

# Project Newsletter

## Spring 2026



## Welcome

Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind was granted consent by the UK Government in February 2026. Reaching this critical milestone took a huge amount of work and input from you, our stakeholders and local communities. We would like to extend our thanks to all those who provided feedback.

Backed by an experienced project team and strong shareholder support, the project benefits from proven fixed-bottom foundation technology, a well-characterised seabed, a confirmed grid connection and secured development consent. These factors provide a strong platform as the project prepares for the next Contract for Difference allocation round.

On page 2 you can find our updated timeline. Our construction start date is now set for 2028, and the project is on track to connect to the grid in 2030, after which 1.6million homes will be powered by our UK-generated, cleaner power for 35 years.

In the meantime, the team are busy finalising project design, completing surveys and maintaining the strong links we have built with the local communities.

We also want to hear from you! On page 3: Can you help us unravel the mystery of an archaeological find? On page 7: Perhaps you know a young person who could be one of our first Youth Representatives on our Community Liaison Groups?

Outer Dowsing began in 2021 with an open and transparent approach to engagement, and we wish to continue that approach. If you have any questions for the team, please get in touch. We hope you enjoy reading the Spring edition of our newsletter.



Stuart McAuley  
Project Director



Greg Tomlinson  
Development Manager



# Development Consent Order

What does it mean and what are the next steps?



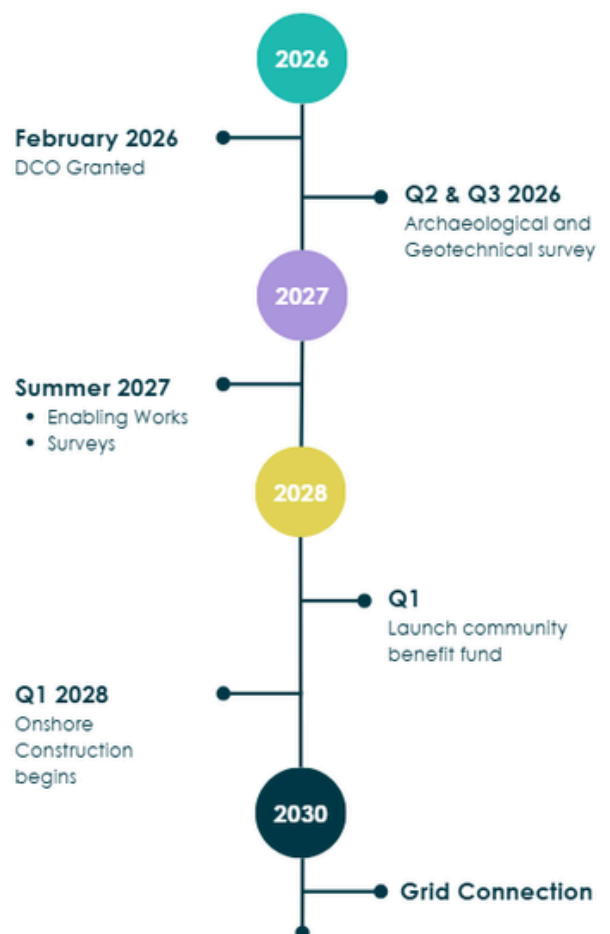
A Development Consent Order, or DCO, is the main form of approval required for large infrastructure projects in England and Wales that are classified as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. A DCO provides the legal powers needed to build and operate a project and sets out the requirements that must be followed during delivery.

Unlike many planning applications, which are decided by councils, DCO applications are examined through a national planning process because of their scale and importance. For Outer Dowsing, this reflects its role in supporting the UK's energy security and its potential to generate enough electricity to power around 1.6 million homes.

Although the decision is taken at a national level, local communities and stakeholders played a key role in our DCO application, as residents, businesses, and local groups commented on our application, raised concerns, and suggested improvements. In February 2026, Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind was granted a Development Consent Order by the UK Government. This consent brings together a number of approvals needed for the project, including planning permission, land-related powers and environmental requirements.

The DCO includes compulsory acquisition powers, but these powers may not need to be used in many cases. The project continues to prioritise voluntary agreements with landowners, and most landowners along the onshore cable route have now signed agreements with the project.

Over the coming period, the focus will be on preparing for the next stage of delivery. This includes developing the detailed design, completing further surveys and agreeing detailed plans with Lincolnshire County Council. These plans will finalise how the project will manage potential construction impacts in accordance with the DCO, including traffic, noise and disruption. They must be agreed before construction starts and will be designed to reduce impacts on local people wherever possible. The project is also working towards the commercial milestones needed to reach a final investment decision and begin construction in 2028. It remains on track to complete onshore construction ahead of its planned grid connection in 2030.



# Preparing the way

Before we can install the 70 km underground cable, we must complete numerous surveys in order to best plan our works and minimise impact to the area. We are committed to understanding and preserving the heritage of the area, and our archaeological works are a core part of that.

## Archaeological trial trenching



Nearly 400 trenches have been excavated since 2024, the majority did not contain any archaeological finds, but we have found some post medieval ditches, small roman beads and evidence of salt-working. One of the more interesting finds was close to Hogsthorpe and consisted of a pair of animal skulls buried in a ditch with Romano-British pottery found alongside it. One skull belonged to a female horse and the other cattle with small curved horns. The positioning of the skulls appeared to be deliberate alongside domestic occupation. Could it have been ceremonial or for good luck? If you have any ideas about why the skulls may have been placed in this way let us know and we can share in the next newsletter [contact@outerdowsing.com](mailto:contact@outerdowsing.com).



## Future Survey plans

Further archaeological trial trenching commenced in May 2026 working in collaboration with land owners and local authorities. An additional 200 trial trenches predominantly between Friskney and Fosdyke will be excavated, in agreement with Lincolnshire County Council and Historic England. The project will also carry out a geotechnical survey to gather data required to inform detailed design near to the landfall construction compound, located in farmland south of Anderby Creek, a water monitoring borehole will also be installed to monitor groundwater levels.

# Community focus

## Outer Dowsing Energise Workshops



In addition to boosting UK energy security while lowering emissions, Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind is committed to delivering a brighter future for people and planet. One of the ways in which we aim to do this is through a community investment and engagement program that we hope will leave behind a long-lasting positive legacy in Lincolnshire. Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) is a key theme for our community investment. In 2025 we launched the Outer Dowsing Energise workshops to help upskill young people, equip them with valuable skills, and inspire them to consider a future in a STEM career or renewables. In both the Supergrid and the Wind Power challenge, pupils build their own wind turbines and investigate the impact of design variables on the efficiency of a wind turbine while also learning the critical elements of scientific investigation, design, record keeping, teamwork and problem solving. The pupils also get the chance to ask about careers in offshore wind.



**400**  
teams of  
budding  
engineers



**1240+**  
students  
and  
pupils



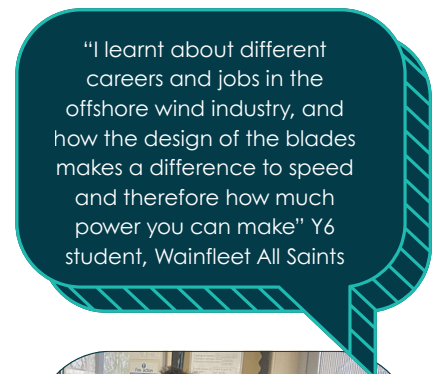
**40+**  
Primary  
schools



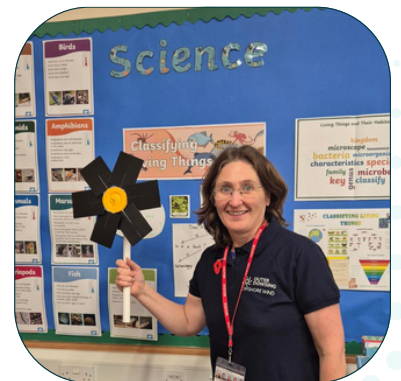
**14**  
Secondary  
schools

Schools from Skegness to Spalding were selected to receive the Outer Dowsing funded workshops based on proximity to the project area and need.

The workshops were recently highly commended in the Humber Renewables Awards Education Programme of the year category.



"I learnt about different careers and jobs in the offshore wind industry, and how the design of the blades makes a difference to speed and therefore how much power you can make" Y6 student, Wainfleet All Saints



# Building the workforce of the future



## Virtual Work Experience

Outer Dowsing Offshore wind was invited by the Greater Lincolnshire Careers hub to take part in a pilot of a hybrid work experience programme and take the workplace into University Academy Holbeach School for a day. The pilot was supported by Futures For All and began with a virtual day of activities, informative talks on career pathways, and an offshore wind project for the students to tackle. Garrett Roche, Michael Ryan and Jenny Marsden from the Outer Dowsing team created and delivered exercises to develop skills linked to community engagement, project development and turbine procurement.

Students used their local knowledge alongside complex environmental, socioeconomic and engineering data to help plan the most efficient and least impactful route for an underground cable. The programme provided the students with a meaningful experience of the workplace including opportunities to develop their skills and gain a better understanding of how they can be utilised in the working world.

## Careers outreach

Another key area of focus for the team has been supporting the careers outreach events held by the schools close to our onshore project area. In 2025, the Outer Dowsing team supported over 16 careers events from Skegness to Spalding and was the sole representative for renewable energy and offshore wind.

As a sponsor of the STEM tent at FutureFest, Outer Dowsing enabled more exhibitors to attend and increased the number of children that were able to benefit from the event. The team marked National Careers Week by holding a number of Outer Dowsing Energise workshops.



## Get in touch!

If you have an opportunity to bring STEM skills to South and East Lincolnshire, or know of careers related events in the area that we may be able to support please get in touch with Jenny Marsden on [contact@outerdowsing.com](mailto:contact@outerdowsing.com)



Jenny Marsden  
Communications  
Manager

# Community investment



## Anderby bird hide now open

Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind was pleased to be able to fund the purchase and installation of a new bird hide at Anderby Creek in partnership with The Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and Anderby Parish Council. The hide was installed in March 2026 and is located near Wolla Bank close to where the underground cables will be installed in a few years using tunnelling techniques (horizontal directional drilling) and therefore the beach and nature reserve will remain undisturbed. It is hoped that the hide will be a place for locals and tourists alike to observe and appreciate the local flora and fauna.



## Farm adventures in Friskney

Children at Friskney Church of England Primary School continued their weekly visits to Farm School at Askefield Project for another thanks to the support of Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind. Headteacher, Tina Wood, said: *“Our visits to Askefield Farm are a highlight for the children. They give pupils the chance to learn in a completely different way – immersed in nature, working together, and developing life skills they’ll carry with them for years to come. We are incredibly grateful to Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind for making this possible and for investing in opportunities that genuinely make a difference to our children and community.”*



## Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind Community Benefit Fund

The Outer Dowsing Community Benefit Fund will be launched just before the construction phase, which is estimated to begin in early 2028. The project continues to engage with local communities via the community liaison groups to help design a fund that will help to leave a lasting positive legacy in Lincolnshire.

# Apply to be a Youth Representative!



Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind runs Community Liaison Group meetings to provide project updates and allow representatives to ask questions directly to the team. We are keen to get input from the younger parts of the community, and as such have created eight new Youth Representative roles for individuals aged 15-16 to attend our meetings held close to Hogsthorpe, Old Leake, Surfleet and online. We hope this opportunity will give participants an opportunity to gain some real-world work experience, but also bring fresh perspectives to the meetings. Participants must be accompanied by a guardian to meetings. To apply, email [contact@outerdowsing.com](mailto:contact@outerdowsing.com) stating in no more than 500 words why you would be a good candidate and which meeting you would prefer to attend by July 31<sup>st</sup> 2026. Successful applicants will be selected by a panel.

## Focus on land

The land team would like to thank landowners for their support and engagement as we continue to prepare for construction in 2028. The majority of land owners along the onshore cable route and substation location have now signed Heads of Terms with the project and are assisting the team to enable access for the various surveys that need to take place. We are committed to maintaining relationships with Landowners and Agents and recently shared a project update with them. All land-related queries should be directed to [outerdowsing@dalcourmaclaren.com](mailto:outerdowsing@dalcourmaclaren.com). You can also call the land helpline on 0333 188 5374.



## Investing in the UK

As we prepare to begin construction in a few years time, the project is actively working to build links with potential suppliers and businesses.

The project will need a diverse range of suppliers to support our onshore construction activities, ranging from companies that can supply specialised electrical equipment and civil engineering firms to welfare unit suppliers or fencing contractors. We will endeavour to work with local businesses wherever possible and will continue to promote awareness and access to the opportunities available.



Any businesses that are interested to work with Outer Dowsing can register their interest on our supplier portal: <https://www.outerdowsing.com/supplychain/>

We thank you for your interest in Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind, and invite you to contact us on via the channels listed below if you have any queries.



[www.outerdowsing.com](http://www.outerdowsing.com)



0808 175 2970



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