



Questions and Answers

Ministerial Order for granting the permit for IJmuiden Ver Wind Farm Site Alpha

Final version 29-2-2024

Please note: when there are imperfections or inaccuracies or when different interpretations are possible, the Ministerial Order takes precedence.

New questions could be submitted until February 22, 2024, at the latest. Questions received after this date will no longer be answered.

Organisation		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	Can the applicant be a BV or NV in formation and is this allowed without a Chamber of Commerce number?	The company that applies may be a BV or NV in formation, provided it is registered in the trade register. A Chamber of Commerce number is therefore mandatory. It is also mandatory to establish the BV or NV immediately after any permit has been granted (the deed of incorporation must then be notarised and the registration in the commercial register must be complete).
2.	Can a company participate in multiple consortia?	No, an applicant may only submit one application. Affiliated legal entities are seen as one applicant.
3.	Where a parent company has multiple subsidiaries, can they each submit an application?	No, an applicant may only submit one application. Affiliated legal entities are seen as one applicant.
4.	My organisation, together with another party (unaffiliated company), is currently developing a wind farm within the EU. Can we both submit a separate application for IJmuiden Ver Wind Farm Site Alpha?	Yes, that is allowed.
5.	I am wind turbine manufacturer. I fulfil this role for multiple applicants. Is this allowed this?	Yes, that is allowed as long as you are not connected (legally affiliated) to more than one applicant.

Communication		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	What does RVO make public about the ranking and the winner?	RVO will, of course, announce the winner. It will be decided afterwards whether and what information about the ranking(s) and the winner will be announced publicly.
2.	Are the investment amounts that must be included in the operating calculation model made public?	The investment amounts mentioned in the operating calculation model will not be made public through RVO, as this is business-sensitive information. However, RVO may be obliged to disclose the information on the basis of an Open Government Act (WOO) request and/or judicial decision.
3.	How can interested parties stay informed about current information?	At www.rvo.nl/windenergie-op-zee you will find the most current information about the Ministerial Order and all information for submitting your application. You will find all available data about the site surveys at offshore.wind.rvo.nl . You can sign up for the Offshore Wind newsletter. It provides information about meetings, research and the like. You can register by sending an email to: woz@rvo.nl . You can also find this information at offshorewind.rvo.nl .



4.	Can you clarify which version of the permit tender regulations (Ministerial Orders) is leading, the Dutch or the English?	The Dutch version is leading for all documents.
5.	In the publication of the regulations in the Government Gazette, the hyperlinks of some footnotes are missing. Where can I find these references?	These hyperlinks are visible/clickable in the versions on the Staatscourant website (i.e. not in the PDF), see Alpha: Staatscourant 2023 , 34855; and Beta: Staatscourant 2023 , 34858.

Application form and attachments		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	In which language must the application become submitted?	The application must be in Dutch or English. RVO requests that the following appendices be provided in English: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Appendix 11 (IRBC) - Appendix 13 (Ecology) - Appendix 14 (Reduction of harbour porpoise disturbance days)
2.	Is It application form also available in English?	The application form is available in Dutch and in an English translation. Only with the Dutch fillable form, you can submit the application. The English translation of the application form is not an official document for submitting an application.
3.	Which appendices must there be included with the application?	<p>The following appendices must be included with the application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendix 1 Summary description of the construction, operation and decommissioning of the wind farm Appendix 2 Wind report Appendix 3 Operating calculation Appendix 4 Annual accounts Appendix 5 Organisation chart by the legal entities associated with the applicant Appendix 6 Financing plan Appendix 7 Table of wind turbine data and locations Appendix 8 Overview of the knowledge and experience of the parties involved <p>The following appendices may be required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendix 9 Overview of partnership with a declaration of participation in the partnership signed by each participant Appendix 10 Declaration for non-certified turbines mentioned in the application Appendix 11 Description of the degree of compliance with the principles of the International Responsible Business Conduct (IRBC) Agreement for the Renewable Energy Sector Appendix 12 Description of the level of insight into raw material consumption, environmental impact and value retention during the design, construction, operation and removal of the wind farm Appendix 13 Description of the contribution of the wind farm to the ecosystem of the Dutch North Sea Appendix 14 Description of the contribution to reducing harbour porpoise disturbance days in the construction phase of the wind farm <p>Optional attachment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendix 15 Press release
4.	Has a maximum number of pages per attachment (appendix) been set?	A maximum number of pages has only been set for Appendix 13. Here, this means that the first 75 pages are handed over to the expert committee. This excludes Section 1.7 of Table 6 of the



Application form and attachments	
	<p>Appendix to the Ministerial Order (Reducing harbour porpoise disturbance days during the construction phase of the wind farm compared to the EIA for the IJWFS Alpha Wind Farm Site Decision). This information is requested in Appendix 14.</p> <p>The maximum limit of 75 pages is inclusive of the cover page, table of contents, illustrations, tables, etc. There is no maximum cap on the number pages for the other appendices.</p>
5.	<p>Must the application form and associated attachments be original documents or can a copy or scan be submitted?</p> <p>A copy or scan of the original(s) can be submitted. This applies to both the application form and the attachments (appendices).</p>
6.	<p>In 4.2 of the application form, it asks for the intended date for awarding orders to manufacturers, suppliers and installers. Can I enter the expected date that all contracts are signed (financial close) here?</p> <p>Yes, you can enter the expected date that all contracts will be signed.</p>
7.	<p>Is a fictitious date again set in the application form for when the permit becomes irrevocable?</p> <p>The same methodology will be applied to the application forms as in previous tenders. The tender closes on Thursday 28 March 2024. The fictitious date for irrevocability of the permit has been set as 1 September 2024.</p>
8.	<p>Is there a separate appendix for the description of the contribution to reducing harbour porpoise disturbance days in the construction phase of the wind farm?</p> <p>Yes, Appendix 14 is for this purpose.</p>
9.	<p>Must an applicant submit the application form for RVO ('draft application form for the permit for IJmuiden Ver Alpha) and the form for BTI ('Draft form for providing safety information based on the Implementation Regulations for Offshore Wind Energy (IJmuiden Ver Alpha Wind Farm Zone') and the required information and/or documents separately?</p> <p>You submit all information to RVO. The information for the safety assessment is one package, and the information for the tender evaluation is another package. You submit these as two separate packages to RVO. RVO will then hand over the submitted information regarding the safety assessment unopened to BTI</p> <p>The objectives and assessment methods for the safety assessment by BTI and the tender evaluation by RVO are different. It is possible that the requested information for the safety assessment may (partially) overlap with information and/or documents that you submit for the tender evaluation by RVO. Therefore, you must submit a complete package for both, which may require providing some information twice.</p>
10.	<p>When will the final application form be published?</p> <p>The final application form has been published on https://www.rvo.nl/subsidies-financiering/windenergie-op-zee/ijmuiden-ver. This is a PDF file that is digitally fillable.</p>
11.	<p>Is it allowed to sign the application with a digital signature?</p> <p>Yes, provided that this digital signature is visible on the physical application form.</p>

Wind report		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	What are the requirements for the wind report?	Article 3(1a and 2) of the Ministerial Order contain the requirements the wind report must meet. These requirements are further explained in the application form. RVO will assess the wind report with the help of experts.
2.	Can the applicant produce a wind report itself and then 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 (Article 3 (1a) of the Ministerial Order) and may not be done by the applicant itself.



Wind report		
3.	Wind turbines with a booster are available. Does a booster count in the calculation of the P50 value for net electricity production?	The additional yield from the booster does count in the calculation of the P50 value for net electricity production.
4.	What type of certification must a wind turbine meet?	Article 7.34 of the Environmental Activities Decree (as will apply on 1 January 2024) stipulates that, at least four weeks before the start of the construction period, a statement from an independent expert must be provided, stating that the design of the wind turbines and other installations that form part of the wind farm meets the requirements set out in Article 7:39 of the Environmental Activities Decree (as applies since 1 January 2024).
5.	If an applicant chooses a non-certified wind turbine, must it also demonstrate in Appendix 10 that the foundations and infield cables will comply, in a timely manner, with Article 7:39 of the Environmental Activities Decree?	Yes, these installations are part of the wind farm. The applicant must demonstrate that, no later than 4 weeks before the start of the construction period, it will have a statement by an independent expert certifying that the turbines, foundations and infield cables will comply with Article 7:39 of the Environmental Activities Decree in a timely manner.
6.	Does RVO publish a list of organisations that it has approved for producing wind reports?	No. RVO does not publish a list of approved organisations to produce a wind report. An independent organisation should be used (see also Question 2).
7.	Which power curve should be used to calculate the P50 for the wind report?	The wind report is drawn up by an independent organisation with expertise in the field of wind energy yield calculations. This organisation will use the power curve provided by a certification agency. If this is not yet available, the supplier of the wind turbine can make a power curve available.
8.	The Ministerial Order stipulates that when calculating the P50 value for the net electricity production of the wind farm on an annual basis, availability, wake effects, electricity losses and curtailment (adjustment) losses must be taken into account. What is meant by curtailment losses?	Curtailment (adjustment) losses arise if more than 2 GW is produced at the site, as TenneT can transport a maximum of 2 GW. Curtailment (adjustment) losses also occur as result of the measures as described in Regulation 4(3 and 4) of the Wind Farm Site Decision (WFSD), to prevent collisions with birds and bats during migration periods near the wind farm. In addition, the wind report must also include curtailment (adjustment) losses that result from turbine downtime that the applicant may implement (in addition to requirements in the regulations in the WFSD) for ecological protection of the local area.
9.	The manufacturer of an innovative, not yet certified, wind turbine initially assumes a conservative power curve. However, according to the manufacturer, it is highly likely that the power curve will be better (steeper) later in the development process. Which power curve may be used for calculating the net P50?	The power curve the turbine manufacturer says is most likely may be taken into account. After all, it concerns the determination of the net P50 value, which means there is a 50% chance that this production can be achieved. If a power curve has been estimated too conservatively by the turbine manufacturer, the author of the wind report may use the most likely power curve to calculate the net P50 value.
10.	Should the wind report also take account of small losses such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Possibly maintenance of 5 days per year by TenneT on the export cable - High wind speed hysteresis - Sub-optimal production in the first year - Turbine degradation - So-called 'wind farm blocking' effects - Mandatory standstill bee helicopter flights 	No, you do not have to take these losses into account in the wind report. Article 3(2) of the Ministerial Order specifies which losses should be taken into account. These elements are explained in more detail in the Explanatory Appendices to the application form.
11.	Should wake effects from neighbouring wind farms be taken into account for the energy yield calculation?	No. The energy yield calculation does not need to take into account the wake effects of nearby wind farms, including the wind farm that will be developed at IJVVFS Beta. Only wake effects caused by turbines <i>within IJVVFS Alpha itself</i> need to be taken into account.



Wind report		
12.	Does RVO have a list of renowned calculation models that are suitable for large wind farms when it comes to wake effect?	RVO does not have an exhaustive list, but the most well-known, renowned 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 for net electricity production, availability and electricity losses must be taken into account. What does that mean?	As far as availability is concerned, only turbine availability needs to be taken into account. The availability losses of the infield cables do not have to be included in the calculation. As for electricity losses, the losses of the infield cables must be taken into account.
14.	PARK is a renowned calculation model for calculating the wake effect of large offshore wind farms. However, PARK can be divided into the PARK1 and PARK2 models. Are those 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 constantly adjusted to the wind farm layout, or with an IBL approach, or with a LWFM or DAWM approach, it can be considered being independent from PARK2. If the wake superposition of PARK1 is adjusted, it cannot be seen as an independent model.
15.	Is it mandatory to calculate an availability of a maximum 96% for the turbines in the wind report?	Yes, it is mandatory to calculate with a turbine availability that does not exceed 96% about the entire lifespan.
16.	Is the turbine availability that must be taken into account for the wind report an availability based on time or energy yield?	The annual turbine availability (which must be a maximum of 96%) must be used as a factor for the energy yield.
17.	Is there a prescribed methodology to include the mandatory turbine shutdown for birds and bats in the energy yield calculation, as described in the Wind Farm Site Decision?	Yes. You must include the prescribed shutdown facility for birds and bats as a lump sum of 13 and 6 full load hours respectively in your energy yield calculation.
18.	There are several sources of wind data available for the IJmuiden Ver Wind Farm Zone. Is a dataset of wind data prescribed for drawing up the wind report?	No. You are free to choose which public and widely accepted dataset with wind data you use to prepare the wind report. For example, you can use the Dutch Offshore Wind Atlas (DOWA) or the Wind Resource Assessment (WRA) carried out by DHI on behalf of RVO. The WRA can be found on this RVO page .

Terms		
No.	Question	Antwoord
1.	When can the wind farm be removed?	The permit states that the removal period can start from year 35 and last until year 40 (Section 4.4.1 of the explanatory notes (Part II) of the WFSD). The wind farm will be removed no later than two years after the operation has ceased, but within the duration of the permit (Regulation 8 of the Wind Farm Site Decision).
2.	Article 5(2) of the Ministerial Order states that a permit can only be granted if, based on the application, it is sufficiently plausible that the construction and operation of the wind farm can start within 56 months after the date on which the permit has become irrevocable. Does this period relate to the start of construction and (including) operation, or (just) construction of the wind farm can start within 56 months?	The application must make it sufficiently plausible that the construction and operation can start within 56 months after the date that the permit irrevocable is become. Start of operation, in this case, refers to the first supply of electricity from the wind farm to the electricity grid.



Operating calculation model		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	What is the minimal value the project return must meet?	There is no minimum project return prescribed in advance. Ultimately, the financial feasibility will be fully tested.
2.	Can my own operating calculation model be used?	No, you may not use your own operating calculation model. You must use the operating calculation model made available by RVO and attach it to your application.
3.	Should the interest during construction also be included in the overview of the investment costs?	The operating calculation model automatically calculates interest during construction, so these costs should therefore not be included in the investment costs. Otherwise these would be included twice. Cost of taking out loans must be included in the investment costs.
4.	Should a reservation also be made in the operating calculation model for the removal of the wind farm or are the bank guarantee costs sufficient for this?	The cost for the removal of the wind farm must be included in the operating calculation model.
5.	The published operating calculation model has been prepared in the Dutch language. Can a submitting party translate the operating calculation model into English itself or will RVO make an English version available?	No, an English version of the operating calculation model will not be made available. You must use the operating calculation model on mijn.rvo.nl. An applicant is free to complete the text fields of the operating calculation model in English.
6.	Can I choose my own repayment method in the RVO operating calculation model?	No, the model does not offer that option.
7.	If my electricity is sold through Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs), do I also have to include these values in the operating calculation model?	If you use PPAs, you must also include this income in the operating calculation model. If you sell part of the proceeds through PPAs and some through, for example, the APX, you must include this in the operating calculation model using a weighted average.
8.	Should the additional cost associated with ecological measures be included in the operating calculation model?	Yes, the extra costs involved with ecological measures must also be included in the operating calculation model.
9.	If I want to use a different electricity price in the operating calculation model to that prescribed by RVO, is this allowed?	You can also use other electricity prices, but you must indicate what these prices are based on.
10.	Will RVO provide a price forecast for the Guarantees of Origin (GvOs)?	No. The applicant may use its own price expectations for future Guarantees of Origin.
11.	Does RVO appreciate that the costs for the turbines and infield cables are separated in the investment overview?	Yes, RVO appreciates that.
12.	Can I adjust and/or supplement the cost specification completed by RVO for Capex and Opex?	Yes, you can make your own breakdown of costs. Please note there are 2 mandatory cost items: the annual financial bid and the costs included in Article 9(1) of the Ministerial Order. Also, Article 3(4 a and b) of the Ministerial Order must be complied with.
13.	Do I have to take indexation into account when entering the amounts for Capex, Opex and GvO?	Yes, you must include indexation in the amounts you enter in the model.
14.	What is meant by the 'Disposal' cost item as included in the Opex tab of the operating model?	This concerns disposal of the components that have been replaced.
15.	How should the annual financial bid to be paid be included in the operating calculation model?	The first five years of the financial offer must be added to the investment costs (CAPEX) and the remaining payments must be included as operating costs (OPEX). No indexation is required on these amounts, as the amounts remain the same for 40 years.
16.	How many payments from the financial offer should I include in the operating model under the CAPEX? After all, the amounts remain the same for 40 years.	You include the first 5 payments of the financial offer under the CAPEX (2024 to 2028). You include payment 6 and beyond (from 2029) in the OPEX, even though it is possible that payment 6 occurs before the wind farm is fully commissioned.



Wind Farm Site Decision		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	Is it true that I do not have to include a cable plan with the coordinates of the infield cables with the application?	Correct, you do not have to include a cable plan with the application.
2.	What exactly is meant by maximum input power of 2 GW?	Tennet's (substation) platform and the export cable can transport a maximum of 2 GW of power, so no more than 2 GW can be supplied to Tennet's platform at any time. An amount of 2 GW is guaranteed by TenneT. The capacity installed in the wind farm site can be more than 2 GW, namely 2.3 GW (so-called 'overplanting').
3.	Should we add a Jack-up buffer zone if magnetic anomalies are found that have not been identified in the magnetometer survey?	There are no specific requirements for Jack-up procedures, but it is recommended that you avoid contact with obstacles or residues on or in the seabed and maintain sufficient distance between the outriggers of the legs and objects, pipelines, cables and rubble that is above or below the seabed.
4.	Do the owners or managers of the existing cables and pipelines in the wind farm site have the right to reject or change our proposed (inter-array) cable plan?	No, they do not have the right to reject or change the wind farm cabling. However, it is advisable to inform the organisations involved. The WFSD does not impose any requirements on the design of the internal inter-array wind farm cabling. The only condition is that the cables must be laid within the site boundaries. We would like to point out that in the Dutch North Sea, there is no obligation to enter into proximity and intersection (crossing) agreements if there are existing cables or pipelines that need to be crossed.
5.	Are existing conditions applicable to crossing agreements with existing cable/pipeline operators or are the organisations involved obliged to negotiate them? Does it make any difference whether the cables/pipelines in question lie in territorial waters or in the exclusive economic zone of the North Sea?	No terms and conditions apply to proximity and intersection agreements. Proximity and intersection agreements fall under private law and we would like to point out that in the Dutch North Sea, both inside and outside the 12-mile zone, there is no obligation to enter into crossing and proximity agreements.
6.	Do the authorities have a mandatory requirement for the (trench) depth or extent of burial cover for the wind farm's cabling?	The WFSD does not include specific requirements for trench and burial depths for the (wind farm's) cabling. The permit holder is free to determine the channel depth or degree of cover.
7.	The WFSD states that the total installed capacity of the wind farm must be at least 2,000 MW. Does a 'booster' also fall within this installed capacity?	The booster is not excluded by definition and may be included as long as the 'rated power' meets the minimum power of 15 MW.
8.	What is the status of the Wind Farm Site Decisions for IJmuiden Ver Alpha and Beta?	The Wind Farm Site Decisions for IJmuiden Ver Alpha and Beta are irrevocable.

Financial		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	Compliance with the requirement that the applicant has capital of at least 20% of the investment costs for the wind farm may be demonstrated in the annual accounts of the parent company. Can this also be the annual accounts of the mother's parent company the	Yes. An applicant may also use the annual accounts of the parent of the mother company (i.e. group company parent) to demonstrate that the amount of equity is equal to or greater than 20% of the investment costs for the wind farm.



Financial		
	so-called grandmother (group parent company)?	
2.	In a group with multiple legal entities, one consolidated annual account is often drawn up at group level. Can these consolidated annual accounts be used to meet the requirement that the applicant has capital of at least 20% of the total investment costs?	Yes. Consolidated annual accounts for multiple legal entities can be used to demonstrate that the equity requirement of at least 20% of the total investment costs has been met.
3.	Is the pro-rata share of the various parties taken into account in the case of a consortium? Or is it possible that one of the parties guarantees this for the other parties in the same consortium?	No, the ownership share is not taken into account. So equity needs to be seen in the broadest sense and the assets by the (grand)mothers can therefore also count, regardless of the ownership share. This is clarified in the Regulation explanatory notes.
4.	If the financing plan attached to the application assumes 20% equity, can this be deviated from later?	In the financing plan you indicate how you <u>intend</u> to finance the wind farm.
5.	If the applicant uses of a so-called Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV); can each parent company of all the participants in this SPV count towards the requirement that the applicant has capital of at least 20% of the total investment costs?	When using a SPV, the parent company of every participant in this SPV may count towards the requirement that the applicant has capital of at least 20% of the total investment costs (Article 6(2) of the Ministerial Order).
6.	Are there requirements for the annual accounts to demonstrate you have sufficient equity?	Requirements have been imposed for the annual accounts. You must include the most recently adopted annual accounts, but these may not be older than three years (Article 6(2) of the Ministerial Order). The explanatory notes to Appendix 4 of the application form further describe the requirements.
7.	When, at the latest, must the bank guarantee for removal/disposal be issued?	The bank guarantee for the removal of the wind farm must be issued at the latest before RVO (Netherlands Enterprise Agency) receives proof that Guarantees of Origin (GoO) have been issued for the supplied electricity.
8.	Can the applicant draw up the bank guarantee for the decommissioning of the wind farm itself or will a concept template be provided for this?	No, RVO provides a template for this.
9.	Should a bank guarantee or deposit be added to every application?	No, only the winner must ensure that the bank guarantee or deposit is provided (to RVO) within 4 weeks after the permit is issued.
10.	Can RVO indicate how the financial feasibility of the various submitted applications and associated business cases will be assessed and which quantitative criteria may apply to test the financial feasibility of the exploitation calculation?	RVO does not provide any information in advance about how the financial feasibility will be tested.
11.	In section 9 of Table 2 in the Appendix to the Ministerial Order, the financial strength of the party/parties responsible for the project is assessed on the basis of equity share. Does this concern the equity for financing the wind farm, or the equity on the applicant's balance sheet?	This concerns the applicant's equity as shown in the annual accounts (balance sheet). The determination of equity is done in the same way as when assessing the financial feasibility of the construction and operation of the wind farm as included in Article 6(2 and 3) of the Ministerial Order.
12.	Can more than one bank guarantee be issued which have a cumulative value of €200 million?	No, this is not allowed. One bank guarantee worth €200 million must be provided.
13.	Is it correct to assume that the assessment of financial feasibility is binary: good (you have	Yes that's right. It is sufficiently plausible or not. And if not, the application will be rejected.



Financial		
	passed) or bad (application is not assessed further)?	
14.	How will the financial security, as included in Chapter 4.5 of the WFSD, be indexed? Will there be a cap on indexation?	For a period of 12 years from the moment the wind farm supplies electricity, the amount is indexed annually by 2 percent at the expense of the permit holder. On a number of occasions during the operating period of the wind farm, both the €120,000 per MW to be realised and the indexation are redetermined. Namely after 12 years of operation, after 24 years of operation, and 1 year before the start of decommissioning of the wind farm. It follows that there is no cap on indexation.
15.	Can the financial security, as included in Chapter 4.5 of the WFSD, also be provided by an insurer with an A rating as in Article 10 of the Ministerial Order?	No, the bank guarantee must be concluded with a Dutch systemically important bank or a bank included in the list of 'Global Systemically Important Banks' published by the Financial Stability Board (FSB). This does not include an insurer with an A rating.
16.	When will the bank guarantee/deposit be returned to the developer?	The bank guarantee/deposit will be returned when RVO has been notified of the full commissioning of the wind farm. The full commissioning of the wind farm means that it is ready to supply full power for the test phase of the offshore grid. This corresponds to the date of milestone 2 as included in the Development Framework for Offshore Wind Energy.
17.	What is the amount of the penalty that can be imposed if the project is not executed as submitted in the application?	It is not possible to determine the amount of the penalty in advance. This penalty will depend on the circumstances and will be proportional.
18.	What happens if the winner of the tender returns the permit?	Returning the permit after fulfilling the suspensive condition of providing the bank guarantee is not possible, The winner is obligated to realize the wind park and the investments as per the submitted application. The bank guarantee is intended to ensure that the applicant completes the wind park in a timely manner. Additionally, enforcement through penalty orders can be applied to ensure the realization of the wind park and investments.
19.	Is it allowed to include an expiration date in the bank guarantee, with the obligation for the bank to issue a new bank guarantee before the expiration of this bank guarantee?	No, this is not allowed.

Process and Procedures		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	Is there a limit on the number of applications that can be submitted by the same party?	Yes, the number of applications an applicant can submit for this tender is 1. Affiliated legal entities are regarded as one applicant.
2.	If, in addition to the applicant, one of the applicant's affiliated legal entities also submits an application, will both applications be rejected?	We will only assess the content of 1 application. The other application(s) will be rejected.
3.	Are applications only assessed by RVO employees or will they also be assessed by experts hired who have specific knowledge about offshore wind projects and the ecology of the North Sea?	The applications are assessed by RVO employees and by specialists with specific knowledge about offshore wind projects and the ecology of the North Sea.
4.	What is the procedure regarding additions and amendments to the permit application and	After the request for tenders under the Ministerial Order has closed, an application can no longer be supplemented or amended of information that influences the assessment of the application.



	how will RVO request additions or adjustments?	
5.	Can the winner of the tender still change the application after the permit has been issued?	The permit holder is obliged to carry out the project as submitted and RVO will enforce this with penalty payments if necessary. The Policy Regulation for Amendments to Offshore Wind Energy Permits for the IJmuiden Ver Wind Farm Sites Alpha and Beta describes the conditions under which the permit may be modified. The basic principle here is that all ranking scores remain the same or improve as a result the change. There is also no 'exchange' of points between different criteria.
6.	If RVO does not understand something in the application, will RVO ask additional questions?	It is the responsibility of the applicant to complete the application form as clearly and completely as possible and to ensure the information in the attachments is clear and understandable. RVO can ask clarifying questions, if it is unclear how something should be interpreted, but RVO will not request nor accept additional information if something is insufficiently substantiated.
7.	Will more information be provided about the experts who will (jointly) assess the applications? For example, about the number of committee members or the division between university vs industry?	No, information is not provided in advance about the experts. The names of the experts will be announced after the tender winner has been announced.
8.	Must all changes from the original plan be reported to RVO?	Yes. You are obliged to carry out the project in accordance with the information submitted with the application. All changes from the original plan must therefore also be reported. RVO then assesses whether the conditions as included in the Policy Rule on changes to offshore wind energy permits for IJVVWFS Alpha and IJVVWFS Beta are met and whether the permit can be amended.
9.	Can RVO or Rijkswaterstaat provide clarity (in advance) about the eligibility of measures in IJVVWFS Alpha?	No, RVO is not the competent authority in this area and therefore cannot say anything here about this. Rijkswaterstaat does not make any statements about the possible feasibility or eligibility of the measures to be taken at IJVVWFS Alpha.
10.	Is it correct that the permit is only irrevocable once (possible) objections and appeals against the permit have been resolved (and no further objection and appeal is possible) and once the WFSD has also become irrevocable?	Yes, that is correct.
11.	Committee members may have worked within the past two years or may do work in the coming 9 months for parties that participate in the tender. Is this allowed?	RVO (Netherlands Enterprise Agency) safeguards the independence of the committee members.
12.	Will the expert committee receive additional guidelines from RVO regarding the extent to which criteria should be interpreted strictly or broadly?	No, the expert committee receives no additional guidelines from RVO.
13.	Does the expert committee receive information from other appendices to the application?	The expert committee only receives Appendix 13 (max. first 75 pages) and Appendix 14.
14.	If the assessment measure shows a certain bandwidth, with a number of points named behind it, is it sufficient to have a value within that bandwidth to achieve the number of points stated in the column behind it?	Yes, that is enough.
15.	When can the permit holder start building the offshore wind farm?	As soon as RVO has issued the permit for the IJVVWFS Alpha, the permit holder may start building the wind farm, provided that the permit holder has notified Rijkswaterstaat of this at least four weeks



		before the start of offshore construction (Article 7.34 of the Environmental Activities Decree).
16.	What regulations are included in the permit?	RVO has published the draft Ministerial Orders (regulations) for the permit on the RVO website: IJmuiden Ver Wind Farm Zone (rvo.nl).
17.	What does the text of the bank guarantee and deposit look like?	RVO has published the draft text for the bank guarantee and deposit on the RVO website: IJmuiden Ver Wind Farm Zone (rvo.nl).

Ranking criteria (excluding ecology-specific questions)		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	A number of applicants will participate in the tender. How should they complete the list of producers (manufacturers) and installers as referred to in the ranking criterion "Knowledge and experience of the parties involved" such as included in Section 12a (4 e) of the Offshore Wind Energy Act and Article 3(6) of the Ministerial Order?	Applicants which tender have two options for completing the list. The applicant can name a preferred supplier and then explain the experience of this party. This preferred supplier can be changed at a later stage, as long as that meets the conditions laid down in the Policy Rule on amendments to offshore wind energy permits for IJWFS Alpha and IJWFS Beta. The other option is for the applicant to list multiple suppliers, explaining the experience for each supplier. The supplier and installer which receives the least number of points will be selected in the ranking score for this section.
2.	If you are asked about the experience of the manufacturer of the foundations, does this concern the production of offshore foundations in general, or does it specifically concern to the experience in the production of the specific type foundation to be used for IJWFS Alpha?	It is about general experience in the construction of offshore foundations, not the specific foundation type.
3.	How can the knowledge and experience of the organisations involved (as referred to in Article 3 (6) of the Ministerial Order) best be described?	You can describe the knowledge and experience of the organisations involved by indicating the contribution the party involved has made to the construction and operation of offshore wind farms, addressing the points included in Article 3 (6a to h) of the Ministerial Order. It is not necessary to provide support letters or the like from the relevant parties for this.
4.	Will the amount of the financial offer that a party makes in the application be made known to the expert committee?	No, the amount of the financial offer will not be made known to the expert committee.
5.	Does the assessment of the applications also take into account the CO2 and NOx emissions of the installation ships and the possible use of refurbished ships?	No. The emissions of ships used during the installation phase, operation and maintenance phase or removal phase do not play a role in the ranking of the applications. However, the project description must briefly describe how the applicant intends to comply with the nitrogen provisions during construction, operations and maintenance and removal work, as described in Regulation 4(5) of the WFSD. After the permit has been granted, the permit holder must demonstrate in the work plans that the intended use of the ships complies with the best efforts obligation with regard to nitrogen deposition in Natura 2000 areas as laid down in Regulation 4(5) of WFSD.
6.	What is the annual payment date for the financial offer?	The first payment of the financial bid must be made within four weeks from the date of issuance of the permit. Subsequent payments will occur annually, no later than <date, 4 weeks after issuance of the permit>
7.	When does a party qualify for the maximum points for project management (table 2, criterion section 1 of the annex to the Regulation)?	A party must have previously been responsible for project management at one or more offshore wind farms with a combined capacity of at least 25MW. This party must have been



8.	When assessing the application, is it taken into account whether the parties have won a previous tender? Is this seen as something positive or something negative?	responsible for project management in the period up to the full commissioning of the wind farm in question in order to receive maximum points for this component. The situation at the time of submitting the application applies. Knowledge and experience of the parties are included as described in Table 2 of the Appendix of the Ministerial Order.
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Ranking criterion 'Compliance with the principles of the International Responsible Business Conduct (IRBC) Agreement for the Renewable Energy Sector		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	If one or more of the parties referred to in Article 3(5) (a, b, e, f and i) of the Ministerial Order have already acceded to the IRBC Agreement, is proof of participation sufficient?	Yes, the applicant can add proof of application for participation or proof of participation with the application.
2.	If the permit application is submitted by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) with different parent companies, must that SPV or the different parent companies be a participant in the IRBC Agreement for the maximum points to be awarded? In the case of multiple parent companies, do all parent companies have to be individual participants in the agreement?	In the case of an SPV with multiple parent companies, only all parent companies must be individual participants in the agreement. The SPV itself does not have to participate.
3.	If one participates in the IRBC Agreement as a 'supporting organisation' (to the extent permitted within the IRBC Agreement), will the full number of points from Table 4 of the Ministerial Order be awarded?	Even if the applicant participates as a 'supporting organisation' of the IRBC Agreement, the full number of points can be awarded.
4.	How is the IRBC requirement assessed for parties mentioned in Article 3(5)(c, d, g, and h) of the Ministerial Order? Is it sufficient to demonstrate that the parties mentioned are prepared to do this?	In the application form, you indicate whether the party in question will join the IRBC Agreement or a comparable multi-stakeholder initiative no later than one year after the permit becomes irrevocable. You do not need to explain anything in Appendix 11 for this. The permit holder must comply with the permit regulations and make every effort to have the party accede to the IRBC Agreement. RVO may impose an order subject to penalty on the permit holder. If the permit holder fails, the permit can be revoked.
5.	Must the parties mentioned in Article 3(5)(a - h) of the Ministerial Order be identical to the entities listed as participants in the IRBC Agreement on the SER website to score full points?	These must be the same parties, unless the parent company of the party in question is already a participant in the IRBC Agreement.
6.	What happens if a party submits an application for accession to the IRBC Agreement (on time) but does not subsequently join?	Then the conditions in the qualitative criteria as stated in Table 4 of the Ministerial Order are not met. The permit holder must comply with the permit regulations. RVO will then impose penalty payments on the permit holder, which has an obligation to make the party join.
7.	Some suppliers/producers must have acceded to the IRBC Agreement one year after the permit became irrevocable. What if these suppliers/producers are not yet known at that time?	Then the conditions in the qualitative criteria as stated in Table 4 of the Ministerial Order are not met. The permit holder must comply with the permit regulations. RVO will then impose penalty payments on the permit holder, who has an obligation to make the party join.
8.	Is it relevant which entity a multinational (of which the applicant is part) participates in the IRBC agreement?	Yes, either the applicant itself or the applicant's parent company must participate in the IRBC Agreement. This may also be a parent company's parent company. This parent company may also be registered abroad.



9.	Suppose several parties want to jointly develop a wind farm, where party A and party B set up an SPV together. This SPV then sets up another SPV together with party C, which is ultimately the applicant in the offshore wind tender for IJmuiden Ver. Is it true that parties A, B and C must participate in the IRBC Agreement to earn the maximum points for this criterion?	In this example, it is indeed sufficient if parties A, B and C participate in the IRBC Agreement and it is not necessary that the specific SPVs sign the agreement.
10.	Who assesses Appendix 11?	Appendix 11 is assessed by experts from RVO and possibly the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate or the Social-Economic Council (in the case of a multi-stakeholder initiative other than the IRBC Renewable Energy Agreement).
11.	Are there any additional admission criteria, apart from the criteria set by the SER for joining the IRBC agreement?	In addition to the criteria for accession set by the SER, there are no additional admission criteria from RVO for the IRBC Renewable Energy Agreement.
12.	Why does a party receive 50% of the maximum score if the party does not join the IRBC Agreement or a comparable multi-stakeholder initiative but does have a due diligence policy?	In this case, there is no multi-stakeholder initiative. Fewer points are awarded for this.
13.	How are points awarded for joining the IRBC Agreement if this only needs to be done 12 months after the permit becomes irrevocable?	The points are awarded on the basis of the commitment to join the IRBC Agreement at a later date. If a party has not acceded to the IRBC Agreement after 12 months, RVO will take measures.
14.	Must parties that are (only) involved in the ecology component also be participants in the IRBC Agreement?	Parties that are only involved in the ecology component (and are therefore not an involved party as referred to in Article 3(5) of the Ministerial Order) will not be assessed as to whether they are participants in the IRBC agreement.
15.	Suppose the turbine manufacturer is not only responsible for the production of the turbines, but is also responsible for the installation of the turbines and for this purpose it hires installation vessels that fall under the responsibility of the turbine manufacturer. Is the turbine manufacturer, in this case, also the installer of the turbines for the assessment of "compliance with the principles of IRBC" and the assessment of "the certainty of realisation of the wind farm"?	The turbine installer is the party that has final responsibility for the installation of the wind turbines. If a turbine manufacturer is responsible for the installation itself, but hires an installation vessel from another party, then the turbine manufacturer is the installer. In the latter case, the turbine producer is the party that must sign the IRBC Agreement to qualify for points with regard to this criterion.
16.	Is a reference to or screenshot of the SER website sufficient as proof of registration with the IRBC Agreement?	Yes, this is sufficient. RVO will check with the SER whether the evidence provided is correct.

Ranking criterion 'The degree of insight into raw material consumption, environmental impact and value retention in the design, construction, operation and decommissioning of the wind farm'

No.	Question	Answer
1.	The Circular Manufacturing Industry's Circular Product Passport Guide (product passport/CPP) covers the entire life cycle. It now appears that the entire product passport is being requested three times, namely for Table 5, criteria 1.2 (design phase), 1.3 (operation phase) and 1.5 (decommissioning/removal phase). How should this be dealt with?	This is a conscious decision. It is expected that there will be a different understanding of the product passport in the different phases, so that this will lead to different product passports. If the product passport is the same for all phases, the same product passport may be used.
2.	The number of points achieved is based on the number of variables or methods reported. Is the	The quality of the descriptions and explanations must be sufficient.



	quality of the descriptions and explanations taken into account?	
3.	The maximum number of variables cannot be achieved if there are only five parts (for example, if a transition piece is not applied). In that case, can external platforms, ladders and landing points for ships be mentioned as an alternative and can this be reported on?	If no transition piece is used, external platforms, ladders and landing points for ships may be designated as an alternative to a transition piece and this can be reported.
4.	The variables on page 30 of the Ministerial Order for granting the permit for IJWFS Beta correspond to pages 4-9 of the product passport. In the product passport, more variables have been added in later sections. We assume that we will adhere to the variables mentioned in the scheme (Ministerial Order).	It is only necessary to provide insight into the variables and methods mentioned in the table on page 35 of the Ministerial Order for IJWFS Alpha.
5.	Can the product passport be submitted in English?	The product passport may be supplied in English language.
6.	Are calculations expected in Table 5, sections 1.1 and 2.2 of the Appendix to the Ministerial Order, to show how the proposed circular strategies result in a higher circularity score?	The proposed circular strategies do not need to be quantified, but this is desirable.
7.	Is there a list of approved circular design methodologies and ISO standards available?	There is no list available of recognised circular strategies and/or ISO standards. But, for example, the accompanying publication from the University of Leeds could be used as inspiration.
8.	What is the definition of green steel?	Green steel is steel with reduced CO2 emissions during production. For example, the use of electricity or hydrogen for the production of steel counts as reduced CO2 emissions.
9.	Can the items in Table 5 of the Appendix to the Ministerial Order be interpreted as a commitment to provide the requested information, and not as a commitment to meet a certain level of circularity? If so, how is the obligation to report the information qualified in the offer? Does this look at the result or at a substantial effort?	An application is ranked higher as an applicant agrees to provide as complete an insight as possible after obtaining the permit. The purpose of this criterion is to promote transparency and gain insight into the raw material consumption, environmental impact and value retention of the components of an offshore wind farm. This may allow policy to be formed in the future and work towards industry standards. The applications are not ranked based on the extent to which raw material consumption and environmental impact are reduced or value retention is increased.
10.	What is the scope of the raw materials and consumables?	Reporting must be done in as much depth as possible, but at least up to tier 3 (sub sub suppliers). It must also be indicated why even deeper reporting is not possible. There is no need to report on materials that are not directly part of the wind farm, such as the materials in suppliers' machines.
11.	What is considered 'ambitious' and 'industry standard'?	It is up to the applicant to justify why their objectives are ambitious compared to the industry standard.
12.	What is the definition of the 'current life cycle'?	This refers to the technical lifespan.
13.	Referring to item C1.3 of the Manufacturing Industry Circular Product Passport Guidance. Does this variable relates to the product warranty during the current life cycle or to a new life cycle of a part?	This concerns the product warranty for both the current life cycle and the new life cycle of a part.
14.	Who assesses the suitability of a variable/methodology to meet a specific bidding criterion and what are the criteria for this assessment?	RVO will engage specialists for this.



15.	According to Table 5, criteria 1.2, 1.3 and 1.5, the materials passport prescribes specific methods for mapping variables. Am I allowed to use a different method than the one prescribed by the CPP?	Yes, this is allowed. The explanatory notes to the Ministerial Order state that it is possible to use a more accurate methodology than stated in this guideline.
16.	Does 'rotor blades and any measuring equipment' in Table 5, sections 1.1 to 1.5, only refer to measuring equipment on the rotor blades? Or does this also apply to measuring equipment on other parts of the wind farm, such as measuring equipment on the nacelle, hub or tower?	This refers to all measuring equipment in and on the wind turbine.
17.	The product passport in Table 5, criteria 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4, require insight into the amount of GHGs. This is then also queried in Table 5, section 3. How should this be dealt with?	There is indeed overlap here, the same data may be reported multiple times.
18.	Who assesses Appendix 12?	Appendix 12 is assessed by experts from RVO and/or the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate.
19.	When reporting the percentage of green steel used, does the percentage itself still influence the number of points awarded?	No, points are awarded for (promising to) provide insight into the percentage of green steel used. It does not matter how high or low this percentage is.
20.	Are the measures included in the 'circular design' and for '(smart) maintenance' of the wind farm binding for the permit holder?	The measures included in the 'circular design' and for '(smart) maintenance' of the wind farm are binding for the permit holder. However, the permit holder may change its strategy provided that all requirements of the Policy Rule for changes to offshore wind energy permits for IJVVFS Alpha and Beta are met.
21.	What is the difference between the requested substantiation for criterion 1.1 and 2.2 of Table 5?	Criterion 1.1 asks you to substantiate how the applicant focuses on the four circular strategies with a circular design. Criterion 2.2 is an extension of criterion 1.1, where the applicant in this case is asked to specifically discuss the critical and strategic raw materials in the substantiation. The applicant may provide a combined substantiation for criterion 1.1 and criterion 2.2 or provide this separately.

Ranking criterion 'Contribution of the wind farm to the ecosystem of the Dutch North Sea'		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	The scour protection of the wind turbines can provide habitat for species living in the North Sea. If the wind farm is removed completely after operation, this habitat will be damaged. To what extent is the term "removal" flexible?	Regulation 8 of the WFSD only contains a period after the end of operation within which a wind farm must be removed. The principle obligation, as such, to remove a wind farm is laid down in a general rule, namely Article 6.16l of the Water Decree, which is also an implementation of the London Protocol and the OSPAR Convention. It follows from the explanatory memorandum to the Water Decree that the Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management can limit the removal obligation by means of tailor-made regulations if the environment will suffer more damage from complete removal than partial removal whereby part of the foundation remains in the seabed.
2.	How is the knowledge and experience of any ecological agencies involved in an application for IJVVFS Alpha included in the assessment?	The knowledge and experience of ecological agencies that may be involved in an application are not specifically taken into account in the assessment by the application. This knowledge and experience will have to be evident in from the quality of Appendix 13 in the application.
3.	What is the maximum number of pages regarding the description of investments and innovations for the benefit of ecology in the Dutch North Sea (Appendix 13) that will be forwarded to the expert committee?	The first 75 pages by Appendix 13 are handed over to the expert committee. This excludes Section 1.7 of Table 6 of the Appendix to the Ministerial Order (Reduce harbour porpoise disturbance days during the construction phase of the wind farm compared to the EIA for the IJVVFS Alpha WFSD). This information is requested in



		Appendix 14. It maximum limit of 75 pages includes the cover page, table of contents, illustrations, tables, etc.
4.	Have regulations been established regarding what the appendix for measures that contribute to the ecosystem of It Dutch North Sea (Appendix 13) should look like/include?	No regulations have been established on what the appendix for ecology measures (Appendix 13) should look like. You are free to complete this appendix how you like. The Appendix must be independent and readable. References to other documents or websites, etc., will not be included in the assessment. The first 75 pages of Appendix 13 are submitted to the experts.
5.	Table 6, general requirements I.D (substantiation) – Is it possible to carry out to pilot projects before the start of the measures?	Yes, carrying out by pilot projects before the start of implementation of the measures is permitted.
6.	Please clarify what is expected of which party in the implementation of the proposed research. Is this only done by WOZEP researchers or can it also be done (independently) by the tender bid consortium, or is it expected to be done in collaboration with WOZEP?	It is the responsibility of the final permit holder to ensure the research described in the application is carried out. The research investigations are also at the expense and risk of the permit holder. In accordance with Table 6, general requirements (0), it is up to the applicant to complete the research and monitoring design. As described there, alignment with the working methods of MONS, WOZEP and the MIVSP is important, as is seeking active connections/collaboration with government programmes such as MONS and WOZEP.
7.	For criterion 1.1 in Table 6, the aim is to reduce collision casualties. Can RVO confirm that this reduction must only be achieved through adjustments to the layout of the wind farm and wind turbine design choice and not through the adjustments in criteria 1.2 to 1.6 of Table 6?	The adjustments concern the wind farm and turbine design and not the measures mentioned under 1.2 to 1.6.
8.	Criterion 1.1 in Table 6 of the Ministerial Order for IJWVFS Alpha indicates that when calculating the number collision victims, the number of bird victims in the EIA should be used as a reference. The EIA outlines 2 scenarios, one based on 15 MW turbines, and one based on 20 MW turbines. Is the assumption correct that for the reference scenario is based on the "worst case", i.e. the scenario with 15MW turbines?	The reference scenario concerns the maximum number of collision victims in accordance with Table 6.14 of the EIA for IJWVFS Alpha. The characteristics of the turbines are described in Table 6.1. It reference scenario is alternative 1; 67 turbines of 15MW, with a rotor diameter of 236 m and a tip depth of 25 m. This means a total of 134 turbines of 15 MW.
9.	One of the target species in goal 1.1 (Table 6 tender criteria) is the gannett. The tender criteria refers to Chapter 6 and Appendix 4 of the EIA. In these parts of the EIA, another maximum collision mortality figure is given for the gannett. The maximum mortality in Chapter 6 is from an additional calculation based on recently modelled bird densities. (Waggit et al. 2020) and recently collected data for location-specific avoidance probabilities of the gannett (cf. Leemans & Gyimesi 2022). At the same time, the maximum mortality in Appendix 4 is based on the original calculations from KEC 4.0 (Potiek et al., 2022). What calculations regarding the maximum mortality of the gannett should be used as a starting point for goal 1.1?	The maximum mortality of the gannett as calculated by Waggit et al (2020) should be used. This corresponds to the mortality in Table 6.14 of the EIA.
10.	Is there a minimum required reduction in bird casualties due to habitat loss (Table 6, criterion 1.2) to qualify for points, or is any expected reduction sufficient?	Any expected reduction in habitat loss that is shown to be sufficiently plausible will qualify for the maximum number points.
11.	Does criterion 1.5 in Table 6, with the aim of	Yes. Applying a black blade to a wind turbine is an example of a



	<p>“reducing collision victims in the operational phase of the wind farm compared to the EIA for the IJVVFS Alpha WFSD”, also include a measure such as the use of a black blade?</p>	<p>measure that could increase the visibility of a wind turbine. However, permission for this, as well as the environmental/ecological effectiveness and efficiency of the measure, still needs to be assessed and established. It is therefore possible to reserve financial resources for this measure.</p>
12.	<p>Criterion 1.5 in Table 6 also includes acoustic measures to improve observability to bats?</p>	<p>No. Bats are not (now) among the target species for this criterion.</p>
13.	<p>Table 6, criterion 1.5: it is possible to use multiple measures to increase the visibility of wind turbines and apply it to one turbine?</p>	<p>Yes, the application of multiple measures to one turbine is permitted, provided that this promotes the efficiency and effectiveness of the individual measures. However, applying multiple measures to one turbine does not affect the application percentages in this assessment measure criterion.</p>
14.	<p>Are the points awarded for criterion 2.1 in Table 6 based on the percentage of turbines where measures are taken for both target species, or for one of the two target species?</p>	<p>The points for this criterion are awarded based on the percentage of turbines where measures are taken for both target types. However, it does not have to be the case that every individual measure has added value for both target species.</p>
15.	<p>Table 6, criterion 3.1: Do the measures only apply to measuring electromagnetic field ('EMF') emissions from the cables; or does this also apply to measures regarding the target species mentioned? Why are the target species mentioned in this sub- criterion, but not mentioned in the measures? Is there a relation regarding the mentioned target species and the intended (low) levels of EMF?</p>	<p>Implementing the measures and monitoring them only focuses on the EMF levels of certain cable configurations, because there is currently a large knowledge gap about this. Research into the effects on the target species mentioned for this criterion does not have to be carried out by the wind farm developer. The target species are only mentioned to place the criterion in its (expected) context.</p>
16.	<p>Criterion 3.1 in Table 6: How many different cable configurations should be used?</p>	<p>The number of cable configurations to which the study applies must be determined by the applicant itself. As described in the conditions, the applicant must substantiate, among other things, why the size of the test locations has been chosen and why they are large enough to conduct studies and feed into research on electromagnetic fields.</p>
17.	<p>Table 6, criterion 3.2: A investment of €11 million can be achieved by an increase in development costs (DEVEX), investment costs (CAPEX), or operational costs (OPEX) or by a reduction in income. Can RVO indicate how the investment of €11 million should be achieved?</p>	<p>Any method to make the investment is in permitted in principle, as long as there is sufficient substantiation of how this is done.</p>
18.	<p>Table 6, criterion 3.2: The innovative measure should not be mentioned in any of the other criteria. Is it permitted to apply an innovative measure that fulfils one of the aforementioned objectives?</p>	<p>Yes, that is allowed.</p>
19.	<p>Criterion 1.4 in Table 6 of the tender Ministerial Order awards points for the "use of ADLS on wind turbines throughout the wind farm". Can you confirm that this does NOT mean that ADLS should be applied to every turbine, as the effectiveness of the measure then cannot be further investigated?</p>	<p>To monitor and validate the operation of ADLS, it may be desirable to deliberately not operate ADLS on some of the turbines for a portion of their lifespan. The intention is that all turbines in the wind farm are, at all times, involved in the implementation of this criterion, either by actively activating ADLS or in its monitoring and validation. In the monitoring plan, it should be substantiated which one of the two functions and for which period the turbines will fulfil.</p>
20.	<p>For criterion 2.1 in Table 6, with the aim of "enhancing underwater nature in addition to nature- inclusive building regulations and Section 7.8.8 'promotion of biodiversity' in the IJVVFS Alpha WFSD: Should the three different measures (under 'applying and mutually comparing three different measures) be applied in equally (in percentage terms)?</p>	<p>No, the three measures do not have to be applied in exactly equal percentages, but they must be in balance with each other. See the conditions under A to D.</p>



21.	Is it permitted to use a combination of the measures to be implemented under criterion 1.8 in Table 6, which has the aim of "Reducing pressure factors during the day the operational phase"?	Yes. It is permitted to apply a combination of described measures to meet the assessment criteria for this criterion.
22.	For criterion 1.5 in Table 6, do measures other than increasing visibility (e.g. auditory or electromagnetic stimuli) also qualify for points within this criterion?	Only visual measures to increase the visibility of rotor blades for birds are assessed under criterion 1.5 by Table 6.
23.	The general terms and conditions state that active connection must be sought with government programmes such as MONS and WOZEP. Must this active connection already be established at the time of submitting the bid? Or does this only have to be initiated after the permit has been won?	The intention is for an applicant to describe and substantiate as well as possible (in its application) how collaboration with MONS and WOZEP will take place. There is no need to make an active connection yet.
24.	Regarding criterion 1.7 in Table 6; Which sources of possible disruption should be included in the calculation of the harbour porpoise disturbance days?	Only the disruption resulting from the installation of the wind turbine foundations count for the calculation of the number of harbour porpoise disturbance days.
25.	According to general condition 0.II.A in Table 6, a T-0 measurement is required for research and monitoring. In our estimation, T-0 measurements are not possible for all activities. May we substantiate under which criteria T-0 measurements are useful.	The usefulness and added value of a T-0 measurement, or the alleged lack thereof, can be explained in the substantiation. This assessment is done by the independent expert committee.
26.	When should the T-0 measurement be executed? Must this always be completed within 60 months after the permit becomes irrevocable, so that the measure in question can be put into use? For some measures, a T-0 measurement can only start after the entire wind farm is ready, so then the 60-month period would be unfeasible.	For some measures, the wind farm must indeed be ready before a good basic situation can be measured against which the operation of the measure can be tested, which conflicts with the timely implementation of the measure. To be able to make a good comparison with a basic situation, in these cases, two or more comparisons are made with other relevant situations (outside the wind farm at IJVVFS Alpha), with a conclusive motivation and substantiation.
27.	Regarding criterion 2.1 in Table 6: can we also test erosion protection for cable crossings at locations where there is no cable crossing, but only a single cable or no cable at all?	No. Erosion protection for cable crossings may only be tested at locations where a cable crossing actually exists.
28.	With regard to general condition 0.III.A in Table 6: Is it sufficient that only results data are made publicly available and that these results data and reports are digitally available in a user-friendly form and are up-to-date and actively disseminated to increase knowledge dissemination (0.III.B) in a format and design used for Wozep (0.III.A)? If not, what other data should be made available? Is it sufficient that that other data is made available on first request?	No, the underlying research data must also be actively made publicly available by the permit holder.
29.	With regard to general condition 0.IB in Table 6: Is it correct that there is deliberately no room for innovative measures?	Innovative measures are not necessarily excluded by this general condition.
30.	With regard to criterion 1.8 in Table 6: How is 'the average sound pressure of conventional ships' quantified (in dBs)?	To meet this criterion, it must be plausibly substantiated (qualitatively or quantitatively) how the proposed measures reduce the noise pressure of the ships used compared to conventional ships.
31.	Where can basic ecological data be found?	Where can basic ecological data be found? Basic ecological data for the permits for IJmuiden Ver Alpha and Beta is publicly accessible on



		the Wozep website (Offshore Wind Ecological Program): https://wozep.nl/git/wozep/06_kec_update .
32.	Can you provide the stochastic collision risk model?	This can be downloaded from the Marine Scotland Data website: https://data.marine.gov.scot/dataset/developing-avian-collision-risk-model-incorporate-variability-and-uncertainty-r-code
33.	In KEC 4.0, reference is made to the file 'Memo Scenario and variants KEC 4 17-5 definitive.docx'. Can this file be shared?	The information from the file 'Memo Scenario and variants KEC 4 17-5 definitive.docx' can be found at: https://www.noordzeeloket.nl/publish/pages/198634/kec-4-0-part-a-v2.pdf (Chapter 5: Assumptions for the assessment of OWF areas within the North Sea Programme and Annex 1: Assumptions for the Framework for Assessing Ecological and Cumulative Effects).
34.	The KEC 4.0 refers to the document 'scenario KEC 4.0 version 8.xlsx'. Can this file be shared?	Yes, you will find this file on the RVO tender page .
35.	There appears to be a discrepancy between the density and mortality rate of the Larus Marinus (Great black-backed gull). For example, in months where the estimated density is '0', the mortality rate is greater than zero (see EIA, pages 82, 121 - 122 of appendix 4). Similar discrepancies exist between the proportionality of density and mortality rates for other bird species. Can RVO, EZK or the author of Appendix 4 provide more transparency about the data used and methodology applied?	This discrepancy is caused by the difference in decimal rounding. We refer to the Wozep website for the source data.
36.	With regard to criterion 1.4 in Table 6: The application of ADLS to offshore wind turbines is currently not permitted. How should this be handled by the applicant?	You are requested to assume the scenario that applying ADLS is legally permissible at the time of commissioning the wind farm.
37.	Can you explain what is meant by 'production installation'? Can you confirm that you hereby require that the measure must be applied within the IJmuiden Ver Alpha wind farm, in which the applicable laws and regulations are complied with?	The assumption is correct. The production installation refers to all physical components of the wind farm, including erosion protection and wind farm cabling. Permanent objects that are part of investments and innovations for the benefit of ecology may only be constructed at or directly around the production installation, i.e. within the maintenance zones of the turbines and infield cables. Preparatory activities, such as laboratory research, that are necessary for the implementation of the investment/innovation may take place outside. Monitoring and research related to the physical ecological measures may also take place outside this zone.
38.	For the wind energy yield calculation for the criterion 'The contribution of the wind farm to the energy supply' in Table 3, should we also take into account additional downtime due to ecological measures such as shutdown on demand from Table 6?	Yes, all ecological measures that have an impact on the energy yield calculation must be included in that calculation.
39.	Criterion 1.7 in Table 6, about reducing harbour porpoise disturbance days during the construction phase, requires that the calculation must be tested by an independent organisation. Does an organisation still qualify as independent if it already collaborates with a wind farm developer?	The organisation that assesses the measures under criterion 1.7 of Table 6 may, in any case, not be part of the applicant party, as an 'affiliated legal entity' according to the definition in the regulation (Ministerial Order). It is further up to the applicant to ensure and demonstrate that the testing organisation is independent.
40.	What is the required accuracy for the calculation of the harbour porpoise disturbance days?	When calculating the harbour porpoise disturbance days, rounding to the nearest thousand must be used. This also applies to the initial



	calculation of the permitted harbour porpoise disturbance days in the graduated scale of the criterion using the overplanting factor.
41. Can multiple measurable applied to table 6, criterion 1.3?	Criterion 1.3 in Table 6 allows multiple measures to be applied. The general and additional conditions apply to each of the measures.
42. The column "assessment measure" in table 6 under criterion 2.1 indicates that it is "optional to include cable crossings in the total percentage and percentage with measures". 1) Is the inclusion of cable crossings, if present, a necessary condition to fully comply with this criterion? 2) If cable crossings are included, how should the percentage of turbines plus cable crossings together be calculated?	No, the application of measures at cable crossings, if present, is not a necessary condition for this criterion. If you intend to apply measures to existing cable crossings, only those cable crossings in question also count in the total percentage for application. The turbines present in the wind farm plus the processed cable crossings together determine the number of objects present. Example 1: Your park has 100 turbines and 5 cable crossings. You want to apply measures to 60 turbines and 3 cable crossings. Then for you, the application percentage is $(60+3)/(100+3)*100\% = 61\%$, resulting in a score of 12 points. Example 2: Your park has 100 turbines and 5 cable crossings. You only want to apply measures at turbines, and not at cable crossings. You intend to apply measures to 60 turbines. Your application percentage is then $60/100 * 100\% = 60\%$, resulting in a score of 12 points.
43. Is it permitted to achieve a reduction in harbour porpoise disturbance days by, for example, installing multiple foundations simultaneously in close proximity?	Yes, this is permitted, provided that it can be sufficiently substantiated and quantified how the reduction is achieved in this way. The maximum noise standard in the Wind Farm Site Decision may also not be exceeded.
44. The calculation of the number of days of disturbance for the harbour porpoise must correspond with the EIA and the underlying assumptions from KEC4.0. What parameters are referred to here?	This concerns the environmental parameters used for the calculations in the EIA, which can be found in table 3 on page 53 of Appendix 6 to the EIA. Note: In the published text of the EIA regarding the formula for soil absorption, an incorrect exponent has been mistakenly presented. It should read: $(f/250\text{Hz})^{0.8} \times 0,88 \text{ dB/wavelength}$ for $f < 250 \text{ Hz}$ In the underlying calculations of the EIA, the correct formula has been used. It is expected that you also use this correct formula in your calculation.
45. What is the North Sea Nature Enhancement Programme (PNN) and what will the financial contribution be spent on?	PNN is a programme of the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality in collaboration with NGOs, research institutions and private parties, and aims to strengthen marine ecosystems in the North Sea by carrying out concrete projects in the North Sea. The Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality will provide further communication about the contours of PNN in early 2024.
46. How does RVO deal with the condition 'coordination with Maritime Information Service Point (MIVSP) with the aim of ensuring that research and monitoring of the measure by the submitter takes place effectively and in a complementary manner to sensors already planned under MIVSP'?	As a starting point, applicants are asked to take the information package that was made publicly available on 31 December 2023 at the Maritime Information Service Point Digitisation of the North Sea (digitalenoordzee.nl) . In this information package, MIVSP provides insight into the sensors planned so far. This condition is met when the applicant takes into account the sensors planned by MIVSP where possible in the monitoring plan to ensure that they are effective and complementary to each other. Where this is not yet possible, the condition is met when the applicant agrees - after obtaining the permit - to coordinate the monitoring plan with MIVSP.



	Changes to the permit as a result of this subsequent coordination are possible provided that this change complies with the 'Policy rule for changes to offshore wind energy permits for IJWFS Alpha and Beta'.
47.	If for Table 6, criterion 1.7, an applicant does not carry out his own calculation of the harbour porpoise disturbance days but has this calculation carried out by one or more external independent organisations, is the condition of assessment by an external organisation met?
48.	The following text in Table 6, criterion 1.5 (Alpha) is stated: ' <i>In addition, the following condition must be met: when reserving financial resources, this must be substantiated on the basis of a reasonably implementable plan that takes effect at least on (cost) effectiveness and technical feasibility.</i> ' Is this correct?
49.	Table 6, criterion 1.7: Can you confirm that the values of the environmental parameters referred to (Table 3 of the EIA appendix Technical Report on underwater noise of marine mammals, IJmuiden Ver Wind Farm Zone) must be applied in the calculation and that no deviations may be made, even when, for example, more recent or location-specific data is available?
50.	Is criterion 1.3 in Table 6 specifically important for the species that are described in the EIA as possibly experiencing a barrier effect at this location, namely the razorbill and the guillemot?
51.	Should the measures under criterion 1.8 in Table 6, such as the reduction of sailing speed, only be carried out in IJWFS Alpha or also outside it, for example on the way to IJWFS Alpha?
52.	If not all turbine foundation piles use erosion protection, how is the application percentage for criterion 2.1 in Table 6 calculated?
53.	How should the application address measures (to enhance the visibility of the rotor blades) that are not yet legally permitted?
54.	At criterion 1.5 in table 6, it is stated that for the measures, 'at the time of the pilot, there must be at least a prototype in an operational environment (TRL 7)'. Does this mean that at the start of this pilot, implementation of TRL 7 for this technology must already have taken place elsewhere?
55.	In the general conditions in table 6, in section O.II, under B), it states 'substantiation of the scale, feasibility, effectiveness, and maintenance of the measure.' Does the word 'measure' in this case refer to the monitoring measures, as this section pertains to the conditions for research and monitoring? Or does it refer to the measure of each criterion itself?
56.	At table 6, criterion 1.4: the quantitative standard indicates that ADLS must be used on wind turbines
	That is correct.
	This part of the text was incorrectly included in the final Ministerial Order. A financial reservation or a plan that addresses cost-effectiveness and technical feasibility of a reservation of financial resources does not have to be included in your application. No points will be awarded for this.
	That is correct, no deviations may be made from the data in table 3 of the EIA appendix.
	No, this criterion focuses on all species designated in the Natura 2000 area of the Brown Bank that are sensitive to barrier effects.
	To score points for this criterion, measures must be taken in IJWFS Alpha.
	When calculating the application percentage, all turbines (foundations) in the wind farm count, not just the those that use erosion protection. It is optional to include cable crossings in the total percentage and percentage with measures.
	You are requested to assume the scenario where the application of visibility measures is legally permitted at the time of commissioning the wind park.
	No. At the start of the implementation of this measure, the technology must be ready for a demonstration of a prototype in an operational environment, in other words, TRL 7. By implementing this criterion, TRL 7 will be completed. Therefore, there is no need for a demonstration of this technology in an operational environment (TRL 7) to have taken place elsewhere prematurely or simultaneously, but the technology must be ready to undergo TRL 7.
	The word 'measure' refers to the measure(s) that need to be implemented for each criterion.
	The construction period extends from the start of construction to the full commissioning of the wind farm. The technical preparations for



<p>throughout the entire lifespan of the wind farm. Could you elaborate on the expectations regarding the application of ADLS during the construction phase?</p>	<p>the implementation of ADLS run as closely parallel to the installation of individual turbines as possible, so that ADLS can be initiated as soon as the wind farm is fully operational, following approval from the Human Environment and Transport Inspectorate (ILT). Please take into account the following: It is not yet known how the exact regulations regarding the use of ADLS at sea will be formulated. The ADLS system may only be put into operation after a verification process and with the approval of the ILT. You are requested to assume the scenario that the application of ADLS will be legally allowed in a timely manner. For monitoring and validation of the ADLS functionality, it may be desirable to intentionally keep ADLS inactive on a portion of the turbines during a part of their lifespan.</p>
<p>57. Can RVO clarify what is meant by 'a representative number of turbines' in criterion 1.6 of table 6? And should the wind farm be shut down in the presence of a single bird from one of the target species?</p>	<p>It is up to the applicant to substantiate what constitutes a representative number of turbines for this measure and at what bird counts it is necessary to (locally) shut down turbines to achieve a reduction in bird fatalities of the target species compared to the EIA.</p>

Stochastic Collision Risk Model (sCRM)		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	<p>Can you explain why there are a different number of columns (for example 3 columns for the great black-backed gull, 42 for the lesser black-backed gull and 16 for the herring gull) and a different number of rows for the flight height data of the different bird species?</p>	<p>Each column contains measurements from a different individual, based on GPS logger measurements. In the model, each of these columns is used as a separate flight height distribution. The model randomly chooses one of these distributions for each iteration. The distributions show the variation in flight height within one species. KEC 4.0 describes how these distributions were established:</p> <p>“Flight height distributions of lesser black-backed gull and herring gull were calculated based on data from GPS tags placed on birds in Dutch, Belgian, and British colonies around the southern North Sea (Gyimesi et al. 2017a). We used a separate distribution for each individual bird with more than 1,500 data points. The same method was applied to generate different flight height distributions for great skua and northern gannet based on GPS data of Ross-Smith et al. (2016) and Cleasby et al. (2015), respectively. For great black-backed gull, we sampled from two different distributions from Swedish and Danish logger data (Gyimesi et al. 2017b), and one distribution as used in the previous KEC studies, which is based on Johnston et al. (2014). For all other seabird species, we generated 200 different flight height distributions by sampling from a zero-truncated normal distribution, with means and standard deviations based on 95% confidence intervals presented per height class in Johnston et al. (2014).”</p> <p>The initial flight height distribution is over a height of 300 metres. Flight heights of over 300 metres have been established for the species for which this is relevant.</p>
2.	<p>Should each column for the flight altitude data be regarded as a random iteration of a flight altitude of that kind?</p>	<p>That is correct.</p>
3.	<p>The EIA states that the CRM has been used stochastically. Does this mean that for each iteration of the model, a different, randomly selected column of flight altitude data was used for each species?</p>	<p>That is correct.</p>



Stochastic Collision Risk Model (sCRM)		
4.	Is it correct that each row in the dataset with flight altitude distributions represents a 1 metre band, starting from the 0-1m band?	That is correct.
5.	Can you confirm that the numbers of bird strike victims in the EIA calculated with the sCRM result from Option 3 (using extended model and flight height distributions)?	That is correct.
6.	The information released contains data for the CRM used for the KEC 4.0, from which we determine some parameters (which are not described in the EIA). Are we correct in assuming that the data described in the EIA must be used to reproduce the baseline from the EIA, and that missing data can be extracted from the KEC?	That is correct.
7.	Have the densities as shown in the EIA and the KEC been corrected for birds in flight?	The densities in the EIA are shown as true densities. The method for collision calculations states that a correction has been made for birds in flight. The correction factors are shown in a separate table in the methods.
8.	Can we assume that the wind farm/turbine parameters as shown in the KEC are also the ones used for the CRM for the EIA? This specifically concerns the parameters in the KEC that are missing in the EIA (revolution speed, pitch, maximum blade width).	That's right. The EIA also describes that in cases where parameters for IJmuiden Ver Alpha are missing, the parameters from the KEC have been used.
9.	What value for the 'tidal offset' parameter was used in the CRM for the EIA?	This parameter was not used in the calculations for the EIA. The tip low was permanently set at 25 metres.
10.	The values for some flight heights of some species appear to deviate, because the risk of collision increases at higher flight heights.	The data is correct, but is based on GPS measurements, whereby higher flight altitudes may occur more often than lower flight altitudes. This can be explained by natural variation in the data, as well as a possible preference for a certain flight height of the bird species in question.
11.	In Table 6 (criterion 1.1), should the reduction in the number of bird fatalities compared to the EIA be quantitatively substantiated using the Stochastic Collision Risk Model (sCRM)?	The Stochastic Collision Risk Model does not need to be used for the quantitative substantiation of the expected number of bird fatalities when implementing the measure at criterion 1.1 in Table 6. The use of the sCRM is an option for further elaboration of the conditions (for example, in the research and monitoring plan) of the measure.

Development Framework		
No.	Question	Answer
1.	When will it be known at what point early cable pull-in is possible?	TenneT sets the date in (an appendix to) the Realisation Agreement (REA) for when the 66 kV cables of the wind farm can be retracted onto the platform and parked on the cable deck ('mechanical cable pull-in') before the electrical connection ('electrical pull-in') can begin. In the interface process during the project phase between TenneT and the permit holder, further coordination will take place regarding the moment of this 'mechanical cable pull-in'. TenneT has currently indicated a target date, as communicated during the webinar on 7 November 2023.
2.	To what extent is early cable pull-in guaranteed? Is TenneT liable if this date is not met?	The target date for early cable pull-in, as communicated during the 7 November webinar, will be included as a target date in the appendix to the Realisation Agreement. The early cable pull-in, where 'mechanical cable pull-in' is possible, concerns a best efforts obligation. TenneT aims to enable an early cable pull-in, so that the permit holder can start this work as quickly as possible. However, TenneT will not be



Development Framework	
	liable if a date is not met. The exact date, and when this date will be determined, will be agreed in the interface process during the project phase between TenneT and the permit holder.
3. Will the bank guarantee or deposit be forfeited if the permit holder does not achieve MST 2 because TenneT has not achieved MST 1 on time?	No, as included in the Ministerial Order, in that case the Minister will, in principle, use the option to grant an exemption from the obligation to carry out certain activities within the period as included in the permit. The bank guarantee or deposit is linked to these periods. Granting the exemption prevents the bank guarantee or deposit from being forfeited because the permit holder, due to circumstances within the control of the offshore grid operator, is no longer able to get the wind farm ready in time to deliver full power and cannot fulfil its obligation.
4. If the permit holder does not achieve MST 2, will TenneT's damages be recovered from this party as well as the bank guarantee or deposit forfeited?	<p>If the permit holder does not achieve MST 2, the bank guarantee or deposit will not be immediately forfeited. Only if the permit holder has not carried out the required activities one month later than MST 2 will €10 million be forfeited. This also applies to the following month. Thereafter, the amount of €20 million, up to a maximum of the total cumulative amount of €200 million, will be forfeited monthly until the license holder has carried out the required activities.</p> <p>Specifically, the following amounts will be forfeited at the following times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Date as included in the time period: €0• 1 month after the date included in the period: €10 million• 2 months after the date included in the period: €10 million• 3 months after the date included in the period and all months that follow: €20 million <p>In addition, TenneT can claim damages based on breach of the Realisation Agreement, as included in Article 4. This also applies to the permit holder in the case of TenneT's obligations.</p>
5. Is it possible to carry out work for MST 1?	Yes, the permit holder can already start construction of the wind farm for MST 1, within the agreements in the REA/ATO. In the interface process during the project phase, it will be agreed when the permit holder can carry out work on the platform for 'early mechanical cable pull-in' before MST 1.
6. What work needs to be done between MST 1 and 2?	Between MST 1 and MST 2, the wind farm must be electrically connected and integrated into the grid connection system (GCS). This also requires joint testing of the wind farm and GCS. On MST 2, all 66 kV cables from the wind farm must be pulled into the platform, and their connection to the platform must be completed. From this date, the wind farm must be able to deliver full power, so that TenneT can start the final part of the test and commissioning phase, namely testing at full power.
7. Which tests must TenneT carry out between MST 1 and MST 2 and what impact does this have on the work that the permit holder must carry out in that time frame?	<p>Prior to MST 1, the grid connection system (GCS) is independently tested and declared ready to receive electricity from the wind farm and transport the electricity. These are low power tests from land to sea. These tests can be carried out without the wind farm.</p> <p>Between MST 1 and MST 2, the entire wind farm and the GCS will be commissioned and tested over a period of 6 months. For these 6 months, TenneT will jointly draw up a connection and test plan with the permit holder, with the aim of having the entire wind farm and GCS ready for operation within 6 months. In this plan, all activities are coordinated so that both the wind farm and the integrated system can</p>



Development Framework	
	<p>be tested. This involves load, operational mode and compliance testing. These tests cannot be carried out without the wind farm and are also a normal part of the wind farm delivery procedure. It is expected that these tests will have no or very limited effect on the possibility of involving or feeding power into the GCS.</p> <p>The entire 6 months are therefore available for connecting the wind farm, barring unexpected disruptions that may arise as a result of the connection. In the exceptional case that such an unexpected disruption occurs, which puts pressure on achieving MST 2 and MST 3, both the license holder and TenneT can consult with the Minister, jointly with the other party, about the planning milestones for the delivery of the grid and wind farm.</p>
<p>8. The dates mentioned in Section 4.2.2 and Table 4 in the Development Framework state that a delay in delivery by TenneT or the permit holder may not make it impossible for the other party to meet the subsequent delivery date. TenneT and/or the permit holder can therefore submit a request to the Minister for a part of the offshore grid or the offshore wind farm at a later date. In both cases, the request must be accompanied by a statement of no objection from the other party (TenneT or the wind farm permit holder). What happens if a party does not issue a declaration of no objection?</p>	<p>Also in this case, this party can consult with the Minister about the planning milestones for the delivery of the grid and wind farm.</p>
<p>9. Can MST 2 be explained in more detail?</p>	<p>The details of this can be found in 4.2.2. of the Offshore Wind Energy Development Framework.</p>
<p>10. What is meant by full power at MST 2?</p>	<p>Full power at MST 2 of the Offshore Wind Energy Development Framework means that all wind turbines have been installed, connected and put into use. This means that the wind farm should be able to deliver full power, although the actual delivery also depends on other factors and may therefore deviate from the maximum power.</p>
<p>11. Can you confirm that if TenneT delays MST 1 solely due to its own actions, causing MST 2 to be unachievable without any fault on the part of the developer, in this case, MST 3 will not be postponed? And, therefore, the developer has the right to compensation for lost income based on the relevant provisions in the Offshore Wind Compensation Decree?</p>	<p>In the Offshore Wind Development Framework, it is stated that a delay in delivery by TenneT or the permit holder should not make it impossible for the other party to meet the subsequent delivery date. Therefore, TenneT and/or the permit holder can request the Minister to deliver a part of the offshore grid or the offshore wind farm at a later date. In both cases, the request must be accompanied by a no-objection statement from the other party (TenneT or the permit holder of the offshore wind farm). The Minister will then consider whether or not to adjust the dates in the Offshore Wind Development Framework. If the other party does not provide a no-objection statement, the delivery dates, as specified in the Offshore Wind Development Framework, remain unchanged.</p> <p>The permit holder of an offshore wind farm is entitled to compensation when MST 3 (delivery of the direct current connection), as described in the Offshore Wind Development Framework, is not achieved. In this case, the provision in Article 2, paragraph 1 of the Decree applies, stating that a producer is only entitled to compensation for damage to the extent that the foundations of the wind farm have been installed, and if the wind farm is not ready for use, the producer can demonstrate that the wind farm would have been ready for use if this had not been waived to limit the damage. As stated in the Offshore Wind Development Framework, the offshore</p>



Development Framework

grid is ready to supply power to the wind farm and provide transport capacity from MST 1. However, the guaranteed transport capacity cannot be fully ensured during the joint testing phase starting from MST 1, as tests may reveal the need for adjustments that require an interruption of the transport capacity. From MST 3 onwards, the minimum guaranteed transport capacity should be available.

Other

No.	Question	Answer
1.	Does the permit qualify as a 'works concession agreement', so that both for the Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate and the tender winner are subject to the procurement obligations arising from the Public Procurement Act 2012?	No. The Ministerial Order does not fall under the Public Procurement Act 2012.
2.	Does the winner of the tender have to pay for the site surveys for the site in question?	Yes. According to Section 10.1 of the Offshore Wind Energy Act, the costs for the site surveys and environmental impact assessment (EIA) carried out must be reimbursed by the winner of the tender. The cost for these site surveys and EIA have been set at €19.885.756 and must be paid no later than four weeks after the day the Minister announces that the has granted a permit. An applicant must take this amount into account in its operating calculation.
3.	How can previous winners of a permit for offshore wind energy be prevented from having more information regarding the connection to the grid compared to other participants in the tender?	TenneT will make new information regarding connection to the grid available to everyone on its website.
4.	Can RVO provide an update on the costs TenneT will pass on to the permit holder?	<p>The Electricity Act states that no network rates apply to the permit holder for the offshore network. There is therefore no feed-in network tariff and no sales transport tariff applicable. Therefore, only the commodity price for electricity (including taxes and levies where applicable) must be paid for those times when electricity is purchased by the permit holder.</p> <p>If the permit holder so wishes, and as long as the connection to the wind farm is not available for electricity supply by an electricity supplier, TenneT will provide the required electricity and pass on the actual generation costs to the permit holder. The amount of energy used will be measured or estimated in consultation with the permit holder. Once the connection is available for electricity supply (particularly when a reliable electricity meter is installed), the permit holder will have to enter into an agreement with an electricity company. No rates apply for the realisation and maintenance of the connection. The permit holder does not have to pay anything for this.</p> <p>Appendix 6 of the Connection and Transport Agreement, Section 3.1 ("Access to the platform"), describes that supervision from TenneT is required when entering the platform. TenneT will also charge the permit holder costs for other activities carried out at the request of the permit holder and that require the presence of TenneT. TenneT and the permit holder will discuss and agree on the costs regarding compliance within the Project Working Group ("PWG") as referred to in Article 6 of the Realisation Agreement before TenneT incurs these costs. The previously</p>



Other	
	mentioned (2016) figures can be used: approx. € 60,000 per lot.
5.	What is the definition of 'construction period'? The construction period is the period between the start of construction and the full commissioning by the wind farm.
6.	What is meant by the start of construction, as included in Section 14 (1)(d) of the Offshore Wind Energy Act. The start of construction means start of work to install the first foundation.
7.	Article 3(3b) of the Ministerial Order asks for the realisation date of the award of orders to manufacturers, suppliers and installers. Does this concern the parties referred to in Article 3(5) of the Order? This in any case concerns the parties as referred to in Article 3(5) of the Ministerial Order, but there may be other manufacturers, suppliers and installers that you involve in your project.
8.	Is there a minimum font size set for the request? No, the size of the font is not determined in advance. RVO advises to use at least font size 9.
9.	What will change compared to the maximum electricity price to be reimbursed in the amended 'Offshore Grid Compensation Decree'? The proposed changes can be found at https://www.internetconsultatie.nl/wijzigingbesluitshadevergoedingnetopzee/b1
10.	Why has the Offshore Wind Energy Implementation Regulation been amended in terms of safety? This amendment to the Implementation Regulation for Offshore Wind Energy ensures that the Minister for Climate and Energy can take into account possible risks with regard to public safety when assessing applications for a permit for the construction and operation of an offshore wind farm, or security of supply. The Minister also has this authority for a change of control over permit holders of offshore wind farms where the permit has already been granted, but the wind farm is not yet operational. Foreign actors can disrupt Dutch business activities because of geopolitical interests, with possible consequences for Dutch national security. The impact is particularly significant when it concerns vital processes, such as energy supply. The Minister of Climate and Energy therefore already has the authority to investigate and assess the risks to national security for existing offshore wind farms when a change of control takes place by the permit holder. The Minister does not yet have this authority when applying for a new permit for an offshore wind farm. It is also not possible to investigate and assess a change of control by the permit holder after the permit has been granted, but before the wind farm is operational. The amended implementation regulation provides for the Minister to also be given this authority in the situations described above.
11.	Where can I find more information about the amended Offshore Wind Energy Implementation Regulation? In January 2024, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy organised an online session on the amendment of the Offshore Wind Energy Implementation Regulation in connection with an assessment of risks to public safety or security of supply. You can find more information about the Bureau Testing Investments (BTI) on this website: https://www.bureautoetsinginvesteringen.nl/ . If you have any questions about this, please send an email to: bureautoetsinginvesteringen@minezk.nl with the subject: Questions about changes to the Implementation Regulations for Offshore Wind Energy.
12.	Is it correct that with the entry into force of the Environmental Act, all provisions from the Water Decree were included in the Living Environment Activities Decree and so the Water Decree is no longer applicable? The provisions in the Water Act that do not concern the Delta Commissioner and the Delta Works have expired as of January 1, 2024, when the Environmental Act came into effect.