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MRFOD002

27 October 2025

Your ref:

Our ref:

Date:

John Wheadon
Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery
Department of Energy Security & Net Zero
3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

Dear John

Defra Response to DESNZ Request for Information: "Application by GT R4 Ltd ("the Applicant") for an Order granting Development Consent for the proposed Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind Farm ("the Proposed Development")"

Thank you for your letter of 10 October 2025, in which you requested Defra to:

1) Confirm whether the Strategic Compensation Collaboration on Offshore wind Strategic Compensation (COWSC) Predator Reduction Implementation and Monitoring group considers that predator control is likely to be effective at Plémont given that the Applicant's response to question 19 of the first information request states that "predator control in the Plémont area has been listed as likely to succeed in the draft COWSC Predator Reduction Implementation and Monitoring Plan".

## Predator Eradication in Jersey (Plémont Seabird Sanctuary) as Compensation for Guillemot and Razorbill

The Collaboration on Offshore Wind Strategic Compensation (COWSC) Predator Reduction Implementation and Monitoring Plan provides a list of sites where the likelihood of controlling or excluding predatory mammals is considered possible, likely or highly likely. This is based on the outputs of a piece of work which involved a review of potential sites for management and included consideration of seabird monitoring data alongside evidence of eradications, presence or incursions of mammalian predators.

The COWSC Implementation and Monitoring Plan concludes that predator control in Plémont Bay, Jersey, is likely to succeed. The plan is informed by a desk-based study which does not take into account whether achieving the predator management in a given location is practically feasible, nor the delivery plans proposed by individual developers. While the plan notes the potential for success in given locations, the advice of Statutory



Nature Conservation Bodies should be carefully considered when assessing practical delivery.

Please note that the Implementation and Monitoring Plan has not yet been signed off by the Senior Responsible Owner, but we do not anticipate that any conclusions will change.

Yours sincerely,

## **Amy Ferguson**

Programme Director, Marine Recovery Fund Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs