

## Hornsea 4 Community Newsletter



#### Introduction

Welcome to the second community newsletter for Hornsea Project Four (Hornsea Four), a new offshore wind farm which Ørsted is proposing to develop in the North Sea, approximately 65 km off Flamborough Head on the Yorkshire Coast.

We want to keep you informed so that you understand how the project is developing and how you can engage in the ongoing consultation process.

This newsletter provides an update on our proposals since our last newsletter in March 2019, including the latest project developments, our activities behind the scenes and details of how you can get involved.

#### **About Ørsted**

Ørsted is a renewable energy company taking tangible action to meet its vision of creating a world that runs entirely on green energy. Climate change is one of the biggest challenges for life on earth; we need to transform the way we power the world.



In the UK we currently have 11 operational offshore wind farms and two under construction.



Our UK offshore wind farms are generating enough clean energy to power over 3.2 million homes. By 2022, our two projects under construction will be operational and the increased energy generated will allow us to power over 5.5 million UK homes.

#### What is Hornsea Four?

We are currently developing our proposals for Hornsea Four and will continue consultation up to the point of submission of our Development Consent Order (DCO) application which is planned for Spring 2020.

Hornsea Four is the fourth project in the Hornsea Zone. It will be located to the west of Hornsea One and Hornsea Two which are both under construction. Hornsea Four will also be to the west of Hornsea Three which is under development and submitted its DCO application in May 2018.





We are investigating an offshore generating area for the project of up to 846 km<sup>2</sup> where up to 180 turbines will be located.



The project anticipates it will generate enough electricity to power well over 1 million UK homes.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Whilst at this stage it is not possible to state the capacity of Hornsea Four, the wind farm is expected to have a similar number of turbines to Hornsea One, which has 174 turbines and will generate enough clean electricity to power over 1 million homes.

### Refining our proposals

#### **Onshore cable corridor**

As presented in our previous newsletter and on the map on page 5, we have been working to refine our onshore cable corridor based on feedback gathered from our previous round of consultation and from ongoing engagement with parish councils, landowners and residents.

As part of our DCO application, we will apply for an 80m wide onshore Export Cable Corridor (ECC), of which 60m would be used for the Permanent Works Area and 20m for the Temporary Works Area.

We would take a permanent easement of this land, meaning that we would have access during construction, operation and decommissioning of the offshore wind farm.

We will consult on our 80m onshore cable corridor during our formal consultation in August/September 2019 and use the feedback we receive to refine our proposals.

#### Landfall search area

We have also been working to refine proposals for our landfall zone. We have already committed to selecting a landfall site that avoids the Barmston Main Drain and we are considering a number of local environmental and technical constraints, including specially protected environmental areas, and areas of high coastal erosion.

We are continuing our engagement with key local stakeholders including residents, landowners and the parish councils of Barmston and Fraisthorpe and Lissett and Ulrome. We will present refined landfall options during our formal consultation later this year.

We are also in the process of establishing an intertidal consultation group to allow stakeholders with an interest in the coastal zone to engage with us and offer feedback on our proposals for the landfall search area.



Figure 1: Our refined plans for Hornsea Four

#### Key

- Refined landfall search area
- Refined onshore cable corridor (80m)
- Refined onshore substation search area

# Onshore substation

In our March 2019 community newsletter, we presented our onshore substation search area as four zones (as shown in Figure 2). These zones had been identified based on key factors including planning policy, consideration of nearby properties, visual impact, biodiversity and the location of other utilities in the area.

Since then, we have continued to engage with residents and landowners within the onshore substation search area to gain valuable feedback about the local area and address concerns and issues they may have. This feedback is helping us to further refine our search area.

We are continuing to consult and undertake assessments on the onshore substation search area. All of the information we obtain will feed into our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and will be consulted on during our formal consultation this August/September.



Figure 2: Options for siting of onshore substation



### **Ongoing consultation**

We have recently established an Onshore Substation Consultation Group (OSCG) which includes representation from the parishes of Woodmansey, Rowley, Skidby, Walkington and Cottingham.

We held our first meeting in March 2019 and will continue to meet regularly to discuss items relating to the onshore substation, including:

- The site selection process, including the four zones and the constraints and preferences for these zones.
- Design elements of the substation, including our plans for visual screening, building materials and colours.

We have also held a briefing session with a number of parish councils along the proposed onshore cable corridor and have met with with local representatives, including councillors from East Riding of Yorkshire for a second time in May 2019.

These sessions are an opportunity for our team to provide an update on the proposals and an insight into what will be shown at our local information events in August/ September 2019 when we will consult on our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). Briefing sessions also ensure that feedback received from local stakeholders is considered during the refinement of proposals for Hornsea Four.

Ongoing consultation is an essential part of the development of our proposals. We want to meet with as many local stakeholders as possible and will soon be advertising the dates for our next local information events which will be held during our formal consultation period.

### Introducing Energy Balancing Infrastructure

For Hornsea Four, we are proposing to develop Energy Balancing Infrastructure (EBI) which will be included within the footprint of our onshore substation electrical infrastructure.



Across our homes and businesses, we use electricity for heat, light, to power appliances, gadgets and much more.

Electricity production needs to match the energy we consume as closely as possible. Finding the balance between production and consumption involves accurate forecasting and careful management of energy sources.

### How does Energy Balancing Infrastructure work?

As renewable energy becomes an increasingly significant source of our energy, the production of this energy will, by its nature, become more variable. The ability to store any excess energy which is produced will be essential to maintaining a stable electricity network system which keeps our lights on and our appliances running.

It is important that wind farm owners and operators consider these energy balancing requirements in order to support a stable grid, something we all benefit from.



More information about EBI will be available during our formal consultation in August/ September 2019.

### Preliminary Environmental Impact Assessments

As part of our formal consultation this August/September, we will be producing our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). This report will present information on the surveys and studies that are being undertaken as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

The table below provides a summary of the key issues we identified from feedback gathered during our previous round of consultation and how these issues are being assessed.

Topic area	Your feedback	Our assessments
Traffic and transport	You were concerned about the impact of construction traffic on major roads.	Surveys and existing third party data will inform our traffic and transport assessment. We will determine the likelihood of significant effects on the local highway network and will ensure that any necessary mitigation measures are put in place.
Flood risk	You were concerned about the high and low-level drainage, including the potential for the project to cross Barmston Main	Hornsea Four is in the process of enlisting the services of local drainage consultants, with the aim of seeking to speak to landowners to understand and map local drainage networks, and to mitigate any effects early on in the planning process.
	Drain.	Where the project may cross the Barmston Main Drain, the project

Barmston Main Drain, the project is already in consultation with the relevant consenting authorities and will agree any crossings with them prior to construction.

#### Landscape and visual impact



You were concerned about the visual impact of our onshore infrastructure, including our onshore substation. The potential visual impact of the onshore substation will be assessed using photomontages. A design vision document will be created which will cover design aspects including building form, materials, landscaping and lighting.

#### Onshore ecology



You were concerned about the impact of construction on a number of species, including overwintering birds, great crested newts and owls.

We are currently in the process of gathering further baseline data on the potential effects of construction on onshore ecology. This includes overwintering birds, breeding birds, great crested newts and bats, which will all be assessed as part of the EIA process.

Offshore ecology



You were concerned about the impact of construction on a number of species, including birds around Flamborough Head. We have identified a number of key species as part of our EIA process. Specific surveys and studies related to offshore ecology, including fish and shellfish, marine mammals and offshore ornithology, will be carried out to inform the EIA.

#### **Our Commitments Register**

In response to feedback received, we have so far made a number of commitments regarding the design and delivery of Hornsea Four. Your feedback and suggestions for additional commitments will help us to create a project that has considered potential issues and impacts which are important to the local community.

Our Commitments Register will next be open for public submission when we consult on our PEIR in August/September 2019. You can view a list of the commitments we have already made on our website at **hornseaprojects.co.uk/en/ Hornsea-Project-Four/Documents-Library** 

#### **Digital engagement**

To allow as many people as possible to review our plans, provide feedback and influence the design of our proposals for Hornsea Four, we are launching a new digital engagement platform.

This platform will allow you to go online and view our proposals in a simple and interactive way and provide feedback on the aspects of our proposals which are most important to you.



Plans which will be available to view online include our onshore cable corridor, landfall search area and onshore substation search area. We will use the feedback you provide to refine our proposals for Hornsea Four.

Visit **hornsea4feedback.commonplace.is** to view our digital engagement platform. Stakeholders will be advised of the start of the formal consultation via a consultation leaflet and ongoing publicity.

#### **Community Liaison Officer**

We have recently appointed a Community Liaison Officer (CLO), Andrew Acum, to act as an independent link between the project team and communities in the landfall, onshore cable route and onshore substation search areas.

Andrew is based locally. He will provide you with an opportunity to ask questions about the project and its design. Andrew will also engage with local stakeholders, providing timely project updates to the community while feeding back valuable local information to the project team.

We look forward to working with Andrew and continuing to engage with the local community.

Should you wish to contact Andrew, you can do so using the details below:

Email: andrew.acum@mercury-group.co.uk Telephone: 07939 005719



#### **Consultation timeline**



### **Stay informed**

If you would like to receive regular updates on the project to understand how it is developing, you can 'Register your Interest' via our website at **hornseaprojects.co.uk/Hornsea-Project-Four** 

You can view the most up to date plans for the project via our interactive map at hornseaprojects.co.uk/Hornsea-Project-Four/Interactive-map

#### **Our Community Access Points**

You can also access our project documents at any one of our Community Access Points (CAP sites):

- Beverley Customer Service Centre, 7 Cross Street, Beverley, HU17 9AX
- Bridlington Customer Service Centre, Bridlington Town Hall, Quay Road, Bridlington, YO16 4LP
- Cottingham Centre, Market Green, Cottingham, HU16 5QG
- Goole Customer Service Centre, Council Offices, Church Street, Goole, DN14 5BG
- Pocklington Pocela Centre, 23 Railway Street, Pocklington, YO42 2QU
- Hornsea Customer Service Centre, Council Offices, 75 Newbegin, Hornsea, HU18 1PA
- Withernsea Centre, Queen Street, Withernsea, HU19 2HH

#### **Contact us**

We want to keep you informed throughout the consultation period and hear your views. A project specific email address, Freephone information line and postal address have been set up so that you can ask questions and provide ongoing feedback to the proposals.



Should you require this document in large print, audio or braille then please contact us using the details provided.

When responding to our pre-application consultation your personal data will be stored in compliance with GDPR by Ørsted and will not be shared with third parties. Your details may however be passed on to the Planning Inspectorate to ensure that our pre-application consultation is sufficient and in line with the planning process.

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