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Consultation comments - case 202317079

Reference is made to the letter dated 29 January 2025 with a notification on grid connection for Equinor's Tampen Offshore installation to the 132kV grid under Ålfoten transmission grid station. The notification proposal includes two alternative grid connections to Hennøy Transformer Station adjacent to Hennøy Wind Farm owned and operated by Renantis Norway AS. We have reviewed the notification and hereby present the following comments.

Provided that Hennøy Wind Farm does not face quality of its technical 132kV connection solution reduced, as previously signaled in meetings with Equinor, Renantis Norway AS is positive about a grid connection of Tampen in a common 132kV connection point with Hennøy Wind Farm. Hennøy Wind Farm today has a very stable grid connection which must be maintained. Thus, involvement by Renantis Norway AS and information sharing in Equinor's technical design planning on 132kV connection point at Hennøy TS is required. Further comments, as well as comments related to this important topic, are summarized below.

- The grid connection solution in Hennøy TS must be designed with a separate 132kV circuit breaker to Tampen where the existing circuit breaker solution for Hennøy will not be affected.
- The grid connection solution must be designed with a protection solution towards Tampen Onshore Station that does not affect the wind power plant in the event of a failure on the grid between Tampen's Hennøy TS 132kV breaker and Tampen Installation.
- Establishment of adjacent grid facilities at Hennøy TS must be designed in consultation with Renantis Norway AS.

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- Establishment of an Onshore station facility at Sætrefjellet adjacent to the access road to Hennøy Wind Power Plant must also be designed in consultation with Renantis Norway AS in terms on access to the Wind Farm area.
- The planning and construction activity related to the grid connection must not affect the operation of the wind power plant.
- The connection work and electrification of the 132kV grid to Tampen from Hennøy TS must be resolved, planned and carried out in collaboration with Renantis Norway to minimize the impact on wind farm operation. An agreement on lost wind farm production must be made.
- Agreement on compensation and use of access road shall be made with particular focus on maintenance of the quality on the access road and deep-water quay to Hennøy wind power plant during both planning, construction and operational phase.

Given the above comments, we would also like to underline that utilization of existing 132kV grid capacity in Hennøy TS to Svelgen and Ålfoten with landfall in Djupvika/Merkingsneset seems to be the recommendable solution. We expect this alternative to be a considerably more socio-economic grid connection and significantly better technical solution than connection with land fall in Bortnen. Taking into consideration that "Bortnen alternative" requires a 20km longer submarine HVAC cable connection and taking into consideration the need for a new 132kV overhead line from Bortnen to Ålfoten in partially untouched terrain. Seeing that an HVAC submarine cable connection of up to 180MW power transmission is challenging in view of distance to Tampen area and will be on the borderline of what is technically acceptable in view of transmission loss and charging current on the HVAC cable. The length difference of 170km to Djupvika/Merkingsneset versus 190km to Bortnen will probably have a significant impact/significance in this respect and speaks for Merkingneset/Hennøy TS being chosen as the connection point.

We would also like to point out that Renantis Norway AS will help to facilitate the grid connection of Tampen in Hennøy TS to be able to take place in a good way in cooperation with developer Equinor.

Kind regards

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