

Moor Vannin Offshore Wind Farm Community Consultation Feedback Form

Closing Date: 11th September 2024

Douglas City Council Response

QUESTIONS

Question 1

Based on our proposals, what is your opinion of the Moor Vannin Offshore Wind Farm? (select one option)

- I strongly support
- I support
- I support but would like changes
- I do not support
- I strongly oppose
- I would like to see more detail to inform my opinion

Please give additional detail to support your response here:

Douglas City Council supports economic growth and benefit on the island as long as sea routes are protected. A number of benefits have been identified such as Orsted's use of the harbour and increasing economic industry that will arise creating career development for younger people and the creation of a conservation area by default.

Question 2

What aspects of the project are most important to you? (select one or more options)

- Tackling Climate change
- Financial and economic benefit (*to the Island*)
- Getting power to the Island
- Environmental impact
- Biodiversity commitments
- Shipping and navigation
- Fisheries
- Energy security and independence
- Visual impact

Add something else:

All the cited aspects above are important to Douglas City Council and the Council would add the provision of green energy on the Island. It is understood 7-8% of the electricity generated will be provided to the Island and that this is double the Island's current energy requirement. Douglas City Council expects that any energy generated is for the island and any surplus is retained for future growth on the island before being sold to other jurisdictions.

Question 3

Are you aware of any significant environmental constraints within the proposed area for the offshore wind farm?

No

Question 4

Do you have any suggestions for commitments we can make to minimize or mitigate the environmental impacts of the project?

No

Question 5

Do you have any comments on the proposed locations at Port Skillion and Groudle Bay where it is planned to bring power from the offshore wind farm to the Island?

Douglas City Council notes that Port Skillion is the preferred landfall location. Port Skillion is owned by the Council so the Council will need to give permission for landfall in this location and be involved in more detailed discussions on how the landfall will impact the beach and surrounds; including any environmental enhancements required during and post works.

Question 6

Do you have any suggestions for how the Mooir Vannin Offshore Wind Farm can enhance biodiversity in the Isle of Man?

Douglas City Council notes that as part of the project, Orsted will provide £1.5m for Community Investment Funds. It is the view of the Council that these funds should be used to support initiatives by public bodies and others to reduce carbon or increase biodiversity in and around those areas most affected by the installation, that is, Douglas, Laxey and Ramsey. Currently, and unlike other jurisdictions, the central Isle of Man Government only provides financial support to central Government departments for carbon reduction initiatives so any additional funding should be targeted at those public bodies, and others, without access to the Governments or any other funding sources.

Question 7

Where did you find out about our Consultation on the Moir Vannin Offshore Wind Farm? (Select one or more options)

- Booklet through the door
- Newspaper advert
- Local media coverage
- Radio
- Social media
- Email
- Word of Mouth

Add something else:

Question 8

If you attended one of our consultation events or our Virtual Town Hall, how did you find the quality of the information presented? (select one option)

- Good
- Average
- Poor
- Did not attend either

Question 9

If you have any other feedback on the Moir Vannin Offshore Wind Farm please share it here:

Douglas City Council strongly welcomes Green Energy on the Isle of Man as it is realistically the only way the Council, and no doubt others, will achieve its Net Zero and Carbon Reduction goals. Therefore, the Council feels that it is essential that any electricity generated comes to the island. For example, the Council owns the Crematorium which is used by all islanders. The Council has researched how the carbon impact of gas cremations can be reduced. This is achievable through electric cremation provided the electricity used is provided from green energy sources such as wind power. Without reliable and guaranteed access to green electricity on the island, the Council, and no doubt others, will struggle to meet the Government's and their own climate change aspirations.

Within the Project Description, para 4.9.2.4, it is noted that certain operations such as HDD drill or cable pull would have working hours of up to 24 hours per day, seven days a week. In table 4-25, this is shown for a duration of four months. Having discussed this with locally based Orsted staff, it is understood this element of the Project Description has been poorly worded and that any such works would only operate 24/7 once the drilling or pulling has started and only in an emergency scenario. The Council seeks written clarification and confirmation that this is the case.