

3 BACKGROUND

The environmental monitoring undertaken to meet the conditions of the FEPA licence prescribes a 5 year period of monitoring: pre-construction baseline, 2002; construction, 2003 and post-construction/operation, 2004-2006.

Following the North Hoyle Environmental Statement (2002), further monitoring work has been undertaken and presented in the following FEPA reports submitted to the Licensing Authority:

- FEPA Baseline Monitoring Report (June 2003) for the period September 2002 to March 2003,
- Annual FEPA Monitoring Report (June 2005) for the period April 2003 to March 2004,
- Annual FEPA Monitoring Report (February 2006) for the period April 2004 to March 2005, and
- Annual FEPA Monitoring Report (January 2007) for the period April 2005 to March 2006.

NWPO Ltd has committed to provide a monitoring report annually in accordance with the requirements of the FEPA licence conditions 9.2 and 9.4.

This report constitutes the fifth and final envisaged annual FEPA report produced in accordance with the FEPA Licence in order to present the results of monitoring up to March 2007.

This report provides the results of the monitoring between April 2006 and March 2007. It also presents a summary of the entire five year monitoring campaign between 2002 and 2007 which sets out the conclusions of the various phases of monitoring and an analysis. The summary provides an integrated approach by assessing cross disciplinary survey findings.

FEPA Ref Year	Phase	Year
Year 1	Pre-construction	2002/3
Year 2	Construction (Phase 1)	2003/4
Year 3	Post construction	2004/5
Year 4	Post construction	2005/6
Year 5	Post construction	2006/7

Table 3.1: Reference of Wind Farm Phase against FEPA Monitoring Programme

The hypothesis that the NHOWF has not had any significant environmental impact up on the environment. The final report presents results in such a way as to facilitate assessment of all inter-disciplinary relationships. To co-ordinate this process regular liaison group meetings with the monitoring consultants has taken place to provide 'joined up' input into the FEPA

report during the monitoring campaign. The format of these liaison groups has comprised an annual meeting prior to each annual FEPA reporting phase to discuss the latest monitoring results in order to cross fertilise any emerging results assessment and trigger discussion as to why certain results were recorded.

The objective of the monitoring programme has been two fold: firstly, it has addressed and discharged specific conditions in the FEPA Licence and, secondly, it has sought to ensure the monitoring conducted in the pre-, during and post construction phases corroborate the predicted impacts on the environment, as predicted in the EIA.