



23 November 2021

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Dear BEIS,

Offshore Transmission Network Review: Consultation on enduring regime and multi purpose interconnectors

We are making an overarching comment on this consultation as the development of the wind power transmission network is a matter of interest to our members. Given the online consultation form requires answers to obligatory questions that we are not equipped to answer, we are sending our response by email. We can potentially input more substantively to a more detailed technical consultation.

The Institute of Acoustics (IOA) is the professional body for those working in the field of acoustics and noise management. Our members include consultants, academics and regulators. Our activities include working for the building industry, developers and local authorities in all matters associated with sound and noise management in the built and natural environment. Our comment below:

Name: Stephen Turner

Email: president@ioa.org.uk

Organisation: Institute of Acoustics

Are you happy for your response to be published? Yes

Would you like to be contacted when the consultation response is published? Yes

1. We think that a more strategic approach to the planning and development of offshore wind is needed to achieve the Review's objectives. Do you agree? Please explain your answer.

Yes. We welcome the acknowledgement in the impact assessment that – “73. *The need for fewer landing points and onshore substations reduces disamenity on local populations, who would also benefit from experiencing less noise and traffic caused by construction processes.*” Fewer landing points would reduce the potential for noise impacts on both communities and in the marine environment.

6. We think that there is a need for a Holistic Network Design that plans offshore transmission for the long-term as an integrated part of a transmission network, Do you agree? Please explain your answer

Yes, as above, planning for the longer term is likely to reduce incidence of noise impacts both for communities and the marine environment.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Turner

President, Institute of Acoustics