

## **MAC Report**

# Application for a Non-Material Amendment of a Maritime Area Consent (MAC) under Section 86(5) of Maritime Area Planning Act 2021, as amended (the Act)

Application Details			
MAC Holder:	Oriel Windfarm Limited		
MAC Reference No:	2022-MAC-001-B		
Date Application received:	18 September 2025		
Non-material Amendment sought	Oriel Windfarm Limited have applied for the granting of a single six-month extension of time to the date by which the Holder must have obtained a route to market for 2022-MAC-001.		
Recommendation:	To approve the Granting of non-material amendment sought to 2022-MAC-001.		

Document Control				
Prepared by:		MAC Manager	30/09/2025	
Reviewed & Approved by:	_	Head of Maritime Area Consenting	01/10/2025	
Final Report:		MAC Manager	01/10/2025	

### 1. Reasons why non-material amendment is sought

Oriel Windfarm Limited have stated that: "we are pursuing a Merchant Route to Market for the project and that we are in continued discussions with an off-taker, with commercial and legal terms of a Corporate Power Purchase Agreement at an advanced stage.

However we have encountered unexpected delay in the planning consent process. Having submitted an application on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024, we were informed by ABP that a decision on our application would be made on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024. We subsequently received a letter from ABP on the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024, indicating a decision would not be made by 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025. Following that we received an extension request for further information from ABP on the 10<sup>th</sup> April 2025. This letter requests that we submit a response by the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026. After which the Board will consider our response prior to making a determination."

#### 2. Assessment

The application has been processed in accordance with MARA's procedure for processing non-material MAC applications. On receipt of the application for a non-material amendment to a MAC, the application was reviewed for completeness. The Assessment Research & Data Unit (ARDU) and the Compliance, Enforcement & Revenue Unit (CERU) were consulted on the 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025 and invited to make any observations and comments on the non-material application. The CERU unit confirmed on the 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025 that they had no observations to make, while the ARDU confirmed the same on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

The reasons for the particulars and conditions of the original MAC in relation to the timeframe for obtaining route to market were as follows:

"The Particulars Schedule and Condition 7

#### ROUTE TO MARKET

The Holder shall obtain a Route to Market on or before the date set out in the Particulars Schedule. This date may be extended on request in writing by the Holder and provided the Grantor is satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for doing so and the extension does not constitute a material amendment to this Consent.

The applicant has indicated that they are at an advanced stage of securing a route to market agreement with an off-taker, but that development permission is required to have been granted in advance of securing the agreement. The applicant submitted their planning application to An Bord Pleanála in May 2024. The applicant has indicated that they are due to respond to a request for further information to An Bord Pleanála by 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026, after which ABP will consider the response prior to making a determination. MAC-2022-001 has specified the 31 December 2025 as the date by which the Holder must have obtained a Route to Market.

Extending this date by six months would give a new deadline of 30 June 2026. Government climate targets have been set for 5 GW of capacity in offshore wind by 2030. Accordingly, I am satisfied that the extension of the timeframe sought for obtaining a route to market is unlikely to impact overall timescales for assisting in meeting Government climate targets.

3. Conclusion & Recommendation

All of the required information was provided by the Holder for the purposes of the assessment of this application for a non-material amendment to a MAC.

Following the detailed assessment of this information, I am satisfied that the proposed amendment is non-material in nature and that reasonable grounds for this amendment were provided by the holder. Accordingly, I recommend that the MAC is amended, as per the amendment sought, in accordance with section 86(5)(b) of the MAP Act.

Signed: Date: 01 October 2025