Hornsea Project Four
Offshore Wind Farm

Frequently Asked Questions
(FAQs)

September 2019

https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/hornsea-project-four

Contents

Section 1 – General Project Questions

What is Hornsea Project Four?

Hornsea Project Four is an offshore wind farm which Ørsted is proposing to develop in the North Sea, approximately 65 km off the Flamborough Head on the Yorkshire Coast. The project is currently in the pre-application phase for a Development Consent Order (DCO), the major consent required to allow the development to proceed.

Who is the developer?

Hornsea Project Four is being developed by Ørsted (formerly DONG Energy). Headquartered in Denmark, Ørsted is the global leader in offshore wind power with over 25 years of experience developing, constructing and operating offshore wind farms. Our vision is a world that runs entirely on green energy. Over the last decade, we have undergone a truly green transformation, halving our CO_2 emissions and focusing our activities on renewable sources of energy. By deploying renewable energy resources at scale, we want to revolutionise the way the world is powered and reduce the negative effects of climate change, which is currently one of the biggest threats facing the world.

Is this your only project / what have you done here previously?

Over the past 25 years we have established our company as a global leader in offshore wind with a 25 per cent market share. The UK is our largest market with ten offshore wind farms already operating and a further three under construction.

Locally, we have one operational offshore wind farm situated off the Yorkshire coast – Westermost Rough. A further four projects, including Hornsea Project Four, are either under construction or in development, all of which are part of the Hornsea area.

Ørsted is currently constructing Hornsea Project One and is in preconstruction with Hornsea Project Two, while we have recently submitted an application for a Development Consents Order (DCO) for Hornsea Project Three. We are now also developing the fourth project in the Hornsea Zone, Hornsea Project Four.

Figure 1: Map to show Hornsea Area and other existing Orsted projects off the East Coast.

Why is the UK building / supporting offshore wind farms?

The Climate Change Act 2008, legally committed the UK to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% by 2050, compared to the 1990 level[1]. Over the next couple of decades, much of the UK's existing generating plants are set to close and the UK urgently needs to replace large volumes of its existing electricity infrastructure with low carbon generation. As an island nation, with relatively shallow waters and high wind speeds, the UK has an abundant natural wind resource, and offshore wind power has the potential to contribute significantly towards this low carbon transition.

The cost of UK offshore wind power has fallen significantly in recent years. This achievement is marked by the record low strike price[2] for our Hornsea Project Two Offshore Wind Farm, which at £57.50 per megawatt hour is 50% lower than the previous auction round just two years ago, and the lowest-ever price for offshore wind in the UK. These auction results are further evidence of the huge progress the offshore wind industry has made in substantially cutting costs through innovation and creating thousands of UK jobs. The UK is moving from being powered by polluting fossil fuels to clean energy and offshore wind has the potential to become the backbone of our future energy system.

How big is Hornsea Project Four?

We are investigating an offshore generating area for the project of up to 600km^2, where up to 180 turbines will be located. To put it into perspective, this area is roughly eleven and a half times the size of Hull and is located approximately 65 km off the Flamborough Head on the Yorkshire Coast.

[1] Climate Change Act 2008. Available online: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/pdfs/ukpga_20080027_en.pdf
[2] The 'strike price' is a price for electricity which reflects the cost of investing in a particular low carbon technology. This is compared against the 'reference price' – a measure of the average market price for electricity in the GB market and the difference between the two is paid to the generator.

What is the capacity of Hornsea Project Four?

As the project is still at an early stage in the development process, we are unable to state its generating capacity as this has not been defined. We can confirm that Hornsea Project Four will comprise of up to a maximum of 180 offshore wind turbines. However, due to the rapid and continuous advancements in turbine technology that the offshore wind farm industry has witnessed over the past 5-10 years, we are currently unable to confirm which turbine model would be used in the construction of the project should it receive a Development Consent Order (DCO) as more turbines are likely to materialise over the coming years.

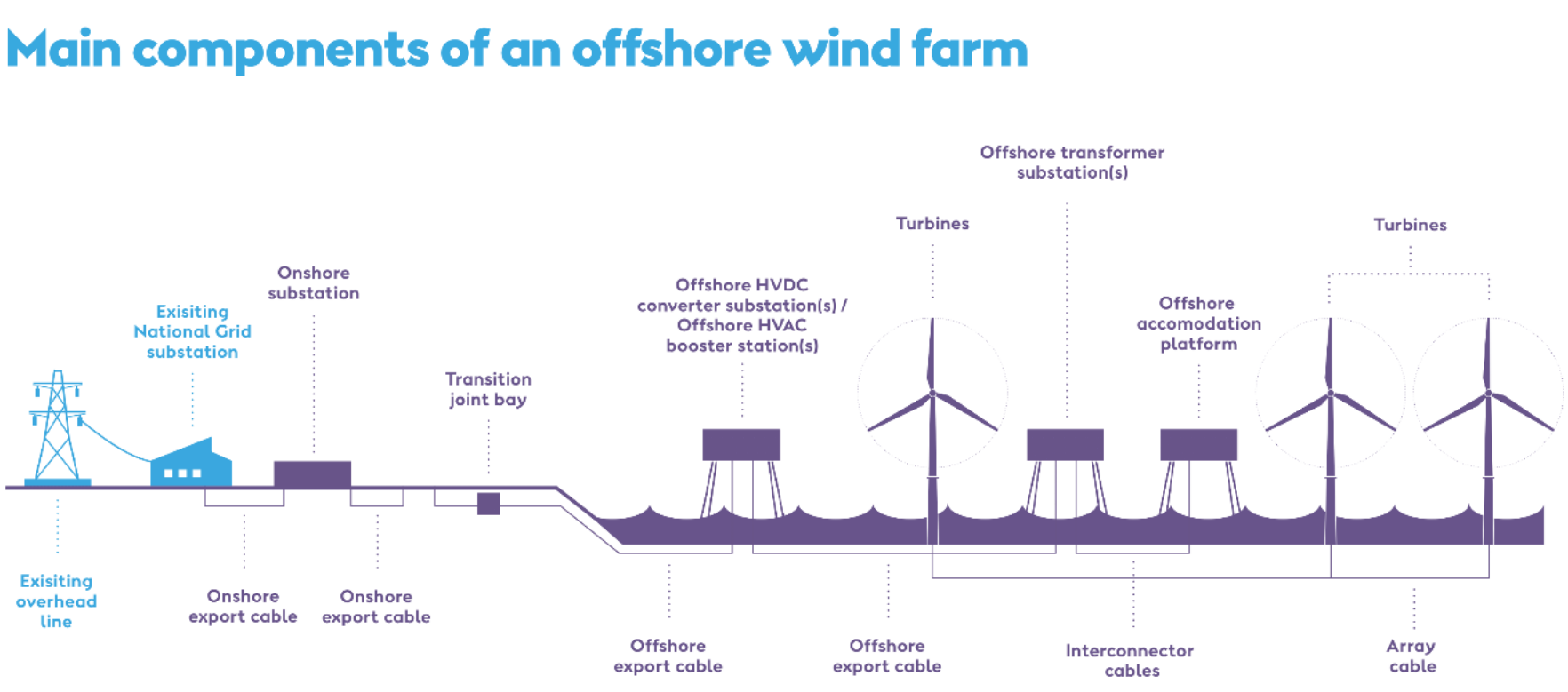
In offshore wind, innovation has played a huge part in helping the technology become an integral part of the UK's renewable energy mix. Bigger wind farms using larger turbines have pushed the industry forward. Only ten years ago, the largest offshore turbine was 3.6 MW. To put this into perspective, the new MHI Vestas 8 MW turbines are 195 metres tall – taller than the Humber Bridge (156m) and more than twice the height of the 3.6 MW turbine; more are entering the market at the time of writing. As we do not know which turbine model will be available to us during construction, we cannot definitively state what the project's capacity will be. However, we will assess the maximum foreseeable parameters that up to 180 wind turbines would possess.

How many homes will be powered by Hornsea Project Four?

Whilst at this stage it is not possible to state the capacity of the Hornsea Project Four, the wind farm is expected to have a similar number of turbines to Hornsea Project One, which has 174 turbines and will generate enough clean energy to power more than 1 million UK homes. Although the turbines for Hornsea Project Four may be larger than those used on Hornsea Project One, we can say that-the project anticipates it will generate enough electricity to power well over 1 million UK homes.

What will Hornsea Project Four consist of?

Below is a graphic which shows the typical components of an offshore wind farm. When developing the plans for Hornsea Project Four we will be looking into the different options associated with each of these components.



What stage is Hornsea Project Four at now?

We are now developing a fourth (and last) project in the Hornsea area: Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm. The Project is in the pre-application stage for a DCO and has a great deal of consultation and consent assessment work ahead.

Hornsea Project Four is defined as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) as it is proposed to have a capacity of over 100MW. The planning process for NSIPs is set out by the Planning Act 2008. In accordance with this planning regime, the process is focused on consulting with a range of stakeholders and the community early on to enable plans to evolve iteratively in response to feedback. As the developer, we will provide more information on the Project and plans for its development to then allow you time to comment on these plans. Your views and input on Hornsea Project Four are important to us and will help us to identify key areas of concern for the Project which can then be incorporated into the final design where possible.

Key Project Milestones

Past

September 2018

We published our **Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)** which sets out how we will consult the local community, residents, businesses, organisations and visitors to the area about our proposal for the offshore wind farm. The document also provides background to the project, details

where further information can be obtained or viewed, explains how comments on the proposal can be made, and sets out how the Development Consent Order (DCO) application will progress. The document can be viewed in full here.

October 2018

We submitted our request for an EIA Scoping Opinion in the form of a ***Scoping Report*** (and a request letter under regulation 6 and regulation 8 of the Planning Act 2008) to the Planning Inspectorate. A full copy of the report can be found on our website here:

https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/News/2018/10/Scoping-Report-now-available

October 2018

We held our first set of local information events across East Riding of Yorkshire where the local community found out more about the project, viewed our early plans and to provided initial feedback which has helped to shape our proposal.

The first round of events took place on:

- Monday 22 October, Foston on the Wolds Village Hall, Main Street, Foston on the Wolds, YO25 8BJ
- Thursday 25 October, Barmston and Fraisthorpe Village Hall, Sands Lane, Barmston, YO25 8PG
- Friday 26 October, Leconfield Village Hall, Miles Lane, Leconfield, HU17 7NW
- Saturday 27 October, Woodmansey Village Hall, Long Lane, Beverley, HU17 0RN

November 2018

We received a Scoping Opinion from the Planning Inspectorate:

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/yorkshire-and-the-humber/hornsea-project-four-offshore-wind-farm-generating-stations/?ipcsection=docs

December 2018

Hornsea Project Four published a Consultation Summary Report which provides an overview of feedback received following our local information events in October 2018. The report also explains the next steps for the project and the opportunities for you and your community to engage in the project as it evolves.

The December 2018 Consultation Summary Report can be viewed / downloaded for our website here: https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/en/Hornsea-Project-Four/Documents-Library

March 2019

Hornsea Four published the second project newsletter, which included updates on the local information events in October 2018, the refined onshore substation and landfall search areas and the site selection processes behind them, the export cable route, and our commitments register.

The March project newsletter can be viewed / downloaded from our website here: https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/-/media/WWW/Docs/Corp/UK/Hornsea-Project-Four/Hornsea-Four-March-2019-Newsletter.ashx?la=en&hash=B031E15777A0379EAAA3FBDAF8805F42

May 2019

Hornsea Four published the second project newsletter, which showed an interim PEIR boundary and included further updates on the refined onshore substation and landfall search areas and the site selection processes behind them.

The May project newsletter can be viewed / downloaded from our website here: https://orstedcdn.azureedge.net/-/media/WWW/Docs/Corp/UK/Hornsea-Project-Four/Newsletters/Hornsea-four-newsletter-May-2019.ashx?la=en&rev=3fe87a5d962c4f489bb6bab91a49c718&hash=8F6344B76D63D72E242E20A10CC78DBA

Formal Consultation

August to September 2019

We published and undertook our statutory (formal) consultation on the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) in accordance with Regulation 10 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulation 2009 (as amended) (the EIA Regulations).

The PEIR (which is a draft version of the final Environmental Statement) presented the findings of initial surveys and assessments to help enable consultees to develop an informed view of the potential environmental effects.

Consultation on the PEIR commenced on 13th August and closes on **23rd September 2019**

September 2019

We are holding a second round of community consultation events in September 2019 across the East Riding of Yorkshire, where detailed plans and the full PEIR will be available to view and comment on.

A Community Consultation Leaflet was also distributed to all residents in our Consultation Zone which contains details on our refined proposals, our formal consultation events, and how to feed in to formal consultation. This can be found on our website here: https://orstedcdn.azureedge.net/-/media/WWW/Docs/Corp/UK/Hornsea-Project-Four/Community-Consultation-Leaflet-Aug-19/190730_Consultation-leaflet-Aug-2019.ashx?la=en&rev=752d90bf67aa427882537457d6e19bcd&hash=78B34FA495C0BAE60C5E8C0F68825613

Consultation timeline

*All dates remain indicative

Section 2 – Our Proposal

When could construction of Hornsea Project Four start?

If granted planning permission, construction for Hornsea Project Four could commence as early as 2023, with the wind farm becoming operational from as early as 2027.[3]

Will the offshore wind farm be visible from the coast?

The nearest wind turbines would be situated approximately 65 km offshore from the Flamborough Head and it is possible that the turbines and their blades will be visible from the coastline given they will be large structures which will not fall entirely below the horizon formed by the curvature of the earth. However, this is very much dependent on factors such as the time of day, the atmospheric/ meteorological conditions and whether any lighting is to be used on the wind turbines. That the wind turbines may be visible will not necessarily equate to visual 'significance', this being influenced by the sensitivity of viewers, and the magnitude of visual change, which at long distances is likely to be very small. As the project progresses more information will become available as to the anticipated likely significance of any visual effects due to the wind turbines, and where effects are anticipated to be significant further detail will be provided.

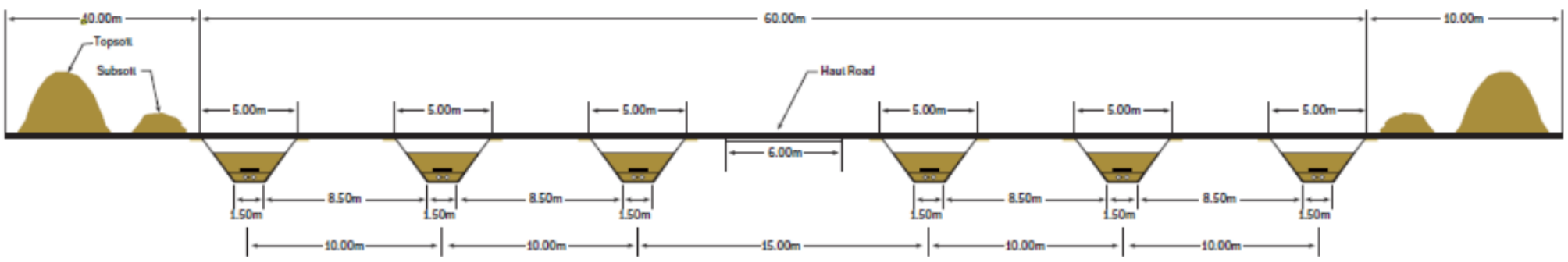
How wide will the final onshore cable corridor be?

As part of our DCO application, the project will apply for an 80 m onshore cable corridor, of which 20 m will be used for temporary working areas. Once the cables are installed, the land will be reinstated. It would not be possible to place any type of construction (i.e. buildings) or deep--rooted trees above the cables in case we needed to perform maintenance in the future. However, it would be possible to continue to farm over the cables. 10 m is taken on either side of the 60 m permanent cable corridor for subsoil and topsoil storage. Once the trenches are installed and the trenches backfilled, the stored subsoil and topsoil will be replaced and the land reinstated back to its previous use.

Why do you require an 80-metre wide corridor to install the cables?

Up to 6 trenches will be required to accommodate up to 6 circuits, each containing individual cables and fibre optics to enable communications between the wind farm and the control system. Each trench could be up to 5 metres wide at the surface reducing to 1.5 metres at the bottom. The circuits must be spaced out to minimise the mutual heating effect. This spacing enables the cables to effectively carry the large power volumes required without overheating and damaging the cable. The final location and width of each trench will be determined closer to the construction phase.

Diagram showing an indicative example of how a typical HVAC layout could be positioned within the 60-metre permanent easement.



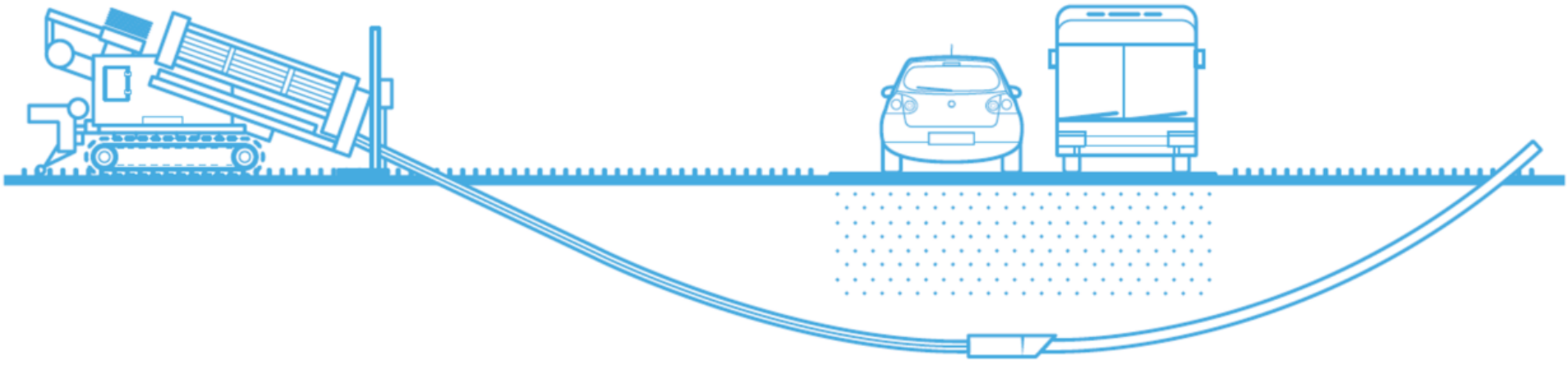
How will the onshore cables be laid?

Typically, the onshore cables will be installed using an open cut method. The trenches will be excavated using a mechanical excavator, and the export cables will be installed into the open trench from a cable drum delivered to the site via Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs). The cables are buried in a layer of stabilised backfill material that ensure a consistent structural and thermal environment for the cables. The remainder of the trench is then backfilled with the excavated material. Hard protective tiles, and marker tape are also installed in the cable trenches to ensure the cable is not damaged by any third party. Once the trenches are installed and the trenches backfilled, the stored subsoil and topsoil will be replaced, and the land reinstated back to its previous use.

We are also considering several different trenchless methods for installing the cables at certain points along the cable route. This would include rivers, woods and major roads. Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) is a steerable trenchless method of installing underground cables that enables you to install cables underground over short distances with minimal impact on the surface infrastructure and surrounding area.

[3]All dates are indicative and subject to change

Diagram showing a cable being installed using HDD underneath a road.



Will the land be reinstated once the cables have been laid?

Hornsea Four is committed to reinstating the working area post-construction to pre-existing condition as far as far as reasonably practical in line with DEFRA 2009 Construction Code of Practice for the Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites PB13298.

This commitment (Co10) can be found in our Commitments Register, which is available online here:
https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/-/media/WWW/Docs/Corp/UK/Hornsea-Project-Four/HOW04-Commitments-Impacts-and-Effects-Register-00120156C-002.ashx?la=en&hash=8A33E9D1B1588A093DF358CF50E5FEE274220E31

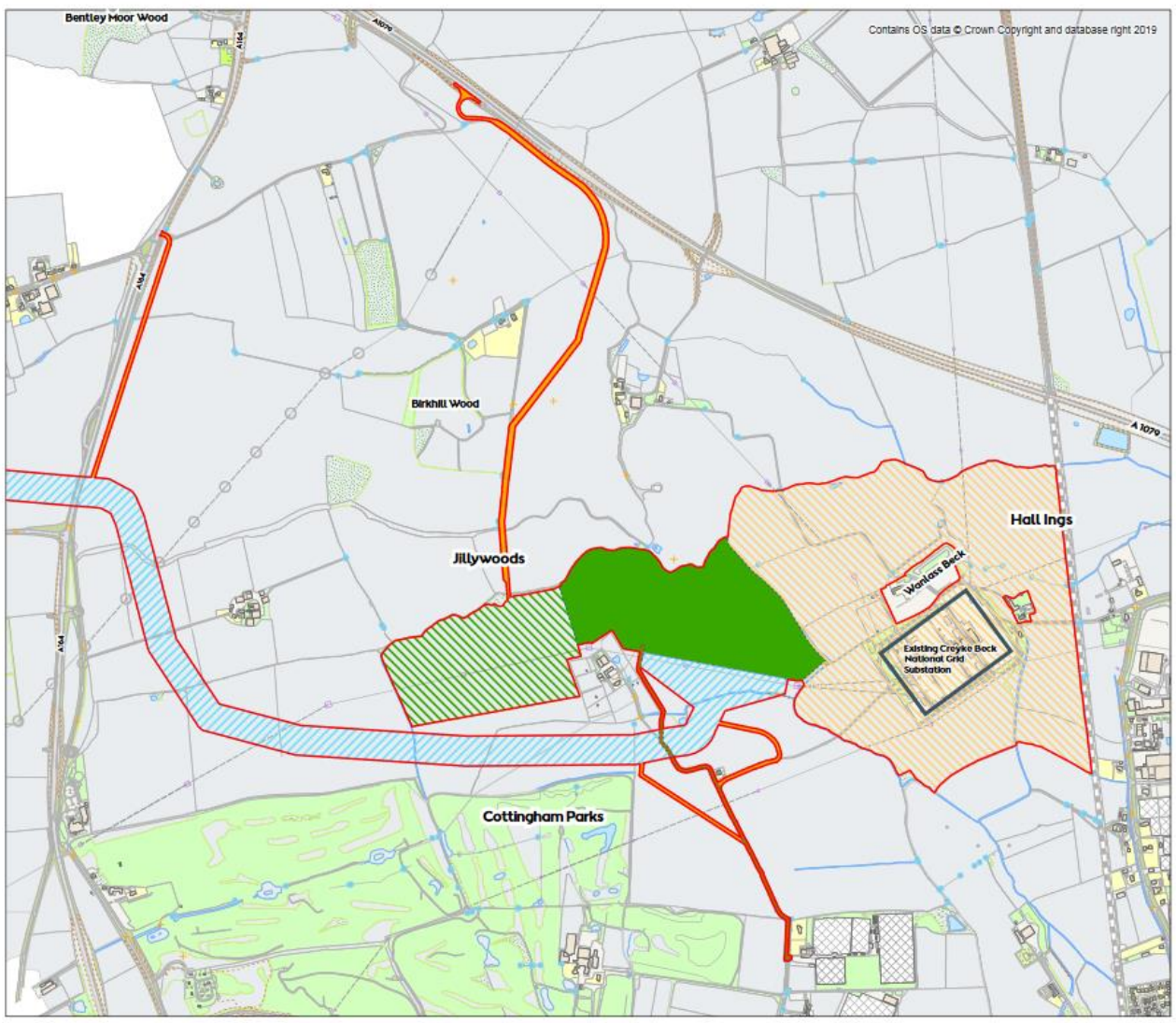
Can anything go on top of the cable route once it's completed?

It would not be possible to place any type of construction (i.e. buildings) above the cables in case we needed to perform maintenance in the future. It would also not be possible to plant trees above the cables without prior consent to avoid damage from the roots. Hedgerows, as well as fencing and walls can remain/be restored. It will be possible to continue farming crops or grazing animals above the cables once construction has completed.

Where will the onshore substation be located?

A new onshore substation will be required near to the existing Creyke Beck National Grid substation. This substation will convert and connect the export cables that originate from the landfall and transport the electricity to Creyke Beck. Orsted has been continually refining the area it is considering for an Onshore Substation – this process started last year and has involved our own site feasibility and selection process, as well as being influenced by the views and considerations of local people and statutory organisations such as parish councils, East Riding of Yorkshire Council and the local Highways Authority. We started with a broad search area around Creyke Beck substation – where we have a grid connection agreement with National Grid and refined this area down to the proposed site submitted in PEIR, which can be seen here:

Proposed Hornsea Four Onshore Substation



We have carefully selected this site based on feedback we received at our local information events in October 2018, and further consultation with Parish Councils, the local community and statutory organisations.

What will construction of the onshore substation involve?

Construction of the onshore substation would involve groundworks to clear and prepare the site, and to establish suitable foundations for the electrical plant and control building. These groundworks, together with the construction of the building and the perimeter fence, would take around three years.

Additionally, as the onshore substation layout progresses, the visual effects will be assessed and, where significant effects are anticipated, these will be mitigated (for example by landscaping and tree planting). Any mitigation will be developed in consultation with local stakeholders such as East Riding of Yorkshire Council and the local community.

What could the onshore substation and Energy Balancing Infrastructure (EBI) look like?

The onshore substation and Energy Balancing Infrastructure could require an area of up to 155,000 metres squared, which provides for the permanent infrastructure (i.e. substation, EBI and associated fencing and landscaping). The equipment for the onshore substation could be up to 25 metres in height and construction access will be obtained from the A1079.

Visualisations of the onshore substation and EBI based on maximum design scenarios (HVAC / HVDC) are provided in the PEIR in Volume 6: Onshore Annexes, Landscape and Visual Resources: Photography and Photomontages and can be viewed online here:

https://orstedcdn.azureedge.net/-/media/WWW/Docs/Corp/UK/Hornsea-Project-Four/01-Formal-Consultation/PIER/Volume-6/PEIR-Volume-6-Annex-41-Landscape-and-Visual-Resources-Photography-and-Photomontages.ashx?la=en&rev=9c0ec09b8bff4ce9a3fd0165ff80849d&hash=E9CAE1D914B5D066F40ABEE178E5A706

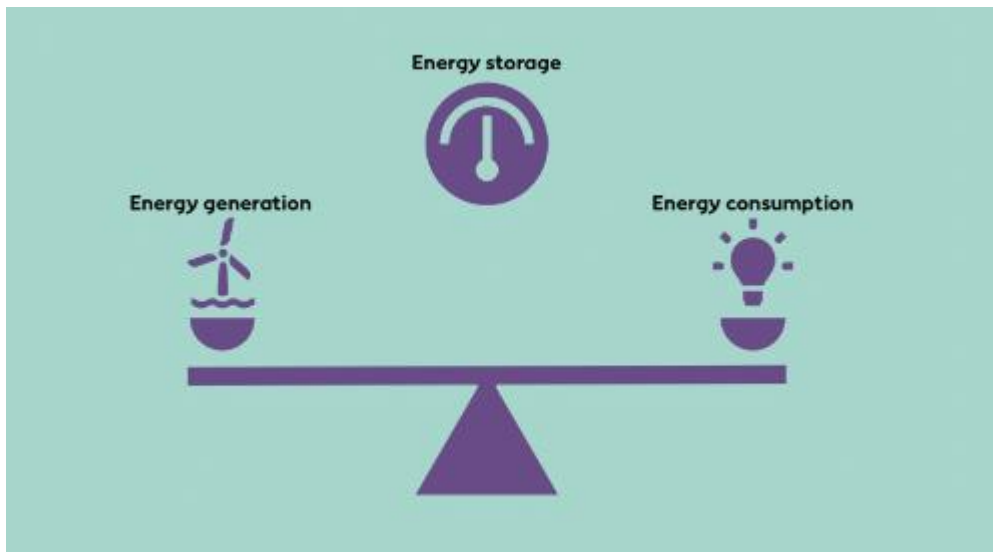
We have also prepared an Outline Design Vision Statement as part of our PEIR which sets out methods of best practice alongside aspirational approaches that will guide the future development of all on-shore infrastructure, including the onshore substation. Key factors including the use of materials, colour and landscape treatments will be considered. Proposals seek to bring not only greater visual mitigation as part of Hornsea Four but also encourage ecological and amenity benefits. The document can be viewed in full on our website under Volume 4: Project Description Annexes here:

https://orstedcdn.azureedge.net/-/media/WWW/Docs/Corp/UK/Hornsea-Project-Four/01-Formal-Consultation/PIER/Volume-4/PEIR-Volume-4-Annex-46-Outline-Design-Vision-Statement.ashx?la=en&rev=1ca307408d5b4d2da167c64b16e2ad2b&hash=AAA84BFC05358B915E5DA5E335E1C6F6

What is Energy Balancing Infrastructure (EBI) and why do we need it?

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.

By using technologies such as Batteries; EBI can import energy when too much is being generated or export energy when not enough is being generated. Energy storage is also extremely fast to respond and is therefore a very useful tool to help keep everything balanced.



In the past much of this balancing had been provided by conventional power plants such as coal or gas-fired stations, but as we move towards decarbonising our energy sector, these power stations are being retired and we need replacement flexible resources to replace them. By combining EBI with an off-shore windfarm it enables our newer energy production to not only be green but behave in a way that is easy to manage, thus paving the way for even more renewable energy production.

What is the footprint of the EBI and the onshore substation / how much land will be required?

Hornsea Four will require up 155,000 metres squared (approximately 40 acres) for the onshore substation and energy balancing infrastructure (EBI), with up to an additional 130,000 metres squared (approximately 25 acres) for a temporary construction area lasting approximately 3 years.

How has the landfall search area been refined?

After receiving valuable feedback from the local community, we have already committed to selecting a landfall site that avoids the Barmston Main Drain and refined our landfall search area to the north of Barmston only. We have also gained valuable feedback from engaging with our intertidal working group, which has allowed stakeholders with an interest in the coastal zone to engage with us and offer feedback on our proposals for the landfall search area.

Because of this consultation and our ongoing site selection work, we have refined our proposals to two landfall sites assessed at PEIR and located near Fraisthorpe, one of which will be taken forward as part of our DCO application. The two landfall sites can be viewed in more detail under the 'Plans and Drawings' folder on our formal consultation materials webpage here:

https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/Hornsea-Project-Four/Documents-Library/Formal-Consultation

How will the project impact traffic locally?

The impacts of Hornsea Project Four on local traffic and transport will be assessed as part of our EIA. The construction traffic routing strategy will be developed with approval from East Riding of Yorkshire Council and supported by an outline Construction Traffic Management Plan which will be submitted as part of the DCO application. Construction traffic flows will be produced based on professional experience, evidence from past projects and baseline traffic information. The flows will provide the anticipated number of Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) movements associated with onshore construction works for the project. Trips generated by onsite staff will also be considered. Further, we will be using a mixture of open cut trenching and Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) to install the onshore cables. Using HDD technology enables us to dig underneath roads without damaging the infrastructure above ground. By using HDD under major roads, we would avoid closures and can minimise the potential impact on traffic.

How will the project impact drainage locally?

We understand the importance of assessing soil structure before, during and after construction to ensure that the field drainage is maintained and will appoint a Drainage Consultant who will assess and design the mitigation scheme. Further studies into drainage and soil types are required to ensure that this is done correctly, and we welcome any input from landowners as we recognise that they know their land best. For example, we would be very keen to see copies of any drainage plans.

We have already spoken with and consulted with many landowners, and farmers' concerns have already fed into the cable route design. We will continue to engage with landowners on this matter.

What is HVAC technology, and what is HVDC technology?

HVAC stands for high voltage alternating current, whereas HVDC stands for high voltage direct current.

HVAC technology is the principle means of power transmission in all modern power systems. The vast majority of all electrical power is generated, transported and consumed as alternating current, where the voltage and current values oscillate over time at a specific frequency (50Hz in the UK, or 50 cycles per second). Transforming alternating current to higher voltages is relatively simple and enables power transmission over longer distances with reduced losses and fewer power lines than low voltage transmission.

HVDC technology is an alternative to HVAC for point-point power transmission and may be appropriate in some circumstances for bulk power transfer over long distances or between different grids. Because most electricity, including that in an offshore wind farm, is generated as alternating current it is necessary to 'convert' the alternating current to direct current (with constant voltage and current values) and 'invert' the direct current back to alternating current for onward transmission in the national grid at large converter stations using power electronics devices.

Why are you applying for both HVAC and HVDC technologies?

At present, all UK offshore wind farms use HVAC technology and the technology, it's capabilities and limitations are well understood. To date, HVDC has more commonly been used to transmit electricity from one grid to another in the form of an interconnector and has yet to be applied to any UK offshore wind farms. Although there is some experience in Germany, the structure of this market is quite different to that in the UK (in that offshore transmission connections are centrally planned and delivered by the onshore utility) and the use of DC technology for offshore wind farms is still maturing. For an interconnector from one country to another, there is no marine infrastructure other than the cabling itself and therefore interfaces with other systems/marine platforms etc is absent (both ends of the interconnector are on dry land). However, use of DC for wind farms add additional complexity in terms of greater infrastructure interfaces offshore and in some instances technical issues, cost overruns and delays have been experienced. Furthermore, due to the increased complexity of offshore HVDC systems and limited experience, transmission reliability is lower meaning that over time, less offshore wind energy can be transmitted to the grid.

Aside from the technology maturity, there are very few suppliers in the world with the capability of producing and supplying HVDC transmission technology (for the cables and convertor stations) that would be needed for a wind farm of this size, and delivery lead times can be considerably longer than for equivalent HVAC systems. In light of the above, there are risks associated with only taking the DC option forward at this time and as the developer, we are responsible for ensuring the proposed development is feasible and can be realised within a reasonable timeframe.

We will continue to explore both potential transmission solutions as we look to mature the initial designs and will continue to engage with suppliers to inform our ultimate decision. However, a decision will not be made until nearer to construction.

Section 3 – The Planning Process

What is the planning process for an offshore wind farm?

As the proposed generating capacity of Hornsea Project Four exceeds 100 megawatts (MW), the project is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP)[4], and must apply for a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008.

Who will you consult?

Under the Planning Act 2008, a developer is required to carry out consultation on their proposed application before submission, and must take any responses received into account, adjusting their project as appropriate. This consultation includes;

- Consultation with prescribed bodies such as Environment Agency and Natural England, host and neighbouring authorities and any landowners affected by the project (under Section 42);
- Consultation with the local community in the vicinity of the proposed project (under Section 47);
- General public consultation on the project (under Section 48).

Who decides whether to grant planning permission?

If the DCO application is accepted, the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) will then coordinate the examination of our application with an independent Examining Authority panel, who will in turn make a recommendation to the Secretary of State (SoS) for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). Decisions on DCO applications will be made in accordance with the National Policy Statement (NPS) for energy (amongst others), which sets out the need for new energy infrastructure. The SoS will then review and comment on this before deciding on whether to grant a DCO.

More information on the planning process, including guidance notes can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's website: www.https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/

What is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)?

The purpose of the EIA process is to inform the Secretary of State and the Planning Inspectorate of the likely significant effects associated with the development during its construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning.

It considers environmental, social and economic aspects, and includes the following steps:

1 Gathering environmental information

2 Providing information about the development

3 Assessing significant environmental effects of the project

4 Proposing ways of **reducing, avoiding and mitigating** any significant adverse effects.

What is the proportionate approach to an Environmental Impact Assessment?

Our proportionate approach to EIA means that it should be undertaken and presented in a manner that would satisfy both legal and consenting requirements whilst being suitably brief and providing an adequate assessment of the likely significant effects.

The benefits of delivering a proportionate EIA, as defined by the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) (2017), are to:

- drive collaborative action and understanding across the EIA community
- focus assessments so their findings are accessible to all stakeholders;
- reduce uncertainty and risk within project consenting;
- save time and costs for developers, consenting authorities and consultees;
- allow more time to be spent exploring the delivery of environmental improvements.

More information on our proportionate approach to EIA and the tools which we have used to achieve it can be found in the Hornsea Project Four Scoping Report, available to view on our website: https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/News/2018/10/Scoping-Report-now-available

When will a planning application be submitted / when is a decision expected?

Our anticipated submission date for our Hornsea Four DCO application submission is Q1 2020.

Upon receipt of our DCO application, the planning inspectorate (PINS) gas 28 days to decide whether or not to accept it. If an application is accepted, there is a flexible period, the Pre-examination stage, which usually lasts about three months. An Examining Authority then has up to six months to examine an application and three months to make their recommendation to the BEIS Secretary of State. Based on this timeline, a decision could reasonably be expected in the second half of 2021.

[4] Any energy project over 100 MW.

Section 4 – Landowner Specific Questions

What legislation covers these works?

As a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), the project will be applying for a Development Consent Order (DCO). This process is governed by the Planning Act 2008 and governs the necessary planning and compulsory purchase powers for the project.

How will you engage with landowners along the route?

We start engagement with landowners at an early stage to seek their feedback on our plans and to enable us to feed their comments back into the design process. Throughout the development phase our appointed Land Agents, Dalcour Maclaren, will offer face-to-face meetings with landowners along the route. At every meeting, the feedback given by landowners will be recorded and fed back into the design process.

In addition, we will also make ourselves available by:

- Inviting landowners to our local information events.
- Writing to landowners as part of our formal consultation.
- Hosting/attending meetings with relevant local organisations and land agents to seek feedback on the scheme and provide updates.

Will I receive any compensation for having the cables through my land?

Yes, we will compensate landowners who are directly affected by the cable through their land. Compensation is paid for the freehold depreciation of the land affected by the easement and for all reasonable and substantiated losses arising from the construction of the project. All compensations will be assessed on a case by case basis.

I don't want to agree any terms with you, so what will you do then?

We would like to work with landowners as much as possible to resolve any concerns that you may have and reach an agreement by negotiation. However, where we cannot reach an agreement, we will be seeking compulsory acquisition powers within our DCO application so that we can acquire any necessary land rights for the project to be developed.

Who should I be speaking to from Ørsted about my land and any questions that I have?

For any **landowner specific questions**, please contact our Land Agents, Dalcour Maclaren

Email: HOW4@dalcourmaclaren.com

Land Agent dedicated project phone line: 01623 709291

[NOTE: For non-landowner related queries please see contact details on the project website https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/hornsea-project-four

Section 5 – Our Consultation

Where can I view your latest plans?

You can view the most up to date Project information on our website https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/hornsea-project-four

We have also set up a digital engagement tool for you to comment on our latest proposals. This can be found here: https://hornsea4feedback.commonplace.is/overview

Hornsea Project Four published its Scoping Report in October 2018, which presents an initial review of the potential issues associated with construction, operation and maintenance, and eventual decommissioning of the Project.

The full Scoping Report can be viewed / downloaded from our website here: https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/News/2018/10/Scoping-Report-now-available

In December 2018, Hornsea Project Four also published a Consultation Summary Report which provides an overview of all the views expressed at the October events that were recorded. The report also explains the next steps for the project and the opportunities for you and your community to engage in the project as it evolves.

The December 2018 Consultation Summary Report can be viewed / downloaded for our website here: https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/en/Hornsea-Project-Four/Documents-Library

The March project newsletter can be viewed / downloaded from our website here: https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/-/media/WWW/Docs/Corp/UK/Hornsea-Project-Four/Hornsea-Four-March-2019-Newsletter.ashx?la=en&hash=B031E15777A0379EAAA3FBDAF8805F42

The May project newsletter can be viewed / downloaded from our website here: https://orstedcdn.azureedge.net/-/media/WWW/Docs/Corp/UK/Hornsea-Project-Four/Newsletters/Hornsea-four-newsletter-May-2019.ashx?la=en&rev=3fe87a5d962c4f489bb6bab91a49c718&hash=8F6344B76D63D72E242E20A10CC78DBA

All of the materials relating to the formal consultation on our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) can be viewed / downloaded from our website here: https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/Hornsea-Project-Four/Documents-Library/Formal-Consultation

How will you keep local communities informed?

During the consultation period, the Project will produce bi-annual newsletters to keep local communities informed as our plans progress. If you would like to sign up to receive copies of our newsletter, you can register your interest in the Project on our website (**https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/hornsea-project-four**) or by contacting us directly.

Email: contact@hornseaprojectfour.co.uk

Freephone Line: 0808 169 3030

Thank you for your attendance at our first set of local information events in October 2018. We are holding additional events (September 2nd – 7th 2019) following the publication of our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). During the consultation, all consultation materials will be available to access via our project website and are also available to view at our multiple community access points, which are also listed on the website. We will also be using local media to advertise the consultation.

Will I be able to comment on your plans?

We will continue to consult with local communities, local authorities, utility companies, environmental and other statutory and non-statutory bodies to help shape our proposal in the lead up to submission of our DCO application.

We are encouraging people to look at our Commitments Register, which is the most effective way for you to input into the project design. The Commitments Register has been designed to reduce impacts that are important to you, your local area and the environment.

Please take a minute to access our website https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/Hornsea-Project-Four/Have-your-say and see what we have already committed to.

Our next set of events will be held in Summer 2019 following the publication of our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). We value your opinion and strongly encourage anyone with an interest, who wants to comment on our plans to attend these events and make their views known to the project. You can view our plans and comment online using our digital engagement tool here: https://hornsea4feedback.commonplace.is/overview

Will my views be considered?

Yes. Your views are important to us and this pre-application consultation is your opportunity to influence our proposal. After each round of consultation events, we will carefully consider all the feedback received at that point in time and will summarise the key findings in a Consultation Summary Report, which will be available on our website (December 2018 edition can be found here – https://hornseaprojects.co.uk/en/Hornsea-Project-Four/Documents-Library).

No decisions will be made until detailed studies and public consultations have been carried out. This is a staged process and we are now returning to the area to present the findings of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and consult on these in advance of the application being finalised for submission. The Planning Act 2008 encourages a consultation driven application process where comments regarding our proposal are documented and addressed where possible. At the end of the consultation period, we will prepare and submit a Consultation Report alongside our DCO application, which will explain how we consulted, provide a summary of all the feedback we received and explain how your comments have influenced our plans.

Can I speak directly to members of the team?

For any general enquiries, please contact our dedicated community liaison team:

Email: contact@hornsea-project-four.co.uk

Freephone Line: 0808 169 3030

Section 6 – Local engagement and benefits

What is the socioeconomic impact?

As part of our Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), we will assess the potential socio-economic benefits associated with the scheme. The positive and negative aspects of the project will be communicated in the Environmental Statement which accompanies the application for the Development Consent Order (DCO).

Will there be local job opportunities?

Over the last 10 years, Ørsted has built up close relationships with a wide variety of suppliers from across the UK who have helped us to deliver our projects whilst also delivering economic value, through job creation and local investment to the UK. We look forward to continuing these collaborative partnerships for HOW04 with the relevant Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) and business groups to understand what can be supplied locally. Typically, we also hold supply chain events nearer to the construction phase with principal contractors and will advertise these events locally.

Note: Construction of an offshore wind farm typically lasts 3-4 years, with operations and Maintenance lasting more than 20 years.

Will there be a Community Benefit Fund for Hornsea Project Four?

We have established voluntary Community Benefit Funds (CBFs) for a number of our projects, which are currently under construction. These funds can make a valuable contribution to the local area, by supporting projects such as community building improvements and recreation facilities, conservation and wildlife projects etc. Hornsea Project Four will review the interactions of the project, as the proposal is refined and consider an appropriate way to feed benefits back into the local community. Any decision to establish a CBF for Hornsea Project Four would be made post financial investment decision (FID), when the Project has been given the green light to go ahead.

Section 8 – Our contact details

How can I contact the project?

We want to hear your thoughts throughout our consultation period for Hornsea Project Four. You can get in touch by using any of our communication lines listed below:

Send us an email:
contact@hornseaprojectfour.co.uk

Call our Freephone information line:
0808 169 3030

Visit our website:
www. hornseaprojects.co.uk/
hornsea-project-four

Send us a letter:
Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm
c/o Humphrey Laidlaw
Ørsted UK
5 Howick Place
Victoria
London
SW1P 1WG

Follow us on Twitter:
@OrstedUK
#HornseaProject4