

By email to: ms.marinerenewables@gov.scot

Marine Planning & Policy
Marine Scotland
Scottish Government
Marine Laboratory
375 Victoria Road
Aberdeen
AB11 9DB

17 October 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm – ScotWind NE4 Site, Moray Firth

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the EIA Scoping Report for the proposed Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm.

Mountaineering Scotland is a membership organisation with more than 15,000 members and is the only recognised representative organisation for hill walkers, climbers, mountaineers and ski-tourers who live in Scotland or who enjoy Scotland's mountains. We represent, support and promote Scottish mountaineering, and provide training and information to mountain users for safety, self-reliance and the enjoyment of our mountain environment.

Our interests in this project lie with any potential effects of power export cable landfall locations on recreational climbing routes on the coastal cliffs. The relevant part of the Report for this is Chapter 17 Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation.

We note that the Report indicates that onshore elements will be considered as part of the Onshore Scoping Report, however, surfing has been considered in Table 17.7 and we wish to bring to your attention the popular sea cliff climbing routes on this part of the coast.

There are three separate documented climbing venues within the Search Area of potential cable landfall: Redhythe Point, west of Portsoy, NGR NJ 575671; Tarlair, east of Macduff, NGR NJ 721647; and Mull Cleave, east of Macduff, NGR NJ 736647.


Details of these venues can be found in the climbing guide North-East Outcrops, published by the Scottish Mountaineering Club: <https://www.smc.org.uk/publications/climbing/north-east-outcrops>

Climbing here is conducted informally by individuals and small groups and there is not an established climbing club for these locations.

We request that Marine Scotland ensure sea cliff climbing interests are taken into account as a Tourism and Recreation receptor and especially when cable landfall locations are considered.

We will be happy to advise if further information is required.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Black". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'D' and a trailing 'k'.

Davie Black
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Mountaineering Scotland

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