

Via post and email:

Offshore Wind Phase Two Consultation  
International and Offshore Energy Division  
Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications  
29-31 Adelaide Road  
Dublin 2  
D02 X285  
[phase2@decc.gov.ie](mailto:phase2@decc.gov.ie)

March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

Context

The Climate Action Plan 2021 recommit Ireland to the ambition to install 5GW of offshore wind capacity in our maritime area by 2030, and introduces a new objective, that by the same year, up to 80% of our electricity will be sourced from renewables. In addition to increasing our renewable energy share, these targets will support our carbon emission reduction commitments, meet anticipated increases in domestic electricity demand and increase our security of electricity supply. The first phase of offshore wind in Ireland will be necessary but not sufficient to reach our 2030 5GW ambition. An additional phase is required comprised of projects which can deliver by 2030. The purpose of this consultation is to gather views on this Phase Two of offshore wind deployment.

Consultation

dCarbonX Ireland Limited welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications on its Offshore Wind – Phase Two Consultation. The objective of this Response to Consultation on Offshore Wind – Phase Two by dCarbonX Ireland Limited is to consider the role of offshore wind and its inter-relationship with Green Hydrogen. Green Hydrogen provides the least burden and maximum opportunity pathway on the decarbonisation journey for Ireland.

dCarbonX

dCarbonX is an asset-focused GeoEnergy company that identifies and utilises subsurface resources to enable the energy transition. Through strategic partnerships, dCarbonX's business is to develop subsurface assets for the storage of green hydrogen. In effect, dCarbonX enables the Energy Transition by providing offshore subsurface energy storage which can help bring resilience and reliability to investments in renewables and hydrogen.

Submission

As the purpose of this consultation is to gather views on the Phase Two of offshore wind deployment, our response focuses on the need to increase wind capacity, facilitate accelerated

# dCarbonX

The GeoEnergy Company

access to the grid and to promote the production and storage of green hydrogen. Specifically, dCarbonX submits that:

- Of the Phase Two process options provided by DECC, Option B is the most workable. The promotion of increased deployment of floating wind pre-2030 would also help to support supply chains and would help to drive down costs and allow Ireland to compete internationally in hydrogen production;
- Hybrid grid connections would increase grid capacity, enable floating wind and allow Ireland to expand its renewable energy ambitions;
- There must be strategic planning for the future storage of hydrogen. The ability to store green hydrogen at scale is feasible by 2030;
- Consideration must be given on how a MAC for a storage project may interact and synergise with MACs awarded to offshore wind which are likely to come first.

## Summary

Ireland has vast natural resources in the form of offshore wind, which can be harnessed to accelerate Ireland's decarbonisation plans as well as making Ireland a centre for future green hydrogen production for both domestic and international use. dCarbonX submits that further accelerating the deployment of offshore wind, promoting hybrid connections and facilitating the production and storage of green hydrogen are all essential steps for Ireland to realise its full potential and deliver on the evolving Climate Action Plan.

Yours sincerely,

A large black redaction mark covers the signature area. Below the redaction, the text "Chief Operating Officer" is visible.

Chief Operating Officer

Exploring the Energy Transition

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