

Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind Appendix 5.1.3 Phase 1 Consultation Documents

Date: June 2023

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Appendix 5.1.3 Phase 1 Consultation Documents

This Appendix includes the following documents:

- Annex 5.1.3A Public Advert for the Phase 1 Consultation Events
- Annex 5.1.3B Posters distributed to local venues advertising the Phase 1 Consultation Events
- Annex 5.1.3C Leaflet issued to Residents in the Phase 1 Consultation Zone
- Annex 5.1.3D Panels as presented at the Phase 1 in person consultation events and on the virtual exhibition on the Outer Dowsing website
- Annex 5.1.3E Feedback Form available both in hard copy and online as part of the Phase 1 Consultation events
- Annex 5.1.3F Phase 1 Winter Community Newsletter

Annex 5.1.3A Public Advert for the Phase 1 Consultation Events

OUTER DOWSING OFFSHORE WIND CONSULTATION EVENTS

Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind is a proposed offshore windfarm located approximately 54 kilometres off the coast of Lincolnshire together with associated offshore and onshore transmission infrastructure. The offshore export cables from the offshore wind turbines are proposed to make landfall south of Anderby Creek. From the landfall, the cables would continue underground to one of two different connection points still under consideration by National Grid – a connection to the existing overhead line circuits at Weston Marsh (north of Spalding) or to a proposed new National Grid substation (east of Alford).

Early engagement with local communities is very important to us and we are hosting a number of in person and online events to introduce the scheme in more detail and gain feedback from all stakeholders.

We will also be holding a virtual exhibition on our website – www.outerdowsing.com from 1 November – 29 November where you can view the information from the consultation events and find out more about our proposals.

The deadline for commenting on this phase of consultation is [29 November 2022](#).

Venue	Date & Time
Anderby Village Hall Sea Road, Anderby PE24 5YD	Tuesday 1 November 2pm-8pm
Online webinar and Q&A – www.outerdowsing.com	Wednesday 2 November 2pm-3pm
Online webinar and Q&A – www.outerdowsing.com	Thursday 3 November 6pm-7pm
Wainfleet All Saints Coronation Hall High Street, Wainfleet PE24 4BS	Friday 4 November 2pm-8pm
Fosdyke Village Hall Old Main Road, Fosdyke PE20 2BU	Saturday 5 November 2pm-8pm
Butterwick Village Hall Church Road, Butterwick PE22 0HT	Friday 11 November 2pm-8pm

**Annex 5.1.3B Posters distributed to local venues advertising the Phase 1
Consultation Events**

OUTER DOWSING OFFSHORE WIND CONSULTATION EVENTS

Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind is a proposed offshore windfarm located approximately 54 kilometres off the coast of Lincolnshire together with associated offshore and onshore transmission infrastructure. The offshore export cables from the offshore wind turbines are proposed to make landfall south of Anderby Creek. From the landfall, the cables would continue underground to one of two different connection points still under consideration by National Grid – a connection to the existing overhead line circuits at Weston Marsh (north of Spalding) or to a proposed new National Grid substation (east of Alford).

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The deadline for commenting on this phase of consultation is **29 November 2022**.



Freephone: 0808 175 2970 Email: contact@outerdowsing.com
Write to us: FREEPOST ODOW (no stamp required) Website: www.outerdowsing.com

Annex 5.1.3C Leaflet issued to Residents in the Phase 1 Consultation Zone



OUTER DOWSING OFFSHORE WIND CONSULTATION EVENTS



**OUTER
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OFFSHORE WIND

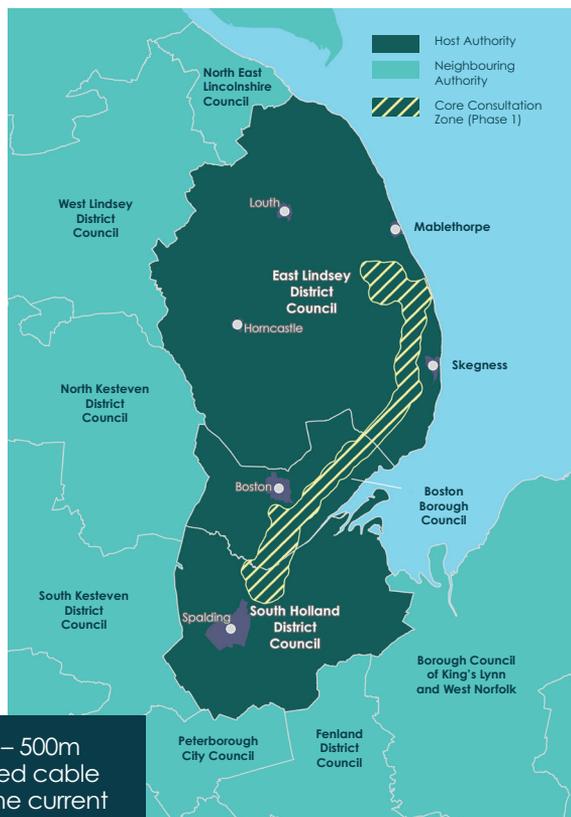
ABOUT OUTER DOWSING OFFSHORE WIND

We are writing to you to introduce Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind and to inform you of our upcoming consultation events. Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind is a proposed offshore windfarm located approximately 54 kilometres off the coast of Lincolnshire, together with associated offshore and onshore transmission infrastructure. The offshore export cables from the offshore wind turbines are proposed to make landfall south of Anderby Creek.

From the landfall, the cables would continue underground to one of two different connection points still under consideration by National Grid – a connection to the existing overhead line circuits at Weston Marsh (north of Spalding) or to a proposed new National Grid substation (east of Alford).

You are receiving this leaflet as your address has been identified as being within our core consultation zone shown here.

This zone is defined as being within 500m of the current proposed underground cable corridor search zone or 1km of the current proposed substation search zones.



Phase 1 Core Consultation Zone – 500m either side of the current proposed cable corridor search zone or 1km of the current proposed substation search zones.

THE PROJECT IN NUMBERS



54km off the
Lincolnshire coast



Up to 1.5GW of
clean electricity



Powering the
equivalent of over
1.6 million homes



Equivalent to
removing over
650,000 petrol cars
from the road



2030 – Target
generation date

Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind is being developed by Corio Generation and TotalEnergies. Working in partnership, we are committed to delivering a brighter future for the Greater Lincolnshire area. Our next generation offshore wind farm will help form the backbone of the UK's net-zero energy system, engaging communities, delivering opportunities, and empowering transformational environmental change.

The Project includes an offshore generating station that will have a proposed capacity in excess of 100 Megawatts offshore, therefore under Section 15 of the Planning Act 2008 it is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project. As such, the Project must apply for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build and operate the Project. The DCO process was created to streamline the consenting of large infrastructure projects and to ensure transparency and public participation.



WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR VIEWS

Early engagement with local communities is key to how we want to work. We have arranged a number of different channels to listen to your views. We will be holding a number of consultation events where you can come and learn more about the proposals and let us know your thoughts. There is no need to register for these events, please pop by at your leisure to review our proposals and chat to the Project team:

Venue	Date & Time
Anderby Village Hall Sea Road, Anderby PE24 5YD	Tuesday 1 November 2pm-8pm
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If you can't make it along to the consultation events, we will also be hosting a virtual exhibition on our website at www.outerdowsing.com between the 1 and 29 November.

The deadline for commenting on this phase of consultation is **29 November 2022**.

If you would like to find out more or let us know your views, you can:

 Visit our website at www.outerdowsing.com

 Write to us free of charge at **FREEPOST ODOW** (no other address or stamp required)

 Email us at contact@outerdowsing.com

 Call us free of charge on **0808 175 2970**

Annex 5.1.3D Panels as presented at the Phase 1 in person consultation



Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind Exhibition Panels



**OUTER
DOWSING**
OFFSHORE WIND



Welcome

Welcome to our public exhibition for the Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind Project. We are committed to working with local communities and stakeholders to help shape our proposals and we invite you to ask any questions you have and to provide your feedback.

As this is our first consultation event, we would like to introduce the Project and its partners, illustrate the work we have done to date, and outline our next steps. We are keen to hear your views and take on board your local knowledge to put communities and the environment at the forefront of our Project.

Members of the Project team are here today to help answer any questions you may have, as well as to listen to your ideas, thoughts or concerns on the proposals to date. We invite you to complete or take home a questionnaire before you leave.

Introduction to the Project and Partners

The Project is a proposed offshore windfarm located approximately 54 kilometres off the coast of Lincolnshire, England. The project comprises a 1.5GW offshore generating station, and offshore and onshore transmission infrastructure.

Working in partnership, we are committed to delivering a brighter future for the Greater Lincolnshire area. Our next generation offshore wind farm will help form the backbone of the UK's net-zero energy system, engaging communities, delivering opportunities, and empowering transformational environmental change.

Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind is being developed by Corio Generation (a wholly-owned Green Investment Group portfolio company) and TotalEnergies.



TotalEnergies, as part of its ambition to be a world-class player in the energy transition, is developing its offshore wind power portfolio worldwide. TotalEnergies' offshore wind power portfolio comprises 6 gigawatts (GW) of projects under construction or development, including 2GW set to be in production by 2025.

Corio Generation is a specialist offshore wind business, dedicated to harnessing renewable energy worldwide. With a project pipeline of over 20GW, Corio Generation's global team take projects from origination, through development and construction, and into operations.



Please complete a questionnaire with your feedback, thoughts and ideas.



Site Selection

The location of the offshore array area and the proposed onshore grid connections for the Project have been determined by two processes - The Crown Estate Offshore Wind Leasing Round 4 and the Government's Offshore Transmission Network Review.

Our Array Area - Offshore Wind Leasing Round 4

In early 2021, the Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind project was successful in a competitive process run by The Crown Estate, to secure preferred bidder status for a 1.5GW offshore wind farm in the Southern North Sea as part of the UK's Offshore Wind Leasing Round 4.

Together, the six Round 4 projects awarded under the Round 4 leasing process, represent just under 8GW of potential new offshore wind capacity with the opportunity to deliver clean electricity to millions of UK homes and create employment opportunities across the country.

Our Onshore Grid Connection - Offshore Transmission Network Review (OTNR)

With the UK Government setting ambitious targets to help meet its climate change and energy security goals, the amount of offshore wind in the UK is expected to grow fourfold between 2022 and 2030.

Originally built over 50 years ago to transport electricity from a network of coal-fired power stations, National Grid's transmission network is now evolving to bring clean, renewable energy from a new generation of offshore wind farms to customers throughout Great Britain.

In 2020, the Government, with support from the energy regulator Ofgem and National Grid Electricity System Operator (ESO) launched the Offshore Transmission Network Review (OTNR), aiming to establish an efficient, coordinated approach to network connection and development.

In July 2022, the OTNR proposed two possible connection options for Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind with a final decision expected before the end of 2022. The options are:

- ⌘ Weston Marsh
- ⌘ Lincolnshire Node

Based on this, Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind has commenced a process of site selection to determine suitable search zones for offshore and onshore infrastructure for both the Weston Marsh and Lincolnshire Node connection options.

Offshore Transmission Network Review (OTNR)

The objective of the OTNR is 'to ensure that the transmission connections for offshore wind generation are delivered in the most appropriate way, considering the increased ambition for offshore wind to achieve net zero. This will be done with a view to finding the appropriate balance between environmental, social and economic costs'

Our Studies

To further understand the local environment, guide the design of the Project, and inform the extent of any potential impacts it may have, a broad variety of surveys are being undertaken. The Environmental Impact Assessment Report will present the findings of these surveys along with proposed mitigation and management measures.





We're keen to understand as much about the local area as possible to help us develop the best design for the project - please provide us with your feedback.

Our Onshore Proposals

The offshore export cables from the offshore wind turbines are proposed to make landfall south of Anderby Creek. From the landfall, the cables would continue underground to one of two different connection points still under consideration by National Grid – a connection to the existing overhead line circuits at Weston Marsh (north of Spalding) or to a proposed new National Grid substation (east of Alford). We are therefore looking to locate our Onshore Infrastructure within or close to the Search Zone as shown on the map on this panel. Read on for more information on each of the key areas.

Landfall Search Zone

The landfall search zone has been selected through environmental and technical assessments. There is only one landfall search zone as this has been assessed as the optimum search zone for both connection options.

Onshore Cables Search Zone

We are currently assessing the optimal cable route and onshore substation location options and we are seeking your feedback to help shape our proposals.

Onshore Substations Search Zones

Until we have secured a final grid connection, we currently have two search zones for the onshore substation (Lincolnshire Node and Weston Marsh). Only one of these zones, along with the accompanying onshore cable route search zone will be progressed once a final connection point is adopted. The substation site is anticipated to have a maximum footprint of 9.2 hectares for the operational substation footprint and 18 hectares for the total land take including mitigation and drainage.

Onshore Cable Corridor

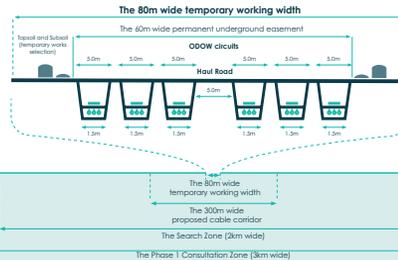
We are also seeking feedback on our proposed cable corridor.

The cable corridor is a refined area of search (c. 300m wide) in which the route of the onshore cables will be located.

During construction this route will have a typical 80m construction working width. Following further survey work, environmental and technical assessments, and feedback from the local community and stakeholders, the optimum cable route will be adopted for the DCO Application.

On completion this will be reduced to a 60m underground permanent easement as shown below.

We have committed to burying our cables from the landfall to our onshore substation.



Once the cable route has been constructed, all land will be reinstated and agricultural activities will resume.

Managing Impacts

Reducing and Mitigating Impacts

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a process which identifies and assesses the potential environmental effects of a development. It informs the design of the Project from both an environmental and social perspective and identifies mitigation measures to minimise and manage the impacts of the Project on the surrounding people and environment.

Mitigation is a critical component of the EIA process. It aims to reduce or prevent adverse impacts from happening and to keep those that do occur within an acceptable level. Opportunities for impact mitigation will occur throughout the project cycle and we will work with the principles of mitigation to avoid, minimise and offset potential significant environmental impacts of the project.

Delivering Transformational Environmental Change

As well as minimising any adverse environmental impacts of the project through innovative and environmentally sensitive design, we are committed to delivering Biodiversity Net Gain as part of our project. This means that we will aim to leave the natural environment in a measurably better state than what it is now.

Working with stakeholders and local communities we will seek to identify opportunities to improve the environment at a local level. For example, by implementing measures to create an improved environment for species and habitats, for the benefit of people and nature. We welcome any feedback or ideas you may have on possible environmental gain in the local area.

Surveys

To further understand the local environment, guide the design of the Project, and inform the extent of any potential impacts it may have, a number of detailed surveys are being undertaken.



Geophysical Surveys: look at the profile of the seafloor



Geotechnical Surveys: look at what the sea floor is made of



Wind Resource Monitoring: measures the speed and direction of the wind



Metocean Surveys: measure wave height and tide/current over time



Ecology surveys which assess the habitat, flora and fauna present (offshore and onshore)



Birds and Marine Mammal Surveys



Navigational Surveys



Archaeology (offshore and onshore)



Noise



Traffic, transport and public access



Do you agree with our proposed survey approach?

Do you have any ideas or feedback on how we can help deliver positive environmental change in the local area, for example for biodiversity, for people, for the planet?

Engaging With Stakeholders

We believe effective engagement with stakeholders is the best way to deliver a sustainable Project that maximises economic and environmental benefits. The Project team is fully committed to engage early and regularly with stakeholders to build long-term relationships based on mutual trust and respect.

We encourage you and your local community to give your views on how the Project may affect you or your local area and we are seeking feedback to help develop the Project's proposals regarding, but not limited to:

- ✦ Our onshore proposals, including our proposed cable corridors and onshore substation search zones
- ✦ Our offshore proposals
- ✦ Our Engagement strategy and consultation materials
- ✦ How we can deliver a substantive and enduring benefit to local communities

Aim of the Consultation

The aim of the Project's consultation is to ensure that you, or anyone that has the potential to be directly affected by the Project, is made aware of the Project's proposals and has an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback. Furthermore, your feedback and that received from local communities will have the potential to influence the development of our proposals.



OUTER DOWSING OFFSHORE WIND

2022

- August 2022**: Scoping Report submitted.
- September 2022**: Scoping Opinion published by Planning Inspectorate.
- October 2022**: Publication of the SoCC.

Phase 1 Consultation

- November 2022**: Public Consultation Events (Phase 1).
- Winter 2022**: Ongoing engagement with the community and stakeholders on refinement of project proposals.

2023

- Q1 2023**: Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) to be published for consultation.
- Spring/Summer 2023**: Public Consultation Events (Phase 2).
- Autumn/Winter 2023**: Ongoing engagement with the community and stakeholders.

Phase 2 Consultation

- Q4 2023**: DCO application planned to be submitted with supporting environmental Statement.

2024

We welcome your views on our engagement outreach. Are there any groups you feel we have missed? Share your thoughts on our consultation approach and methods.

The Application Process

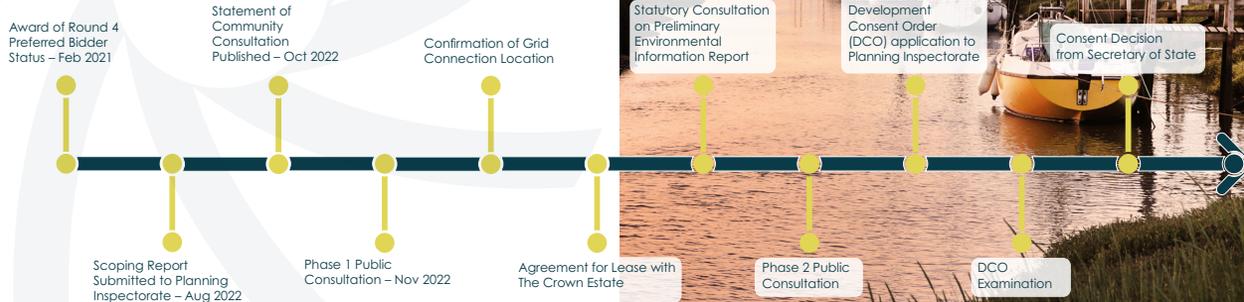
Offshore wind developments of more than 100MW are considered Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects and require a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build and operate.

The DCO process was created to streamline the consenting of large infrastructure projects and to ensure transparency and facilitate public participation.

The DCO application process will be managed by the Planning Inspectorate and examined by an Examining Authority, which will produce a recommendations report, before a decision is made by the Secretary of State.

The Local Planning Authority and Marine Management Organisation play an important consultative role in the process.

If granted, the DCO will consent the offshore wind farm, the cables and associated electrical infrastructure as well as the onshore grid connection works (and any other associated development included in the application).



Project Need

The UK Government has ambitious plans to have 50GW of operating offshore wind capacity installed by 2030 – enough to potentially power every home in the UK, delivering home-grown renewable energy and providing increased energy security for the nation.

At 1.5GW, Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind will be one of the UK's largest offshore wind farms upon completion. It is anticipated to generate renewable electricity equivalent to the annual electricity consumption of over **1.6 million households** and will play a critical role in achieving the UK Government's ambition to deliver 50GW of offshore wind by 2030 and **achieve net zero by 2050**.

The Project will displace the equivalent of nearly **2 million tonnes CO₂ emissions per year** of operations through the generation of renewable electricity. **This is the equivalent of removing over 650,000 petrol cars from the road** for the duration of the Project.

Innovation and economies of scale within the offshore wind industry have helped to significantly drive down costs whilst supporting the regeneration of a number of local coastal communities and economies through both the construction and ongoing maintenance of projects.

The offshore wind sector is already making a major contribution to the UK economy, **supporting over 31,000 UK jobs**, both directly in the offshore wind industry, or indirectly through the supply chain companies which manufacture products for the offshore wind industry. By 2030, the offshore wind sector could employ over **97,000 people in the UK**¹.

Once operational, Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind will be a major part of the Government's plans for providing secure and affordable home-grown energy to British households and industry, accelerating the growth of the UK economy, and eliminating carbon emissions.

The offshore wind industry has a strong track record of innovation, delivery and cost reduction. In the seven years from 2015 to 2022 the cost of electricity from offshore wind farms securing Government-backed production contracts fell by almost 70 per cent. Offshore wind is now among the cheapest forms of new electricity generation in the GB market, along with onshore wind and large-scale solar.²

¹ OWC Press Release, 13 June 2022 (<https://www.renewableuk.com/news/608235/New-report-shows-jobs-in-UK-offshore-wind-industry-to-grow-to-100000.htm>)

² Electricity Generation Costs, BEIS, August 2020 (p.27)



Up to 1.5GW of clean electricity



Powering over 1.6 million UK households



Displacing nearly 2 million tonnes of CO₂ per year



Equivalent to removing over 650,000 petrol cars from the road



Contributing to Net Zero by 2050



Offshore wind is one of the cheapest forms of new electricity generation

We would like to understand if climate change is an issue that concerns you. Let us know your views.





**OUTER
DOWSING**
OFFSHORE WIND

GET IN TOUCH

If you would like any more information about Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind then please get in touch at contact@outerdowsing.com

Register your interest to receive project updates at www.outerdowsing.com/get-in-touch/

You can call us free of charge on 0808 175 2970.

You also can write to the Project free of charge at:

FREEPOST ODOW

(no stamp or further address details needed on the envelope).

**Annex 5.1.3E Feedback Form available both in hard copy and online as part of the
Phase 1 Consultation events**



CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE



Engaging with Stakeholders

1. Are there any additional stakeholder groups that you think we should be engaging with?

2. Do you prefer virtual or in person consultation events?
(Please circle)

Virtual

In person

Virtual and in person

3. Do you have any further comments or suggestions about how we engage with the local community? Are there lessons learned from previous projects that could help improve our processes?

Onshore Proposals

4. Do you agree that the optimum search zones for the onshore electrical cable corridors to the potential grid connections have been selected?

5. We're keen to understand as much about the local area as possible to help us develop the best design for the project.

Do you have any further information on the following:

5a. Lincolnshire Node Substation Search Zone

5b. Lincolnshire Node Cable Corridor Search Zone

5c. Weston Marsh Substation Search Zone

5d. Weston Marsh Cable Corridor Search Zone

Offshore Proposals

We're keen to understand as much as possible about the local marine area to help us design the best possible project.

6. Do you have any information on the offshore project areas or the local marine environment which you think we should be aware of:

- a. Fishing
- b. Navigation and shipping
- c. Marine species or habitats
- d. Recreational activities
- e. Marine industries
- f. Other

Managing Impacts

7. Do you agree with our proposed survey approach?
(Please circle)

Yes **No** **Not sure**

8. Do you have any ideas or feedback on how we can help deliver positive environmental change in the local area, for example for biodiversity, for people, for the planet?

9. Do you have any general comments or suggestions as to how we can be a good neighbour to the local community as we progress our offshore wind farm plans?

Community Benefit

10. How can we deliver a substantive and enduring benefit to local communities?

11. Do you support the establishment of an ODOW Community Benefit Fund (CBF)?
(Please circle)

Yes **No** **Not sure**

A CBF is a voluntary commitment by a developer to put money into a fund which is then made available to community projects

We are committed to working with the community to ensure any possible community benefit fund is managed in a way which empowers communities to influence how the fund is used.

12. Would you support an Impartial Independent Body looking after the allocation of any funds?
(Please circle)

Yes **No** **Not sure**

This means funds would be administered by an independent grant-making charity or organisation, with decision-making supported by local Advisory Groups made up of community specialists who benefit from a strong and deep understanding of the local community and environment

13. What are the top three priorities in your area that could be helped by community benefit funding?
Some examples may include the following, but we'd welcome your ideas and suggestions (Please circle)

**Energy costs / Education & youth outreach / Skills / Climate change
Environmental enhancement / Sports & recreation / Greenspace
Green transport / Free text option**

Other:

CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE



About you

How would you describe your interest in the Project, e.g. Landowner, Local Resident, Local Business, Representative, Statutory body etc?

What is your postcode? (for statistical purposes only)

To receive project updates, please provide an email or postal address:

Name (Optional)

Email (Optional)

Postal Address (Optional)

Do you wish to receive project updates?

Yes **No**

How would you like to be kept updated?

Email **Post**



🌐 outerdowsing.com

☎ 0808 175 2970

✉ contact@outerdowsing.com

Annex 5.1.3F Phase 1 Winter Community Newsletter

Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind

Community Newsletter

Winter 2022/23



**OUTER
DOWSING**
OFFSHORE WIND

Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of the Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind Community Newsletter. This edition provides an update on the results of our recent Phase 1 Consultation.

Firstly, I would like to thank all of you who took part in our Phase 1 public consultation which ran from 1 November to 29 November 2022. We have had a great response across the public information days, online exhibition, webinars, feedback forms, landowner meetings, freepost address and freephone telephone line.



I would like to offer special thanks to those who attended the public consultation events. We hosted four in person events – Anderby, Wainfleet, Fosdyke and Butterwick between 1 November and 11 November which were attended by nearly 500 people. It was great to meet you all and your local knowledge has helped to further shape the project. Details of the consultation results are summarised in this newsletter.

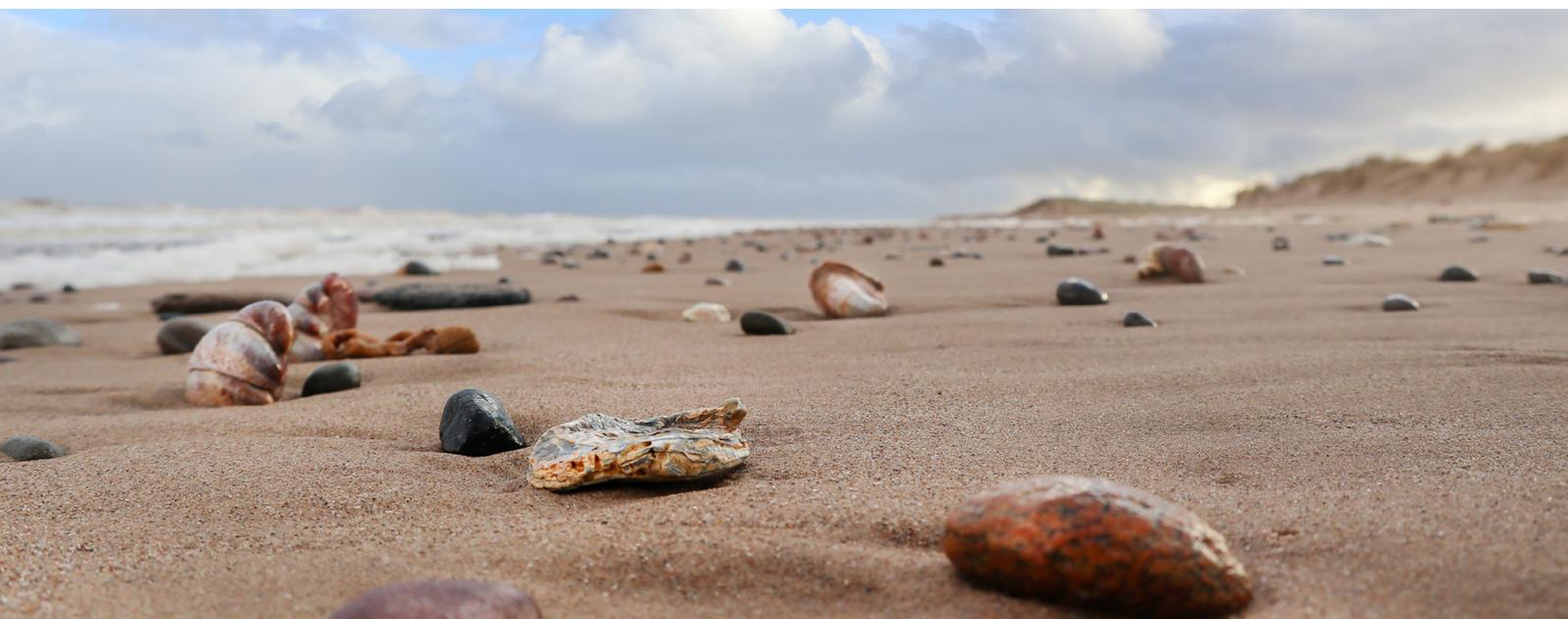
As part of the feedback received during the Phase 1 consultation, we have been made aware of various engineering and environmental considerations potentially affecting the proposed cable corridor to the Weston Marsh connection option as presented in November. As a result of this feedback the project has decided to consider a proposed amendment to the central section of the onshore cable route option to Weston Marsh between Wainfleet All Saints and Butterwick, in parallel with the original proposed cable corridor. Once fully assessed the project will make a route selection based upon the full information available and will continue with a single proposed route option. Details of the possible alternative route are shown on the map in this newsletter. At the moment, both routes are possible options which will be considered.

As a result of this alternative route proposal, we will now undertake further public consultation in the affected area between Wainfleet All Saints and Butterwick, to give the local communities an opportunity to comment on our plans. We will publish a new Statement of Community Consultation later in January which will outline how we will undertake the consultation process, and we will host two additional Project Information Days at Wainfleet on 21st February and Old Leake on 24th February, together with an updated online exhibition & webinar.

I hope you find the information in this newsletter useful, and as always, if you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us using the contact information on the back of this newsletter.

Chris Jenner

Development Manager



Results of the consultation

Between 1 November and 29 November we held our Phase 1 public consultation. The purpose of the consultation was to introduce the project's proposals to the local communities and, as such, give local communities the opportunity to influence the design and development processes before the submission of the DCO application. Outer Dowsing's aim is to develop its proposals collaboratively and responsibly, taking account of local community interests.

The consultation period included:

-  Four in person public information day exhibitions
-  An online version of the public exhibitions
-  Two online webinar presentations with question and answer sessions
-  Meetings with landowners and key stakeholders

The consultation facts and figures

-  We sent out invitations to over 21,000 local households in the consultation zone as well as MPs, county, district and parish councillors
-  We held four in-person public information day exhibitions at Anderby, Wainfleet, Butterwick and Fosdyke
-  We had a total of 476 visitors who signed in
-  We received 13 hard copy questionnaires back along with 7 online questionnaires and 11 Freepost postcards
-  Our online exhibition was viewed 310 times



Overarching themes

Many people who attended the public information days were happy to provide us with thoughts, comments and local knowledge regarding the substation search areas and proposed onshore cable routes.

The feedback we received will be published in detail in our Consultation Report, but a number of clear themes emerged:

Theme	Comments	Response
Energy security	People were concerned about energy security and the rising cost of fuel.	Whilst energy security is a broad subject and one that this project alone cannot solve, the Outer Dowsing scheme will provide enough clean, green electricity to power 1.6m homes.
Learning from previous schemes in the area	People highlighted concerns regarding previous schemes in the area such as the chopping down of trees for access turning points, dust, traffic & air quality (in particular the 40mph temporary zones in place 24/7) and a limit to HGVs through local towns and villages.	We aim to learn from what worked well for other schemes and also what didn't work so well. Our aim is to deliver a traffic, construction and operations programme that has been shaped by local input and views.
Substation search zones	Residents' views on constraints within the substation search zones were heavily influenced by the location of their homes, existing screening, topography, ecology, potential noise impacts and access for construction traffic.	Site-specific knowledge will be added to the constraints mapping that will be used to identify substation sites that will be taken forward to the Phase 2 Consultation Events.
Local grid constraints	People commented that the growth in the local economy is being held back by a lack of local grid capacity, e.g. electric car charging points, capacity to supply new industrial developments	Whilst our project cannot directly affect local power supply, it will increase capacity in the Grid as a whole, increasing the potential for local development.
Cumulative impacts for future projects	Some residents mentioned that there had already been a number of schemes in the area and they were concerned about the cumulative impact of this project and any future projects.	We are aware of the previous schemes in the area and we aim to learn from them. We will also work closely with the local councils to identify, consider and mitigate any potential cumulative impacts with future projects.
Environmental impact	Attendees provided useful information and feedback on ecology, flood risk, access, transport, visual impact, noise and dust.	We are currently undertaking a number of detailed studies and surveys to understand how the project might impact these topics and others, the results and any proposed mitigation measures will be outlined in our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) which we will publish and consult on as part of our Phase 2 Consultation Events.

Overarching themes

Theme	Comments	Response
Temporary impact on agriculture, food security & restoration	Some people were concerned about how much land the project would require and whether this would affect agriculture in the area.	Along most of the cable route construction will require temporary access to a small strip of land up to 80m wide to place the cables in. This will be reinstated and returned to agricultural use shortly afterwards. We are undertaking additional consultation on an alternative route between Wainfleet and Butterwick. If this alternative route is chosen, we think that it would reduce the impact on the most intensively farmed areas and would mitigate some engineering issues.
Archaeology	Visitors provided us with some detailed information about local archaeological and heritage sites such as the salterns and submerged forests.	We are carrying out detailed archaeological and heritage studies as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process. Details will be provided in the PEIR.
Ecology and ornithology	Respondents gave us valuable feedback in terms of areas important to wildlife and different species which can be found across the area.	The Project is committed to delivering a positive legacy for local wildlife, it is for this reason that the avoidance of sensitive environmental receptors has been central to the design of the project. We are carrying out habitat and species surveys and studies and will report the results in the PEIR and ES.
Community benefit engagement and Biodiversity Net Gain	Visitors gave us their ideas for Biodiversity Net Gain and asked how the project could support various schemes. We also received a lot of feedback on how other projects in the area delivered community benefit in the form of a Community Benefit Fund (CBF).	We are keen to offer a community benefit fund with an aim to deliver a substantive and enduring benefit to local communities. We are talking to local organisations who may be able to help us deliver these aims. The coastal communities of Lincolnshire have an inspiring fondness for nature. We want to encourage, support and foster this and are actively looking into opportunities where we can provide Biodiversity Net Gain as part of the Project.

Additional consultation on potential alternative to section of onshore cable route option to Weston Marsh.

We were given a great deal of valuable feedback on various elements of the proposed cable route which we have taken some time to process and understand.

Taking onboard the information received during the Phase 1 public consultation along with guidance from our environmental and engineering team and our site surveys/meetings, we are now also considering a potential alternative to the central section of the proposed onshore cable corridor to the Weston Marsh option between Wainfleet All Saints and Butterwick. Details of the possible alternative route are shown on the map below. At the moment, both routes remain as possible options which will be considered pending further feedback and studies.



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What happens next?

As a result of this potential route alternative, we will be hosting some additional Project Information Days at Wainfleet on 21st February and Old Leake on 24th February to seek stakeholder views on this potential option. If the Weston Marsh grid connection option is progressed, the project will use this feedback to inform the route selection that would be taken forward to consent application at the end of 2023. We will publish a new Statement of Community Consultation later in January which will outline how we will undertake this additional consultation.

Residents in the consultation area indicated on the map will receive further details in the post at the beginning of February. Adverts for the public consultation events will also be placed in local newspaper and on social media.





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We are always happy to hear your thoughts and you can contact us in the following ways:

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