



Licensing and consenting process

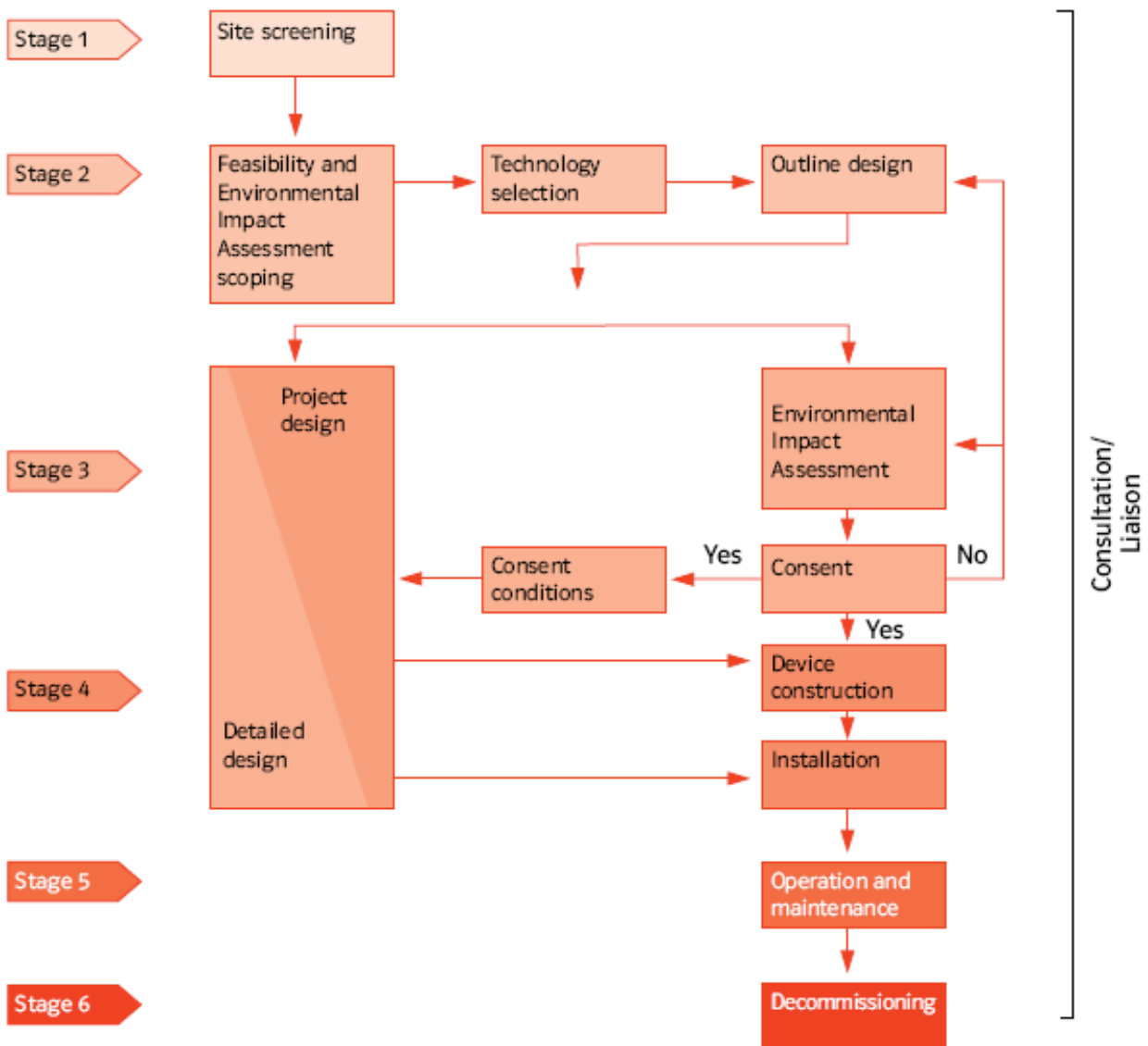
In order to develop an offshore renewable energy project over 1MW in size, the developer must, by law, apply for a marine license and consent under section 36 of the Electricity Act to Marine Scotland.

As part of the licensing and consenting process, an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) must be undertaken. It is only if a license and section 36 consent is granted that a project can be constructed and go into operation.

More detail on the licensing and EIA process can be found on the Marine Scotland website:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine>

The typical process is presented in the flow chart below:





Stage 1

We undertook site screening prior to bidding for an agreement to lease potential development sites from the Crown Estate. During this process we looked at high level site suitability criteria for example strength of wave resource, bathymetry (sea depths), ground conditions, environmental issues and other constraints. This resulted in us identifying the West Orkney Middle South and West Orkney South as sites suitable for potential wave energy development.

More information about the lease process and the Crown Estate can be found at the link below:

<http://www.thecrownestate.co.uk/wave-tidal>

Where are we

We are still very early on in the development process for our Orkney Waters Projects and have just entered into the first part of stage 2; the Environmental Scoping Assessment. This is the process of identifying, in consultation with Marine Scotland, other statutory consultees and interested parties, the content and extent of the Environmental Information to be submitted to Marine Scotland under the EIA procedure.

The first steps of the EIA scoping study will be for us to pull together a 'Scoping Document.' This will outline what we know at this stage about our sites, describe proposed wave technologies and project design proposals. It will also highlight potential environmental impacts, provide outline methodologies that we propose to use for assessment of environmental issues and details of proposed surveys. The EIA will also outline any preliminary enhancement or mitigation measures that are required on site. In addition, it will outline our intended approach to consultation.

Next steps

The scoping document will then be sent to Marine Scotland, other statutory consultees and any others who have registered an interest in receiving a copy. We will also upload an electronic copy to our website.

Upon receipt of the Scoping Document, Marine Scotland will liaise with the statutory consultees to produce a 'Scoping Opinion' that will be sent to us and also published on their webpage at the following link:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine/scoping>

The scoping opinion will outline their preferred approach to our project specific environmental impact assessment and reference any site specific and relevant information that will need to be considered by us as we go through the EIA process. This will then form the terms of reference for our full EIA.



In general an EIA for a typical offshore development will consider potential impacts across all phases of development (i.e. construction, operation and decommissioning) and look at the following subject areas:

1. Geology and Sediment Processes
2. Marine and Coastal Processes
3. Seabed Contamination and Water Quality
4. Protected Sites and Species
5. Benthic Ecology
6. Fish and Shellfish
7. Birds
8. Marine Mammals
9. Commercial Fisheries and Mariculture
10. Marine and Coastal Historic Environment
11. Cables and Pipelines
12. Military Exercise Areas
13. Disposal Areas
14. Shipping and Navigation
15. Recreation and Tourism
16. Noise
17. Electric and Magnetic Fields
18. Seascape Assessment
19. Onshore Grid Connection - impacts
20. Socio-Economic

If you have any comments or questions about our site please get in touch by email at marine.energy@eon-uk.com or write to:

Joanne Frost
Marine Project Developer
E.ON Climate and Renewables
Westwood Way
Coventry
CV4 8LG