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Jon Sharvill,
Head of ET Investment Strategy
Ofgem

Reference: BFN_BFNUK_PM_LET_0003

Sent by email: RIIOElectricityTransmission@ofgem.gov.uk

30th August 2024

Dear Mr Sharvill,

Consultation Response: Proposed regulatory funding and approval framework for onshore transitional Centralised Strategic Network Plan 2 projects

The BlueFloat Energy and Nadara Partnership seeks to contribute to a world leading floating offshore wind industry in the UK, combining innovative technology with a plan to attract and grow a skilled workforce and stimulate a thriving local supply chain.

We have two floating wind farm sites in Scotland – Broadshore north of Fraserburgh and Bellrock east of Stonehaven, as well as the majority stake in the consortium with Ørsted to develop the Stromar project east of Wick. We also secured bid success in the recent INTOG leasing round with two innovation projects, Sinclair & Scaraben, which lie adjacent to Broadshore.

In the Celtic Sea, we are competing and hope to secure a site as part of The Crown Estate Leasing Round 5, which could make a significant contribution to helping the UK achieve its 5GW target for floating offshore wind by 2030.

In terms of the consultation, we appreciate the opportunity to comment. As members of Scottish Renewables we have been working with them on the 10 specific questions within your consultation and are supportive of the response. However, we wanted to take the opportunity to make a general statement about the consultation.

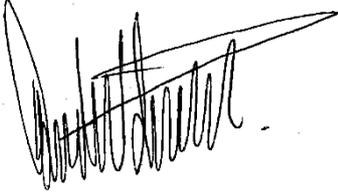
The new Labour Government has set out clearly their intentions to make Great Britain a clean energy superpower by the end of the decade and to achieve this all will need to create a positive environment, with focus on key transmission projects that have been identified as critical to achieve net zero by 2050. The Partnership acknowledges your support of projects categorised in tCSNP2 as a key initial step in this journey, which creates investor confidence in the developer and supply chain communities. It is essential in these early stages of offshore wind development that this investor confidence remains high, but any unnecessary delays have the potential to cause uncertainty, especially operating in a global marketplace.

We acknowledge Ofgem's role to protect the consumer but as the regulator it is essential that you consider both the short, medium and long-term impact of any changes through this consultation, to ensure that incremental and targeted changes are taken to assist those projects which are ready to

progress. This will maintain momentum to achieving the Government's targets and not stifle the goal of net zero. Therefore, we would encourage you to set out in the conclusions of this consultation, how each step change clearly and concisely sets out the position, ensuring each decision is well understood and can be identified on the pathway to achieving the collective goal.

Thank you for the opportunity to feed into your consultation and would be keen to engage further on the issues we have raised.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Stevenson', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

David Stevenson
Head of Regulation & Policy Offshore JV UK