

> ORTEC B.V. | P.O. Box 75 | 2700 AB Zoetermeer | The Netherlands

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To Whom it May Concern

P.O. Box 75 2700 AB Zoetermeer Houtsingel 5 2719 EA Zoetermeer The Netherlands +31 88 678 32 65 Info@ortec.com Ortec.com

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Ch.o.C.: Rotterdam 24421147 IBAN: NL29 RABO 0129 5873 62

Date: March 15, 2022 Reference: -Subject: ORTEC endorsement of the joint project Wind Farm Heuristic Optimisation by Tom Butterwick & Martin Motti

Dear organization of the May Hicks Award,

ORTEC is very pleased with the results from this project, exploring viable ways to simultaneously optimise the siting and the cabling of a wind farm. Such decisions are typically addressed separately: first determine the locations of the individual turbines and subsequently the topology of the cable connections and the actual routing and selection of the cable types.

When decisions are taken in a sequence the latter decisions are conditioned by the earlier, limiting the possibilities to achieve cost savings.

The students have shown that an integral approach is possible and offered a very encouraging preview of the achievable cost savings. Besides the potential of saving costs while developing sustainable sources of energy, the methodology developed, and the results obtained, can potentially lead to a peer reviewed publication.

Kind regards, ORTEC B.V.

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Joaquim Gromicho, Prof. Dr. Science and Education Officer