

FAO [REDACTED]
Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery
Department for Energy Security & Net Zero
3-8 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW
By email: monaoffshorewindproject@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

23 June 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

**FERM WYNT ALLTRAETH MONA / PROPOSED MONA OFFSHORE
WINDFARM**

**CYFEIRNOD YR AROLYGIAETH GYNLLUNIO / PLANNING INSPECTORATE
REFERECE: EN010137**

EIN CYFEIRNOD / OUR REFERENCE: 20048445

**RE: NATURAL RESOURCES WALES' RESPONSE TO THE SECRETARY OF
STATE'S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (DATED 30 MAY 2025)**

This response is submitted to point 5 of the Secretary of State's ("SoS") Request for Information dated 30 May 2025 ("Request"). Point 5 of the Request relates to clarification sought from the SoS as to whether a separate section 135 consent for woodland plots 02-034 and 02-036 ("Plots") is required from Natural Resources Body for Wales ("NRW") and stated that:

5. The Applicant should provide confirmation that Natural Resources Wales (NRW) has given occupier's section 135 consent in respect of its legal interests in Gwrych Wood (also plot 02-034 and 02-036).

As set out in the letter dated 22 May 2025 addressed to the Planning Inspectorate Case Team from the Deputy Director for Landscapes, Nature and Forestry attached to this letter at Appendix A, we confirm that in response to the Secretary of State's letter dated 12 May 2025, the Welsh Ministers hold a leasehold interest in the Plots, and NRW manage the Plots on behalf of the Welsh Ministers' by virtue of section 3 of the Forestry Act 1967 ("Section 3").

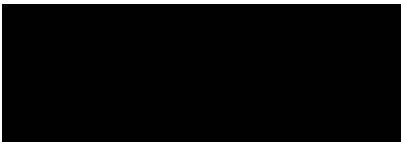
NRW do not occupy the Plots, nor are they a tenant, and nor do they have a separate legal interest in the Plots.



NRW have been granted limited statutory authority to manage the Plots as set out in Section 3.

This was also confirmed in the letter issued on behalf of the Welsh Ministers granting section 135 consent for those plots (included as appendix A to the Applicant's response to the Secretary of State's letter dated 12 May 2025).

NRW's position is therefore that, NRW manages the Plots via Section 3 and they do not occupy the Plots. NRW is granted statutory powers under Section 3 to manage the Plot and represent the Welsh Ministers in doing so. NRW does not have a separate legal interest in the Plots. There is no requirement for the Applicant to obtain section 135 consent from NRW above what was contained in the letter dated 22 May 2025 referred to in paragraph 3 above. This has been communicated to the Applicant.

Yn gywir / Yours sincerely



, Marine Projects Team Leader, on behalf of , Marine Services Manager

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a byddwn yn ymateb yn Gymraeg, heb i hynny arwain at oedi.

Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.

**Appendix A - Letter dated 22 May 2025 from the Deputy Director for
Landscapes, Nature and Forestry**

[on following page]

Strictly Private and Confidential

Planning Inspectorate Case Team
Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero
C/O National Infrastructure Planning
The Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

22nd May 2025

**Mona Offshore Wind Farm Development Consent Order
CONSENT TO INCLUDE CROWN LAND IN THE DCO AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 135 OF THE
PLANNING ACT 2008**

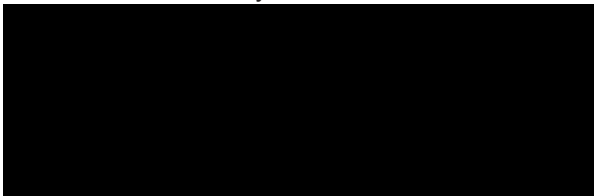
Dear Sir Madam

I am writing to confirm that the attached consent has been agreed by the Welsh Ministers and the Natural Resources Body for Wales, in respect of the Mona Offshore Wind Farm Development Consent Order ("DCO").

We appreciate that stylistic changes may be necessary for clarity and consistency purposes, however no amendments to the attached consent should be considered agreed without the prior written consent of the Welsh Ministers and the Natural Resources Body for Wales.

In the event that any of the aforementioned assumptions are incorrect or the basis on which this conditional consent is provided is disputed, please contact us as a matter of urgency.

Yours faithfully



Deputy Director – Landscapes, Nature and Forestry

Encs: CONSENT TO INCLUDE CROWN LAND IN THE DCO AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 135 OF THE
PLANNING ACT 2008.

1 THE WELSH MINISTERS

**APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER ("DCO") PLANNING INSPECTORATE
REFERENCE NUMBER: EN010137**

**CONSENT TO INCLUDE CROWN LAND IN THE DCO AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 135 OF THE
PLANNING ACT 2008**

- 1.1 As discussed in correspondence, Mona Offshore Wind Farm Limited (Company Registration Number 13497266) ("Mona") is applying, under the Planning Act 2008 ("the Act"), for a Development Consent Order ("DCO") for the Mona Offshore Wind Farm ("the Project"). The version of draft DCO at the close of Examination is version C1 Draft Development Consent Order F09 (PINS Reference EN010137, Examination Library Reference AS-036).
- 1.2 The land required for the Project includes land referred to as plots 02-034 and 02-036 relating to an area of woodland at Gwyrch Castle (the "Plots") in which the Welsh Ministers have a leasehold interest, and which therefore comes within the definition, in section 227 of the Act, of Crown land. Natural Resources Body for Wales also has a statutory interest in the Plots pursuant to section 3 of the Forestry Act 1967. The relevant plots are identified on the submitted Crown Land Plans (version B6 Crown Land Plan (Onshore) F04, PINS Reference EN010137, Examination Library Reference REP7-005) and in the Book of Reference (version D4 Book of Reference F07, PINS Reference EN010137, Examination Library Reference REP7-014) for the Project and Mona seeks the consent of the appropriate Crown authority to the inclusion of this land ("the Crown land") in the DCO for the Project pursuant to section 135 of the Planning Act 2008 ("Crown land consent").
- 1.3 I confirm that the appropriate Crown authority (as defined in section 227 of the Act) to give Crown land consent is the Welsh Ministers and this consent is provided in respect of the Plots.
- 1.4 Accordingly, I confirm that the Welsh Ministers hereby grant Crown land consent under section 135(1) of the Act to the inclusion of interests for the time being held otherwise by or on behalf of the Crown in relation to the Crown land in the DCO for the Project and to Mona's application for powers of compulsory acquisition in respect of all such interests. I also confirm that the Welsh Ministers hereby grant Crown land consent under section 135(2) of the Act for Mona to include other provisions contained in the DCO which will apply in relation to the Crown land including Articles of the draft DCO that apply to Crown land, if the DCO is made by the Secretary of State in due course.
- 1.5 Welsh Ministers (1), Mona (2) and the Natural Resources Body for Wales (3) have separately entered into an agreement ("Agreement") governing the use of the powers of compulsory acquisition and other provisions in the DCO in relation to the Crown land. Mona does not intend to acquire compulsorily any interests in the Crown land which are held by the Welsh Ministers and the Natural Resources Body for Wales. Instead Mona will only acquire other interests in land and create by acquisition new rights required to construct, operate and decommission the Project in respect of the Plots subject to the terms of the Agreement.
- 1.6 I note that Mona does not intend to acquire compulsorily any interest in the Crown land which is held by the Welsh Ministers, but only to acquire other interests in land required to construct, operate and decommission the Project as set out in the Agreement. The inclusion of the Crown land within the Order land would also allow temporary possession as defined in the DCO to be taken by Mona in order to carry out works on this land and adjacent land subject to the terms of the Agreement.