

APPENDIX C

TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH ITEM 11

**ATLANTIC ARRAY OFFSHORE WIND FARM -
PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

**OF THE REPORT OF THE
CORPORATE DIRECTOR – COMMUNITIES**

ATLANTIC ARRAY OFFSHORE WIND FARM

2012

Public Consultation Summary



North Hoyle Offshore Wind Farm

JANUARY 2012

Welcome to the public consultation summary for Atlantic Array Offshore Wind Farm. This brief report provides an overview of the feedback collected during our formal public consultation (under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008), which took place between 10 September and 10 November 2011.

We chose to carry out our formal public consultation with local communities early in the development process for the wind farm. This gives us an opportunity to shape our environmental assessment work and the development of the wind farm from the feedback we have received during consultation. The formal public consultation

was supported by a Preliminary Environmental Information document and non-technical summary (please see page 4 for a description of the documents).

It is termed "formal" consultation because it is required under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008. However, this does not rule out

other consultation activity before and after the formal period.

This document has been produced to keep everyone updated with what local people told us during our formal consultation and how our proposal is progressing. We hope that this will encourage you to take part in our future consultation activities.

OUR CONSULTATION ACTIVITY

PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENTS

As part of our formal consultation activity the project team visited communities located around the Atlantic Array proposed site during September 2011 to present information, listen and record your views, and discuss any concerns you may have at this stage of the development. Thirteen consultation events were held across North Devon and South Wales (at the locations above right).

We also visited Lundy Island during the formal consultation period to give a presentation to staff, residents and interested parties.

To make people aware of the consultation events they were advertised in 7 local newspapers and the local media also ran features leading up to the events. Posters were placed in local shops and on community notice boards. We also wrote to local stakeholder groups, including parish and community councils.

Copies of the consultation materials, including the Preliminary Environmental Information and non technical summary, were sent to local libraries and public access points for those unable to attend an event. The materials were also available to download from the project website and can still be viewed at – www.npower-renewables.com/atlanticarray

A full list of the access points and libraries where consultation materials are stored can be found in our 'Atlantic Array Section 47 Consultation Guide' which is available to download from the Atlantic Array website, and hard copies are available upon request.

NORTH DEVON

DATE	TIME	VENUE
10th September	10am – 5pm	Abbotsham Village Hall
11th September	11am – 4pm	Lovacott Village Hall
15th September	12pm – 8pm	The Royal Britannia, Ilfracombe
16th September	12pm – 8pm	Croyde Village Hall
17th September	10am – 5pm	The Castle Centre, Barnstaple
18th September	11am – 4pm	Bideford College

SOUTH WALES

DATE	TIME	VENUE
21st September	12pm – 8pm	The Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl
22nd September	12pm – 8pm	Fourwinds Hotel, Port Talbot
23rd September	12pm – 8pm	North Gower Hotel, Llanrhidian
24th September	10am – 5pm	Civic Centre, Swansea
27th September	12pm – 8pm	Stradey Park Hotel, Llanelli
28th September	12pm – 8pm	Fourcroft Hotel, Tenby
29th September	12pm – 8pm	Cleddau Bridge Hotel, Pembroke Dock



RWE npower renewables' staff talking to members of the public

PUBLIC CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

The formal consultation events were attended by nearly 2000 people. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who gave up their time to come along and talk to us.

People visiting the events had the option to fill in a feedback form which

was also available to download from our website. People who wanted to provide more detailed feedback were invited to contact us via email or letter.

FEEDBACK FORM RESULTS

In total we received 393 partially completed or completed feedback forms during the consultation period.

LETTER AND EMAILS

In addition to completed feedback forms we received 112 letters and 221 emails.

FEEDBACK ANALYSIS

Feedback collected during the consultation via feedback forms, letters and emails has been logged. A summary of comments will be included in our consultation report, which will form part of our submission to the Infrastructure Planning Commission.

Through analysis of your feedback provided to date, we have identified the topics which local people think are the most important (please see charts on the right of this page). We are carefully considering these topics and looking at how they can be addressed as we progress our proposal for a wind farm.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

We received a lot of detailed feedback from the consultation on both the onshore and offshore elements of the proposal. After reviewing the full range of your comments we are now focussing on the topics you raised as part of the ongoing environmental impact assessment process.

Conducting early formal consultation on the project has allowed us to understand the issues that are most important to the local communities, and we are now concentrating on how they can be addressed through the development process and incorporated into an updated project plan. The updated plan will be available to view as part of a draft Environmental Statement, in mid 2012.

Key topics raised in relation to the offshore components of the proposal

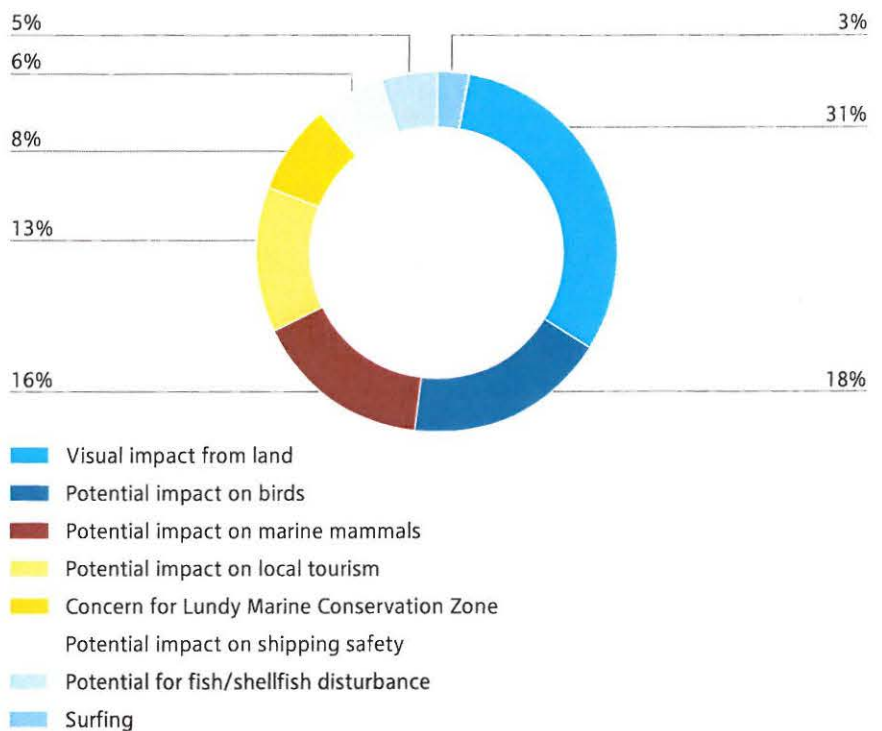


Chart shows key offshore topics raised by the 721 people who responded to the formal consultation

Key topics raised in relation to the onshore components of the proposal

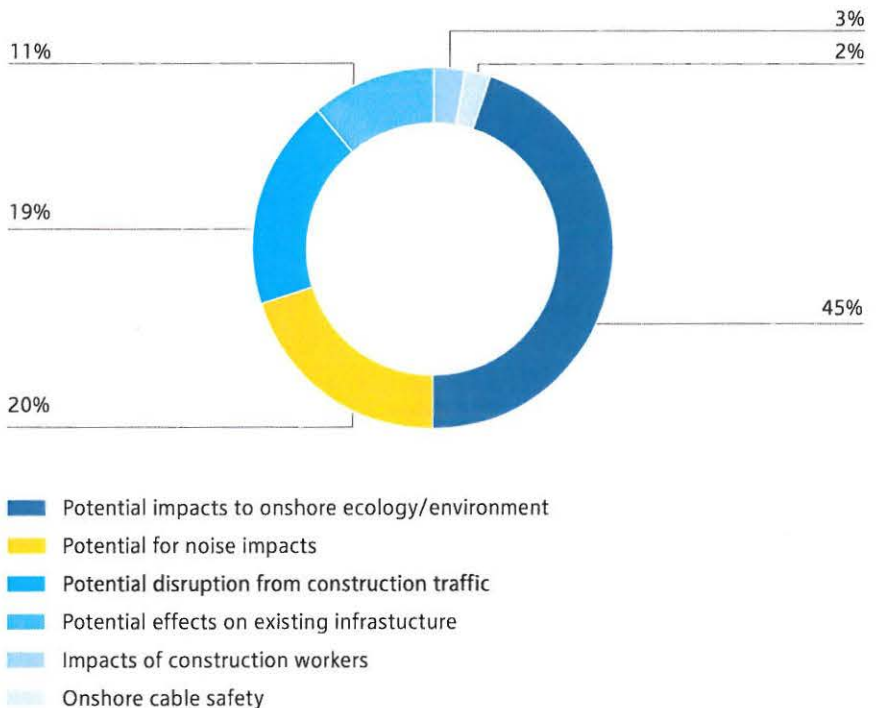


Chart shows key onshore topics raised by the 721 people who responded to the formal consultation

FURTHER CONSULTATION ACTIVITY

In your feedback to our formal public consultation you suggested you would like another opportunity to comment on the proposal once the results of our environmental impact assessment (EIA) are available. A further stage of consultation activity has since been incorporated into the development programme in response to your comments.

The next stage of consultation activity will coincide with publication of the results of the EIA in the form of a draft Environmental Statement (ES). A non-technical summary of the draft ES will also be available. These documents contain the level of detail required by statutory consultees and will allow members of the public to comment fully on the project proposal. During the second stage of consultation activity you will have a further opportunity to provide feedback on our draft ES. Your feedback will be used by us to help further refine the proposal that will be submitted to the Infrastructure Planning Commission.

The next stage of consultation activity is an additional activity to those described in our Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) which was produced through discussion with the relevant local authorities. For this reason, in planning terms it is viewed as a period of informal consultation.

Throughout the development process for Atlantic Array the same weight will be applied to comments received during periods of informal consultation, as those received during the period of formal public consultation which took place between September and November 2011.

The SoCC sets out how we intended to consult on the project with the local community, residents, businesses, organisations and visitors to the area and describes the basis of our formal community consultation. During the next stage of consultation activity in mid 2012, we will follow the same objectives for engagement as those described in our SoCC. We will also use the same methods to share information and gather feedback, such as local information events, the project website, and questionnaires.

Further consultation activities will be advertised in advance and we will be in contact with parish and community councils and other local stakeholder groups to advise them of the details. We will also write to everyone who responded to the formal consultation to let them know how they can take part in the next stage.

In a slight change to information presented during our formal consultation, where our intention was to submit a planning application in quarter 3 of 2012, we are now

If you would like this report in larger print or other accessible format, please contact us on: 01 793 474100

DEFINITIONS

Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) – We have prepared a Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) document which provides a description of the project and summarises the environmental work undertaken to date and our preliminary view of the key issues.

Preliminary Environmental Information Non Technical Summary (PEI NTS) – The PEI NTS gives an overview of the full PEI document and has been produced to provide an introduction to the project. The NTS provides less technical detail than the full PEI document.

IPC – The Infrastructure Planning Commission is the independent body that examines applications for nationally significant infrastructure projects. These are the large projects that support the economy and vital public services, including large wind farms and power stations. Further information on the IPC and their role in the planning process can be found at <http://infrastructure.independent.gov.uk/>



working towards submitting the application to the Infrastructure Planning Commission in quarter 4 of 2012. The additional time will allow us to fully consider any feedback you provide in response to the the informal consultation activities which will coincide with publication of the draft ES.

Contacting Us:

Outside of periods of organised consultation activities, we welcome any feedback you wish to send to us. The project team are also happy to answer any questions you may have. You can contact using the information below:

Post:

Atlantic Array Offshore Wind Farm, Auckland House, Lydiard Fields, Whitehill Way, Swindon, SN5 8ZT

Email:

> atlanticarray@npower-renewables.com

Web:

A copy of this document is available to download from the project website:
> www.npower-renewables.com/atlanticarray