

Economy, Energy and Fair Work Committee

Fiona Hyslop MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Fair Work and Culture, Scottish Government The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP Tel: 07870 541021

Sent by email only

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Dear Fiona,

BiFab, the offshore wind sector and the Scottish supply chain

Thank you for your <u>response</u> to the Committee's report on the above inquiry. In this response you reiterated why you felt that the BiFab pre-acquisition plan cannot be shared:

"we sought permission from DF Barnes to share the pre-acquisition business plan with the Committee but this was not granted. As this information is commercially sensitive, the Scottish Government cannot share it without that permission."

The Committee notes that the legal basis for non-disclosure based on potential commercial sensitivity has not been provided. Please advise of the specific basis for non-disclosure.

We are also aware that certain clauses in the Mutual Confidentiality and Nondisclosure Agreement have now expired and would welcome an explanation as to why the Scottish Government considers that it remains unable to share the Business Plan with the Committee, in light of that expiry.

I would be grateful if you could provide a response to these points by 17 March.

Kind regards,

Gordon Lindhurst MSP

Gorden Crndl

Convener