

Consultation on Moir Vannin Offshore Wind Farm

Closing Date: 28th November 2023

Douglas City Council Response

Positives:-

- The offshore wind sector is a key part of energy infrastructure and, in many instances, has created jobs for coastal communities across the UK. This proposal will lead to increased employment in the Isle of Man;
- The fuel is free as the turbines run on the power of the wind generated. This reduces the overall cost in comparison to other forms of renewable energy, which may require some energy investment;
- Offshore wind speeds tend to be faster than on land and more reliable, so more energy can be generated;
- Offshore, rather than onshore, means less visible detriment (unless of course you can see them from shore);
- Clarity is required in how much of a reduction in electricity costs will be provided which will be beneficial to the Island, and to many of our suppliers thereby reducing their need for price increases;
- Once the pipeline is connected to the grid the interconnector will supply green energy and improve the carbon footprint for the Island especially for those who use green energy. On that note will the MUA give customers a choice similar to that on the adjacent isle where you can choose to use green energy or more traditionally generated electricity?;
- There is recognition that this wind farm project will not impact navigation safety, ship traffic routes, and possibly the ability to respond to at-sea emergencies;
- There is recognition that this wind farm will not impact the Steam Packet's voyage from the Isle of Man to Ireland.

Negatives:-

- There can be sea-bed changes as windfarms can, over time, affect the depth of water, and can obstruct tidal streams (whether this affects marine life or not?) and that offshore windfarms (the noise from the turbines) can impact fauna and other marine life; and
- There may be interference with communications.