



Questions and Answers

Ministerial Order for the Granting of Offshore Wind Farm Permits for Hollandse Kust (west) Wind Farm Site VI

Version of 14 April 2022

**Please note: in the event of any imperfections or errors, or
where various interpretations are possible, the legislation takes precedence.**

Name of organisation		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	Can a public limited company or a private limited company (an N.V. and a B.V. under Dutch law, respectively) in the process of formation submit an application and is it possible to do so without a Dutch Chamber of Commerce registration number?	The applicant enterprise can be a public limited company (N.V.) or a private limited company (B.V.) in the process of formation, provided it is listed in the Dutch Commercial Register. For this reason, applicants must have a Chamber of Commerce (KvK) registration number. They must also incorporate the N.V. or B.V. immediately after the possible award of the permit (the deed of incorporation should be executed before a civil-law notary and the registration in the Dutch Commercial Register must be complete).
2.	Can an organisation participate in multiple consortia?	Yes, an organisation can participate in multiple consortia.
3.	Can multiple subsidiaries of a parent company submit an application?	Yes, multiple subsidiaries of a parent company can submit an application.
4.	According to the Ministerial Order, when calculating the applicant's equity capital, the equity capital of its parent company may be included, provided that the parent company has consented to this practice in writing. Is there a template in which such consent can be granted? Are there any requirements the declaration of consent needs to meet?	No template will be made available. There are no specific requirements regarding the format of the declaration, as long as it clearly reflects the parent company's consent and is signed by an authorised signatory.
5. New	Are there any requirements or restrictions in respect of the origin or relationship of applicants, the participants in their partnerships or their suppliers?	Applicants, both individually or as members of a partnership, and their suppliers must satisfy the conditions and objectives described in the National Security Strategy 2019, as well as any revisions thereof, such as the interim progress report in 2021. Other requirements or restrictions, for example, those arising from economic or personal sanctions, will also apply.

Communication		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	What information will the Netherlands Enterprise Agency publish about the ranking(s) and the successful applicant(s)?	The Netherlands Enterprise Agency will retrospectively determine what information about the ranking(s) and the successful applicant(s) will be disclosed. Note: we can be obliged to disclose information based on a court decision.
2.	Will the investment amounts that must be recorded in the statement of income and expenditure be published?	The Netherlands Enterprise Agency will not disclose the investment amounts recorded in the operation calculation model of its own accord. However, we can be obliged to disclose the information based on a court decision.



3.	How can stakeholders keep up to date with current information?	It is your responsibility to keep up to date with the latest information. Visit www.rvo.nl/windenergie-op-zee for the latest information on the Ministerial Order. Visit offshorewind.rvo.nl for all available data regarding the site investigations. Visit mijn.rvo.nl for all the information you need to submit your application. You are also welcome to subscribe to the Offshore Wind Energy newsletter, which provides information on meetings, examinations, and so on. The newsletter does not have a regular publication schedule and does not provide a complete picture of current data. You can subscribe to the newsletter by sending an email to woz@rvo.nl . This information can also be found at offshorewind.rvo.nl
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Application form and appendices		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	In what language must applications be made?	The permit application form is only available in Dutch. This form must be completed by the applicant in either Dutch or English.
2.	Is the application form also available in English?	The official application form is only available in Dutch. For reference purposes, an English translation of the application form can be found in Appendix A to the Hollandse Kust (west) Site VI Project & Site Description, as well as on our website. However, the English translation of the application form is not an official document that can be used to submit an application, and the Dutch application form takes precedence in cases of doubt regarding the content.
3.	Can the Netherlands Enterprise Agency confirm that no other information needs to be submitted apart from the application form and the appendices referred to in the application form?	Applicants must complete the application form in full and must submit it, along with all the applicable appendices, to the Netherlands Enterprise Agency in Zwolle. No other information will be required.
4.	Is Appendix 1 subject to a page number limit?	Appendix 1 is not subject to a page number limit. However, since it is expected to be a summarised description, we suggest less than 30 pages would suffice.
5.	Do I have to submit originals of the application form and its appendices or will you accept photocopies or scans?	We will accept photocopies or scans of the original documents. This is true for both the application form and the appendices.
6.	In Question 4.2 of the application form, I am asked to provide the date on which we intend to award contracts to suppliers and installers. Am I expected to enter the date on which we expect to sign all the contracts (financial close) here?	Yes, you can enter this date.
7.	Will the application form for Wind Farm Site VI also contain a notional date on which the permit becomes irrevocable?	The same methodology as used for previous tenders will be applied to the application form for Wind Farm Site VI. The tender closes on Thursday, 12 May 2022. The notional date on which the permit becomes irrevocable has been set as Thursday, 20 October 2022.

Wind report and wind turbines		
No.	Question	Answer



Wind report and wind turbines	
1. What are the requirements for the wind report?	Article 3(1) and (2) of the Ministerial Order lay down the requirements that must be met by the wind report. These requirements are described in greater detail in the application form. The Netherlands Enterprise Agency will consult experts to assist in evaluating the wind report.
2. Can applicants draw up a wind report themselves and subsequently have it approved by an independent party?	No. The wind report must be drawn up by an independent organisation with expertise in the field of wind energy yield calculations. It must not be drawn up by the applicant.
3. Wind turbines with boosters are available. How do boosters affect the capacity of the wind turbine and the wind farm?	To determine the capacity of wind turbines and wind farms, the installed capacity as defined in the Hollandse Kust (west) Wind Farm Site Decision VI applies. Boosters are not part of this capacity. The added yield generated by boosters does count towards the calculation of the P50 value for net electricity production.
4. What kind of certification standards must wind turbines meet?	Article 6.16(d) of the Water Decree stipulates that a certificate must be issued by an independent expert no later than eight weeks prior to the start of construction, stating that the design of the wind turbines and other installations that form part of the wind farm comply with the requirements set out in Article 6.16(g)(1) of the Water Decree.
5. When an applicant chooses a non-certified wind turbine, must they also demonstrate, in Appendix 11, that the foundations and infield cables will meet the requirements set out in Article 6.16d(1)(c) of the Water Decree in good time?	Yes, those installations are part of the wind farm. In such a case, the applicant must demonstrate convincingly that it will have a declaration from an independent expert confirming the turbines, foundations, and infield cables will meet the requirements set out in Article 6.16d(1)(c) of the Water Decree no later than eight weeks before the start of construction.
6. Does the Netherlands Enterprise Agency publish a list of organisations approved by it to prepare the wind report?	No. The Netherlands Enterprise Agency does not publish a list of organisations that have been approved to prepare wind reports. The wind report must be drawn up by an independent organisation (see also Question 2).
7. Which power curve should be used to calculate the P50 value in the wind report?	The wind report must be prepared by an independent organisation with expertise in the field of wind energy yield calculations. This organisation will use a power curve determined by a certification institution. If no such information is available as yet, the supplier of the wind turbine can provide a power curve.
8. The Ministerial Order stipulates that the calculation of the P50 value for the wind farm's net electricity production per annum must take into account the availability, wake effects, electricity losses, and curtailment losses. What is meant by 'curtailment losses'?	<p>Curtailment losses are incurred if TenneT has to reduce the transport capacity of the export cables as a result of overheating of the cables. TenneT guarantees a transport capacity of 700 MW for Site VI. The maximum flexible transport capacity for Site VI is 760 MW. If you use the excess capacity for overplanting purposes, you must take curtailment losses into account. TenneT has published a number of studies of this issue on its website.</p> <p>Curtailment losses also occur as a result of the measures described in Regulation 4(3) and (4) of the Wind Farm Site Decision to prevent collisions with birds and bats in the vicinity of the wind farm during migration periods. The wind report must also include details of curtailment losses resulting from any periods during which the applicant curtails blade rotation in addition to those prescribed in the Wind Farm Site Decision as an investment to protect the local ecology.</p>
9. The developer of an innovative wind turbine that has not yet been certified will initially base their calculations on a conservative power curve. However,	When calculating the P50 value, you may use the power curve deemed most likely by the turbine manufacturer. After all, the key factor is the determination of the net P50 value, i.e. where



Wind report and wind turbines		
	according to the manufacturer, the power curve will most likely improve (become steeper) during the development process. What power curve may be used to calculate the P50 value?	there is a 50% chance of that level of production being achieved. If a power curve is estimated too conservatively by the turbine developer, the party preparing the wind report may use the most probable power curve for the calculation of the net P50 value.
10.	Should the wind report take into account small losses such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The possible five-day export cable maintenance activities to be carried out by TenneT each year - High wind speed hysteresis - Sub-optimal production in the first year - Turbine degradation - The so-called 'wind farm blockage' effect - The mandatory curtailing of blade rotation for helicopter flights 	No, these losses do not need to be taken into account. Article 3(2) of the Ministerial Order lays down which losses need to be taken into account. These elements are explained in more detail in the Notes on Appendices to the application form.
11.	Do the wake effects of neighbouring wind farms have to be taken into account when calculating the energy yield?	No. No. When calculating energy yield, the wake effects of nearby wind farms, including the wind farm at Hollandse Kust (west) Wind Farm Site VII, do not need to be taken into account. Only the wake effects caused by turbines <i>within the site itself</i> need be taken into account.
12.	Does the Netherlands Enterprise Agency have a list of reputable models, suitable for large wind farms, for calculating wake effects?	The Netherlands Enterprise Agency does not have an exhaustive list, but the best-known reputable calculation models for calculating the wake effect for large wind farms are Ainslie IBL, Ainslie LWFM, Ainslie DAWM, PARK, FUGA, and Wakeblaster.
13.	When calculating the P50 value, availability must be taken into account. Does this apply to the infield cables as well?	The availability losses of the infield cables do not have to be included in the calculation. However, electricity losses due to cable heat generation should obviously be taken into account.
14.	PARK is a renowned calculation model for calculating wake effects of offshore wind farms. However, PARK can be divided into PARK1 and PARK2 models. Are the two models independent of each other?	In some cases, PARK1 and PARK2 are independent of each other, and, in other cases, they are not. Internationally, the following guideline is used: If PARK1 is implemented with a modified wake decay constant adjusted to the wind farm layout, or with an IBL, LWFM, or DAWM approach, it can be considered independent from PARK2. If the wake superposition of PARK1 is adjusted, it cannot be seen as an independent model.
15.	Is it mandatory to take 96% turbine availability as the basis in the wind report?	Yes, it is mandatory to take 96% turbine availability as the basis for the entire service life.
16.	Is the 96% turbine availability, which must be taken as the basis in the wind report, an availability based on time or based on energy yield?	The 96% turbine availability must be used as a factor regarding energy yield.

Time frames		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	When can the wind farm be dismantled?	The permit stipulates that decommissioning can only begin in the 30th year and must be completed by Year 35 (paragraph 4.4.1 in the explanatory notes in part II of the Wind Farm Site Decision). After power generation operations have stopped, the permit holder will dismantle and remove all elements of the wind farm within two years at the latest, but always within the term of the permit (Regulation 7 of the Wind Farm Site Decision).
2.	Article 5(2) of the Ministerial Order states that a permit can be granted only where it has been	In your application, you must demonstrate sufficiently that both construction and operation of the wind farm can begin within



Time frames	
	<p>sufficiently demonstrated that the construction and operation of the wind farm can be started within four years of the date on which the permit becomes irrevocable. Does this four-year deadline relate to the construction and operation of the wind farm, or only to the fact that construction must start within four years?</p>
3.	<p>Article 7(3)(b) of the Ministerial Order for Hollandse Kust (west) Wind Farm Site VI includes the following provisions: 'if the timetable for implementation of the project shows that an investment was brought into service no later than 60 months after the permit becomes irrevocable'. Does this mean that the time frame for the implementation of ecological investments/innovations is different from the time frame for the commissioning of the wind farm?</p>

four years of the date on which the permit becomes irrevocable. The 'start of operations' refers to the wind farm's first delivery of electricity to the power grid.

Yes. The operation of the wind farm must start within four years of the permit becoming irrevocable. Investments and/or demonstrations of innovation for the ecology must be implemented within five years (60 months) of the permit becoming irrevocable.

Operation calculation model		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	What is the minimum value the project return must satisfy?	No prior minimum value for project return has been prescribed. Ultimately, the financial feasibility will be comprehensively assessed.
2.	May we also use our own operation calculation model?	No, you may not use your own operation calculation model. Instead, you must use the operation calculation model provided by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency and add it to your application.
3.	Should interest costs accrued during the construction of the wind farm also be included in the overview of investment costs?	The operation calculation model automatically calculates the interest costs accrued during the construction period, so these costs do not need to be included in the investment costs, otherwise they would be duplicated. However, any costs involved in securing loans do need to be included in the investment costs.
4.	When completing the operation calculation model, should wind farm decommissioning costs also be included, or are the costs covered by the bank guarantee sufficient in this respect?	The costs for decommissioning the wind farm must be included in the operation calculation model.
5.	The operation calculation model published is in Dutch. Can a submitting party translate the operation calculation model into English itself (if the remainder of the bid is also in English)? Or will an English version be made available by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency?	An English version of the operation calculation model will not be made available. You must use the operation calculation model on mijn.rvo.nl when submitting your application. Applicants can fill in the text boxes of the operation calculation model in English, if they prefer.
6.	Can I select my own method of repayment in the Netherlands Enterprise Agency's operation calculation model?	No, the model does not offer this option.
7.	If my electricity is sold using Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs), should I include these values in the operation calculation model?	If you use PPAs, you must include these revenues in the operation calculation model as well. If you sell part of the yields using PPAs and some via the APX, for example, you must include these values in the operation calculation model using a weighted average.



Operation calculation model		
8.	Should the additional costs incurred with the ecological innovation and investments be included in the operation calculation model?	Yes, the additional costs incurred with the ecological innovation and investments should also be included in the operation calculation model.
9.	When completing the operation calculation model, can I quote a different electricity price from the one prescribed by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency?	You are allowed to quote different electricity prices, but if you do, you must indicate what these prices are based on.
10.	Will the Netherlands Enterprise Agency provide a price forecast for the Guarantees of Origin (GOs)?	No. Applicants may use their own price forecasts for future Guarantees of Origin.
11. New	Would the Netherlands Enterprise Agency appreciate the costs for the turbines and the infield cables being shown separately in the investment overview?	Yes, the Netherlands Enterprise Agency would appreciate that.
12. New	Can I amend and/or supplement the cost breakdown pre-completed by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency in the Capex and Opex?	Yes, you may make your own breakdown of costs. Please note that there are two cost items that must be included: the financial bid and the costs as specified in Article 9(a) of the Ministerial Order. Please also note that the provisions of Article 3(4) (a) and (b) of the Ministerial Order must be complied with.
13. New	Should I take account of indexation when entering the amounts in the Capex, Opex and GO table?	Yes, you must include indexation in the amounts you enter in the model.
14. New	What is meant by the cost item 'Disposal' included in the Opex tab sheet of the operating model?	This refers to the disposal of parts that have been replaced.

Wind Farm Site Decision		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	Is it correct that a cable plan, which contains the coordinates of the infield cables, no longer needs to be included in the application?	Yes, it is correct that you no longer need to include a cable plan in the application.
2.	Should the coordinates used in the application form be indicated in UTM only?	The coordinates must be indicated in UTM only.
3.	What exactly is meant by a maximum installed capacity of 760 MW?	TenneT's platform and the landing cable can transport a maximum capacity of 760 MW, i.e. you may not deliver more than 760 MW to TenneT's platform at any time. TenneT guarantees a transport capacity of 700 MW. The capacity installed at the Wind Farm Site may exceed 760 MW (known as 'overplanting').
4.	Do we need to add a Jack-up buffer zone if magnetic abnormalities are found that were not identified in the magnetometer survey?	While Jack-up procedures are not subject to specific requirements, it is recommended to avoid contact with obstacles or debris on the seabed and maintain sufficient distance between the leg supports and exposed or underwater objects, pipelines, cables and scour protection.
5.	Do the owners or managers of existing cables and pipelines at the site have the right to reject or change our proposed cable plan?	No, they do not have the right to reject or change the site cabling. However, we recommend informing the organisations involved. The Wind Farm Site Decision does not set requirements for the design of inter array cabling. The only condition is that the cables need to be laid within the site boundaries. Please also note that there is no obligation in the Dutch North Sea for parties to enter into proximity and pipeline crossing agreements when existing cables or pipelines need to be crossed.
6.	Do any conditions currently apply to pipeline crossing agreements with existing cable/pipeline operators or are the organisations involved obliged to negotiate such conditions? Does it make a difference if the cables/pipelines concerned are located in the	No conditions exist for proximity and pipeline crossing agreements. Proximity and pipeline crossing agreements are subject to private law. It should be mentioned that there is no obligation in the Dutch part of the North Sea – neither inside nor



Wind Farm Site Decision		
	territorial sea or in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the North Sea?	outside the 12 nautical mile zone – for parties to enter into proximity and pipeline crossing agreements.
7.	Have the authorities set a mandatory trench depth or degree of burying coverage for the site cabling?	No specific requirements are prescribed in the Wind Farm Site Decision for trench or coverage depths for the site and other cabling. The permit holder is free to choose its desired trench depth or coverage depth or the degree of coverage.
8.	The Wind Farm Site Decision states the total installed capacity of the wind farm must be at least 693 MW. Do boosters also come under 'installed capacity'?	No, boosters should not be included in the installed capacity.

Financial aspects		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	You state the parent company's annual accounts may be used to demonstrate that the applicant's equity capital is at least 20% of the wind farm investment costs. Can the annual accounts issued by the parent company's parent company (i.e. the grandparent company) be used for this purpose as well?	Yes. Applicants can also use the annual accounts of the parent company's parent company to demonstrate that its equity capital is equal to or greater than 20% of the wind farm investment costs. Please note, if you do so, written consent of the parent company (or grandparent company) must be included in the application.
2.	In a group of companies comprising multiple legal entities, consolidated annual accounts are often prepared at the group level. Can such consolidated annual accounts be used to demonstrate the applicant's equity capital is at least 20% of total investment costs?	Yes. Consolidated annual accounts for multiple legal entities can be used to demonstrate compliance that the applicant's equity capital is at least 20% of total investment costs.
3.	In the case of a consortium, will the pro-rata share of the various parties be taken into account? Or is it possible for one of the parties to guarantee this for the other parties in the same consortium?	Equity capital will be assessed in the same way as in previous tenders. Equity capital should therefore be understood in its widest sense and the capital of the parent or grandparent company may therefore also be included, irrespective of the ownership share. This is clarified in the explanatory notes to the Ministerial Order.
4.	Where the application's financial plan was based on 20% equity capital, can this be deviated from at a later date?	In the financial plan, you must indicate how you <u>intend</u> to finance the wind farm.
5.	For applicants that make use of what is known as a SPV (Special Purpose Vehicle): May every parent company of every participant in this SPV count towards the requirement that the applicant must have equity of at least 20% of the total investment costs at its disposal?	Where an SPV is used, the parent company of each participant in this SPV can count towards the requirement that the applicant's equity capital is at least 20% of total investment costs. Please note, written consent from all parent companies used for this requirement must be included in the application.
6.	Are there requirements for annual accounts demonstrating that there is sufficient equity capital?	Requirements apply to the annual accounts. You must submit the most recently adopted annual accounts and they must not be more than three years old. A more detailed explanation of these requirements can be found in the notes to Appendix 4 of the application form.
7.	Can several entities within a group, in their capacity as a parent company, use their own equity capital for an application by a subsidiary?	Within a group of several entities, several entities may use their equity capital as a parent company on behalf of a subsidiary, provided the equity capital of those entities can also be demonstrated through annual accounts for them.



Financial aspects		
8.	Can we submit a photocopy of the signed declaration of consent with regard to the parent company's equity capital, or must we submit the original signed document?	You may submit a photocopy of the signed declaration of consent. In case of doubt, the Netherlands Enterprise Agency may request the original.
9.	Do the Parent Company Guarantee and the bank guarantee have to be submitted alongside each other?	The Parent Company Guarantee and the bank guarantee remain two separate components during the construction of the wind farm. The bank guarantee is mandatory for the winner of the tender, as laid down in Article 10 of the Ministerial Order. The Parent Company Guarantee is optional and can be submitted with the application, as Appendix 8, to score points for the 'certainty the wind farm will be built' criterion.
10.	Can conditions be included in the Parent Company Guarantee?	The Parent Company Guarantee must be unconditional, with the exception of the following points: The Guarantee need only come into effect if the subsidiary concerned is awarded the permit; it will not come into effect until the permit becomes irrevocable; and it may end when the wind farm is fully commissioned.
11.	If a Parent Company Guarantee is issued, can the amount be reduced gradually as the various stages of the wind farm's construction are completed?	No. No. The Parent Company Guarantee must apply for the full amount throughout the construction of the wind farm. The Guarantee will only expire when the wind farm has been fully commissioned.
12.	What is the deadline for submission of the bank guarantee for dismantling?	The bank guarantee for the decommissioning and removal of the wind farm must be submitted no later than the day before first electricity is supplied from the wind farm.
13. New	Can applicants draw up the bank guarantee for the dismantling of the wind farm themselves or will a draft bank guarantee be provided?	No, the Netherlands Enterprise Agency will provide a template for this.
14. New	Must matters such as the parent company's creditworthiness, the role of the Netherlands Enterprise Agency and the role of the supply chain be provided for in the Parent Company Guarantee? And can the Parent Company Guarantee be changed after the permit has been issued?	As far as the tender is concerned, this is solely a guarantee of one or more grandparent or parent companies in which it or they guarantee a specific amount for the subsidiary concerned, as from the date on which the permit becomes irrevocable. Any further information and details provided will play no part in the assessment of the Parent Company Guarantee requested. The Parent Company Guarantee cannot be changed at a later stage if the changes have to do with the party issuing the guarantee or the amount of the guarantee.
15. New	If more than one application is made on behalf of one party, must a Parent Company Guarantee be included in each application?	If you wish to score points for the criterion for which the Parent Company Guarantee is intended, a Parent Company Guarantee will have to be included in each application.
16. New	Must a bank guarantee be included in each application?	No, only the winner must ensure that the bank guarantee is in the Netherlands Enterprise Agency's possession within four weeks.
17. New	If more than one application is submitted, is it necessary to include the parent company's consent for its capital to be included in the equity capital of the applicant in each application?	If it is intended that the capital of the parent company should be included in the equity capital of the applicant, the parent company's consent must be included in each application.

Process and Procedures		
No.	Question	Answer



1.	How are the assessment of applications and the rankings determined by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency?	All applications filled out in full will be assessed and only those complying with all the applicable conditions will be ranked.
2.	Is there a limit on the number of applications the same party can submit?	No, the number of applications one party can submit for this tender is unlimited.
3.	If a party submits more than one application, does this mean that a complete file of supporting information (including all related appendices) must be submitted for each application?	Yes. Every application submitted must be complete as regards application forms and appendices. If a party submits several applications that differ on only a few points, it will be appreciated if the applicant provides a brief explanation of those differences.
4.	Are applications only assessed by Netherlands Enterprise Agency staff, or will experts with specific knowledge of offshore wind projects and the ecology of the North Sea be hired?	The applications will be assessed by Netherlands Enterprise Agency staff and by specialists with specific knowledge of offshore wind projects and the ecology of the North Sea.
5.	What is the procedure regarding amendments and supplementary information for the permit application, and how will the Netherlands Enterprise Agency request additional information or amendments?	Once the Ministerial Order (tender) has closed, applicants will no longer be allowed to supplement or amend an application with information that might affect the assessment of the application.
6.	When will the expert committee for assessing applications be set up?	The expert committee will be in place within the first weeks after the tender closes on 12 May 2022. At that point, the Netherlands Enterprise Agency will be aware of all applicants, enabling the independence of the experts to be verified.
7.	Can the winner of the tender change the application after the permit has been granted?	The winner of the permit is obliged to implement the project as stated in the application and the Netherlands Enterprise Agency will enforce this implementation; if necessary, with penalty charges. The Policy Rule for amendments to the permit for Site VI, yet to be published, will outline the conditions under which the permit can be amended. The basic principle is that all ranking scores will be the same or better as a result of any change. In addition, no 'exchange' of scores may be made between the various criteria.
8.	Will the Netherlands Enterprise Agency ask additional questions if it does not understand something in the application?	It is the applicant's responsibility to fill in the application form as clearly and completely as possible, as well as to ensure the information in the appendices is clear and understandable. The Netherlands Enterprise Agency may ask additional questions for clarification purposes, if it is unclear how a particular statement is to be interpreted, but it will not request nor accept any additional information if a particular statement has been insufficiently substantiated. If an application is considered so poor that it is not ranked, the applicant can only challenge the decision not to rank it after the decision to reject it has been made.
9.	Will you provide more information on the experts who will (help) assess the applications? For instance, information on the number of committee members or the distribution between university versus industry?	No information about the experts will be provided in advance.
10.	Must all changes compared to the original plan be reported to the Netherlands Enterprise Agency?	Yes. You are obliged to carry out the project in accordance with the data submitted with the application. All changes to the original plan must therefore be reported. The Netherlands Enterprise Agency will then assess whether the conditions, as included in the (yet to be published) Policy Rule for amendments to the offshore wind energy permit for Hollandse Kust (west)



		Wind Farm Site VI, have been met and whether the permit can be amended.
11.	Can the Netherlands Enterprise Agency or the Directorate-General for Public Works and Water Management (Rijkswaterstaat) provide clarity in advance regarding the possibility of permits being granted for investments/innovations at Wind Farm Site VI?	No, the Netherlands Enterprise Agency and the Directorate-General for Public Works and Water Management will make no advance pronouncements on the possibility of permits being granted for investments/innovations at Wind Farm Site VI.
12. New	Is it correct that the permit only becomes irrevocable once the objections and appeals (if any) against the award of the permit have been dealt with (and no further objection or appeal is possible) and the Wind Farm Site Decision is also irrevocable?	Yes, that is correct.
13. Amended	What kinds of regulations will be included in the permit?	<p>The following regulations will be included in the (draft) permit for Wind Farm Site VI:</p> <p><i>Regulation 1</i> The permit will enter into force on the date of its issue and will remain in force for a period of 35 years (Section 15(1)(a) of the Act and Regulation 6 of the Wind Farm Site Decision).</p> <p><i>Regulation 2</i> The permit will apply to Hollandse Kust (west) Wind Farm Site VI (Section 15(1)(b) of the Act and Regulation 2 of the Wind Farm Site Decision).</p> <p><i>Regulation 3</i> Once the permit has become irrevocable, the activities listed below must be completed within the stated time frame (Section 15(1)(c) of the Act).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Start of construction and operation: the construction and operation of the wind farm must start no later than four years after the permit has become irrevocable.• Full commissioning: We are operating on the basis of a term of five years at most for the full commissioning and operation of the wind farm, starting from the date on which the permit becomes irrevocable. <p><i>Regulation 4</i> The operating period can commence from year 3 and last through to year 34;</p> <p><i>Regulation 5</i> The removal period can commence from year 30 and last through to year 35. After power generation operations have stopped, the permit holder will dismantle and remove all elements of the wind farm within two years at the latest, but always within the term of the permit (Regulation 7 of the Wind Farm Site Decision).</p> <p><i>Regulation 6</i> The payment of the costs of €13,465,191.35 must be made within four weeks of the date of issue of the permit into an</p>



account communicated by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (Article 9 of the Ministerial Order).

Regulation 7

The payment of the financial bid you submitted in the application must be made within four weeks of the date of issue of the permit into an account communicated by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency.

Regulation 8

The permit is granted under the suspensive condition that the permit holder has provided a bank guarantee of €70,000,000 within four weeks of the date of issue of the permit (Section 15a(1) of the Act and Article 10(2) of the Ministerial Order).

Regulation 9

The bank guarantee must be issued by a Dutch systemic bank or a bank included in the list of 'Global Systemically Important Banks' published by the Financial Stability Board (FSB). The bank guarantee must be drafted using the template made available by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency.

Regulation 10

The permit holder is obliged to carry out the project in accordance with the data submitted when the application was submitted. If the permit holder violates this regulation, the permit holder may have an administrative enforcement order imposed on it (Section 27 of the Act). Alternatively, its permit may be revoked (Section 17(2) (introduction) and (b) of the Act).

In accordance with the Policy Rule with regard to amendments to the offshore wind energy permit for Hollandse Kust (west) Sites VI and VII, requests for amendments to the permit must be submitted to the Netherlands Enterprise Agency via sde@rvo.nl, prior to an amendment being made.

Regulation 11

- If the permit holder does not perform the activities indicated in Regulation 3 within the relevant periods, a penalty not exceeding €7,000,000 will be drawn from the bank guarantee.
- If the permit holder does not put the wind farm into operation in good time, as prescribed in Regulation 3, a monthly penalty of €7,000,000 will be drawn from the bank guarantee if the permit holder has failed to perform the activities by the first day of the following month.
- Each of the aforementioned amounts, which, when combined, will not exceed €70,000,000, will be due and payable through the mere expiry of the time limit and without any notice of default being required.



- The permit holder authorises the State irrevocably to collect the amounts by calling upon the bank guarantee for the amount concerned whenever that amount is due.

Regulation 12

Once a year, the permit holder will submit a report to the Netherlands Enterprise Agency, detailing the progress made on the realisation of the power generation facility, until such time as the power generation facility is put into operation, detailing the progress made on any ecological investments and innovations. The Netherlands Enterprise Agency will send the permit holder reminders to submit these reports.

Regulation 13

The permit may be transferred to another party only with the written authorisation of the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (Section 16(1) of the Act).

Regulation 14

The permit holder must notify the Netherlands Enterprise Agency at once if it has presented a bankruptcy petition to the court or if it has applied for a suspension of payment.

Regulation 15

No later than when the Netherlands Enterprise Agency receives proof that Guarantees of Origin (GOs) have been issued for the electricity produced, the permit holder will guarantee the removal of the wind farm by means of a bank guarantee for the State (Regulation 8 of the Wind Farm Site Decision). The permit holder must use a prescribed template for the bank guarantee. The Netherlands Enterprise Agency will make this template available to the permit holder in a timely fashion.

14. Amended What form will a bank guarantee as referred to in Section 15a(1) of the Act take?

The draft of the bank guarantee template is worded as follows:

Bank guarantee issued as security for the construction of the wind farm at Site VI of Hollandse Kust (west) Wind Farm Zone

Bank guarantee template

The undersigned:

[name of the bank], established in..., hereinafter referred to as the '**Bank**'

Whereas:

- a) [Name of wind farm], established in [place name], registered with the Chamber of Commerce under [number], (hereinafter referred to as the '**Debtor**'), has been awarded by the legal entity governed by public law, the State of the Netherlands, registered in The Hague, hereinafter referred to as the



Beneficiary, the permit of [date] with reference [number] for the construction, maintenance and removal of the wind farm at Site VI of Hollandse Kust (west) Wind Farm Zone, (hereinafter referred to as the '**Permit**');

- b) In accordance with Article 10(2) of the Ministerial Order for granting the offshore wind energy permit for Hollandse Kust (west) Wind Farm Site VI (hereinafter referred to as '**the Ministerial Order**'), within four weeks of the date on which the permit was awarded, the Debtor must furnish and maintain a financial security for the Beneficiary in the amount of €70,000,000 by providing the Beneficiary with a bank guarantee issued by a bank, drawn up in accordance with the template to be provided by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency.
- c) The Debtor is obliged to start the construction of the wind farm no later than four years after the Permit has become irrevocable and, within five years after the Permit has become irrevocable, to complete its construction and commission it in full (hereinafter referred to as the '**Obligations**').
- d) The Bank is prepared to provide the relevant bank guarantee for the benefit of the Beneficiary under conditions set out below.

Declares as follows:

- 1) The Bank shall guarantee irrevocably and unconditionally, by way of an independent obligation, towards the Beneficiary all that which the Beneficiary can claim from the Debtor under the Ministerial Order in respect of the Debtor's failure to meet the Obligations, up to a maximum amount of €70,000,000 (in words: seventy million euros);
- 2) At the first written request of the Beneficiary, but in any event no later than 15 working days of receipt of such a request, without demanding reasons or requesting detailed evidence, the Bank shall pay all that which is payable by the Debtor, according to the Beneficiary, under the Ministerial Order;
- 3) Partial calls under this bank guarantee are possible, and with each payment by the Bank to the Beneficiary under it, the maximum amount will be reduced accordingly;
- 4) This bank guarantee shall cease to be valid only after written notification from the Beneficiary to the Bank stating that the obligation has lapsed wholly or in part.



		<p>5) The Beneficiary shall return the bank guarantee to the Bank as soon as possible after it has lapsed wholly, to the address ...;</p> <p>6) This bank guarantee is governed exclusively by Dutch law. Any and all disputes that may arise concerning or in relation to this bank guarantee will be resolved by the competent court in The Hague;</p> <p>In witness whereof this bank guarantee was signed at [place name] on [date]</p>
15. New	Can committee members who have been on the committee over the past two years or will be on it in the next nine months carry out work for parties participating in the tender?	The Netherlands Enterprise Agency will assess the independence of committee members in relation to the parties that have submitted an application in this tender.
16. New	Will the expert committee receive any additional guidelines from the Netherlands Enterprise Agency regarding how strictly or broadly criteria should be interpreted?	The expert committee will prepare an assessment system itself.
17. New	Won't the expert committee receive summarised information about the other appendices accompanying applications?	No, the expert committee will only receive Appendix 9 (the first 75 pages at most).

Ranking criteria (excluding ecology-specific matters)

No.	Question	Answer
1.	Some applicants are subject to an obligation to put contracts out to tender. How are they supposed to fill out the list of suppliers and installers within the meaning of the ranking criterion 'the knowledge and experience of the organisations involved' as stated in Section 12(a)(4) of the Offshore Wind Energy Act and Article 3(6) of the Ministerial Order?	Applicants obliged to put contracts out to tender can complete the list in two ways. The applicant may provide the name of a preferred supplier, then provide information on this party's level of experience in the field. The applicant may choose to work with a different preferred supplier at a later stage, provided the applicant continues to meet the conditions laid down in the (yet to be published) Policy Rule for amendments to the offshore wind energy permit for Hollandse Kust (west) Wind Farm Site VI. Alternatively, the supplier may list the names of several suppliers and provide information on each supplier's level of experience in the field. The supplier and installer awarded the lowest score will count towards the ranking score for this component.
2.	You asked us to provide information on the level of experience gained by the manufacturer of the foundations. Does this question refer to the manufacturer's experience of manufacturing offshore foundations in general, or to the manufacturer's experience of manufacturing the particular type of foundations intended to be used at Site VI?	The question refers to the manufacturer's general experience of manufacturing offshore foundations, not the specific type of foundation.
3.	What is the best way to describe the expertise and experience of the organisations involved, within the meaning of Article 3(6) of the Ministerial Order?	Please indicate the level of knowledge and experience of all organisations involved by describing each party's contribution to construction and operation of existing offshore wind farms, making sure to address the points included in Article 3(6)(a–h) of the Ministerial Order.
4.	How long should the demonstration of the innovation(s) last?	There is no maximum or minimum time frame for demonstrations. The demonstration must be put into operation no later than 60 months (or sooner in accordance with the plan)



		after the permit becomes irrevocable in order to earn points in the rankings for the demonstration and to meet the requirement to carry out the project in accordance with the data submitted with the application.
5.	What action will the Netherlands Enterprise Agency take to ensure the innovations are actually implemented?	As with the other components taken into account in the ranking, the Netherlands Enterprise Agency will take action to ensure the organisations implement the innovations as stated in the application; if necessary, penalty charges will be imposed. In extreme cases, failure to implement innovations included in the application can lead to the permit being revoked.
6.	What will happen if an innovation shows poor results during the demonstration stage and cannot be used for future wind farms?	By their very nature, there is no absolute advance certainty innovations will lead to successful market entry. The potential of the innovation will be taken into account in the assessment, but it may turn out better or worse than expected upon implementation. Whatever the case, the permit holder must meet the obligation of sharing knowledge, even if an innovation fails.
7.	What is meant by 'the innovation is made market ready'?	Market ready means an innovation is suitable for commercial implementation. This does not need to be limited to the Dutch market.
8.	Are the proposed innovations a component of the requirements laid down in the permit?	It is stated in the permit that the project must be executed in accordance with the application.
9.	Are innovations for which applications for additional subsidies need to be made disregarded in the assessment?	If an applicant indicates the demonstration is dependent on a subsidy yet to be received, it will be considered as a negative factor when a score is given for this innovation, based on the assessment criterion 'The extent to which it is shown plausibly that the innovation can be demonstrated successfully in an operational environment'.
10.	Will the amount of the financial bid in the application be made known to the expert committee?	No, the expert committee will only be given Appendix 9 concerning the description of investments and/or innovations which benefit the ecology, to assess.
11.	If I have won the tender, may I apply for subsidies later for the innovations in my application?	You are, of course, free to apply for subsidies for your innovation afterwards, as this is not prohibited in the regulations or the Offshore Wind Energy Act. However, it is doubtful whether your application for a subsidy will be granted, as you are already obliged to realise your innovation if you win the tender, whereas a subsidy is usually only granted if the innovation would not be possible without the requested subsidy.
12.	If a party with two different bids comes first and second in the ranking, may the application with the highest bid be dispensed with?	As soon as it is known who is number one in the ranking, that party will be notified that its application has been rated best, and the four-week period will then begin in order to meet the suspensory conditions. Those coming second and right down to last in the ranking will not be told where their applications ranked. They will receive a letter notifying them that the party ranked number one is being given time to meet the conditions. Only if that does not happen within the specified period will the party ranked number two be notified that its application is entitled to the permit, provided the conditions are met.
13.	Will the CO2 and NOx emissions of installation ships and the use, if any, of refurbished ships, be considered during the assessment of the applications?	No. The emissions of ships used during the installation, maintenance or dismantling phases will play no part in the ranking of the applications. However, the project description must also set out briefly how the applicant intends to satisfy the provisions pertaining to nitrogen during construction,



		<p>maintenance and dismantling activities, as set out in Regulation 4(5) of the Wind Farm Site Decision. Once the permit has been granted, the permit holder must demonstrate that the intended use of the ships is in compliance with the best-efforts requirement pertaining to nitrogen deposits in Natura 2000 areas as laid down in Regulation 4(5) of the Wind Farm Site Decision.</p>
14. New	<p>How will the expert committee deal with a situation where several parties describe the same plans and one party regards its plan as an innovation whereas another sees it as an investment?</p>	<p>It will be a matter for the expert committee to assess.</p>
15. New	<p>The extent to which it is clear what specific, measurable, and time-bound progress the investment/demonstration will make and how that will be monitored and made known during the implementation of the investment/innovation will be included in the assessment of investments and innovations at Wind Farm Site VII. Will this monitoring cover the construction phase or the operating phase?</p>	<p>It will cover the construction phase and the operating phase.</p>

'Contribution to the ecology of the North Sea' ranking criterion

No.	Question	Answer
1.	<p>Can investments and innovations for the benefit of the ecology be made anywhere at Site VI, and outside the site as well, where appropriate? and outside the site as well, where appropriate?</p>	<p>Investments and innovations for the ecology may be carried only within the maintenance zones of the turbines and infield cables. An area with a radius of 500 metres around the turbines is designated as a maintenance zone, and there is a 250-metre zone on either side of the infield cables (making a total width of 500 metres). Ecological investments/innovations in other areas within Site VI will not be taken into account in the assessment. Investments or innovations outside the site will not score any points in the assessment either. Preparatory activities, such as laboratory tests, which are necessary for the investment/innovation may, however, take place outside the site.</p>
2.	<p>Do larger turbines receive a better score for ecology because, for example, fewer piles need to be sunk and there may be a reduced risk of bird strikes?</p>	<p>No. We will not make any distinction, in terms of ecology, based on turbine size, swept area, and the number of turbines installed. Examples of where a distinction can be made include, for example, adjustments made to the maximum tip lowest level and tip highest level to prevent bird strikes, within the limits of the Wind Farm Site Decision.</p>
3.	<p>Can the blades of the turbines installed be given a different colour in order to prevent bird strikes?</p>	<p>No. The Wind Farm Site Decision prescribes that all turbines must be a uniform light-grey in colour (RAL 7035).</p>
4.	<p>The wind turbines' scour protection can provide a habitat for species living in the North Sea. That habitat will be damaged when the wind farm is completely removed after power generation operations have stopped. How flexible is the term 'removal'?</p>	<p>Regulation 7 of the Wind Farm Site Decision only contains a period after operations have stopped, within which a wind farm must be removed. The principle obligation to remove a wind farm is laid down in a general rule, namely Section 6.16l of the Water Decree, which in part constitutes implementation of the London Protocol and the OSPAR Convention. It follows from the explanatory notes to the Water Decree that the Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management may limit the obligation to remove by means of a customised regulation if more damage to the environment could occur by complete removal than from partial removal, where part of the foundation is left in the seabed.</p>



5.	How is the level of knowledge and experience of any ecological agencies involved in an application for Site VI taken into account in the assessment?	The knowledge and experience of any ecological agencies involved in an application are not specifically taken into account in the assessment of the application. That knowledge and experience should be apparent from the quality of Appendix 9 to the application.
6.	What is the maximum number of pages relating to the description of investments and innovations for the benefit of ecology in the Dutch North Sea (Appendix 9) that can be sent to the expert committee?	As indicated in the application form, the maximum number of pages for Appendix 9 that will be sent to the expert committee is 75 pages. That number includes the cover page, contents page, illustrations, tables, etc.
7.	Have any rules been established for what the appendix for investments and/or innovations for the benefit of ecology in the Dutch North Sea (Appendix 9) should look like?	No rules have been established for what the appendix for investments and/or innovations for the benefit of ecology in the Dutch North Sea (Appendix 9) should look like. It is up to you to decide how to complete this appendix. However, you must ensure the appendix can be read as a stand-alone document. References to other documents or websites, etc. will not be included in the material assessed. The first 75 pages of Appendix 9 will be submitted to the experts.
8.	Should the items submitted explicitly include the communication and dissemination plan; if so, is it subject to a maximum number of pages)? Alternatively, can a summary of the approach be provided?	If an applicant wants to earn points for this component, a description of the investments and a demonstration of the innovation that contributes to the ecology of the North Sea, as well as the communication and dissemination plan, must be added to the application as Appendix 9. The applicant may choose to make a division between how much information is provided about the innovation itself, on the one hand, and how much knowledge and experience is shared about the innovation being demonstrated, on the other. In total, only the first 75 pages of Appendix 9 are sent to the expert committee.
9.	Will the experts assessing the ecological investments and innovations in the applications for Site VI be the same experts as those assessing the investments and innovations for system integration in the applications for Site VII?	No. They will be different experts.
10. New	Is it indeed the intention to no longer take into account the mitigation of negative impact on marine habitat types H1110, H1170 (HR) in the final version of the Ministerial Order?	That is correct. The reason for this is that it is the negative impact caused by the construction and operation of offshore wind farms on the populations referred to in paragraph 7.5.8 that creates bottlenecks in the implementation of current and future offshore wind energy projects. In addition, due mainly to other reasons, four of the five marine habitat types (EU Habitats Directive) have a very poor conservation status and the good environmental status of benthic habitats (EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive), among other things, has not been achieved. Priority will largely be given to the promotion of a positive impact to complement measures such as those implemented to establish protected areas. The reduction of any negative impact will therefore not be taken into account in the assessment.
11. New	Is it indeed the intention to no longer take into account in the assessment the promotion of a positive impact on the populations referred to in paragraph 7.5.8 of the Wind Farm Site Decision in the final version of the Ministerial Order?	That is correct. It is that negative impact caused by the construction and operation of offshore wind farms on the populations referred to in paragraph 7.5.8 that creates bottlenecks. Although the promotion of a positive impact on such populations is also relevant, it is only logical mainly to consider onshore measures. However, the current criteria focus on possible measures related to the construction and operation



		of wind farm facilities themselves. For this reason, any positive impact will not be included in the assessment.
12. New	Is it correct that, in accordance with the final Ministerial Order, points will not be awarded for research into the negative impact of offshore wind energy on fish and benthic habitats in the assessment, even though this is mentioned as a knowledge gap in the Environmental Impact Report (EIA)?	<p>That is correct. The contribution to knowledge gaps, referred to in Table 4 in the appendix to the Ministerial Order for Site VI, is linked to the qualitative criteria in the left-hand column, and therefore to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • limiting the negative impact on protected species or populations (~ EU Birds Directive and EU Habitat Directive) or • promoting the positive impact on the conservation status of marine habitat types (~ EU Habitats Directive) or • the promotion of a positive impact on the environmental status of the 'fish community and/or benthic habitats' (~ EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive) <p>A link therefore is not being made with every knowledge gap mentioned in the Environmental Impact Analysis.</p>
13. New	As far as the ecology is concerned, should monitoring take place in the wind farm and will it be permitted to compare such monitoring with monitoring taking place outside the wind farm/Site VI to ensure that proper monitoring is carried out?	Yes, the situation within the wind farm may be compared with the situation outside the wind farm/Site VI to enable a proper monitoring system to be set up.

Other		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	Does the permit qualify as a 'public works concession', meaning that tender obligations stemming from the Public Procurement Act 2012 (<i>Aanbestedingswet 2012</i>) apply to both the Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy as well as the successful applicant?	No. The Ministerial Order is not subject to the Public Procurement Act 2012.
2. Amended	Does the tender winner have to pay a fee for the surveys of the relevant site?	Yes. Under Section 10(1) of the Offshore Wind Energy Act, the tender winner must pay the costs for site surveys carried out and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The cost for those site surveys and the EIA have been set at €13,465,191.35 and must be paid no later than four weeks after the date on which the Minister granted the permit. Applicants should take this sum into account in their operation calculation.
3. Amended	What date of completion should be adhered to for TenneT's West Alpha Platform?	The date of completion for the West Alpha platform stipulated in the Development Framework is 31 March 2024. For your planning, the date for first power supply should be after this date. However, under the Offshore Wind Energy Act, the construction and operation of the entire wind farm must start within a period of five years after the permit becomes irrevocable. You may use the notional date of 20 October 2022. This means you should schedule a construction start date between those two dates.



Other		
4.	<p>Is the date of completion for TenneT's Alpha platform achievable, or could the date yet change?</p>	<p>The Development Framework for Offshore Wind includes completion dates of 31 March 2024 for the Alpha platform and 31 March 2026 for the Beta platform. These are final delivery dates. TenneT is legally obliged to complete the platforms before the expiry of these deadlines and will have to pay compensation for lost production or additional costs incurred by the wind farm developer if those deadlines are not met. This is laid down in the 'Offshore Grid Compensation Decree' and the Ministerial Order on Offshore Grid compensation.</p>
5.	<p>How are Ørsted, Blauwwind, Vattenfall and CrossWind prevented from having more information about the connection to the grid than the other tender applicants?</p>	<p>TenneT will make new information about the connection to the grid available to everyone on its website.</p>
6.	<p>Can the Netherlands Enterprise Agency give an update about the costs TenneT will pass on to the permit holder?</p>	<p>Under the Electricity Act, the permit holder is not subject to network tariffs for the offshore grid. Therefore, no feed-in grid tariff or sales transmission tariff is applicable. As a result, only the commodity price for electricity (including any applicable taxes and levies) is payable, in those cases where electricity is purchased by the permit holder.</p> <p>If required by the permit holder, and for as long as the connection to the wind farm is not available for the supply of electricity by an electricity supplier, TenneT will provide for the required electricity and charge the actual generation costs to the permit holder. The amount of energy used will be measured or estimated in consultation with the permit holder. As soon as the connection becomes available for electricity supply (in particular once a reliable electricity meter has been installed), the permit holder will need to enter into a contract with an electricity company.</p> <p>There are no charges for the installation and maintenance of the connection. As a result, no payment is due from the permit holder in this regard.</p> <p>Appendix 6 of the Connection and Transmission Agreement, Section 3.1 ('Access to the platform') stipulates that supervision by a representative of TenneT is required when the platform is accessed. TenneT will also charge the permit holder costs for other activities which are carried out at the permit holder's request and which require TenneT to be present.</p> <p>TenneT and the permit holder will discuss and agree on the compliance-related costs in the Project Working Group ('PWG'), as referred to in Article 6 of the Realisation Agreement, before TenneT incurs such COSTS. The previously mentioned figures (2016) can be used by way of indication: approx. €60,000 per site.</p>
7.	<p>Can a developer start connecting cables to TenneT's platform before 31 March 2024?</p>	<p>In theory, the first day after the delivery date as specified in the Development Framework (31 March 2024) is the first possible date on which the tender winner can have access to the platform. If the work progresses well, TenneT would be open to discussing the options with the tender winner at the</p>



Other		
	appropriate time through the Project Working Group consultation structure.	
8. Amended	<p>Does the TenneT compensation scheme also apply if the delivery date of the 700 MW AC substation at sea is met but the onshore connection to the 380 kV high-voltage substation at Beverwijk is not ready in time for the transmission of the generated electricity? If not, can the permit holder return the permit without a penalty being imposed?</p>	Yes, the compensation scheme also applies in this case. After all, the compensation regime laid down in Section 16f of the Electricity Act 1998 applies in the event that the offshore grid is unavailable due to late delivery or when it is unavailable for the transmission of electricity. The definition of the offshore grid is included in the Electricity Act 1998, and the determination of the transfer point of the offshore grid on the national high-voltage grid is laid down in the Electricity Grid Code.
9. Amended	<p>Is it clear yet if and when Site VIII will be put out to tender?</p>	No. At present, Site VIII has been designated as a possible location for a future wind farm. It is not yet known whether this area will in fact be used for this purpose, so a possible tender date has therefore not been announced. The developer therefore does not need to take this into account in the application. For your own future business case for the wind farm at Site VI or Site VII, it is a good idea to take the possibility of there being a wind farm at Site VIII one day into account.
10. New	<p>The draft Offshore Grid Compensation Scheme (Amendment) Decree (wijzigingsbesluit Schadevergoeding net op zee) published at internetconsultatie.nl provides that a producer will not be compensated for a maintenance period of a maximum of 38 days to replace components of the offshore grid that are important for the safety and management of the offshore grid. This amendment has not yet entered into effect, but will it apply to the permit for these HKW Sites VI and VII?</p>	It is anticipated that formal notice will be given regarding the amendments included in this decree on the opening day of the tender (14 April). Subject to the formal decision-making, it is the intention of the Ministry of Economic Affairs that parts of this amendment will apply to the permit granted for HKW Sites VI and VII. This would mean that producers would indeed not be entitled to the one-off maintenance period of a maximum of 38 days to replace components of the offshore grid if the permit is granted after 14 April 2022 or if a permit granted before 14 April 2022 is extended after 14 April 2022.
11. New	<p>Is it possible that platform P6A, to the west of Hollandse Kust (west) Site VI, will be able to be used for CCS in the future?</p>	Yes, this is possible, for example, that such a move could follow on from the Aramis project. If in the future there are specific plans for CO2 storage in the gas field under P6A, that future project will have to demonstrate that CO2 storage can be safely combined with the Hollandse Kust (west) wind farm. In theory, CCS and offshore wind energy can be safely combined. This has been the subject of recent research.