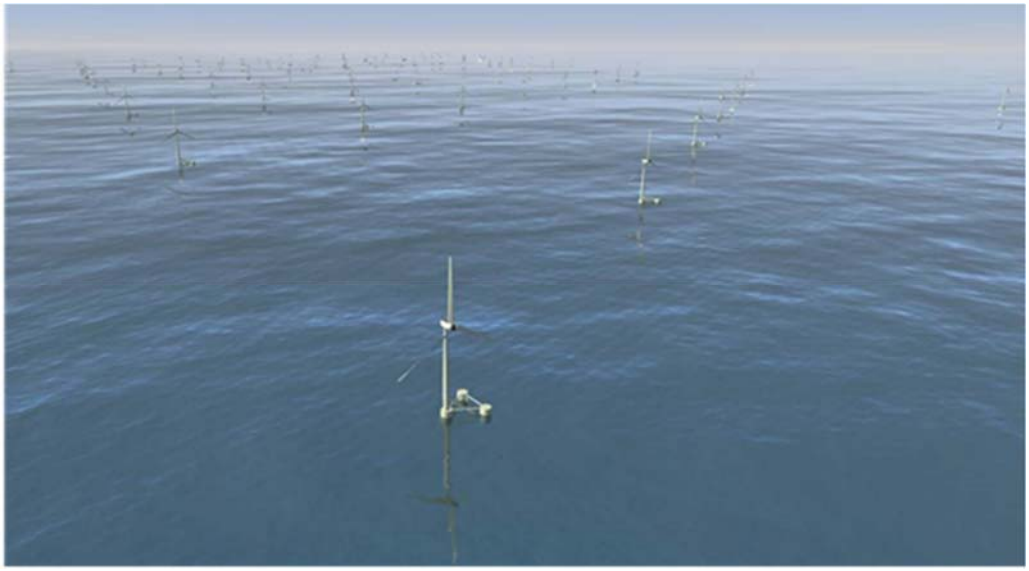

Pre-Qualification Questionnaire

A13 – Supply Chain Development Statement

Outlook

PO N2

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1. SCDS OUTLOOK (573 WORDS)

We foresee a future in which the development, construction and operation of N2 by NPI acts as a catalyst for a new wave of skilled jobs in the Highlands, offering new opportunities to help retain and return the younger people who are the lifeblood of these communities. As the world grapples with the transition towards net-zero, our plans to develop green hydrogen capabilities have been informed by real-world discussions and will be a vital element of securing these areas' future for the generations to come.

NPI have considerable experience in constructing and operating offshore wind farms in Europe and further afield, establishing long term local supply chains in these areas, offering continuity from early development, through construction to the long-term operation of our offshore wind farms. NPI will employ a Scottish based a 'Supply chain and Skills manager' to work with the Scottish supply chain and enterprise agencies, building upon work done to date by Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) in establishing a renewables-based supply chain, to further develop the local supply chain within the Highlands and Islands region for the long term.

NPI embraces and supports the (SOWEC) vision for an offshore wind sector that plays to Scotland's strengths, delivering jobs, investment and export opportunities in line with the UK Sector Deal as a key part of the path to net-zero and commits across all phases of the project to:

A procurement strategy that will promote competition through a multi contract approach, which is based on competitive tendering approach to the market for all main asset contracts;

- Open and transparent engagement between the project team and Scottish supply chain;
- Support for the development of the Scottish supply chain, including highlighting procurement and other business opportunities;
- Working with local industry organisations to increase the commercial awareness of the project and understand the barriers facing new entrants;
- Organising meet the buyer events;
- Establish a Portal for local suppliers to register their services and receive project information (their information will be then be shared with the Tier 1 bidders)
- Establish the role of Supply chain and Skills manager, fisheries liaison officer and Western Isles Community engagement officer.
- Adopt industry wide initiatives that are designed to stream line the process and reduce cost for the supply chain, such as SOWEC's standard PQQ tools, platform for advertising tenders and a standardized contracts approach.

This vision will ensure a competitive, commercially viable offshore wind sector in Scotland, focused on deeper water capabilities and innovative technology solutions, that is ready to deliver both domestically and globally.

NPI's long term view is central to our approach to the ScotWind process. We think carefully about an enduring legacy of better, stronger and more sustainable communities. These guiding principles have informed our stakeholder and supply chain engagement approach to-date. We have gone far beyond statutory consultees in our outreach to ensure our proposals best reflect the unique circumstances of the Western Isles and in particular the Isle of Lewis.

We are convinced the delivery of our project has the potential to counter some of the major population, demographic, skills and employment challenges currently facing the Western Isles and the Highlands. Our plan delivers the type of jobs, investment and export opportunities that representatives from these communities have told us they need. We look forward to playing our part in an offshore wind sector that ultimately plays to Scotland's strengths and forms a key part of the global and local paths to net-zero.