



This is an extract from the Final Report, please find the entire PDF under the full documents section on the website

Addressing Stakeholder Opinions

Comments from the stakeholders surveyed included the following. These have been taken from the responses to the questions “From our proposal, what would be your main concern?” and “What, if anything, would you change about our proposal?” The proposed remediation of these issues or section where they have addressed is also detailed below.

1. Objections from the general public and other countries. Myths and disinformation impacting the project. – ***This has been addressed by consulting with our stakeholder Fiona Milligan who has expertise in stakeholder engagement. The website is easily accessible and should therefore reduce the impact of myths and disinformation.***
2. Mention what the scale of the energy provided by this island will roughly be, would the proposed islands supply enough energy to service the entirety of Scotland? Is there potential to supply other countries such as England and Wales? – ***This has been addressed by calculating the generating capacity of the renewable energy sources. Additionally, connecting to other countries has also been discussed.***
3. The man-made island would only work in shallow water, while the offshore wind energy is now moving to deeper water. – ***This has been addressed by the decision to not include the investigation into the feasibility of a man-made island in this report.***
4. Environmental impacts / compliance, economic costs and getting the general public on board – ***Environmental impacts have been mitigated as far as possible by constructing in areas with existing infrastructure, avoiding inhabited islands, marine protected areas, and islands with native species. Economic costs have been discussed in SECTION 7. Public objection and public consultation will always be an issue, however, it is hoped that the risk of public objection will be less as there will be less parties involved when compared to onshore windfarms.***
5. Maybe include more information on benefits to the economy, climate, environment etc. – ***This has been addressed above.***
6. Converting an existing island - will this impact wildlife or the local environment? e.g. migration of birds. – ***This has been acknowledged by avoiding inhabited islands, marine protected areas, and islands with native species. However, if this was to be the preferred option, more investigation into the wildlife and environment on the island would be carried out.***
7. Talk more about the UNSDGs and how your solution can tackle specific SDGs. – ***This has been addressed in above.***
8. Grid timelines and fishermen! – ***This has been addressed by identifying that there is only a single connection to the National Grid which will reduce the risk of long waiting times and cost and that fishermen must be consulted with. However, as construction is in areas with existing infrastructure, there should be less objection from fisherman as there will be little to no disruption.***

9. Economic and Carbon cost of building an entire Island. – ***This has been addressed by the decision to not include the investigation into the feasibility of a man-made island in this report.***
10. More Clarity on carbon emissions. – ***This has been addressed in SECTION 8.***
11. Getting approval to even start concept design of this project even before prefeed, feed and detailed design. – ***This has been addressed by acknowledging the existing regulations. However, designing the approval plan and processes are not part of this scope.***
12. Rather than making an island you can use pre-existing vessels for energy and hydrogen storage. – ***This option was considered but not utilised as the aim is for as much of the infrastructure as possible is planned to be on the island.***
13. Approval would be needed from - local government, North Sea authorities, maybe SEPA, cross border agreements (Norway, Denmark and Netherlands). Do not have a proposal dependent on Government investment; seek Joint Venture Participants such as: turbine or electrolysis equipment manufacturers, other similar investors to SHE Engineering. Then plan to dilute or sell out to Pension or Infrastructure funds. – ***This is acknowledged but is not part of the scope for this project.***
14. I would not exclude the reuse of oil and gas facilities but many of them are old, and it could be expensive to repurpose them. You also get into the complex tax and legal issue of who decommissions the facilities at the end of the day and how (remember Brent spar and the huge row with Greenpeace). – ***This has been acknowledged and the decommissioning process has been investigated. However, the tax and legal issues is not part of this scope.***
15. I think that there would be a real concern about using a remote island in terms of wildlife. Probably many of the remote islands in North Sea are home to unique/rare/endangered wildlife. Worth engaging one of the NGO's. – ***This has been acknowledged by avoiding inhabited islands, marine protected areas, and islands with native species. However, if this was to be the preferred option, more investigation into the wildlife and environment on the island would be carried out and NGO's would be consulted with.***
16. You would need to do some thorough mapping of all the issues and the impact on your project. – ***This has been addressed by acknowledging the existing issues and those mitigated by the island.***
17. It will be good to explore (if you have time) the option of floating island. Is it sensible in Scotland? – ***This is not part of the scope for this project.***

18. Cost of the Value Chain to produce Green Hydrogen vis-a-vis the price, market and hence margin for such Green Hydrogen. A high cost, technically challenging, unproven Value Chain. – ***This has been acknowledged as it is known that hydrogen production is an emerging technology. However, the development of green hydrogen production infrastructure is not part of this scope.***
19. Since you have the option to use recommissioning of the old platform. You may need to find out what existing standards or codes are available to deal with these kinds of matters. – ***This has been addressed by discussing with stakeholders in the industry on whether the platforms would be suitable for repurposing. No concerns were identified with using the case study platforms discussed in this report.***
20. If this is a completely new man-made island (excluding the repurposing O&G platform jackets), the quantity of materials, and where these will source from. – ***This has been addressed by the decision to not include the investigation into the feasibility of a man-made island in this report.***
21. Energy storage is key for our future power supplies. – ***This has been addressed above.***