 (including, as appropriate, the route to be taken in order to carry out the activity), which is sufficient to identify the location; and
  - (c) details as to how the prospective applicant is to be contacted.

The email also met the requirements set out in the PAC statement (**Appendix A1, Figure 4**) by notifying MS-LOT, NatureScot, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, the Maritime and Coastguard Agency and the Northern Lighthouse Board 12 weeks prior to submission of the application, as well as other local stakeholders including fisheries groups and recreational stakeholders (see **Appendix A2**).

- Email on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2022, informing stakeholders of the PAC event and inviting comment on the Project.
- Email on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022, reminding stakeholders of the PAC event the following week, confirming the Project website details and access to the online exhibition and inviting comment on the Project; and
- Email on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022, following the 1<sup>st</sup> online session, reminding stakeholders of the 2<sup>nd</sup> opportunity to ask interactive questions.

Copies of the emails and Consultation Letter sent on the 14<sup>th</sup> July, 9<sup>th</sup> August 2022, and reminder emails sent on the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022 and 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022 are given in **Appendix A3**, in **Figure 5** to **Figure 9**.

Prior to the PAC event, 31 stakeholders engaged with the Project team to discuss potential issues or concerns, and as a result three additional stakeholder meetings were held to provide further details and alleviate concerns as detailed further in **Section 5** and **Appendix A9**. Five stakeholders had already scheduled meetings with the Green Volt team so declined to engage with PAC.

#### Notices of Event

The online PAC event was advertised six weeks in advance of the live question and answer (Q&A) session in two local newspapers, the Buchanie on the 9<sup>th</sup> August 2022 (**Appendix A3**, **Figure 10**), and the Press and Journal on the 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2022 (**Appendix A3**, **Figure 11**) in accordance with Regulation 7 (2) (a) of the Regulations. The event notice was also uploaded to Marine Scotland's website on the 8<sup>th</sup> of August, 2022 (**Appendix A3**, **Figure 13**) as required by the PAC Statement provided by MS-LOT (**Appendix A3**, **Figure 13**). The event notices outlined Project details in accordance with Regulation 7 (1) (b) of the Regulations, including:

- A description detailing the location of the licensable marine activity;
- Details on where further information on the proposed marine licensable activity may be obtained;
- The date and place (online) of the PAC event;
- A statement on 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; and
- A statement that comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to the Scottish Ministers and that if the prospective applicant makes an application for a marine licence that there will be an opportunity for representations to be made to the Scottish Ministers on the application.

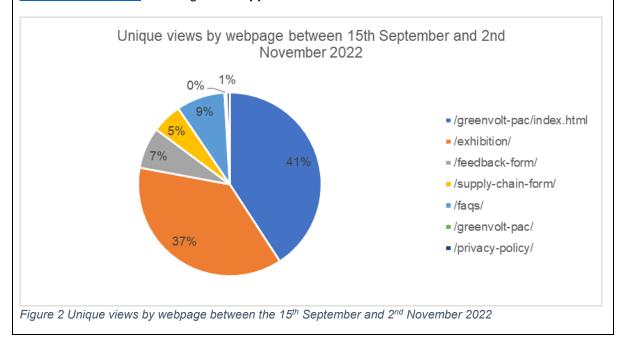
The notices also included reference to the licences and consents being applied for different elements of the Project, and in accordance with Regulations 2 (4) of the Amending Regulations, gave details of the date and time of the online PAC event and instructions on how to join the online event.

#### **Exhibition Event**

In accordance with the Amending Regulations, the PAC event for the sections of the Offshore Export Cables located within 12 nm was held virtually via the Green Volt website (accessed via link https://greenvolt-exhibition.com/exhibition/) on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022, as advertised. A dedicated page on the Green Volt website was developed, hosting an interactive virtual exhibition with ten display boards providing detail on the Project, the marine planning and policy strategy, the offshore infrastructure and works, the marine consents, licences and EIA process, the surveys, studies and assessments undertaken to understand the human, physical and biological environment, the engagement process and the Project timeline. The exhibition site also provided a link to an interactive map to allow stakeholders to explore the offshore elements of the Project (see **Appendix A4**), and contained baseline data from the North Sea Transition Authority, Crown Estate Scotland, the UK Hydrographic Office (UKHO) and the Scottish Government. Upon joining the PAC online event, attendees could view the online exhibition boards providing information on the Project (**See Appendix A5**).

The PAC online event also comprised two live Q&A sessions held between 1 and 2 pm, and 6 and 7 pm on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022. Stakeholders were invited to ask live questions via a chatbox, facilitated by the website chat function 'ZenDesk', on the Project exhibition website page and operated by the Project team. Questions were answered live by the Green Volt Project team (including the Green Volt Project Manager, Consents Lead, EIA Team, Fisheries Liaison Officer (FLO) and Project Engineers). 159 people viewed the exhibition website on the 20<sup>th</sup> September when the live Q&A sessions were held, with three questions posed in the chatbox by a single attendee (see **Section 5** and **Appendix A6**).

In addition to the live events held on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022, the online exhibition which formed part of the live Q&A session (see **Appendix A5**) has been available on the Green Volt website (<u>https://greenvolt-exhibition.com/exhibition/</u>) since the 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022 and will be available indefinitely. Between the 15<sup>th</sup> September and the 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022, there was a total of 1061 unique views of the website, with **Figure 2** providing a breakdown of views per page. The Applicant's responses to 'Frequently Asked Questions' (FAQs) posed to the Project during consultation and the PAC event are also available on the website at <u>https://greenvolt-exhibition.com/faqs/</u> and are given in **Appendix A7**.



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Date: 18/01/2023



In addition, two forms were provided by the Green Volt team on the Project website on dedicated pages, with interactive links from the exhibition page:

- Feedback Form (see **Appendix A8**): the feedback form was designed to inform the PAC report and to record stakeholder views about the proposal to construct the Project and the online exhibition. No feedback forms were received as detailed in **Section 5**.
- Supply chain form (see **Appendix A8**): the supply chain form provided an opportunity for interested businesses to be advised of opportunities relating to the Project. Two supply chain forms have been received, however, are not included in this PAC report as they are considered commercially sensitive.

Feedback forms could be completed online via the Green Volt website, and additional feedback submitted to the dedicated Project mailbox: hello@greenvoltoffshorewind.com.

### 4. Information Provided by the Prospective Applicant at the Pre-Application Consultation Online Event

Please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form details of any information provided by the prospective applicant for a marine licence at the pre-application consultation event.

The online PAC event comprised a virtual exhibition showing ten exhibition boards (**Appendix A5**), which provided detailed Project information, including:

- Details of the live Q&A events;
- Information on the Prospective Applicant;
- Information on how to provide feedback on the Project and virtual exhibition;
- Information on the purpose of the Project, the location (including figures), key infrastructure components, size, MW capacity;
- How the Project contributes towards addressing climate change and achieving Net Zero;
- Background information on overarching marine planning, policy and strategy;
- Site layout and export cable routing information;
- Overview of the marine consents, licences and EIA process;
- Overview of interactions of the Project with the human environment (other marine infrastructure, shipping and navigation, aviation and radar, socioeconomics, tourism and recreation, commercial fisheries and archaeology);
- Overview of interactions of the Project with the physical and biological environment (physical marine processes and water quality, climate change considerations, seabed habitats, birds, marine mammals, fish and shellfish);
- The Project's consultation with stakeholders to date; and
- A timeline for the Project.

The virtual exhibition site also provided a link to an interactive map to allow stakeholders to explore the offshore elements of the Project, and contained baseline data from the North Sea Transition Authority, Crown Estate Scotland, the UKHO and the Scottish Government. A screenshot of the interactive map is given in **Appendix A4**.

The exhibition boards shown at the virtual exhibition for the online PAC event are given in **Appendix A5**.

The Project also supplied FAQs on the virtual exhibition website (<u>https://greenvolt-</u><u>exhibition.com/faqs/</u>) as provided in **Appendix A7**, and links to the feedback forms and supply chain forms (**Appendix A8**).

### 5. Information Received by the Prospective Applicant at the Pre-Applicant Consultation Online Event

Please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form details of any comments and objections received by the prospective applicant for a marine licence at the pre-application consultation event.

At the live Q&A sessions, only three questions from one attendee were received by the Green Volt Project team. The questions, and the Green Volt Project team responses, were as given in **Table 1**, and are also given in **Appendix A6**.

Question	Green Volt response
Is this not a public Q&A event to see what other people ask too?	All questions asked during the event will be published in the 'FAQ section of the website by the 30th September FAQ's – Green Volt Windfarm (greenvolt-exhibition.com) (https://greenvolt-exhibition.com/faqs/)
When will you know where in Peterhead you'll connect to shore?	In the offshore EIA two potential landfall options are considered. The onshore site selection process is still being undertaken and the route and design of onshore works are still under development. We should have a landfall option narrowed down during Spring 2023, pending additional technical investigations
Will there be an onshore event like this one next year?	Yes - there will be an onshore PAC event which will be advertised. This is likely to be an in person event. If you would like to provide your contact details we can ensure you are made aware of it.
	Are you from a stakeholder organisation or an interested member of the community and is there a particular area of the development you are interested in?
	There is a feedback form available here: Feedback form – Green Volt Windfarm (greenvolt- exhibition.com) (https://greenvolt-exhibition.com/feedback- form/)

Table 1 Questions asked during Q&A session on the 20th September 2022 and Green Volt responses

Additionally, information received via email in response to the email invitations to the live PAC event (see **Appendix A1**) included the following concerns/notes:

- Utilisation of similar areas of marine space as other projects in the North Sea, and notification of crossings with other marine infrastructure;
- Request to quantify the number and composition of vehicular trips relating to the export cable and any rock deposits to determine impact on trunk road network;
- Request to provide a full Abnormal Loads Assessment report alongside the EIA Report,
- Agreement with the proposal to bring cables ashore using Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) to avoid trenching and minimise adverse impacts on public access;
- Objection to the Project due to potential impacts on radar;
- Disappointment that fishing industry was not previously contacted regarding potential cable routes, and asked for more information on the site selection of landfall locations;
- Requested further contact from FLO;
- Concern for potential cable crossing with River Ugie;
- Concern of Project impact on the surf on the east coast of Scotland;
- Concern about impacts to catch rates for shellfish and mackerel;
- Notification of potential ongoing monitoring following decommissioning of the Ettrick and Blackbird oil fields.

Five stakeholders responded that, given they have separate consultation meetings set up with the Project, they did not feel any additional need to engage with the Project during the live Q & A sessions. Three additional meetings were scheduled with relevant stakeholders.

Seven stakeholders responded that they had no concerns to note at this time, however welcomed further consultation at the next project stage.

Four stakeholders declined to provide further comment, while no response was received from the remaining stakeholders contacted (full list of stakeholders contacted in **Appendix A2**).

A full overview of communications received from stakeholders as part of PAC, and responses/actions taken by the Green Volt team are provided in **Appendix A9**.

Feedback forms (see **Appendix A8**) were also available for stakeholders to submit online, however, the Project has not received any feedback forms.

### 6. Amendments made, or to be made, to the Application for a Marine Licence by the Prospective Applicant following their Consideration of Comments and/or Objections received at the Pre-Application Consultation Online Event

Where any amendments are made, or are to be made, by the prospective applicant for a marine licence to the marine licence application as a direct result of their consideration of comments and/or objections received at the pre-application online consultation event, please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form, details of any such amendments.

No further amendments are required in addition to those already being considered as part of the EIA.

7. Explanation of Approach taken by the Prospective Applicant where, following Relevant Comments and/or Objections being received by the Prospective Applicant at the Pre-Application Consultation Online Event, no Relevant Amendment is made to the Application for a Marine Licence

Where, following comments and/or objections have been received by the prospective applicant for a marine licence at the pre-application online consultation event, no relevant amendment is made to the application for a marine licence by the prospective application, then please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form an explanation of the approach taken.



Where stakeholders raised concerns, the Green Volt team responded to answer any questions and sought to alleviate concerns (as detailed in **Appendix A9**, **Table 2**). This included maintaining and regularly updating a list of FAQs to address queries and comments received via email in response to PAC event invite emails. The list of FAQs as given on the Project website (https://greenvolt-exhibition.com/faqs/) are provided in **Appendix A7**. **Appendix A9**, **Table 2**, further sets out responses to engagement from stakeholders in response to PAC event invite emails. Where relevant, meetings have also been held with stakeholders to invite further discussion. Following this engagement, where no further communication has been received, the concerns raised have been noted for consideration and the matter deemed resolved.

A number of aspects/concerns noted will be considered as part of the EIA, as given in **Appendix A9, Table 2.** No further amendments are required in addition to those already being considered as part of the EIA.

### 8. Certification

Name	Alexander Quayle
Address	Flotation Energy Ltd
	12 Alva Street
Town	Edinburgh
County	
Postcode	EH2 4QG

I certify that I have complied with the legislative requirements relating to pre-application consultation and that the pre-application consultation has been undertaken in accordance with the statutory requirements.

#### Signature

A Rolly J

Date 13

13 January 2023

# References

Marine Scotland – Licensing Operations Team, 2022. Scoping Opinion – Green Volt Offshore Windfarm. Available at: <u>https://marine</u>.gov.scot/sites/default/files/scoping\_opinion\_9.pdf.

Flotation Energy, 2021. Offshore Scoping Report – Green Volt Offshore Windfarm. Available at: <u>https://marine</u>.gov.scot/sites/default/files/scoping\_report\_green\_volt\_offshore\_wind\_farm.pdf



# Appendices

### A1: PAC Statement

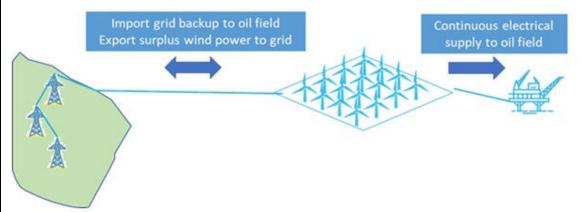
#### **Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm**

We are writing on behalf of Green Volt Offshore Windfarm Ltd (a company formed by Flotation Energy Plc (FE) and China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC)) to consult with you regarding the construction and operation of the Green Volt Offshore Windfarm (hereafter referred to as the Project) off the northeast coast of Scotland. The Project is shown on the attached Location Plan.

The Green Volt Project hopes to achieve an award of seabed rights from Crown Estate Scotland through the Innovative and Targeted Oil and Gas (INTOG) decarbonisation leasing process.

#### The Project

The Project proposes to develop a floating offshore windfarm to facilitate a first of its kind decarbonisation of the Oil and Gas industry through the complete electrification of the Buzzard oil and gas field (operated by CNOOC) with the support of a fully connected UK grid connection back to the New Deer substation in Aberdeenshire (see Figure 1).



#### Figure 1: Project Overview

The proposed project area is to be located at the decommissioned Ettrick and Blackbird oil and gas fields, which ceased production in 2017 and are still (as of 2022) undergoing final decommissioning activities. The development area is located approximately 80 km offshore in water depths of 100-115 m. The Project will incorporate a 300 megawatt (MW) windfarm using floating technology (Tension Leg Platform (TLP) or catenary moorings) and up to two offshore substations with jackets (fixed to the seabed). The Project will have an offshore export cable/s to Buzzard oil and gas field and its associated oil and gas platforms, situated approximately 20 km from the development area. A second offshore export cable corridor (with up to two export cables installed for redundancy) will bring excess electricity to mainland Scotland, making landfall via horizontal direction drilling (HDD) technology near Peterhead.

The Buzzard field is one of the newer, more efficient, production facilities in the North Sea. Production operations commenced in 2007 and are anticipated to continue until late 2030s to early 2040s. Currently, the Buzzard platform incorporates its own power generation system to supply power for oil and gas processing, a gas lift system, water injection system and essential utilities. The total electrical demand for the platform is a constant 75 MW, equivalent to the electrical demand for approximately 170,000 UK homes. As of today, the operation of Buzzard's onboard power generation system is responsible for the direct emission of approximately 500,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) per year.

Scoping Process and EIA

An offshore Scoping Report was submitted to Marine Scotland in November 2021 as part of the EIA process. Formal scoping responses were received from statutory consultees in January and February 2022 and the offshore Scoping Opinion is expected in early March 2022. An onshore Scoping Report was submitted to Aberdeenshire Council in March 2022 and a separate onshore EIA Report will be prepared for onshore works associated with the Project.

The full details of the nature and purpose of the Project and its possible effects on the environment are presented within the offshore Scoping Report, available on the Marine Scotland website <u>Scoping Request – Green Volt Floating Offshore Wind Farm – East of Aberdeenshire Coast |</u> <u>Marine Scotland Information</u>.

As Green Volt proposes a generating station greater than 1 MW, it requires the following consent and licences for the offshore infrastructure:

- a Section 36 (s.36) consent under the Electricity Act (1989, as amended) for the offshore windfarm development area;
- a Marine Licence under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (for infrastructure outside of 12 nautical miles (nm)); and
- a Marine Licence under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 (for infrastructure inside of 12 nm).

Onshore works associated with the project, i.e., the HDD at landfall and onshore export cable route to New Deer substation, will require consent through the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 and will be subject to a separate consultation programme. Consultation with Aberdeenshire Council is ongoing.

The Offshore EIA Report is currently being prepared and is considering the responses received within the offshore Scoping Opinion. Additional consultation is currently being carried out with key statutory and non-statutory stakeholders and will be detailed within the offshore EIA Report. The offshore EIA Report will detail any potential impacts and describe embedded mitigation measures that have been built into the Project design, and additional mitigation measures that will be undertaken to minimise potentially adverse impacts to an acceptable level.

#### PAC Process

We assume that the Project is subject to the 'Pre-Application Consultation' (PAC) procedure under Part 4 of The Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013. As the Regulations relate to works between Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) and 12 nm, the relevant infrastructure for this Project would be the construction, operation and decommissioning of the export cable. Impacts associated with the HDD activities at landfall will be considered within the onshore EIA Report.

We would like to request a 'PAC statement' from Scottish Ministers to confirm this assumption is correct. We currently plan to conduct this consultation in late spring and will issue notification of the PAC event at least 6 weeks in advance of this in accordance with the Regulations.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Figure 3 Pre-application consultation statement request for Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm sent to MS-LOT 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022

### The Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013

#### **Pre-Application Consultation Statement**

Royal HaskoningDHV – Proposed export cable from Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm, Landfall near Peterhead, and proposed rock dumping in trench to bury the export cable

Thank you for your email dated 8 March 2022 with accompanying document seeking a preapplication consultation statement for the proposed export cable and proposed rock dumping in trench to bury the export cable for Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm.

You have supplied a plan sufficient to identify the area of the Scottish marine area which is the subject of the prospective application, as well as a description of the nature and purpose of the licensable marine activity as well as information on the possible effects on the environment within the Scoping Report. Marine Scotland – Licensing Operations Team (MS-LOT) consider there is sufficient information to give a pre-application consultation statement.

Regulation 4 (a) of The Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 ("the Regulations") states "the deposit of a submarine cable within the Scottish marine area either in the sea or on or under the seabed from a vehicle, vessel, aircraft, marine structure or floating container" is a prescribed licensable marine activity. MS-LOT is of the opinion that the proposed export cable within 12nm is of a class or description prescribed in the Regulations and as such will require pre-application consultation. MS-LOT has reached this opinion as the proposed export cable exceeds 1853m in length and crosses the inter-tidal boundary. Therefore the proposed export cable within 12nm for Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm requires pre-application consultation.

Regulation 4 (d) of the Regulations states "the construction of any works (with the exception of a renewable energy structure) within the Scottish marine area either in or over the sea or on or under the seabed" is a prescribed licensable marine activity. MS-LOT is of the opinion that the proposed rock dumping in trench to bury the export cable within 12nm is of a class or description prescribed in the Regulations and as such will require pre-application consultation. MS-LOT has reached this opinion as the total area in which the proposed rock dumping in trench to bury the export cable within 12nm for Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm requires pre-application consultation.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the current physical distancing guidance in place, the Regulations have been amended by <u>The Marine Works and Marine Licensing (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020</u> ("the Amending Regulations"), which came into force on the 20 May 2020. Under the Amending Regulations, where a pre-application consultation event must be held, this is now to be held online, with the public notice reflecting this. These amendments are temporary in nature and end on the date when Part 1 of the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020 expires in accordance with section 12 of that Act.

#### What this means to you

You are required to carry out pre-application consultation prior to making your application. In brief you will need to carry out the following steps:

 Notify MS-LOT, NatureScot, SEPA, MCA and NLB of your intention to apply for a marine licence at least 12 weeks prior to submission of an application. We also recommend that you notify any other relevant local stakeholders, such as fisheries groups and recreational users. The prescribed format for this notification is detailed in Section 23 of The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 ("the Act");



- Publish in a local newspaper a notice detailing the licensable marine activity for which the licence is to be sought and the pre-application consultation event. The prescribed format for this advert is detailed in Regulation 7 of the Regulations. During the period when the Amending Regulations are in force a word or pdf copy of the public notice must be sent to MS-LOT, this will be placed on our website;
- Hold at least one pre-application consultation event to which the public and the bodies above are invited. Under the Amending Regulations, where a pre-application consultation event must be held, this is now to be held online, with the public notice reflecting this;
- The event must be held no earlier than six weeks of the later of the first two points above; and
- Produce a pre-application consultation report using the updated form detailed in the Amending Regulations.

#### Further information or guidance

The rules covering marine licensing can be found at Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010. A the Act 2010 can be obtained at:

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2010/5/contents

Guidance on The Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations can be obtained at:

http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine/guidance/preappconsult

Further information on marine licensing can be obtained from our website at:

http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine

It is important that you are fully conversant with all of the rules that apply to your activity and your attention is drawn to the advice given above. If you have a further questions please do not hesitate to get in contact using the details below or by e-mailing <u>MS.MarineRenewables@gov.scot</u>

Figure 4 PAC Statement Received by email from MS-LOT on the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022

### A2: List of Stakeholders Contacted Notifying of Online PAC Event

List of Stakeholders Contacted Notifying of PAC Event
Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce
Aberdeen City Council
Aberdeen Harbour Board
Aberdeen International Airport
Aberdeen Port Authority
Aberdeen Renewable energy Group
Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service (Aberdeenshire Council)
Aberdeenshire Council Planning
Aberdeenshire Sailing Trust
Acorn CCS / Storrega
Ancala Midstream
Angus Council
Atlantic Salmon Trust
BEIS-OPRED (Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy – Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning)
Boddam and District Community Council
Boddam Harbour Trust
BP
British Ports Association – Scottish Ports Group
BT
Buchan East Community Council
Buchanhaven Harbour
Chamber of Shipping
Chrysaor
Civil Aviation Authority
Crown Estate Scotland
Cruden Community Council
Dee DSFB
Don DSFB
East Grampian Coastal Partnership
Esk DSFB
Finder Energy UK Ltd
Fisheries Management Scotland
Fraserburgh Harbour Commissioners
Fraserburgh Inshore Association
Health and Safety Executive
Historic Environment Scotland
Hywind Scotland
IJGlobal – Journalist on the renewable energy sector
JNCC
Joint Radio Company
Local golf clubs
Local sailing clubs
Marine Analytical Unit (MAU)
Marine Conservation Society
Marine Safety Forum
-

Marine Scotland Science
Maritime and Coastguard Agency
Ministry of Defence, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)
Montrose Port Authority
Moray Firth Partnership
MS – LOT
MS Fishery Office – Aberdeen
MS Fishery Office – Buckie
MS Fishery Office – Fraserburgh
MS Fishery Office – Peterhead
National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations
National Grid and Distribution Network Operator
National Trust for Scotland
NATS/Aberdeen International Airport
NatureScot
Network Rail
North and East Coast Regional Inshore Fisheries Group
North and East Coast Regional Inshore Fishenes Group
North Sea Midstream Partners
North Sea Transition Authority (previously Oil and Gas Authority)
Northern Lighthouse Board
NorthLink (Ferries (Aberdeen – Orkney / Shetland)
Ofcom
Offshore Energies UK
Oil and Gas UK
Oil and Pipelines Agency
Pale Blue Dot Energy (Acorn) Ltd
Peterhead Community Council
Peterhead Golf Course
Peterhead local fishermen's organisations
Peterhead Port Authority
Peterhead Sailing Club
Planning Department (Scotland)
Port Eroll Harbour
Reciever of Wreck
River Deveron District Salmon Fishery Boards (DSFB)
River Ugie DSFB
River Ythan DSFB
RNLI (Peterhead)
Rosehearty Harbour and Inshore Fishermen's Association
Royal Yachting Association Scotland
RSPB
Scottish Canoe Association
Scottish Creel Fishermen's Federation
Scottish Enterprise
Scottish Environment LINK
Scottish Federation of Sea Anglers
Scottish Fisherman's Federation
Scottish Fishermen's Organisation
Scottish Sub Aqua Club



Scottish Surfing Federation
Scottish Water
Scottish Wildlife Trust
Sea Mammal Research Unit
SEPA
Shell
Slain and Collieston Community Council
Spey Fishery Board
Sports Scotland
Summit E&P Ltd
Surfers Against Sewage
Talon Petroleum (UK) Ltd
Tangram Energy Ltd
Transport Scotland
University of Aberdeen – Lighthouse Field Station
Visit Scotland
Whale and Dolphin Conservation

### A3: PAC Event Notices and Emails

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing on behalf of Green Volt Offshore Windfarm Limited. We are seeking stakeholder feedback on licensable marine activities relating to the Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm. A marine licence will be sought for the proposed export cable and associated rock deposits for in-trench burial of the cable. In line with The Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 we are required to undertake Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) for licensable marine activities within the Scottish Inshore Region, from Mean High Water Springs to 12 nautical miles (nm).

Your organisation has been identified as potentially having an interest in this offshore project. I have attached a letter with some further information on the project to this email. We would welcome your comments on the proposals at this first stage of the PAC process so that your views can be taken into consideration. You may have already responded to Marine Scotland or Flotation Energy PLC as part of the Project's Scoping phase, and these comments are being taken into account within the development of the Project.

If you have any initial comments to make, we would be very grateful if you could please reply to this letter **before 15<sup>th</sup> August**. Further opportunity for consultation will also take place at a forthcoming PAC event should you wish to attend. We will be holding the PAC event in late summer/early autumn in line with the Regulations. You will be notified in due course of the time and location of this event, but the notification will be at least six weeks in advance.

Please inform us ASAP if a different contact email for your organisation is more applicable.

Figure 5 Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm Pre Application Consultation Letter 1 sent 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Dear Stakeholder

#### **GREEN VOLT OFFSHORE WIND FARM – PRE-APPLICATION** CONSULTATION

We are seeking some initial stakeholder feedback on the development of the Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm project. Your organisation has been identified as potentially having an interest in this offshore project. We would therefore welcome your early comments on the proposals at this first stage of the Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) process so that your views can be taken into consideration.

#### Introduction

The project proposes to construct and operate a floating offshore windfarm 80 kilometres from the Aberdeenshire coast. The wind power generated will be used for the complete electrification of the Buzzard oil and gas platforms, which would be a first of its kind decarbonisation project of an oil and gas offshore installation. The development will also include onshore works with a grid connection back to the New Deer substation.

Green Volt Offshore Windfarm Ltd is a company formed by Flotation Energy Plc and CNOOC Petroleum Europe Ltd for the Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm project. Royal HaskoningDHV are acting as agents for the project.

An offshore scoping report was submitted to Marine Scotland for their opinion in November 2021 as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process. The Marine Scotland scoping opinion is expected imminently and statutory consultees scoping responses were received in early 2022. The scoping report is available on the Marine Scotland website – <u>https://marine.gov.scot/data/scoping-request-green-volt-floating-offshore-wind-farm-east-aberdeenshire-coast</u>

The scoping report presents the full details of the nature and purpose of the project and its possible effects on the environment, but you will find a summary of the project in Annex 1 to this letter to help you understand whether the project is of interest to your organisation.

Please note that a separate onshore EIA Report will be prepared for onshore works associated with the project. An onshore scoping report was submitted to Aberdeenshire Council in March 2022 and consultation on this will be undertaken separately.

#### **Consultation Opportunities**

Due to the ambitious nature of this project and its accelerated programme we would welcome early feedback on the project. This will help ensure that any comments are incorporated into our project design and EIA process at the earliest opportunity and allow us time to consult with you further if required. If your organisation would like to provide some comments at this initial stage, then it would be helpful to have them as soon as possible.

However, further consultation will also take place at a forthcoming PAC event should you wish to attend. We will be holding an in-person PAC event in late spring/early summer. You will be notified in due course of the time and location of this event, but the notification will be at least six weeks in advance.

The offshore EIA Report is currently being prepared for submission in summer 2022. All stakeholder responses and the Marine Scotland scoping opinion will be taken into consideration during the EIA Report preparation. The Report will detail any potential impacts and describe embedded mitigation measures that have been built into the project design, and additional mitigation measures that will be undertaken to minimise potentially adverse impacts to a level that is not significant. There will be public notice of the Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm application submission to Marine Scotland and an opportunity provided for representations on the application to be made.

#### **Next Steps**

If your organisation would like to provide any comments on the project at this initial stage, then it would be helpful to have them as soon as possible and ideally within three weeks of this correspondence.

Please send your comments regarding the project to Royal HaskoningDHV (project agents) with Green Volt Offshore Windfarm Ltd in copy using the e-mail addresses outlined below.

c/o Catriona Munro <u>catriona.munro@rhdhv.com</u>

cc Green Volt Offshore Windfarm Ltd <u>hello@greenvoltoffshorewind.com</u>

Thank you for taking the time to consider the Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm project proposals.

#### ANNEX 1 – GREEN VOLT OFFSHORE WIND FARM – PROJECT SUMMARY

#### Introduction

Green Volt Offshore Windfarm Ltd is a company formed by Flotation Energy Plc (FE) and CNOOC Petroleum Europe Ltd (CPEL) for the construction and operation of the Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm (hereafter referred to as the Project) off the northeast coast of Scotland (see the location plan in Figure 3 below).

#### **The Project**

The Project proposes to develop a floating offshore windfarm to facilitate a first of its kind decarbonisation of an oil and gas offshore installation through the complete electrification of the Buzzard oil and gas platforms (operated by CPEL). The development will include a full UK grid connection back to the New Deer substation in Aberdeenshire (as indicated in Figure 1).



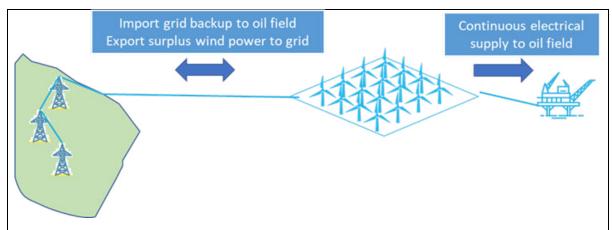


Figure 1: Project Overview

The proposed Project is to be located at the decommissioned Ettrick and Blackbird oil and gas fields, which ceased production in 2017 and are still (as of 2022) undergoing final decommissioning activities. The development area is located approximately 80 km offshore in water depths of 100-115 m. The Project will incorporate a 560 megawatt (MW) windfarm using floating technology (Tension Leg Platform (TLP) or catenary moorings) and up to two offshore substations with jackets (fixed to the seabed). The Project will have an offshore export cable to the Buzzard oil and gas field and its associated platforms, situated approximately 20 km from the development area. A second offshore export cable route will bring excess electricity to mainland Scotland, making landfall via horizontal direction drilling (HDD) technology near Peterhead.

The Buzzard field is one of the newer, more efficient, production 21acilityes in the North Sea. Production operations commenced in 2007 and are anticipated to continue until late 2030s to early 2040s. Currently, the Buzzard platform incorporates its own power generation system to supply power for oil and gas processing, a gas lift system, water injection system and essential utilities. The total electrical demand for the platform is a constant 70 MW, equivalent to the electrical demand for approximately 170,000 UK homes. As of today, the operation of Buzzard's onboard power generation system is responsible for the direct emission of approximately 300,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide ( $CO_2$ ) per year.

The Green Volt Project aims to commence construction in 2026 and be operational by 2027. The reduction of  $CO_2$  emissions and decarbonisation of the Buzzard oil and gas facilities as soon as possible will ensure a notable contribution to industry Net Zero targets.

#### **Inshore Works**

Inshore works within 12 nautical miles are limited to the installation of the export cable to landfall, and the subtidal terminus of the HDD. Two potential landfall locations are being considered at this stage – one at St Fergus South to the north of Peterhead, and the second just south of Boddam, adjacent to the consented NorthConnect interconnector. These are shown in Figure 2.

#### **Environmental Impact Assessment**

An offshore Scoping Report was submitted to Marine Scotland in November 2021 as part of the EIA process. Formal scoping responses were received from statutory consultees in January and February 2022 and the offshore Scoping Opinion is expected imminently. An

onshore Scoping Report has been submitted to Aberdeenshire Council in March 2022 and a separate onshore EIA Report will be prepared for onshore works (including onshore HDD works) associated with the Project.

The full details of the nature and purpose of the Project and its possible effects on the environment are presented within the offshore Scoping Report, available on the Marine Scotland website <u>Scoping Request – Green Volt Floating Offshore Wind Farm – East of Aberdeenshire Coast | Marine Scotland Information</u>.

The offshore Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report is currently being prepared for submission in summer 2022. It will give consideration to all the scoping report responses received and the offshore Scoping Opinion from Marine Scotland. The offshore EIA Report will detail any potential impacts and describe embedded mitigation measures that have been built into the project design, and additional mitigation measures that will be undertaken to minimise potentially adverse impacts to a level that is not significant.

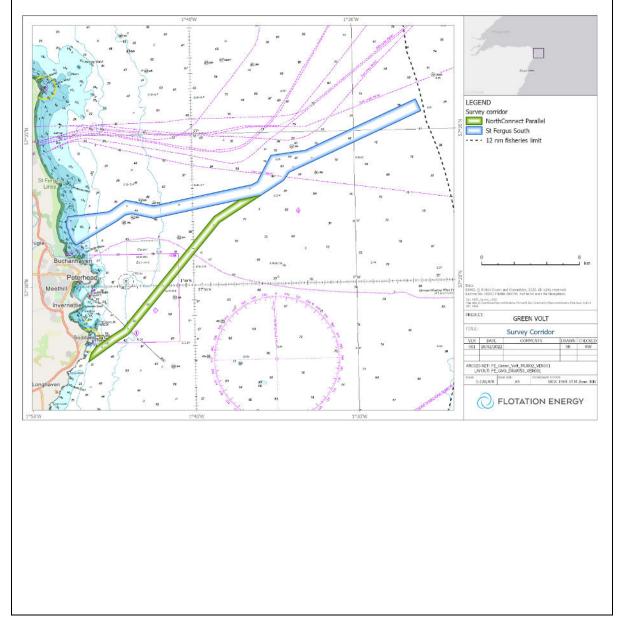


Figure 2: Inshore Works within 12 nautical miles

Date: 18/01/2023

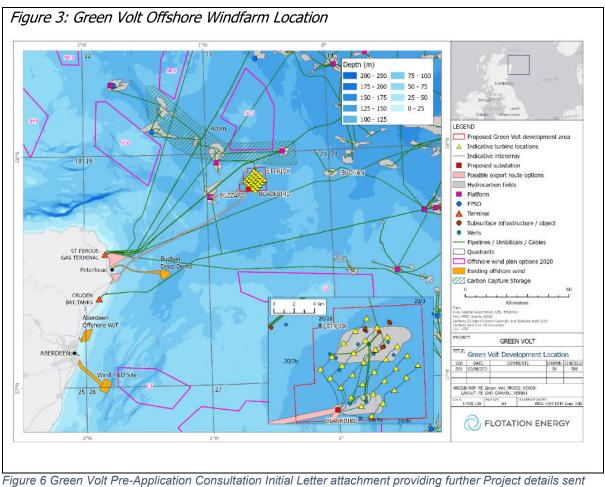


Figure 6 Green Volt Pre-Application Consultation Initial Letter attachment providing further Project details sent 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022

#### Dear Stakeholder

I recently wrote to you regarding proposed licensable marine activities relating to the Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm. If you have already responded to us requesting further information or consultation we will be replying directly to you shortly to discuss any concerns or issues you have raised.

I am writing to invite you to Green Volt Offshore Windfarm Limited's online pre-application consultation (PAC) event regarding marine activities linked to the Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm 80km east of Peterhead. In line with The Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 we are required to undertake PAC for licensable marine activities within the Scottish Inshore Region, from Mean High Water Springs to 12 nautical miles (nm). The activities associated with the Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm within the Scottish Inshore Region consists of up to two submarine export cables from the wind farm site to landfall and associated rock deposits within the cable trench(es) to ensure complete burial (central grid reference of inshore works 1° 36' 3" W, 57° 33' 6" N).

Further information detailing the proposed floating offshore windfarm development can be obtained from: <u>https://greenvoltoffshorewind.com/</u>

The pre-application consultation event for marine activities will be held virtually on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022, in accordance with The Marine Works and Marine Licensing (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020. To join the event, please follow the link provided on: <u>https://greenvoltoffshorewind.com/</u> Two live question and answer sessions will be held on 20<sup>th</sup> September, from 1-2pm and 6-7pm.

Persons wishing to provide comments on the proposed floating offshore wind farm development can do so by writing to us at: <u>hello@greenvoltoffshorewind.com</u> Or by post to Alex Quayle, 12 Alva Street, Edinburgh EH2 4QG, in either case not later than 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

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 (MS-LOT). If Green Volt Offshore Windfarm Ltd submits an application for a marine licence to MS-LOT, an opportunity will be given for representations to be made to the Scottish Ministers on the application.

An opportunity will be provided in due course to enable consultation for onshore works associated with the project.

Figure 7 Invitation to Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm online consultation event email sent 9<sup>th</sup> August 2022



Dear Stakeholder,

We are writing to remind you that the offshore Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) event for Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm will be held virtually in accordance with The Marine Works and Marine Licensing (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020. On **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022**. This consultation event fulfils the requirements for Green Volt Offshore Wind Ltd to consult under Section 23 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 for marine licensable activities.

In line with The Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 we are required to undertake PAC for licensable marine activities within the Scottish Inshore Region, from Mean High Water Springs to 12 nautical miles (nm). For the proposed Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm this includes up to two submarine export cables to landfall and associated in-trench burial of the cable with rock deposits (central grid reference of inshore works 1° 36' 3" W, 57° 33' 6" N), in accordance with Regulations 4(a) and 4(d) of The Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013.

This consultation is important to us, as we aim to reduce disruption to those with whom we share the sea. We recognise that our work can sometimes have an impact on those who earn their livelihoods from fishing and other marine-based industries. That is why we are working with their representative bodies to carefully plan our projects. Wherever possible, we proactively consult with our local communities, local businesses, elected members and other key stakeholders to help minimise disruption.

This consultation considers our marine licence application and provides details of:

- Project location
- Information on Project need
- Details of proposal and installation methods
- How stakeholders can provide comments and the date for submission
- Project timeline

Our online exhibition invites attendees to read the information boards and should be available from **16<sup>th</sup> September 2022** on the project website <u>https://greenvolt-exhibition.com/exhibition/</u>. It provides an opportunity to complete feedback forms to allows us to capture your comments and consider your views in our application.

The event also gives you an opportunity to talk directly to the Green Volt Project team via a live chat box at the bottom of the screen. The chat facility will be operational between the hours of **1pm-2pm and 6pm-7pm on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022**. Outside these hours please continue to send any queries or comments you may have via our online feedback forms on the Project website (<u>https://greenvolt-exhibition.com/feedback-form/</u>) or to our dedicated email at: <u>hello@greenvoltoffshorewind.com</u>, or by post to Alex Quayle, 12 Alva Street, Edinburgh EH2 4QG, in either case not later than **20<sup>th</sup> October 2022**.

Comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to the Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team (MS-LOT). If Green Volt Offshore Windfarm Ltd submit an application for a marine licence to MS-LOT, an opportunity will be given for representations to be made to the Scottish Ministers on the application.

Although the PAC process is only required for the inshore works (within 12 nm of the coast) we welcome comments on any aspects of the proposed offshore works. An opportunity will be provided in due course to enable consultation for onshore works associated with the project.

*Figure 8 Green Volt Offshore Windfarm Pre Application Consultation Event: Reminder 20th September 2022 sent 13th September 2022* 



Dear Stakeholder,

Many thanks to those you who were able to join our online Pre Application Event at lunchtime. This is just a reminder that the last interactive live chat event is taking place this evening from **6-7 pm**, accessed on the project website <u>https://greenvolt-exhibition.com/exhibition/</u>

After 7pm the event presentation boards will still be accessible. Please continue to send any queries or comments you may have via our online feedback forms on the Project website (<u>https://greenvolt-exhibition.com/feedback-form/</u>) or to our dedicated email at: <u>hello@greenvoltoffshorewind.com</u>, or by post to Alex Quayle, 12 Alva Street, Edinburgh EH2 4QG, in either case not later than **20<sup>th</sup> October 2022.** 

Figure 9 Final Event Reminder sent 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022



Figure 10 PAC Event Notice as advertised in the Buchanie 9th August 2022



Figure 11 PAC Event Notice as advertised in the Press and Journal 5th August 2022

### Pre-Application Consultation – Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm –

East of Aberdeenshire Coast

Data Type:

Marine Licence documentation

Download resources:

Attachment Size

Document type: Public Notice

Stage document submitted: Pre-application

Type of application: Renewables - Wind

Date submitted:

Wednesday, August 3, 2022

Page last modified: Monday, August 8, 2022 - 14:23

Figure 12 Notice of Pre-Application Consultation on Marine Scotland website from 8th August 2022



#### GREEN VOLT OFFSHORE WINDFARM LIMITED

#### MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010

#### THE MARINE LICENSING (PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013

Notice is hereby given that Green Volt Offshore Windfarm Limited, (12 Alva Street, Edinburgh EH2 4QG) 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° 36' 3" W, 57° 33' 6" N). The proposed Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm is located 80km from shore. The activity within Scottish Territorial Waters consists of up to two submarine export cables 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:



The pre-application consultation event will be held virtually, in accordance with The Marine Works and Marine Licensing (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020. To join the event, please follow the link provided on:

https://greenvoltoffshorewind.com/

Two live question and answer sessions will be held on 20<sup>th</sup> September, from 1-2pm and 6-7pm

Persons wishing to provide comments on the proposed floating offshore wind farm development can do so by writing to the prospective applicant at:  $\rightarrow$ 

hello@greenvoltoffshorewind.com

Or by post to Alex Quayle, 12 Alva Street, Edinburgh EH2 4QG, in either case not later than 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

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 (MS-LOT). If GreenVolt Offshore Windfarm Ltd submits an application for a marine licence to MS-LOT, an opportunity will be given for representations to be made to the Scottish Ministers on the application.

Figure 13 PAC Event Notice as advertised on Marine Scotland website and in Peterhead local library



### A4: Interactive Map





Green V Windfar Pre-Application



This interactive map allows you to explore the offshore elements of the proposed Green Volt Floating Offshore Windfarm development.

Please note that the windfarm layout, wind turbine micro-siting and the routing for the export cables will be finalised through a design optimisation process.

A potential export route to an Oil & Gas platform is indicated on the map, while other O & G installations in the Outer Moray Firth area may also become powered by renewable electricity.

The map contains data available from the North Sea Transition Authority, Crown Estate Scotland, the UK Hydrographic Office and the Scottish Government.

OK

#### Green Volt Floating Offshore Windfarm

### GREEN VOLT

This interactive map allows you to explore the offshore elements of the proposed Green Volt Floating Offshore Windfarm development.

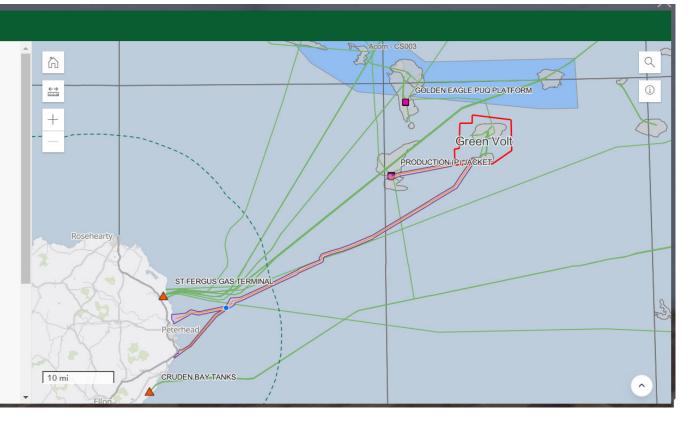
The map shows:

E

1

- the offshore development area,
- a potential export route to an oil and gas platform and landfall options; and
- surrounding oil & gas and offshore wind lease areas and existing infrastructure.

Use the toolbar at the left of this panel to explore the map, including turning different map layers on or off and using predefined bookmarks to navigate to different areas of the map. You can also click on features in the map to get more details about them and measure distances between features using the





**A5: Exhibition Boards** 



### Welcome

#### Introduction

Welcome to the virtual public exhibition and Pre-Application Consultation for the Green Volt Floating Offshore Windfarm.

This event is designed to provide local communities and stakeholders with information on the **OFFSHORE** elements of the Green Volt Project. Other events will be held in due course to provide details on onshore works, and these will be publicised.

#### **Further information**

Please join us for a live Question & Answer session located, **20th September 2022: 1-2pm and 6-7pm**.

#### Visit our website

https://greenvoltoffshorewind.com/ for further information about the Project and updates on upcoming events

#### Who are we?

Green Volt Offshore Windfarm Ltd is a company formed by Flotation Energy Plc for the Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm project.

Flotation Energy is an offshore wind development company, headquartered in Edinburgh, UK. Founded in 2018, the company is experienced in both the deployment of floating offshore wind and in electrifying oil & gas platforms with offshore wind.



#### Feedback

You can provide your feedback on the Project via the feedback form in this virtual exhibition which is located https://greenvolt-exhibition.com/feedback-form.

You can also provide feedback by emailing us at hello@greenvoltoffshorewind.com

Please provide all feedback by 20th October 2022

All material shared today is available to download from our website https://greenvoltoffshorewind.com/

### GREEN VOLT

greenvoltoffshorewind.com



### What is the Project?

#### Introduction

Between 30-35

floating wind

turbines.

Green Volt Floating Offshore Windfarm will help decarbonise oil and gas platforms by powering them with renewable energy. Green Volt will allow the full retirement of existing offshore power generators and use a grid-connected wind farm to deliver reliable, renewable electricity, significantly reducing the carbon emissions of the platform's power demand – by more than 80%. This supports a move away from the dependency upon gas-fired or diesel power generation systems which are fuel-hungry and carbon-intensive. Surplus wind power will be exported back to the National Grid.

#### **Project Statistics**

- Green Volt is located 80 km east of Peterhead and cannot be seen from shore.
- Wind turbines will be located at the decommissioned Ettrick and Blackbird oil and gas field, reusing a brownfield site.
- Green Volt will enable the oil and gas facilities in the Outer Moray Firth to be powered by renewable electricity, instead of using gas fired power generation.
- Export cables (up to two at least 50 m apart) will come ashore either north or south of Peterhead.
- Buried onshore cables will connect to the National Grid at New Deer, Aberdeenshire (included in a separate planning application to Aberdeenshire Council).



Offsets at least **500,000** tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, each year Operational 2027

Our fast-track project will cement Scotland's position as world leader in floating offshore wind with the potential to export Scottish know-how and expertise worldwide.



300 MW minimum

nominal capacity

#### Green Volt Offshore Windfarm

### Addressing Climate Change and Achieving Net Zero

#### How we will contribute

Greenhouse gas emissions generated by human activities cause climate change. The burning of fossil fuels for power generates a significant amount of greenhouse gas emissions, including carbon dioxide ( $CO_2$ ). These emissions can be reduced (also known as decarbonisation) by generating electricity from renewable sources, such as wind.

The Scottish Government declared a climate emergency in 2019, outlining the need for action to limit the warming of the planet by 1.5 degrees compared to 1990 levels. In October 2021, the UK Government published the Net Zero Strategy, giving a pathway for decarbonisation up to 2037, on the way to Net Zero by 2050.

As of 2021, approximately 70% of offshore emissions associated with oil and gas production in the North Sea are caused by offshore power generation.

The Green Volt project has the potential to contribute to the Net Zero targets. Green Volt is deliverable now and it is essential if Scotland is to be successful in delivering Net Zero.

North Sea Transition Deal targets for emission reductions:



reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 100% elative to 1990 levels

#### What is Net Zero?

Net Zero means cutting greenhouse gas emissions to as close to zero as possible, with any remaining emissions re-absorbed from the atmosphere, by oceans and forests for instance.

#### North Sea Transition Deal

The North Sea Transition Deal was agreed between the UK Government and UK oil and gas industry in March 2021. The deal will support the industry transition to a low carbon future by harnessing existing capabilities, infrastructure and private investment potential to exploit new and emerging technologies including offshore wind.

It is anticipated that powering oil and gas installations using electricity could lead to two to three million tonnes per year of CO2 emissions reductions by 2030, which is equivalent to the annual carbon emissions from households in a city the size of Dundee.

#### 10% by 2025 25% by 2025 2025 50% by 2000





### Marine Planning, Policy and Strategy

#### Scottish Marine Plan

The Scottish Government has set a range of targets and ambitions to cut greenhouse gas emissions and to generate more energy from marine renewable sources.

In October 2020, the Scottish Government published the Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind Energy (SMP-OWE) identifying areas of the seabed potentially suitable for wind farm development, which have been leased to developers through ScotWind.

The SMP-OWE (2020) further identified a possible need to allow more targeted projects to progress with the specific focus of seeking to electrify oil and gas infrastructure.

Sectoral Marine Plan and Seabed Leasing Round for Offshore Wind for Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas Decarbonisation Marine Scotland is currently undertaking a spatial

planning exercise for Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas (INTOG) projects that seek to electrify oil and gas infrastructure. An Initial Plan Framework (IPF) outlines Areas of Search for INTOG projects and provides a planning specification for use in the seabed leasing process managed by Crown Estate Scotland (CES).

The CES seabed leasing round for INTOG projects began in August 2022. Although the Green Volt Project is being progressed ahead of the leasing round, we have the intention to participate in the INTOG leasing round to apply for a site lease.

Once individual projects have been awarded exclusive leases over areas of the seabed, within the IPF Areas of Search, this spatial footprint will form the basis of the Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas Decarbonisation Draft Plan. A consultation on the draft plan will be undertaken and modifications made, as necessary, before Scottish Ministers formally adopt the plan.

#### **Iterative Plan Review**

A key part of the marine plan implementation is the Iterative Plan Review (IPR) process. This process will be used to consider whether the INTOG sectoral marine plan and the SMP-OWE should be combined.

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### Offshore Infrastructure and Works

#### Site Layout & Export Cable Routing:

The wind farm layout, wind turbine micro-siting and the routing for the export cables will be finalised through a design optimisation process considering a range of key factors including:

- Wind turbine spacing
- Wind, wave and tidal conditions
- Existing infrastructure (pipelines, cables etc)
- Navigational safety
- Commercial fisheries
- Recreational boating
- · Seabed habitats and species

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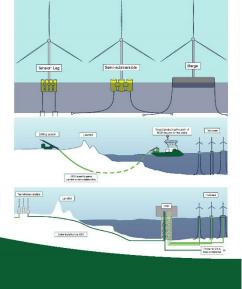
Stakeholder engagement, data analysis and modelling have been used to ensure the overall impact on other marine users is limited.

#### Landfall Options:

Two potential landfall locations are being considered near Peterhead, with the final choice based on engineering and environmental decisions. Horizontal directional drilling (HDD) will connect onshore and offshore cables and avoid impacts to protected sites for habitats and species, the beach and Peterhead golf course. Onshore impacts will be considered in the separate onshore planning application to Aberdeenshire Council.

#### Key Components:

- Located at the decommissioned Ettrick and Blackbird oil fields
- \* 30 to 35 floating wind turbines over an area of 116  $\rm km^2$  with a tip height of about 260 m
- 6 mooring lines (or less) per floating turbine
- 1 fixed offshore substation platform
- 134 km maximum of inter-array cables
- 2 (max) export cables to Buzzard oil and gas platform
- 2 (max) export cables making landfall near Peterhead



#### Green Volt Offshore Windfarm

### Marine Consents, Licences & EIA Process

#### Marine Licence for Inshore Infrastructure There are two infrastructure elements within

12 nautical miles (nm) related to the Green Volt Offshore Windfarm that require a Marine Licence under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010:

- Up to two export cables from the wind farm site to landfall; and
- Rock deposits within the cable trench to ensure complete burial.

Wherever possible, the export cables will be buried below the seabed to protect them and avoid snagging. Geophysical survey data will inform us where extra protection, such as post-lay burial or rock placement or additional cladding, is needed. This is similar to methods used for other cables off Peterhead. Section 36 Consent for the Wind Farm Area Green Volt Offshore Windfarm is a generating station greater than 1 MW so it requires a Section 36 consent under the Electricity Act 1989 (as amended). The consent application will be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report.

The infrastructure located in Scottish offshore waters (12-200 nautical miles) will also require a Marine Licence under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.

#### Pre-Application Consultation

Pre-application consultation (PAC) is required for licensable marine activities with the Scottish Inshore Region. PAC ensures that all stakeholders have had the opportunity to engage in the decision-making process and raise any issues, including potential impacts. Any representations made will be considered during the EIA process.

Scoping Agree with stakeholder to be and scheme selection Identify	n EIA needed? Marine Scotland and which impacts should e assessed. isting environment e impacts, informing of preferred option. now impacts can be reduced. designs to minimise	An EIA is required. The main impacts are on birds, marine mammals, fish, benthic habitats, shipping and navigation, commercial fisheries, other industries. Determine the negative and positive impacts of the scheme on people and nature.	We consulted: statutory consultees and other key stakeholders We have conducted surveys and desk studies	
Scoping Environmental Studies Adapt the	which impacts should e assessed. kisting environment le impacts, informing of preferred option. now impacts can be reduced.	birds, marine mammals, fish, benthic habitats, shipping and navigation, commercial fisheries, other industries. Determine the negative and positive impacts of the scheme on people and	consultees and other key stakeholders We have conducted	
Environmental Studies and schem selection Identify Adapt the	e impacts, informing of preferred option. now impacts can be reduced.	and positive impacts of the scheme on people and		
	designs to minimize		and consulted with other	
	impacts.	Floating Offshore Windfarm which electrifies oil and gas infrastructure with minimum environmental impact.	and consulted with other relevant stakeholders.	
Environmental Impact Assessment and Habitat Assessment and Habitat	all environmental on including impact nt, report to inform riate Assessment, nal Risk Assessment, and a Non Technical Summary.	Environmental information about the scheme will be made publicly available.	We will hold a Pre- application event to inform all relevant offshore stakeholders of the Project We will consult:	
e-Application Consultation relevant	local community and stakeholders of the of the design process.	Ensure the public and stakeholders understand and have influenced the designs.	statutory consultees and other key stakeholders including the local community.	

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#### Green Volt Offshore Windfarm

### Understanding the Human Environment

#### Other marine infrastructure

The project has been designed to avoid other infrastructure, where possible. The export cables to shore will need to cross a number of existing cables and pipelines and we will collaborate with the asset owners / operators on cable crossing agreements.

#### Shipping and navigation

We are consulting with the Chamber of Shipping, the Royal Yachting Association(RYA) Scotland and regular vessel operators, amongst others to understand the use of the site. Shipping movements within and near the site are being analysed and assessed. A navigation risk assessment will be completed to ensure construction and operation of wind farm are undertaken safely.

#### Aviation and radar

Aberdeen Airport, offshore helicopter operators, Nats and the Ministry of Defence (MOD) have been contacted regarding the proposed development of the wind farm and aviation and radar safeguarding matters. Dialogue and the assessment of impacts is ongoing with the relevant parties.

#### Socioeconomics, tourism and recreation

The project will provide job opportunities and require support from the local supply chain. Notifications will be made to inform recreational sea users of construction activities and the appropriate navigation aids used at all stages of the project.

#### **Commercial fisheries**

We have consulted with the Scottish Fisherman's Federation, Scottish Creel Fisherman's Federation, various river District Salmon Fishing Boards and inshore fisheries representatives. The consultation has already resulted in adaptation of the boundaries of the wind farm site to avoid key fishing areas.

A Fisheries Liaison Officer has been appointed to provide information regarding the project to the fishing industry and to provide a contact point for fishing interests within the project area.

#### Archaeology

Desktop studies and seabed surveys have been undertaken to identify areas of seabed that may contain archaeological artifacts. Planned measures will be taken to avoid impacts to these during construction.

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#### Green Volt Offshore Windfarm

### Understanding the Physical & Biological Environment

#### Physical marine processes and water quality

Geophysical seabed surveys have been undertaken to help identify the most appropriate locations for placing anchors and cables. Further geophysical and geotechnical surveys will be undertaken to aid finalisation of the export cable route to shore. Best practice measures will be followed to minimise impacts on water quality during construction.

#### Climate change considerations

A greenhouse gas assessment has been undertaken for the Project, covering the project lifecycle. A net benefit in greenhouse gas emissions could occur within as little as 1.5 years of operation of Green Volt

#### Seabed habitats

Project specific seabed sediment samples and video-tows have been undertaken and analysed to understand the seabed habitats along the cable corridors and wind farm site. This will help us to locate infrastructure avoiding sensitive or protected habitats. The use of horizontal directional drilling at landfall means the construction works will avoid impacts to sensitive and designated shoreline and cliff habitats.

#### Birds

Monthly aerial surveys have been undertaken for two years to study birds and marine mammals using the area. The results show the offshore site has lower numbers of birds than nearshore areas. We are discussing our results with ornithological stakeholders to ensure appropriate measures are taken to minimise impacts to birds.

#### Marine mammals

The anchors for the turbines do not require pile driving and are quick to install with limited underwater noise. We have modelled the potential impacts from underwater noise and electromagnetic fields to develop appropriate mitigation to minimise impacts to marine mammals.

#### Fish and shellfish

Data analysis has helped us understand the fish and shellfish present within the area and develop appropriate mitigation. This includes cable burial and the development of a piling strategy.

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### **Engagement Process**

#### Stakeholder Engagement

Consultation with stakeholders and local communities is a key part of the planning and consenting processes. We are actively seeking input for consideration to help shape our plans.

We are now keen to engage with local communities and strategic stakeholders to share information about the proposals and find out your views which is why we have devised this virtual exhibition and associated live Question and Answer sessions.

#### Supply Chain

We are committed to the development of a local supply chain and the importance of a just transition for the UK energy sector workforce.

Green Volt are currently seeking ways to maximise UK participation in this project. A number of local and Scottish Contractors and Consultants are already working on the Green Volt project.

Our project will help develop and secure longterm investment and job growth in Scotland. We have already started supply chain engagement in Scotland and will build on this substantially

throughout 2022 and 2023.

Please register your interest https:// greenvolt-exhibition.com/supplychain-form.

#### Positives for the local community

The project will support local employment and businesses as much as possible to provide economic benefits, including the use of local goods and services.

Local employment from the Green Volt project is likely to peak during the final years of construction. Operation and maintenance employment opportunities will continue throughout the project's lifespan.

Many of these roles will be highly skilled and bring substantial benefits to the local economy. Roles will range from technical / consulting opportunities to construction and ports and harbours.

#### Want to know more?

Visit the Green Volt project website at https://greenvoltoffshorewind.com/

The Green Volt Scoping Report identifies the key issues in relation to potential environmental effects of the project. It was submitted to Marine Scotland in November 2021 is available here Scoping Request - Green Volt Floating Offshore Wind Farm - East of Aberdeenshire Coast I Marine Scotland Information

Once the consent and licence applications for Green Volt are submitted they will also be available on the Marine Scotland website.

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### Timeline



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Next steps

Please respond with feedback by 20th October 2022.

Your views will be considered alongside what we hear from Marine Scotland. This feedback will be used to inform:

- Project design
- Impact assessment processes
- Mitigation and management measures

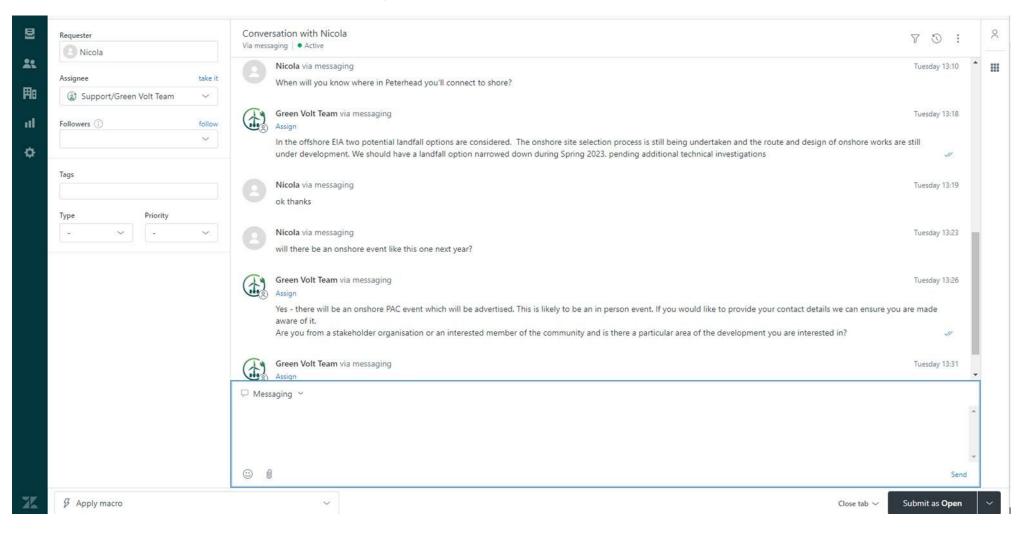
The Environmental Impact Assessment Report is being finalised in autumn 2022.

The Application for Section 36 consent and Marine Licences will be submitted to Marine Scotland at the end of 2022.

#### Planning the construction works

A series of plans and control documents will be prepared prior to construction. These will clearly lay out all measures which will be taken to protect the local environment and maintain the safety of the local community during the construction phase, including ecology, pollution, waste management, vessel management, emergency responses and archaeology.

### A6: Interactive PAC chat during event



# A7: FAQs asked during consultation and responses published on Green Volt Project website

- What is the primary objective of Green Volt Offshore Windfarm?
  - The primary objective of Green Volt Floating Offshore Windfarm is to help decarbonise oil and gas platforms by powering them with renewable energy. Green Volt will allow the full retirement of existing offshore power generators and use a gridconnected wind farm to deliver reliable, renewable electricity, significantly reducing the carbon emissions of the platform's power demand – by more than 80%. This supports a move away from the dependency upon gas-fired or diesel power generation systems which are fuel-hungry and carbon-intensive. Surplus renewable electricity will be exported back to the National Grid.
- What factors led to identification of the two potential landfall options?
  - Green Volt has been allocated New Deer as the onshore grid connection point for the project by National Grid and this has been a determining factor in the identification of potential landfall options for the export cable.
  - The offshore export cable route has sought to avoid environmentally sensitive areas, other marine infrastructure, marine disposal areas, whilst minimising the route length. Seabed conditions and suitability for cable burial have also been considered and avoiding crossing steep underwater ridge features. The onshore cable route has sought to avoid nature conservation sites, historic designations, residential properties, flood zones, contaminated land, other infrastructures (such as roads and buried cables) and limit the number of water crossings.
  - Two potential landfall options are considered in the EIA:
    - St Fergus South Landfall Option: Located north of Peterhead
    - NorthConnect Parallel Landfall Option: located south of Peterhead
  - There are various possible locations for an onshore / offshore jointing pit and onward cable route to New Deer. Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) will be used to take the cable from the jointing pit to a location approximately 750 m offshore at either location.
- What are the proposed offshore export cable installation methods?
  - The offshore export cable will be installed using specialist cable installation vessels. Due to the length of the export cable route, multiple burial tools are envisaged to tackle the different seabed conditions along the route, which will be confirmed by preinstallation route surveys. The Project will implement all cabling industry standards for cable burial.
  - In line with industry safety standards, safety zones will be applied for, and appropriate communications will inform other marine users of the cable installation works and potential temporary restrictions for safety purposes.
- How will commercial vessels that work from local harbours be affected?
  - Green Volt's intention, when possible, is to keep impacts to local harbours and fishermen to an absolute minimum. However, we understand it's challenging for both activities to operate in a specific area at the same time. During any preconstruction/installation survey works, early dialogue with the local fishermen is key to insuring everyone is aware of planned activities, also when and where these are taking place. Should gear relocation be required to access a busy fishing area, this will be done through the correct channels and in line with The Fishing Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group Best Practice Guidance.
  - Commercial fisheries are scoped into the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Project and potential impacts will be fully considered and suitable mitigation measures developed, as appropriate.
- Will vessels working from local harbours be entitled to compensation packages?
  - Green Volt site selection has been undertaken to avoid key commercial fisheries and protected fish species and habitats, including sites designated for nature conservation, as far as possible. Site-specific surveys have been completed and previous survey data has been reviewed to support site selection. The anchors for the floating wind turbines do not require pile driving and are quick to install with limited

underwater noise. We have modelled the potential impacts from underwater noise and electromagnetic fields to develop appropriate mitigation to minimise impacts to fish and marine mammals. To further minimise effects on fish species (including migratory fish), the following mitigation has been embedded into the project design:

- Cables, wherever possible, will be buried to a target depth of 0.6-1.5m to reduce the potential for impacts relating to electromagnetic fields (EMF);
- Cables will be specified to reduce EMF emissions as per industry standards and best practice;
- To minimise the extent of any unnecessary habitat disturbance, material displaced as a result of cable burial activities will be back filled, where necessary, in order to promote recovery;
- An approved piling strategy will be in place outlining any mitigation and management measures that will be implemented during the offshore sub-station pile installation; and
- Piling soft starts will be used, with lower hammer energies used at the beginning of the piling sequence before increasing energies to the higher levels, to reduce the risk of injury to fish or marine mammal species in the immediate vicinity of piling operations.
- A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will be developed to ensure construction activities are undertaken in adherence to all relevant guidance and best practice construction techniques, including protective measures and management of pollution events from accidental spills.
- What steps have been taken to protect the marine life in the area, especially in regard to the welfare of migrating salmon and sea trout?
  - Green Volt site selection has been undertaken to avoid key commercial fisheries and protected fish species and habitats, including sites designated for nature conservation, as far as possible. Site-specific surveys have been completed and previous survey data has been reviewed to support site selection. The anchors for the floating wind turbines do not require pile driving and are quick to install with limited underwater noise. We have modelled the potential impacts from underwater noise and electromagnetic fields to develop appropriate mitigation to minimise impacts to fish and marine mammals. To further minimise effects on fish species (including migratory fish), the following mitigation has been embedded into the project design:
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    - To minimise the extent of any unnecessary habitat disturbance, material displaced as a result of cable burial activities will be back filled, where necessary, in order to promote recovery;
    - An approved piling strategy will be in place outlining any mitigation and management measures that will be implemented during the offshore substation pile installation; and
    - Piling soft starts will be used, with lower hammer energies used at the beginning of the piling sequence before increasing energies to the higher levels, to reduce the risk of injury to fish or marine mammal species in the immediate vicinity of piling operations.
  - A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will be developed to ensure construction activities are undertaken in adherence to all relevant guidance and best practice construction techniques, including protective measures and management of pollution events from accidental spills.
- What rivers will the onshore export cable route cross?
  - The onshore export cable route is likely to traverse several water courses which range in size from ditch systems to small rivers and tributaries of rivers. The route and design of onshore works are still under development. New watercourse crossings will be designed in accordance with best practice and enable the free passage of fish and other wildlife. The onshore Scoping Opinion, detailing the approach that will be taken to assess onshore works, is available from Aberdeenshire Council Planning Service and they can be contacted on 01467 534333 and by email at planning@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

- How many and what kind of vehicles will be required for the marine works?
  - All materials for marine works will be transported to the Project site by sea, so there will be no increased traffic on the trunk road network during the marine works.
  - Potential impacts upon traffic and transport from onshore works will be fully considered within the onshore Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Consultation will be undertaken during the development of the onshore EIA to ensure any potential impacts are understood, assessed and minimised to within acceptable levels. The onshore Scoping Opinion, detailing the approach that will be taken to assess onshore works, is available from Aberdeenshire Council Planning Service and they can be contacted on 01467 534333 and by email at planning@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
- Will there be any impact on North Sea swell as it passes throught he wind farm site and on to the surfable coastline?
  - Green Volt have considered the potential effect of the Project on the baseline wave climate in Chapter 5 (The Physical Environment) of the Scoping Report. We have collated and reviewed wave data from available sources, including undertaking an 'extremes analysis' and conclude that the limited number of floating wind turbines (up to 35) is likely to have, at worst, only a very small impact on the wave climate and only limited to a localised area (<1 km). The floating wind turbines will be anchored in position so there will only be very small and very localised direct impact on the incoming wave climate from the installed infrastructure. Long-period swell waves will not be affected by such local interruptions. Due to the long-period nature of swell waves, we do not envisage that these will be affected adversely by the wind farm which is situated some 80 km from shore.</li>
- What will be the impact of the cable landfall on surfing beaches in and around Peterhead?
  - The landfall of the cables will involve horizontal directional drilling (HDD). This installation method is intended to minimise the impact on the coast, both visually, ecologically and in terms of coastal processes (waves, tides, sediment transport). Due to cable lay vessel draft limitations, the HDD punch-out location will be at least 5m LAT, but could be as much as -10m LAT. With respect to -5m to -10m LAT, the distance will likely be between 400m and 1000m from shore for the St Fergus options, and the NorthConnect Parallel option south of Boddam will be between 500m and 700m from shore. This is well away from any surf waves and so it will not cause disruption to the surfing beaches in the vicinity.
- Will onshore construction work cause any restrictions in accessing the coastline?
  - Potential impacts associated with onshore construction works will be fully considered within the onshore Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Consultation with stakeholders will continue during the development of the onshore EIA to ensure any potential impacts are understood, assessed and minimised to within acceptable levels. The onshore Scoping Opinion, detailing the approach that will be taken to assess onshore works, is available from Aberdeenshire Council Planning Service and they can be contacted on 01467 534333 and by email at planning@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
    - A draft Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will accompany the planning application. The CEMP sets out the general approach of environmental management and mitigation of impacts associated with the construction works. The appointed Construction Contractor will update and finalise the CEMP and will be responsible for ensuring that any adverse effects from the construction phase are minimised.
- Is this not a public Q&A event to see what other people ask too?
  - All questions asked during the event will be published in the 'FAQ section of the website by the 30<sup>th</sup> September: FAQ's Green Volt Windfarm (greenvolt-exhibition.com) (<u>https://greenvolt-exhibition.com/faqs/</u>).
- When will you know where in Peterhead you'll connect to shore?
  - In the offshore EIA two potential landfall options are considered. The onshore site selection process is still being undertaken and the route and design of onshore works are still under development. We should have a landfall option narrowed down during Spring 2023, pending additional technical investigations.
- Will there be an onshore event like this one next year?



 Yes – there will be an onshore PAC event which will be advertised. This is likely to be an in person event. Further details will be available on the Green Volt Offshore Windfarm website https://greenvoltoffshorewind.com/



### **A8: Feedback Forms**

#### **Community Questionnaire**

We hope that you have found this information useful. To help us record your views about our proposals, please take a moment to complete this questionnaire. Your feedback will inform our application, they are not representations to the Scottish Minister. An opportunity will be given for representations to be made to Scottish Ministers on application.

About this consultation:

- 1. How did you hear about the event?
  - Local newspaper
  - Green Volt website
  - Community website
  - Social media
  - Word of mouth
  - Other (please state below)

About the proposal:

Green Volt would play a major contribution towards the goals of the North Sea Transition Deal, signed by HM Government and the UK oil and gas industry in 2021. The Transition Deal mandates reductions in emissions from oil and gas production that can only be achieved by using low-carbon electricity to power offshore facilities. The location of the project in the vicinity of oil and gas fields and associated infrastructure presents a unique opportunity.

The Green Volt project has the potential to contribute to the Net Zero targets and to play a role in decarbonization of the UK economy.

- 2. Do you agree there is a need for the Green Volt Project?
  - Strongly agree
  - Agree
  - Not sure
  - Disagree
  - Strongly disagree
- Works will be planned to minimsie any disruption to the environment and marine users. Do you have any comments on our proposal that you would like us to consider? Please provide details
- 4. Do you support or object to the Green Volt project?
  - Strongly support
  - Support
  - Neutral
  - Object
  - Strongly object
- 5. Please tell us what capacity you visited our exhibition in?
  - Member of the public
  - Marine user
  - Member of the oil and gas sector
  - Regulator
  - Environmental organisation
  - Other (please state below)

#### Supply Chain

A major infrastructure development like Green Volt Offshore Windfarm brings with it a wealth of opportunity for businesses of all sizes across a wide range of disciplines. We aim to utilise as many Scottish and UK based suppliers where reasonably possible during all stages of the development phase.

Subject to the relevant consents and a positive Financial Investment Decision, this will ramp up significantly through to the construction phase. There will be further opportunities throughout the long-term operational phase.

Register your interest here:

- Company name
- Contact name
- Email address
- Area of interest
- Services and capabilities
- Are you or your company already working in the oil and gas sector?
- Are you or your company already working in the offshore wind sector?
- Would you like to receive project updates?
- Do you consent to Green Volt Offshore Windfarm sharing the information above with any future project partners?

Thank you for completing this questionnaire

All the information that you have provided will be processed in accordance with your rights under the Data Protection Act and the General Data Protection Regulations in line with our privacy policy which can be access here: <a href="https://greenvolt-exhibition.com/privacy-policy/">https://greenvolt-exhibition.com/privacy-policy/</a> . By providing us with your contact details, you are giving us your consent to use your data to keep you updated on the Green Volt Offshore Windfarm only. We will not use your data for any other purpose without first seeking further consent.



### **A9: Stakeholder Engagement Overview**

**Table 2** below provides an overview of stakeholder engagement undertaken as part of PAC, including stakeholder responses to emails and notices provided in **Appendix A3**. All stakeholders detailed in **Table 2** were contacted as part of PAC, however, some stakeholders have additionally been contacted by MS-LOT to inform the Project Offshore Scoping Opinion. Column two of **Table 2** identifies where consultation with stakeholders was initiated by the Applicant as part of the PAC process, and where consultation had already been undertaken by MS-LOT as part of the Scoping phase of the Project. Where appropriate identifying details such as names, email addresses or telephone numbers have been redacted to preserve anonymity.

Stakeholder	Consultation by MS-LOT during Scoping	Consultation by Green Volt under PAC	Consultation by Green Volt as part of EIA process	Stakeholder Response as part of PAC	Green Volt Response
Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Aberdeen City Council	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Aberdeen Harbour Board	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Aberdeen International Airport	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Aberdeen Port Authority	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	Request for information to be sent directly to [REDACTED]	Updates made to stakeholder contact details
Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service (Aberdeenshir e Council)	No	Yes	No	GREEN VOLT OFFSHORE WIND FARM - PROPOSED EXPORT CABLE & IN-TRENCH ROCK BURIAL THE MARINE LICENSING (PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 Thank you for your consultation letter of the 14 <sup>th</sup> July regarding the above proposal at this pre-application consultation stage. Having reviewed the Scoping Report submitted to Marine Scotland as part of the EIA process, and in particular Chapter 7.4 'Marine Archaeology and Cultural Heritage', I can make the following the comments.	Noted
				Firstly, I welcome the methodology followed to date in terms of data and information sources reviewed. I would note that the	

Table 2 Overview of Stakeholder Engagement and Green Volt responses as part of PAC



Stakeholder	Consultation by MS-LOT during Scoping	Consultation by Green Volt under PAC	Consultation by Green Volt as part of EIA process	Stakeholder Response as part of PAC	Green Volt Response
				Aberdeenshire Historic Environment Record also comprises maritime records, though these will largely mirror those held within CANMORE on the National Record of the Historic Environment. In terms of the recommended mitigation measures to be embedded in the project design, I can confirm that I have no further recommendations to make and that I agree with all those as proposed. Taking this all into consideration I have no further comment to make at this stage, and I look forward to the formal application	
Aberdeenshire Council Planning	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	Yes	being submitted in due course. Our Environment Planner welcomes the proposal to bring cables ashore using the HDD method, avoiding trenching, which would minimise/remove adverse impacts upon public access. We appreciate being involved with the pre-application stage of the development and would welcome further contact should you have additional queries or updates.	None
Aberdeenshire Sailing Trust	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Acorn CCS / Storrega	No	Yes	Yes	Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on your PAC report. As you have noted the Acorn project holds the CS003 carbon storage licence area to the north of the Green Volt windfarm location. We wish to raise that the project is looking to utilise very similar areas of the North Sea to the wider Acorn project and as such we would welcome discussions between the projects to identify and manage any synergies or co-location. We have an introduction meeting between the Green Volt and Acorn projects scheduled for 25th August and will be happy to expand further on the points above in those discussions.	Meeting held 25 <sup>th</sup> August 2022 (see next row)
				As discussed in our meeting between the Acorn and Green Volt projects on $25^{th}$ August we would like to note that Acorn has a statutory requirement to monitor our CO <sub>2</sub> store site within the CS003 licence area and a wider secondary containment area outside the site (termed the storage complex). This potentially means access to the marine space outside the CS003 licence area boundary. At the current time the expectation is that this monitoring will be using seismic arrays towed behind a vessel and therefore unconstrained access is critical.	Ongoing communication



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Ancala Midstream		Yes		Although the extent of our spatial monitoring area is currently still under review, it is unlikely that there will be any overlap or interaction between the two projects in terms of marine space. We would welcome continued dialogue between the projects as the developments progress. I represent the SAGE Gas Terminal located at St Fergus near Peterhead. [REDACTED] wrote to our investment management company to inform them of the consultation. I should appreciate if you would use Ancala Midstream in relation to the consultation. I have copied my colleague [REDACTED] on this email. [REDACTED] will be the focal point for Green Volt. To assist us in understanding the interface between Green Volt's project and the SAGE Gas Terminal and offshore gas pipelines I should be grateful if you would provide detail of the windfarm location, proposed cable routes, landfall and project timeline.	Thank you for your email and apologies for sending details to the wrong part of the organisation. I will update contact details for further correspondence. We are holding our virtual Pre-Application Consultation event today, with a live Q&A session with the project team from 6-7 however if this time frame doesn't suit you please continue to email the Green Volt team using hello@greenvoltoffshorewind.com for ongoing discussion. The event is accessible on the project's website https://greenvolt- exhibition.com/exhibition/ and the information boards will remain accessible after today. In addition to the information present on the project website https://greenvoltoffshorewind.com/ and the event information boards, I have attached a consultation letter which includes some more information and maps of cable route and landfall. An interactive map is also available on the event boards. The Green Volt project aims to be operational in 2027.
					The event is being held virtually in accordance with The Marine Works and Marine Licensing (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020. This consultation event fulfils the requirements for Green Volt Offshore Wind Ltd to consult under Section 23 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 for marine licensable activities. In line with The Marine Licensing (Pre-



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					Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 we are required to undertake PAC for licensable marine activities within the Scottish Inshore Region, from Mean High Water Springs to 12 nautical miles (nm). For the proposed Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm this includes up to two submarine export cables to landfall and associated in-trench burial of the cable with rock deposits (central grid reference of inshore works 1° 36' 3" W, 57° 33' 6" N), in accordance with Regulations 4(a) and 4(d) of The Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013.
					Once you have reviewed the information we would be happy to discuss any queries you might have regarding the potential interfaces between Green Volt Project and SAGE Gas Terminal.
				Thank you for e-mail.	Meeting held 12/10/2022
				I have reviewed the information in your letter and the associated website and information board materials. I also looked at the Offshore Scoping Report for the Offshore	Green Volt shared the PAC event website details and highlighted the GIS map viewer with measurement tools along with interactive asset features.
				Environmental Impact Assessment	
				I have shared a summary of these internally	The most obvious interaction is the likelihood of a need to cross the Britannia pipeline which is Harbour Energy operated pipeline
				This information and associated maps seem to indicate that the export cable route will cross the Britannia to SAGE pipeline. There are two potential cable landings one south and one north of	but ties back to the SAGE Terminal at St Fergus.
				Peterhead. The Northern landing corridor seems to come close to St Fergus, but it is not entirely what if any interaction there could be with gas terminal offshore pipeline landings or other elements.	It was explained that there is no defined approach to crossings yet and that it will involve agreement with the operator. It was suggested that the OEUK standard crossing
				I would like to take up your offer of a TEAMS call so I can get more clarity around the above and any other potential interactions between GreenVolt and SAGE terminal offshore and onshore	agreement would be an established template to work from.
				activities	TMc suggested that Green Volt contact Shell and other St Fergus terminal & pipeline
				I currently have availability on Wednesday 5th October at 13:30 or most times on Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th October.	operators.



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					The During the discussion it was noted the SAGE pipeline is crosses the INTOG E-b area at the Northwest corner (Miller and Goldeneye too). Any expansion into this area for GV will need to consider this.
				<ul> <li>Email 19/10/2022</li> <li>A follow up question resulting from internal discussion post our meeting last week.</li> <li>Looking at the ArcGIS map (link you supplied) it appears that the main Beryl/SAGE Pipeline which lands gas at the SAGE terminal is about 2 to 3Km from the edge of the development area.</li> <li>While this is not proximate it caused us to consider what the potential risk would be from a turbine breaking free of its moorings and drifting on to the pipeline ie Anchor lines catching on and damaging the pipeline. While not common there have been some examples of FPSOs doing this in bad weather e.g. Gryphon FPSO in Feb 2011 see extract below</li> <li><i>"The Gryphon FPSO, located 175 miles northeast of Aberdeen, sustained damage in a storm on 4 February 2011 when four anchor chains broke and the vessel moved off station. This caused considerable damage to the subsea architecture requiring the Gryphon FPSO to be towed and dry docked in Damen shipyard in Rotterdam for repairs and upgrades".</i></li> <li>This is a low probability but potentially high impact risk but has or will you consider this under your assessment of Risks of Major Accidents and/or Disasters ?</li> <li>If it has been considered what mitigations exist or will be put in place to address this ?</li> </ul>	Major Accidents and Disasters are considered with Appendix 5.1 of the Offshore EIA Report, and includes for the risk of a floating anchor breaking free of moorings. This is also included in the NRA and Chapter 17: Infrastructure and Other Users. Mitigation, including Third Party Verification (TPV) and Global Positioning System (GPS) monitoring is included within the Offshore EIA Report
Angus Council	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	No	I refer to email with accompanying information which was received on 14 July 2022. Having reviewed the information the nature of the proposal is unlikely to have any would be unlikely to have significant effects on the Angus Council administrative area and on this basis we have no specific comments to make at this time.	None



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				Any future correspondence regarding the development proposal should be sent to [REDACTED], Team Leader [REDACTED].	
Atlantic Salmon Trust	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
BEIS-OPRED (Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy - Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommission ing)	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	Yes	We would advise that in developing the project you have consideration of the ongoing decommissioning work at the former Ettrick and Blackbird oil fields in the proposed development location. We would also advise that you have regard to the presence of the legacy infrastructure decommissioned in situ, including pipelines and infrastructure piles which were cut below the seabed. You should also be aware that post decommissioning monitoring will be required following completion of decommissioning activities, including along routes of pipelines decommissioned in situ. As OPRED has a risk based approach to determining the need for and number of further surveys, the duration of the monitoring period is not fixed and not known at this point.	Noted and consultation is ongoing.
Boddam and District Community Council	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Boddam Harbour Trust	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
BP	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
British Ports Association - Scottish Ports Group	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
BT	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	No	We have studied this proposal using the attached map with respect to EMC and related problems to BT point-to-point microwave radio links. The conclusion is that, the Project indicated should not cause interference to BT's current and presently planned radio network.	None
Buchan East Community Council	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A



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Buchanhaven Harbour	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	Hello thanks for your email we would be happy to assist in anyway possible, we also have some commercial vessels that work from Buchanhaven Harbour how will they be affected. There is word that the boats working from Peterhead Harbour are getting compensation packages because all their gear has to be removed from the water, will the vessels working from Buchanhaven Harbour be entitled to the same ? And how do we go about this ? We would be happy to have future discussions with you for allowing use of our harbour to assist in your project going further. We look forward to hearing from you	Thank you for your comments. In response to your questions, Green Volt's intention, when possible, is to keep impacts to local harbours and fishermen to an absolute minimum. However, we understand it's challenging for both activities to operate in a specific area at the same time. During any pre-construction/installation survey works, early dialogue with the local fishermen is key to insuring everyone is aware of planned activities, also when and where these are taking place. Should gear relocation be required to access a busy fishing area, this will be done through the correct channels and in line with the FLOWW BPG. Commercial fisheries are scoped into the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Project and potential impacts will be fully considered and suitable mitigation measures developed, as appropriate. Green Volt have a fisheries liaison officer (FLO) who has been engaging with inshore and offshore fishing organisations since the end of 2021. NOTICES TO MARINERS will continue to be issued for all marine activities. Green Volt plan to avoid any interactions with fishing equipment, such as creels, during all marine works. However, compensation packages to offset any losses may be available in relevant and appropriate situations. Such packages were offered during the inshore environmental survey works in April 2022 but were not required. For any future compensation claims, evidence is required to show activity levels and value of landings, also vessel certification (UK FVC, fishing licence and MCA inspection report). If you have further questions please do not hesitate to ask
				Thanks for your email would it be possible for the fishery liason officer to get in touch with the local commercial fishermen at	FLO has made contact and is undertaking further consultation. Meeting held on



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				Buchanhaven, possibly a meeting or something as we have had no update or information about the proposed project. We are aware that the inshore fleet at the harbour have had contact but as we understand they are no further ahead Regards Board of trustees	<ul> <li>01/11/2022 with the Buchanhaven Harbour Trustees.</li> <li>Queries from Fishers</li> <li>Attendees at the meeting had the following queries: <ul> <li>Would the construction or survey work impact the areas where they are fishing?</li> <li>Would any of their boats be entitled to compensation for relocation?</li> </ul> </li> <li>In response to these questions, it was made clear to the fishers that; for any vessel to be eligible for relocation compensation they would need to have: <ul> <li>Vessel license</li> <li>All certification</li> <li>Proof of actual fishing</li> <li>3 years audited accounts</li> <li>Evidence of areas fished. (Plotter shots) None of the vessels have plotters.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Only three of the vessels fishing from Buchanhaven are licensed; they are very small fishing vessels only work during the seasons from spring to autumn. Their gear when deployed is always inside 10 metres of water.</li> </ul>
Chamber of Shipping	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	Yes	I am the Policy Manager for Safety & Nautical matters at the UK Chamber of Shipping and as such the lead for offshore renewables, so you have arrived at the right mailbox. The Chamber represents the interest of commercial shipping, in particular maintenance of safety of navigation. As such, we have been contacted by Anatec Risk Consultants and are meeting with them on Thursday 28 July to discuss the navigational aspects of the proposed development.	None



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				I am sure this will provide ample opportunity to input and raise comment but if anything should arise I will revert with more detail.	
Chrysaor	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Civil Aviation Authority	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Crown Estate Scotland	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A
Cruden Community Council	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Dee DSFB	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
DoN DSFB	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
East Grampian Coastal Partnership	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Finder Energy UK Ltd	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Fisheries Management Scotland	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Fraserburgh Harbour Commissioner s	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Fraserburgh Inshore Association	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Health and Safety Executive	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Historic Environment Scotland	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	No	Thank you for your pre-application consultation. I can confirm that we do not have any further comments at this stage, and refer you to our previous scoping response, as copied to you in August.	None



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				We look forward to receiving further consultations in relation to the above proposals.	
Hywind Scotland	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A
IJGlobal	No	Contacted Green Volt during PAC	No	<ul> <li>[REDACTED] here, journalist on the renewable energy sector for IJGlobal.</li> <li>I have read in the news that Flotation Energy will file a marine license application for the 300MW Green Volt floating offshore wind project in September.</li> <li>I would love to write about it and update our readers on the project. Do you have a press release about that by any chance?</li> <li>Could you please also add me to your mailing list if you have one?</li> </ul>	Added to mailing list
Individual	No	Contacted Green Volt during PAC	No	I am the skipper of the inshore fishing vessel [REDACTED]. And have just been informed about the likelihood of a survey taking place in the area close to Peterhead. At present i am fishing both for shellfish with static gear, and also fishing for mackerel using handline and jigging machines. I have concerns that this survey may impact on the catch rates both for mackerel and shellfish, especially if entanglement with my market buoys is a possibility, as creels are expensive to replace ( currently about £100 per creel) . If a towed survey using side scan sonar or other methods of gathering seabed information is used, then this will have a major impact on the movement of mackerel shoals within the inshore waters fishing area, leading to reduced catch rates affecting the livelihoods of the inshore fishermen. If you require any more information on the placement of my fleets of gear or fishing areas, then please don't hesitate to contact me at my email address or on my mobile phone [REDACTED]	Green Volt's intention, when possible, is to keep impacts to local harbours and fishermen to an absolute minimum. However, we understand it's challenging for both activities to operate in a specific area at the same time. During any pre-construction/installation survey works, early dialogue with the local fishermen is key to insuring everyone is aware of planned activities, also when and where these are taking place. Should gear relocation be required to access a busy fishing area, this will be done through the correct channels and in line with the FLOWW BPG. Commercial fisheries are scoped into the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Project and potential impacts will be fully considered and suitable mitigation measures developed, as appropriate. Green Volt have a fisheries liaison officer (FLO) who has been engaging with inshore and offshore fishing organisations since the end of 2021. NOTICES TO MARINERS will continue to be issued for all marine activities. Green Volt plan to avoid any interactions with fishing equipment, such as creels, during all marine works. However, compensation packages to offset any losses may be



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					available in relevant and appropriate situations. Such packages were offered during the inshore environmental survey works in April 2022 but were not required. For any future compensation claims, evidence is required to show activity levels and value of landings, also vessel certification (UK FVC, fishing licence and MCA inspection report). If you have further questions please do not hesitate to ask
JNCC	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	No	<ul> <li>Thank you for consulting JNCC on the Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm Pre Application Consultation Letter.</li> <li>JNCC's role in relation to offshore renewables has been delegated to NatureScot.</li> <li>NatureScot is now authorised to exercise the JNCC's functions as a statutory consultee in respect of certain applications for offshore renewable energy installations in inshore and offshore waters (0-200nm) adjacent to Scotland.</li> <li>Therefore, NatureScot should provide a full response. NatureScot will contact JNCC directly if they require additional input.</li> <li>As such JNCC have not reviewed this application and will not be providing further comment.</li> </ul>	None
Joint Radio Company	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Local golf clubs	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Local sailing clubs	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Marine Analytical Unit (MAU)	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A
Marine Conservation Society	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A



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Marine Safety Forum	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Marine Scotland Science	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	Yes	Thank you for your email. Currently, all advice requests to Marine Scotland Science need to go through Marine Scotland - Licensing Operations Team (MS-LOT). Therefore, please send your request to MS-LOT on the following email address: MS Marine Renewables <ms.marinerenewables@gov.scot> and they will be able to confirm if anything else is required from yourselves.</ms.marinerenewables@gov.scot>	None
Maritime and Coastguard Agency	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A
Ministry of Defence, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	No	Thank you for your email below. I can confirm that MOD has no concerns or comments at this stage in your preparation of this development proposal for the export cable and associated rock deposits for in-trench burial of the cable. The MOD should be consulted at the next stage of this application to enable defence maritime navigational interests to be considered.	None
Montrose Port Authority	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Moray Firth Partnership	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	Received - no comments, please remove from consultation list and refer to East Grampian Coastal Partnership.	Stakeholder removed from further consultation. Green Volt already consulting with East Grampian Coastal Partnership.
MS-LOT	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A
MS Fishery Office - Aberdeen	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
MS Fishery Office - Buckie	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
MS Fishery Office - Fraserburgh	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
MS Fishery Office - Peterhead	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
National Federation of	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A



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Fishermen's Organisations National Grid and Distribution Network Operator	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
National Trust for Scotland	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
NATS/ Aberdeen International Airport	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	Yes	<ul> <li>NATS position remains as detailed in our email of 20/12/21 attached (see below)</li> <li>Our Ref: SG32512 (Technical and Operational Assessment included as attachment)</li> <li>Dear Sir/Madam</li> <li>We refer to the application above. The proposed development has been examined by our technical safeguarding teams and conflicts with our safeguarding criteria.</li> <li>Accordingly, NATS (En Route) plc objects to the proposal. The reasons for NATS's objection are outlined in the attached report TOPA SG32512.</li> <li>We would like to take this opportunity to draw your attention to the legal obligation of local authorities to consult NATS before granting planning permission. The obligation to consult arises in respect of certain applications that would affect a technical site operated by or on behalf of NATS (such sites being identified by safeguarding plans that are issued to local planning authorities).</li> <li>In the event that any recommendations made by NATS are not accepted, local authorities are obliged to follow the relevant directions within Planning Circular 2 2003 - Scottish Planning Series: Town and Country Planning (Safeguarded Aerodromes, Technical Sites and Military Explosives Storage Areas) (Scotland) Direction 2003 or Annex 1 - The Town And Country Planning (Safeguarded Aerodromes, Technical Sites And Military Explosives Storage Areas) Direction 2002.</li> <li>These directions require that the planning authority notify both NATS and the Civil Aviation Authority ("CAA") of their intention. As</li> </ul>	This is same response as provided to MS- LOT for inclusion in the Scoping Opinion and has been resolved as part of the EIA (Chapter 16 Aviation and Radar) Aberdeen Airport has since stated that the development is likely to be outside the IFP safeguarding area and that in any event there would be no impacts for turbines under 300m tall (the maximum turbine height would be 262m). A formal revised response was outstanding at the time of submission. Green Volt will continue to engage with NATS and following submission of the application provide clarification, if required, to enable completion of the safeguarding impact assessment.



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				this further notification is intended to allow the CAA to consider whether further scrutiny is required, the notification should be provided prior to any granting of permission. It should also be noted that the failure to consult NATS, or to take	
				into account NATS's comments when determining a planning application, could cause serious safety risks for air traffic.	
NatureScot	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	Yes	Thank you for including NatureScot in the pre-application consultation for Green Volt's proposal to obtain a marine licence.	None
	Response			NatureScot has already responded to Marine Scotland's scoping opinion consultation and, as such, we have no additional comments to make at this time. NatureScot will provide further advice at the application stage.	
				Although I am the Casework Officer dealing with Green Volt, please send all correspondence regarding Green Volt to the marineenergy@nature.scot mailbox.	
Network Rail	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	Thank you for getting in touch the details have been passed to our Town Planning Team. The team will review your case and as soon as I have an update I will get back in touch.	None
			No	Thank you for getting in touch with us. I'm Iain and I work in our Community Relations team. I've had a response from our planning team:	None
				"I don't believe there will be aby issue for Network Rail as the proposed cable landfall connections will be close to Peterhead and will not come close to any Network Rail infrastructure.""	
				I believe someone from our team will also be in touch with you directly.	
			No	I've been passed the above Pre-app consultation from our Community Relations Team.	None
				After reviewing the proposal we consider that the development will have no impact on railway infrastructure as the proposed cable landfall connections will not be within the vicinity of any railway infrastructure.	
North and East Coast Regional Inshore	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A



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Fisheries Group					
NorthConnect	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A
North Sea Midstream Partners	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
North Sea Transition Authority (Previously Oil and Gas Authority)	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	Yes	<ul> <li>Thanks very much for sharing the Green Volt Offshore Windfarm Limited Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) document, please see below some initial comments from the NSTA, do let me know if you have any questions or follow-ups:</li> <li>From the maps it appears the main cable to shore associated with the Green Volt project has 3 pipeline crossings, namely: o PL1270: Britannia to St Fergus gas line (Pipeline Operator is listed as Chrysaor (U.K.) Britannia Limited - 02954364) o PL2074: Buzzard to Forties Pipeline oil line (Pipeline Operator is listed as CNOOC Petroleum Europe Limited - 01051137) o PL208: Fulmar to St Fergus gas line (Pipeline Operator is listed as Shell U.K. Limited - 00140141)</li> <li>Depending on the layout of the windfarm, there may also be some additional crossings local to the Blackbird and Ettrick Fields and also close to the Buzzard Platform.</li> <li>The developer should ensure the relevant Pipeline Operators to inform the NSTA and also the OPRED's Offshore Decommissioning Unit (OPRED-ODU) to see if any updates to existing Pipeline Works Authorisations (PWAs) or decommissioning plans are required.</li> <li>In addition the developer should contact owners of any petroleum blocks/licenses the cables cross to discuss whether any Block Crossing Agreements (BCA's) are needed, the license/block owner should then also contact the NSTA for awareness.</li> </ul>	Noted and consultation ongoing. Crossing agreements and BCAs are already considered within the EIA.
Northern Lighthouse Board	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A
NorthLink (Ferries (Aberdeen -	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A



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Orkney / Shetland)					
Ofcom	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	No	Dear Sir / Madam, Thank you for contacting Ofcom. In reply to your email, please note that Ofcom no longer replies to these requests The windfarm process as originally developed was aimed at putting a windfarm developer and potentially impacted fixed link licensees in contact with each other. Beyond this Ofcom did/does not have any further involvement or enter into the co-ordination / planning discussions between the concerned parties. The same applies now that the fixed link licence information in the Ofcom managed and co-ordinated bands is provided via the Spectrum Information System. i.e. Ofcom does not enter into the discussions between windfarm and fixed link operators. It should also be noted that while Ofcom provides information via the Spectrum Information System there are a number of bands that are now awarded on a block basis i.e. these bands are managed and assigned by the licensees themselves and the individual link information is not published on the SIS. Further information on these bands and the licensees details can be found here: https://www.ofcom.org.uk/manage-your- licence/radiocommunication-licences/mobile-wireless- broadband/above-5ghz The location of published licences is located on the Wireless Telegraphy Register so you should perform your search there however not all fixed links masts are detailed on this service as above. Wireless Telegraphy Register: https://www.ofcom.org.uk/spectrum/information/spectrum-info- faq/wtr#:~:text=The%20Wireless%20Telegraphy%20Act%202006	The Windfarm Site will be located 80 km offshore and given the distance of the project from land. This conclusion agrees with conclusions with other offshore wind farms, including Moray West (Moray Offshore Windfarm (West) Ltd, 2018). As the project engineering progresses the address links for the licensees will be utilised as appropriate and further queries will be addressed to the noted Spectrum licensing team.



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				We will be updating the website and will advise once this has been done. If you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact the Spectrum Licensing Team on 020 7981 3131 or via email at spectrum.licensing@ofcom.org.uk. Yours sincerely, Ofcom Spectrum Licensing	
Offshore Energies UK	No	Yes	No	Spectrum.licensing@ofcom.org.uk N/A	N/A
Oil and Gas UK (Now NSTA)	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A
Oil and Pipelines Agency	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Peterhead Community Council	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Peterhead Golf Course	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Peterhead local fishermen's organisations	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A
Peterhead Port Authority	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Peterhead Sailing Club	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Planning (Scotland)	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Port Eroll Harbour	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Receiver of Wreck	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A



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River Deveron District Salmon Fishery Board (DSFB)	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
River Ugie DSFB	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	The Ugie District Salmon Fishery Board has a statutory duty to protect migrating sea trout and salmon in the Peterhead area. We would welcome more information about the project, and what steps you have taken to protect the marine life in the area and especially in regards to the welfare of migrating salmon and sea trout. I have noticed that the cables will run to New Deer, once ashore. Can you supply a map of the likely route, we are concerned it may need to cross the River Ugie.	Many thanks for your email, I am replying in [REDACTED]'s absence this week. We will be advertising and circulating more information on the Pre-Application Consultation event which we will be holding online in the coming weeks shortly.
				We realise the project is in the early planning stages, but we were asked for our comments about the project. We were quite specific in our email about the concerns we have for the welfare of migrating salmon and sea trout, in the sea off Peterhead and overland between Peterhead and New Deer, presumably crossing the River Ugie at some point. We need to be sure that the project will address these concerns specifically and contact us directly, we wouldn't want to miss an opportunity to comment because we had missed an advert or hadn't see the project in the Aberdeenshire Council's website.	Regarding the steps taken to protect marine life in the area, including migratory salmon and sea trout, Green Volt site selection has been undertaken to avoid key commercial fisheries and protected fish species and habitats, including sites designated for nature conservation, as far as possible. Site-specific surveys have been completed for birds and marine mammals and previous survey data has been reviewed to support site selection. The anchors for the floating wind turbines do not require pile driving and are quick to install with limited underwater noise – piling activity will only be required for the single offshore substation. We have modelled the potential impacts from underwater noise and electromagnetic fields to develop appropriate mitigation to minimise impacts to fish and marine mammals. To further minimise effects on fish species (including migratory fish), the following mitigation has been embedded into the project design: • Cables, wherever possible, will be buried to a target depth of 0.6-1.5m to reduce the potential for impacts relating to electromagnetic fields (EMF); • Cables will be specified to reduce EMF emissions as per industry standards and best practice; • To minimise the extent of any unnecessary



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					<ul> <li>habitat disturbance, material displaced as a result of cable burial activities will be back filled, where necessary, in order to promote recovery;</li> <li>An approved piling strategy will be in place outlining any mitigation and management measures that will be implemented during the offshore sub-station pile installation; and</li> <li>Piling soft starts will be used, with lower hammer energies used at the beginning of the piling sequence before increasing energies to the higher levels, to reduce the risk of injury to fish or marine mammal species in the immediate vicinity of piling operations.</li> <li>A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will be developed to ensure construction activities are undertaken in adherence to all relevant guidance and best practice construction techniques, including protective measures and management of pollution events from accidental spills.</li> <li>We are currently consulting on the offshore works, and further opportunities will be available to consult on the onshore works in the future. The route and design of onshore works are still under development. The onshore export cable route is likely to traverse several water courses which range in size from ditch systems to small rivers and tributaries of rivers. New watercourse crossings will be designed in accordance with best practice and enable the free passage of fish and other wildlife. The onshore Scoping Opinion, detailing the approach that will be taken to assess onshore works, is available from Aberdeenshire Gov.uk, and I have attached for your convenience. The offshore Scoping Opinion is available here. I have</li> </ul>
					passed your concerns regarding onshore

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					watercourse crossings to the onshore team. Further information on the project is available
					on the project website https://greenvoltoffshorewind.com/
River Ythan DSFB	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
RNLI (Peterhead)	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A
Rosehearty Harbour and Inshore Fishermen's Association	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Royal Yachting Association Scotland	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	Yes	At this stage RYA Scotland does not envisage that the export cable works will have an adverse impact on recreational boating. I note that an action from the Green Volt Hazard Workshop of 30 May was that 'RYAS to be consulted once a landfall has been confirmed".	Green Volt will consult RYAS once landfall confirmed
RSPB	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	Yes	Thank you for getting in contact. I believe we are already engaging with pre-application ornithological discussions for this project - I have meeting scheduled on 27 <sup>th</sup> July.	Further communication through the Project ornithological working group
Scottish Canoe Association	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Scottish Creel Fishermen's Federation	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Scottish Enterprise	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Scottish Environment LINK	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Scottish Federation of Sea Anglers	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Scottish Fisherman's Federation	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	Yes	For future reference please cc the following; [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED] , and [REDACTED].	Meeting held 16/08/2022 to discuss and resolve all issues
	. copolico			First of we are pleased to see that Marine Scotland have	



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				addressed the issues we raised on the scoping advice and look forward to seeing that come together. We are, however, disappointed that no-one involved with the Green Volt project has, to date, conducted any relevant consultation with the fishing industry on potential cable routes. Moving to para 2, where the developer is choosing to split the consultation on the export cable at 12nm, and again splitting the approach to landfall in two. While we welcome early engagement on cable routing, without knowing the constraints that have led to these choices we can hardly comment usefully on the choices. For the fishing industry, our concerns & constraints centre around cable burial and rock dumping, so we would be looking for assurances on these matters at an early stage, including the proposed installation methods. We are happy to sit and discuss when there is more detail to consider. It was our understanding that for the Tog aspect of licencing, the primary objective was transitioning oil & gas decarbonization. However, as your introduction reads, the development will produce power to the UK grid and only secondary is power for O&G production. Which would maybe raise an objection. response to PAC event invite Just to check you do have the comments we sent recently? These were in addition to data supplied previously, so we don't have to repeat everything? Am i reading this correctly, that your PAC is only covering the cable corridors? Best, [REDACTED]	
Scottish Fishermen's Organisation	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Scottish Sub Aqua Club	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Scottish Surfing Federation	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	Our main interest is how the wind farm may potentially impact the surf on the east coast of Scotland. This will involve two main areas - 1) The impact of the wind farm on North Sea swell as it passes	Will there be any impact on North Sea swell as it passes through the wind farm site and on to the surfable coastline? Green Volt have considered the potential effect of the Project on the baseline wave



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				from low pressure areas many miles away through the wind farm complex and on to the surfable coastline. 2) The impact of the cable landfall on surfing beaches in and around Peterhead. On point one, what studies have been done on the effect of the wind farm on passing swells? I realise the project is 80km offshore but none the less there may, in association with the other proposed wind farms in the area, be an effect on the swell and we at the SSF would like to know what that is likely to be and what your predictive models show. On point two, the proposal shows the landfall of the cables will involve horizontal direct drilling and this should minimise the impact on the coast, both visually and from a surfing point of view. We have seen this undertaken when the cables were brought ashore from Neart na Gaoithe in East Lothian. In practice there was no disruption to the surf as the drilling started inland and surfaced roughly 1km offshore well away from any waves. Can you confirm that the construction of the landfall at Peterhead will follow a similar pattern? What are your proposals regarding on shore construction work and will this cause restrictions in accessing the coastline? I'm happy to give further information as necessary.	climate in Chapter 5 (The Physical Environment) of the offshore Scoping Report. We have collated and reviewed wave data from available sources, including undertaking an 'extremes analysis' and conclude that the limited number of floating wind turbines (up to 35) is likely to have, at worst, only a very small impact on the wave climate and only limited to a localised area (<1 km). The floating wind turbines will be anchored in position so there will only be very small and very localised direct impact on the incoming wave climate from the installed infrastructure. Long-period swell waves will not be affected by such local interruptions. Due to the long- period nature of swell waves, we do not envisage that these will be affected adversely by the wind farm which is situated some 80 km from shore. What will be the impact of the cable landfall on surfing beaches in and around Peterhead? The landfall of the cables will involve horizontal directional drilling (HDD). This installation method is intended to minimise the impact on the coast, both visually, ecologically and in terms of coastal processes (waves, tides, sediment transport). Drilling at the 'entry point' is planned to start inland of the coast and the 'exit point' will surface between 1 km and 1.3km offshore. This is well away from any surf waves and so it will not cause disruption to the surfing beaches in the vicinity. Will onshore construction work cause any restrictions in accessing the coastline? Potential impacts associated with onshore construction works will be fully considered within the onshore Environmental Impact Asseesment (EIA). Consultation with stakeholders will continue during the development of the onshore EIA to ensure

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					any potential impacts are understood, assessed and minimised to within acceptable levels. The onshore Scoping Opinion, detailing the approach that will be taken to assess onshore works, is available from Aberdeenshire Council Planning Service and they can be contacted on 01467 534333 and by email at planning@aberdeenshire.gov.uk, and I have attached it for your convenience.
					A draft Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will accompany the planning application. The CEMP sets out the general approach of environmental management and mitigation of impacts associated with the construction works. The appointed Construction Contractor will update and finalise the CEMP and will be responsible for ensuring that any adverse effects from the construction phase are minimised.
					Further information on the project is available on the project website https://greenvoltoffshorewind.com/
Scottish Water	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	No	Audit of Proposal Scottish Water has no objection to this planning application; however, the applicant should be aware that this does not confirm that the proposed development can currently be serviced and would advise the following:	Response shared with Green Volt onshore EIA team
				Drinking Water Protected Areas A review of our records indicates that there are no Scottish Water drinking water catchments or water abstraction sources, which are designated as Drinking Water Protected Areas under the Water Framework Directive, in the area that may be affected by the proposed activity.	
				Surface Water For reasons of sustainability and to protect our customers from potential future sewer flooding, Scottish Water will not accept any surface water connections into our combined sewer system.	



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				There may be limited exceptional circumstances where we would allow such a connection for brownfield sites only, however this will require significant justification from the customer taking account of various factors including legal, physical, and technical challenges. In order to avoid costs and delays where a surface water discharge to our combined sewer system is anticipated, the developer should contact Scottish Water at the earliest opportunity with strong evidence to support the intended drainage plan prior to making a connection request. We will assess this evidence in a robust manner and provide a decision that reflects the best option from environmental and customer perspectives. <u>General notes:</u> Scottish Water asset plans can be obtained from our appointed asset plan providers: Site Investigation Services (UK) Ltd Tat. 0323 123 1223	
				Tel: 0333 123 1223 Email: sw@sisplan.co.uk www.sisplan.co.uk I trust the above is acceptable however if you require any further information regarding this matter please contact me on [REDACTED] or via the e-mail address below or at planningconsultations@scottishwater.co.uk.	
Scottish Wildlife Trust	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Sea Mammal Research Unit	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
SEPA	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	No	SEPA planning is unlikely to have any comment to make regarding the offshore elements of the windfarm, from Mean High Water Springs to 12 nautical miles (nm) as it is outwith our remit. We would be happy to comment on your plans for land fall, in line with our triage guidelines, when information is available. We require that our guidance and standing advice, available on our website (sepa-triage-framework-and-standing-advice.pdf), is taken into account when proposals are considered.	None
Shell	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	Yes	N/A	Email sent 30/09/2022: Further to Shell's consultation feedback to Marine Scotland in December 2021 in relation to the above project I wanted to make sure you had seen



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					the virtual project exhibition on the Green Volt Offshore Windfarm website https://greenvolt- exhibition.com/exhibition/
					There is an interactive map available within the virtual exhibition – click on the map icon adjacent to the Marine Planning, Policy & Strategy board. Hopefully, this provides the information Shell requires. We have also met with the Acorn project (including your Shell colleagues; [REDACTED] & [REDACTED]) regarding their carbon storage plans. However, if you would like to arrange a meeting to discuss any issues, please let us know.
					We would really appreciate feedback from Shell during the pre-application consultation period, which runs until Thursday 20 October 2022, either via e-mail hello@greenvoltoffshorewind.com or through the feedback form on the website Feedback form – Green Volt Windfarm (greenvolt- exhibition.com)
Slain and Collieston Community Council	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Spey Fishery Board	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Sports Scotland	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	No	We've touched base with the SGBs and note that RYAS have responded to the consultation already.	None
Summit E&P Ltd	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Surfers Against Sewage	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Talon Petroleum (UK) Ltd	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Tangram Energy Ltd	No	Yes	No	N/A	N/A



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Transport Scotland	Yes - Provided Scoping Response	Yes	No	I refer to your recent correspondence on the above development in which you seek Transport Scotland's comments on the proposed burial of the export cable and associated rock deposits for the proposed Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm. This information has been passed to SYSTRA Limited (SYSTRA) for review in their capacity as Term Consultants to Transport Scotland – Roads Directorate. Based on the review undertaken, we would provide the following comments. Proposed Development We note that the proposed Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm is located approximately 80km from the Aberdeenshire coast, with the nearest trunk road to the site being the A90(T) around the Peterhead/ St Fergus area. The development will include a grid connection back to a substation at New Deer, which lies approximately 25km inland from Peterhead. We understand that the offshore works is being dealt with under a separate application from the Inshore Region works and this current consultation relates to licensable marine activities between Mean Water Springs and up to 12nm offshore. Pre-Application Comments Given that the works are effectively all marine-based, we do not expect that the operations will have a significant impact on the trunk road network. To demonstrate this, we would ask that the forthcoming Environmental Impact Assessment Report quantifies both the number and composition of vehicular trips relating to the export cable and nock deposits. The traffic generation information should be used to determine whether there are likely to be any significant environmental issues associated with increased traffic on the trunk road network, and any requirement for further trunk road assessment. The thresholds as indicated within the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (REMA) Guidelines for the Environmental Assessment of Road Traffic should be used as a screening process for the assessment, and potential trunk road related environmental impacts such as driver delay, pedestrian amenity, severance, safety etc will require to be cons	All materials for marine works will be transported to the Project site by sea, so there will be no increased traffic on the trunk road network during the marine works. Potential impacts upon traffic and transport from onshore works will be fully considered within the onshore Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Consultation will be undertaken during the development of the onshore EIA to ensure any potential impacts are understood, assessed and minimised to within acceptable levels. The onshore Scoping Opinion, detailing the approach that will be taken to assess onshore works, is available from Aberdeenshire Council Planning Service and they can be contacted on 01467 534333 and by email at planning@aberdeenshire.gov.uk. I have forwarded your response onto the onshore team for consideration within the onshore EIA Report. Response shared with Green Volt onshore EIA team



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				associated with this element of the works, Transport Scotland will require to be satisfied that the size of loads proposed can negotiate the selected route and that their transportation will not have any detrimental effect on structures within the trunk road route path. A full Abnormal Loads Assessment report should be provided with the EIA Report that identifies key pinch points on the trunk road network. Swept path analysis should be undertaken and details provided with regard to any required changes to street furniture or structures along the route. I trust that the above is satisfactory and should you wish to discuss any issues raised in greater detail, please do not hesitate to contact me or alternatively, [REDACTED].	
University of Aberdeen - Lighthouse Field Station	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Visit Scotland	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
Whale and Dolphin Conservation	Yes - but provided no response	Yes	No	N/A	N/A

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