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Planning Permission in Principle Application Cover Letter  
**MarramWind Offshore Wind Farm**

December 2025

**MarramWind Limited**

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15th December 2025

Dear Stephanie,

**Application by MarramWind Limited in support of application for Planning Permission in Principle for Onshore Electricity Transmission Infrastructure and Associated Development.**

MarramWind Offshore Wind Farm (hereafter referred to as 'the Project') is wholly owned by ScottishPower Renewables (UK) Limited (SPR). MarramWind Limited, a subsidiary of SPR, is the Applicant for the Project.

The onshore elements of the Project comprises two landfalls located landward of Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS), underground onshore export cables connecting the landfalls to the onshore substations, three onshore substations co-located on one site and underground export cable connecting the onshore substations to the grid connection point at Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) Netherton Hub.

The Applicant is pleased to submit an application to Aberdeenshire Council for Planning Permission in Principle (PPiP) associated with the construction and operation of onshore electricity transmission infrastructure and associated development for the Project under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.

This letter provides an overview of the Project's application and supporting documents with a consideration of the validation requirements.

**Overview of the Project**

A full description of the Project is set out in **Chapter 4: Project Description** of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report.

The Project's offshore infrastructure, located seaward of mean high water springs (MHWS), includes the following:

- wind turbine generators (WTGs), including floating units (platforms and station keeping system);
- array cables;
- subsea distribution centres (SDC);
- subsea substations;
- offshore substations;
- reactive compensation platform(s) (RCPs) (if required); and
- offshore export cables to connect the offshore infrastructure to the landfall(s).

The Project's onshore infrastructure, located landward of mean low water springs (MLWS), includes:

- landfall(s) – the infrastructure associated with landfall(s) located above MLWS; -

- underground onshore export cables running from the landfall(s) to the onshore substations;
- onshore substations, co-located on one site;
- underground grid connection cables connecting the onshore substations to the grid connection point at SSEN Netherton Hub; and
- tie-in to the grid connection point (SSEN substation at the Netherton Hub, which is a separate project and does not form part of the consenting applications to which this PPiP relates).

Given the scale of the Project, a phased approach to the installation and energisation of the WTGs is proposed. Each phase of the Project will be operational for up to 35 years from completion of installation and commissioning of the offshore WTGs.

#### ***Grid connection location***

The National Electricity System Operator (NESO) Beyond 2030 Report (NESO, 2024) identified the location for the full 3GW connection for the Project as being within the vicinity of Peterhead, subject to detailed siting and design work to be undertaken by SSEN as the Transmission Operator. SSEN have since identified the Project's connection point as the Netherton Hub at Longside, near Peterhead, which was granted PPiP by Aberdeenshire Council in August 2025.

#### **Land Rights**

The Applicant intends to secure the Project's necessary land rights through voluntary agreements with affected landowners and occupiers. The Applicant is committed to open engagement with affected parties in negotiating these agreements. The Applicant recognises the need for collaboration between developers in the Peterhead area and will continue to pursue this as required. In addition, the Applicant has secured a Generation Licence from Ofgem and as such will have access to powers to purchase land compulsorily if necessary and appropriate.

#### **Offshore Applications**

The Project's offshore infrastructure is subject to a separate consent application for Section 36 (s.36) of the Electricity Act 1989 consent. Additionally, the construction and operation of the offshore elements require four Marine Licence applications under Part 4 of both the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 and the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010.

#### **Compliance with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations**

An EIA has been completed for the Project in accordance with The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 and other relevant EIA regulations.

To support the decision-making process, the Applicant has sought to ensure that the EIA and resultant EIA Report are robust yet focused on the most pertinent matters.

#### **Scoping Opinion and Report**

A proactive, early-stage scoping process was undertaken in 2022-2023 to ensure that the EIA would be robust whilst suitably focused on aspects of the environment with the potential to be subject to likely significant effects. The Applicant has provided responses to the MD-LOT Scoping Opinion (Scottish Government, 2023a), Aberdeenshire Council's Scoping Opinion (Aberdeenshire Council, 2023a) and the Statutory Consultation responses within the EIA Report. Responses are included in the relevant EIA Report aspect chapters (**Chapters 1 to 33**).

The EIA Report (Volumes 1 to 4) has been submitted as part of this PPiP application.

#### **Pre-Application Advice Report**

The Council provided a Pre-Application Advice Report (ENQ/2024/0657), in December 2024 acknowledging the Applicant's intention to submit an application for PPiP. This advised on the key issues to be addressed, stakeholder groups for engagement and policy requirements against which the proposed onshore infrastructure of the Project would be assessed.

The advice provided in the Pre-Application Advice Report has been fully considered and taken into account in the preparation of this application.

### **Consultation and Engagement**

The Applicant has undertaken both statutory pre-application consultation and wider stakeholder engagement to ensure meaningful dialogue with affected communities and interested parties throughout the development process.

Statutory Consultation has been delivered in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013, and the Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) Scotland Regulations 2013. Given the national development status afforded to the Project and the extended period required to bring forward a project of this scale, four rounds of statutory consultation have been held. The requirements of the relevant regulations have been addressed by the Applicant during the pre-application consultation process and are detailed within the Pre-Application Consultation Report.

The Applicant acknowledges that there will be formal engagement between MD-LOT and Aberdeenshire Council as part of the planning process, given that MD-LOT will be concurrently determining the offshore consenting applications for the Project associated with the offshore consents for the Project. The Applicant would be pleased to support MD-LOT and Aberdeenshire Council in any way that may assist with the coordinated determination of these applications.

### **Documentation Enclosed**

The documentation accompanying the Project's PPiP application to Aberdeenshire Council comprises:

- This cover letter to the PPiP Application.
- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report:
  - Non-Technical Summary;
  - Volume 1: EIA Report chapters:
    - Chapters 1 to 5 – Introductory Chapters;
    - Chapters 19 to 27 – Onshore Chapters;
    - Chapters 28 to 34 – Whole-Project Chapters;
  - Volume 2: EIA Report Figures;
  - Volume 3: EIA Report Appendices (including Volume 3, Appendix 5.2: Commitments Register); and
  - Volume 4: Implementation Plans.
    - Onshore Implementation Plans:
      - Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan
      - Outline Operation Drainage Management Strategy
        - Appendix 1: Outline Indicative Sustainable Urban Drainage Plan for the Onshore Substations during Operation
      - Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (Onshore)
      - Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan
        - Appendix A: Outline Travel Plan
        - Appendix B: Outline Core Path Management Plan
      - Outline Landscape and Architectural Strategy
        - Appendix A: Supporting Figures
        - Appendix B: Outline Landscape Maintenance Plan

- Habitat Regulations Appraisal:
  - Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment
  - HRA Screening Assessment
  - HRA Apportionment Report
  - HRA Population Viability Analysis Report
  - Offshore and Intertidal Ornithology In-combination Assessment
- Consent Application Accompanying Documents:
  - Onshore Planning Statement
  - Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report
  - Design and Access Statement
  - Socio-economic Action Plan
  - Nature Positive Plan
  - Onshore Planning Permission in Principle Application Figures:
    - Figure 1.1: Trees
    - Figure 1.2: Access
    - Figure 1.3: Water Supply and Drainage Arrangements
    - Figure 1.4: Site Location Plan
    - Figure 1.5: Site Plan Proposed
- MarramWind Scoping Report
- Aberdeenshire Council Scoping Opinion & Scoping Addendum

The required documentation to support validation of the application has been submitted by the Applicant. Volume 1 Chapters 6 to 18 have not been provided as these are Offshore Chapters, however they will be available on the MD-Lot licencing portal and the MarramWind Ltd website noted below.

To meet submission requirements, documents have been compressed for online upload. Original high-resolution versions can be accessed via the MarramWind website (<https://www.marramwind.co.uk>), or through the physical copies provided.

Due to file size limitations on the ePlanning portal, it has been necessary to submit elements of the application through the platform's Post Submission Additional Document (PSAD) forms. Whilst certain EIA chapters and appendices have been submitted via the PSAD forms, this is not expected to impact upon the application published online by Aberdeenshire Council where all submitted documents will be available.

### Confidential documents

The following items of this EIA Report contain confidential information and should not be placed on public facing portals, publicly accessible physical locations as a printed copy, or anywhere else in the public domain:

- **Volume 3, Appendix 23.3 Protected Species Report, Appendix A: Confidential Badger Survey Results** and Figure 3 Protected Species Results within this appendix.

### **Public Notices / Advertisements**

Copies of the application documents will be made available for the public to view at the location detailed below:

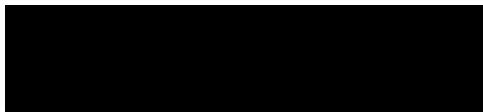
<b>Location</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Opening Hours</b>
Buchan House	St Peter Street, Peterhead AB42 1QF	Monday – Friday, 8:45 - 5pm

Once the application has been validated by Aberdeenshire Council, the application documents will also be published online at: <https://www.marramwind.co.uk/>

Hard copies can also be made available on request. These will be subject to a charge of £15 on a USB stick (including postage and packaging), or as a hard copy for an additional charge of £1,000. Copies of a short non-technical summary of the EIA Report are available free of charge. Requests for hard copies of the application documents can be made at: [stakeholder@marramwind.com](mailto:stakeholder@marramwind.com)

The Applicant trusts that all of the necessary documentation has been provided to enable Aberdeenshire Council to swiftly validate the application. However, given the timing of the submission, the Applicant recognises that it may not be possible for the Council to conclude the full validation process until after the festive period. In any event, the Applicant respectfully requests that Aberdeenshire Council does not proceed with notifying and consulting on the application until after the festive period.

Yours sincerely,



Colin Anderson

Development Manager

