

Kate Harvey - Managing Director
G+ Global Offshore Wind
Health and Safety Organisation
C/o Energy Institute
61 New Cavendish Street
London
W1G 7AR

ED Operations

Jane Gordois

Wind and Marine Energy
7 & 8 Wellington Place
Whitehall Road
LEEDS
LS1 4AP

Tel: 07469566636
jane.gordois@hse.gov.uk

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/>

Head of Operations
Paul Bradley

Reference:
Sheriff's recommendations to industry

18th February 2025

Dear Kate,

HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK ETC ACT 1974

SHERIFF'S DETERMINATION - DEATH OF ANTONIO JOAO DA SILVA LINARES

I am writing to bring to your attention Sheriff Paterson's determination of the death of Antonio Joao Da Silva Linares following a fall from a yaw deck at Kilgallioch wind farm on 15 March 2017.

The purpose of this letter is to highlight the Sheriff's recommendations to industry, with further comment by HSE below each recommendation. Please forward this letter to your members and any other relevant parties. More details are available here: [Fatal accident inquiries and determinations | Scottish Courts](#)

Recommendation 1

There should be joint health and safety drills/exercises on windfarms in construction involving the principal contractor(s) and all relevant subcontractors (those working on the construction of the turbines at any stage) which focus on a rescue from height.

Duty holders should ensure suitable arrangements for rescue from height are considered at the design stage of the project, and in place from the very start of the construction phase, and that these are tested and rehearsed at frequent intervals throughout the lifecycle of the wind farm to ensure that everyone who may have a role in responding to any incident has had an opportunity to take part in an exercise.

Recommendation 2

There should be basket stretchers or spinal boards which are able to be used to keep a casualty as horizontal as possible without undue pressure on the chest area during a rescue from height, either in every wind turbine (both operational and under construction) or very close by on site.

Dutyholders should review their stretcher arrangements and may need to consider whether improvements or modifications could be required to meet this recommendation. Please refer to the FAI determination for more information on the very serious difficulties encountered during the rescue.

Recommendation 3

The wind turbine industry should further consider whether technology to identify when a person has disconnected from a fall arrest system could be utilised so as to provide an audible or visual warning to other colleagues working in the vicinity.

Dutyholders must review their arrangements to prevent falls, including for personnel who are:

- moving to and from the yaw deck;
- moving to and from the nacelle;
- transferring onto or from a fall arrest system to any platform.

It is HSE's view that possible technological improvements should be considered by the industry in a collaborative manner, to make best use of emerging technologies and innovative solutions. Interlocks on gates and/or fall arrest systems; ergonomic improvements to assist safe transfer between systems/anchor points; or any added benefit from an alarm system should be included in these considerations.

HSE is requesting assistance from stakeholder groups to coordinate industry actions in response to Recommendation 3.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jane Gordoys', is positioned above the printed name.

Jane Gordoys

Principal Inspector - Wind and Marine Energy Team