

Hornsea Project Four Proposed Offshore Wind Farm

Statement of Community Consultation

Published in accordance with Section 47 (6) of the Planning Act 2008

September 2018

The Orsted logo is located in the bottom left corner of the page. It consists of a white circle containing a stylized 'O' symbol, followed by the word 'rsted' in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The entire logo is white and stands out against the blue background of the water and sky.

Orsted

1. The purpose of community consultation

At Ørsted, we want to hear your views. This Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) explains how we intend to consult with you on our proposals for the Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm ('Hornsea Project Four'), as required under the Planning Act 2008 (the 'Planning Act').

This document outlines the pre-application consultation for Hornsea Project Four. Ørsted recognises consultation to be a vital stage in the development of our proposals. This pre-application consultation provides the opportunity for the local community to engage with and comment on the project as the project plans evolve.

We want to listen to your views and work with you to develop our proposals for Hornsea Project Four. This will allow us to develop our plans responsibly and in a manner that supports local community interests.

2. Background

We are a renewable energy company taking tangible action to create a world that runs entirely on green energy. We have invested significantly in the UK, where we develop, construct and operate offshore wind farms and innovative waste-to-energy technology.

The UK is our largest market and we currently have 11 operational offshore wind farms here. We have three operational offshore wind farms off the east coast which are Westernmost Rough, Lincs and Race Bank Offshore Wind Farms.

Our Hornsea Project One and Two Offshore Wind Farms are currently under construction and are situated in the southern North Sea. We have also recently submitted an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to develop Hornsea Project Three Offshore Wind Farm.

This SoCC has been produced solely for Hornsea Project Four, which is in the early pre-application stage for a DCO situated to the western edge of the former Hornsea Zone (west of Hornsea Project One, Hornsea Project Two and Hornsea Project Three). We will provide full details about what this means from a community consultation perspective in the following sections.

3. The planning process

With a proposed capacity of over 100 megawatts (MW), Hornsea Project Four is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). Our project must therefore apply for a DCO through the NSIP planning process. Consents for the offshore array, offshore and onshore cable routes, and offshore and onshore substations, will be included in the DCO.

The DCO application will be dealt with by the Planning Inspectorate (PINS), the agency responsible for managing the examination process for NSIPs. It will then, if accepted, be examined by an independent Examining Authority Panel, who will then make a recommendation to the Secretary of State (SoS) for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). The SoS will then review and comment on this before making a decision on whether to grant a DCO.

As part of the examination process, we must satisfy PINS that our pre-application consultation has been undertaken. This includes identifying statutory consultees for the proposed consultation, under Section 42 of the Planning Act, as explained in Section 5 of this SoCC. It also includes setting out how we propose to consult with the community in the vicinity of the project under Section 47 of the Planning Act, with this SoCC being published in accordance with this requirement.

For more information on this process or advice on how to respond to our pre-application consultation, you can access The Planning Inspectorate's advice note at:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Advice-note-8.0.pdf>



4. Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm

The project will be located approximately 90 km offshore and will be to the west of Hornsea Project One, Two and Three. The project has an Agreement for Lease (AfL) for an area of up to 860 km². If built, Hornsea Project Four will comprise up to 180 wind turbines and provide clean, renewable energy to power UK homes.

Electricity generated by the offshore wind farm will be brought ashore via underground subsea cables which will be buried onshore at a point known as 'landfall', before connecting into an onshore substation and the national grid. We are currently in discussions with National Grid over a proposed grid connection at Creyke Beck.

We are currently assessing potential high-level cable route options and various landfall areas. This will be presented in the Scoping Report and is something we will be seeking your opinion on as part of the consultation and planning process.



5. Who will we consult?

We will consult with individuals and communities living within the vicinity of the land affected by the DCO application. This consultation is also open to anyone who may be interested or in any way feel impacted by our proposals for Hornsea Project Four. We encourage interested parties to submit their feedback via our communication lines, which include our dedicated project email address (contact@hornseaprojectfour.co.uk) and Freephone information line (**0808 169 3030**). Interested parties can also register their interest at our project website (www.hornseaprojects.co.uk/hornsea-project-four) to receive regular updates on the project and our proposals.

Our consultation will also involve relevant parish and town councils, area committees, community groups, organisations representing local businesses, communities and tourist boards. We will work with your Local Planning Authority (LPA) East Riding of Yorkshire Council, among others, to identify key community groups. In addition, we will also be discussing our proposed project with a range of statutory and non-statutory consultees including:

- Local authorities – this includes the host authority and neighbouring local authorities
- Owners, tenants and occupiers of the land affected by the DCO application
- Commercial stakeholders (including asset owners and the fisheries industry)
- Environmental bodies

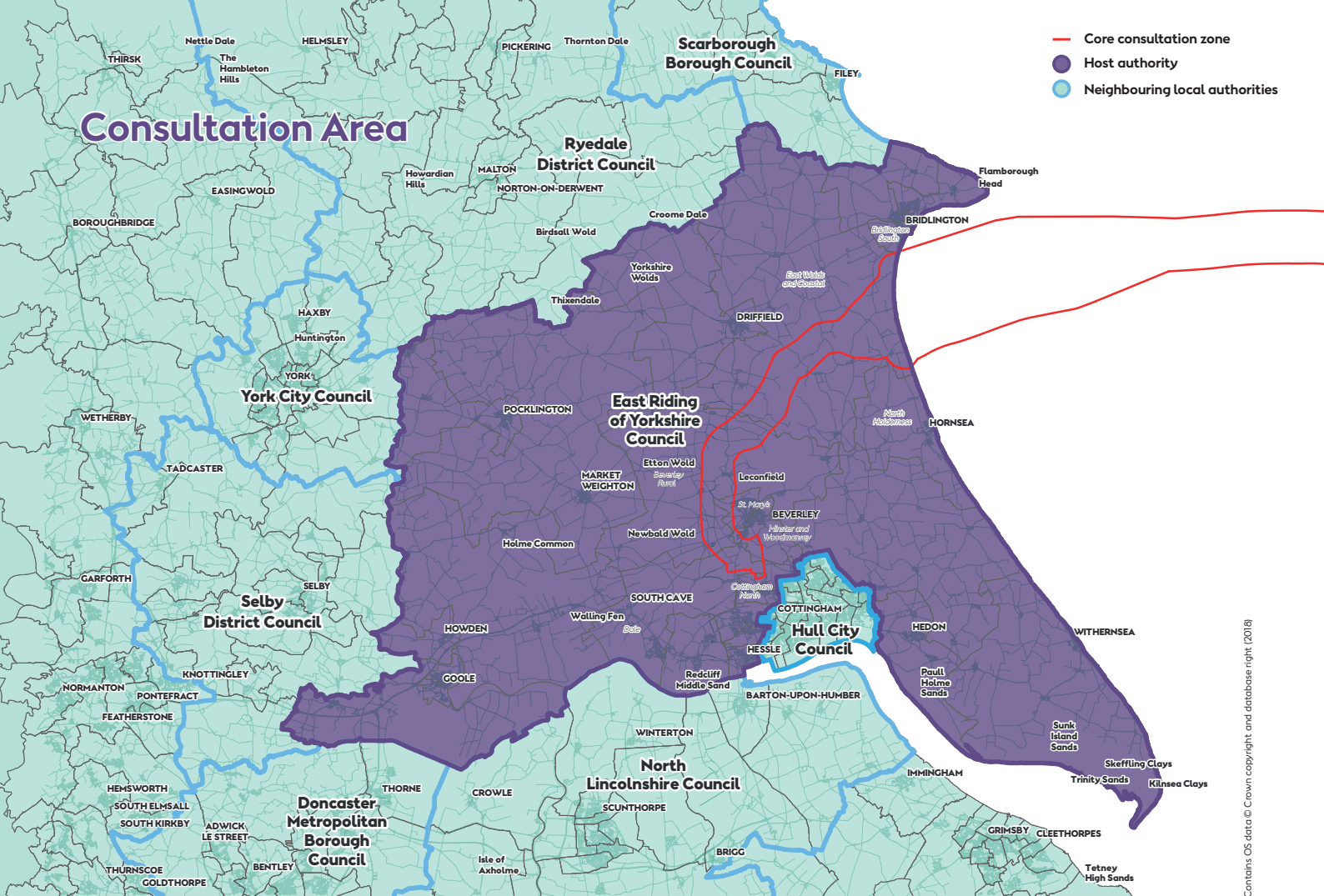
6. What will we consult on?

We will be seeking feedback on aspects of our plans for Hornsea Project Four. We will encourage local communities to give their views about how our proposals may affect them or their area. For example, we will be seeking feedback to help develop our proposals regarding impacts such as, but not limited to:

- Environmental (e.g. landscape and visual amenity, local/marine ecology, wildlife)¹
- Economical (e.g. commercial activities such as shipping and fisheries, employment opportunities)
- Social (e.g. Public Rights of Way, noise and vibration during construction)

More information will be available regarding technical aspects of the project as our proposals develop, which will then be discussed at our local information events.

1. A separate Habitats Regulations Assessment in relation to nature conservation areas (with European conservation status) will also be produced.



The core consultation zone boundary, consisting of an Onshore and Offshore Search Area, will be refined as the project design develops. All of the project's proposed onshore and offshore electrical infrastructure would be delivered within these search areas.

7. Components of a typical offshore wind farm

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.



1. Offshore wind turbines and inter array cables

2. Offshore export cable

3. Offshore substation

4. Offshore HVAC booster station

5. Onshore export cable and landfall

6. Ørsted onshore substation

7. Existing National Grid substation

8. Existing National Grid power lines

9. Homes

8. Environmental information

In accordance with Regulation 12 of the Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, we confirm that the project falls within the scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive and, as such, we will be undertaking an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for Hornsea Project Four in accordance with Regulation 5 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. The methodology and scope of the EIA will be agreed with the relevant regulatory and environmental bodies, the SoS, and your LPA.

The following reports (listed below) will be consulted on as part of the EIA process and as the DCO application is prepared:

Scoping Report – The Scoping Report will be informed by desk-based research on the existing offshore and onshore environments in the location of the proposed project and supported by surveys and data analysis. This report will present the key project parameters, otherwise known as the Project Envelope, which includes all associated onshore and offshore infrastructure and possible elements that make up the project. These elements will be subject to further refinement throughout the project development process. Typical elements of an offshore wind farm are presented in the figure to the left. The report will also describe the methodologies that will be applied to further characterise the existing environments and how any potential impacts will be assessed.²

Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) – Following the publication of the Scoping Report, a PEIR will be produced, which will provide an initial statement of the environmental information available for the Hornsea Project Four study area. The PEIR will build upon findings from the Scoping Report and feedback received through the consultation process. It will incorporate the findings of the surveys and initial assessments and will enable consultees to develop an informed view of the potential environmental effects. We will be seeking feedback from local communities and other stakeholders on the PEIR (see the consultation timeline in Section 10 for more details).

Environmental Statement (ES) – The ES will advance the content of the PEIR and continue to incorporate the responses from the consultation and results of the surveys undertaken. It will also describe any changes made to the project and any mitigation measures that need to be implemented. The ES will form part of the DCO application for submission.

Details of when these reports will be published can be found in Section 10 of this SoCC, which displays the consultation timeline. Copies of these reports will be made available as we conduct the public consultation.

2. A statutory process in the form of a Scoping Opinion coordinated by PINS will result in feedback on this from local communities and other stakeholders.

9. Public consultation

The consultation process for the proposed Hornsea Project Four will be an iterative one as the design of the project develops in response to the consultation. The following consultation process shapes the consultation timeline, as presented in Section 10 of this SoCC.

Stakeholder briefings – Autumn/Winter 2018

Following publication of this SoCC, we will introduce community members to our proposals for Hornsea Project Four. This will include initial meetings with members of the community and stakeholders.

Local information events – Autumn/Winter 2018

Local information events will take place in October 2018. These will provide interested members of the local community with the opportunity to view the early stage proposals and submit community feedback. This will help shape the proposals for Hornsea Project Four, where more developed plans will be presented at further local information events indicatively planned for Summer/Autumn 2019.

Local information events – Summer/Autumn 2019

Local information events and further consultation will take place indicatively in Summer/Autumn 2019 and will run for at least 28 days. This statutory consultation, in accordance with Section 47 of the Planning Act, will allow us to update you on the project plans and show you how they have changed in response to feedback gathered from the consultation. At this stage, you will also be able to provide feedback on our PEIR, as described in Section 8 of this document. More specific details of the consultation will be publicised through the appropriate channels listed in Section 14.

Ongoing consultation

Any interested parties are welcome to get in touch with us at any time during the consultation process. Our contact details are listed at the end of this document. From now until our application is submitted, we will consider the feedback and comments we receive on an ongoing basis, and incorporate them into our proposals where possible.

You will also have the opportunity to comment on our proposals for the project when the DCO application is submitted to PINS. Guidance on the process can be found on the PINS website at:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Advice-note-8.0.pdf>

10. Consultation timeline



Autumn
2018

Scoping Report published



Autumn/Winter
2018

Local information events



Winter
2018

Scoping Opinion published
by Planning Inspectorate



Summer/Autumn
2019

Local information events and Preliminary
Environmental Information Report published



Winter
2019

Environmental Statement and
application documents finalised



Winter/Spring
2020

Development Consent Order submission

11. Next steps

We will carefully consider and respond to the feedback you provide on our plans, and incorporate this into our final DCO application. As part of the application, we will publish a Consultation Report, which will:

- Describe our consultation process
- List and explain how we abided by all legal requirements
- Detail how we have worked with your LPAs to ensure our consultation was suitable for your area
- Provide a summary of all consultation responses (from both local communities and statutory consultees)
- Describe the changes we have made to our application as a result of what you told us
- Explain why, if any, changes were not made to any areas of the application you told us needed changing

12. How will we consult with you?

Face-to-face

Our pre-application consultation will include a round of local information events, which are open to all interested members of the public. Attendees will have the opportunity to view informative materials about the project, discuss the proposals with members of the team and provide their feedback on the proposals. Details of the first round of events are below.

Local information events

Monday 22 October from 2pm to 8pm, at Foston on the Wolds Village Hall,
Main Street, Foston on the Wolds, YO25 8BJ

Thursday 25 October from 2pm to 8pm, at Barmston and Fraisthorpe Village Hall,
Sands Lane, Barmston, YO25 8PG

Friday 26 October from 2pm to 8pm, at Leconfield Village Hall, Miles Lane,
Leconfield, HU17 7NW

Saturday 27 October from 10:30am to 4pm, at Woodmansey Village Hall,
Long Lane, Beverley, HU17 0RN

Let's create a world
that runs entirely on
green energy



Literature

Stakeholder briefing packs will be provided to elected members at the start of the consultation to introduce the scheme and inform them of how their constituents will be engaged with during the process.

Consultation leaflets will be distributed to all properties within the core consultation zone (as shown on the consultation area map) and will be available at key locations in the wider Consultation Area. Leaflets will provide information on the proposals and details of how the local community can have their say.

Newsletters will be available online and distributed bi-annually within the Consultation Area to update residents on the plans and proposals.

Direct communication lines

Any interested parties can contact us using any of the communication lines detailed in Section 14. All project information will be available to download from our website www.hornseaprojects.co.uk/hornsea-project-four

Communications outreach

Across the onshore consultation area we will be raising awareness of the project to inform those living or working outside of the core consultation zone and to communicate with hard to reach groups. Hard copies of this SoCC, along with the documents listed above, will be available to view from designated Community Access Points (CAP Sites), as listed in Section 13 of this SoCC. We will also use posters, social media, our website and local media to reach out to the entire Consultation Area. All project information will be available to download from our website www.hornseaprojects.co.uk/hornsea-project-four

Hard to reach groups, for example the elderly or disabled, may be less likely to participate in or respond to traditional consultation techniques. They may find it harder to get involved in consultation and need additional support to access materials. Our consultation will include measures to ensure we communicate effectively with these groups and provide an opportunity for them to have their say. This includes making information available across a number of online or offline outlets and in different formats. We will be directly engaging with representative groups in the community to ensure that any hard to reach groups have the opportunity to have their say. As part of this, we will ensure our written material is in easy to understand, plain English style. A freephone number, staffed by our community relations team, is available to assist people who find it difficult to submit written comments. Large print and braille versions of project documents will also be available on request.

13. Community Access Points

Hard copies of this document and newsletters will be available at the below locations within East Riding of Yorkshire:

- **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

Note: There will also be copies of the full DCO application available at one or more of the CAP sites listed above, this will be confirmed nearer to the time of submitting the application.

14. Communication lines

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](https://twitter.com/OrstedUK)

[#HornseaProject4](https://twitter.com/HornseaProject4)

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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