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SEA Planning for Round 3

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SEA Planning for Round 3

- Industry planning needs for R3
 - Timeliness
 - Predictability
 - Resourced Regulators
 - Realism and Robustness
 - Grid
 - A robust SEA reflecting TCE zones
- Does consents regime itself impact on these needs?

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Current consents regime - positives

- Number of consents but delivered via MCEU
- By experienced and dedicated staff
- Who are realistic and robust

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Current consents regime - Disadvantages

- Resources for R2 + R3
- [Slowness of consultees + in Wales]
- [Need for amendments to schemes – delay]

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New regime

- IPC plus MCO
- May be MCEU staff for offshore renewables development
- Spatial planning via Marine Bill
- Well anticipated by some

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New regime - Advantages

- Offshore – may be spatial planning gains
- Onshore – grid upgrades
- Overall – hard to say

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New regime - disadvantages

- Resources?
- Getting used to new process
- Spatial planning - unknown



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Conclusions

- Advantages of IPC – onshore grid upgrades
- Otherwise fairly neutral (but NB offshore spatial planning)
- Real issues not consents process but:
 - Consultees views and slowness
 - Resources + determination times (system neutral)
 - Realism and robustness of regulators
 - SEA/TCE interface



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