

A man with a beard and a young boy are playing in a field covered with fallen autumn leaves. The man is crouching on the left, wearing a brown jacket, looking towards the boy. The boy is on the right, wearing a bright blue puffer jacket and brown pants, laughing and jumping. Several leaves are captured in mid-air around them, suggesting a playful activity like leaf-throwing. The background shows a soft-focus landscape with a city skyline visible in the distance under a hazy sky.

Orsted Community Newsletter

November
2021

Hornsea Four Offshore Wind Farm

Introduction

Welcome to the latest community newsletter for Hornsea Project Four (Hornsea Four), a new offshore wind farm which Ørsted is proposing to develop in the North Sea, approximately 69 km off Flamborough Head on the Yorkshire Coast.

In this edition, we update you on the final changes we have made to the proposals and how you will be able to make your final comments since the Development Consent Order (DCO) application has been accepted for examination by the Planning Inspectorate.

DCO application update



Hornsea Four recently submitted our DCO application, on 29 September 2021.



Our DCO application was accepted for examination by the Planning Inspectorate on 26 October 2021.



You can find out more about how you can engage with our proposals for Hornsea Four throughout the examination process in this newsletter.



We will continue to engage with the local authority (East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC)), parish councils, and the local community to ensure that you are kept up to date with our onshore proposals and any developments.



You can register your interest on the Hornsea Four website to receive updates on the DCO application: hornseaprojects.co.uk/en/Hornsea-Project-Four

If you have any further questions regarding Hornsea Four and wish to speak with a member of the team, please contact us via the details provided at the end of this newsletter.

Hornsea Four

Hornsea Four is Ørsted's fourth project in the Hornsea Zone. It will be located to the west of Hornsea One (now fully operational), Hornsea Two (under construction), and Hornsea Three (granted development consent).



- Current DCO Order Limits (468 km²)
- Existing operational Ørsted offshore wind farms
- Under construction
- Granted consent



Hornsea Four includes an offshore array area of up to 468 km² where up to 180 wind turbines could be located.



If built out to full capacity, Hornsea Four could provide enough power to meet the average daily need of well over 1 million UK homes.¹

¹Whilst 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.

How has your feedback changed the project?

We have received a considerable amount of feedback throughout our pre-application consultation, including comments as part of our formal phase two consultation (in August-September 2019), three additional rounds of targeted consultation, one round of non-statutory targeted consultation and ongoing feedback from landowners, statutory consultees, and other interested parties.

We aimed to ensure our final proposal responds to the concerns and wishes of the local community, minimising disturbance while also providing a commercially attractive application. Since our last newsletter, we can provide the following project updates:

Onshore proposals



Onshore Substation

Following continued discussions with ERYC, we amended the proposed access design to the onshore substation for the construction and operation and maintenance of Hornsea Four.

The proposed access off the A1079 was moved east to avoid interaction with the proposed A164/Jock's Lodge junction improvement scheme.

We have commenced site investigation works at our proposed onshore substation site, comprising boreholes, cone penetration tests and trial trenches. This survey will assist in the detailed design of the onshore substation. The survey is expected to conclude in late-November.



Export Cable Corridor

Our finalised plans for the onshore cable corridor are available to view overleaf, and on our interactive online map: hornsea4feedback.commonplace.is/

Following continued correspondence with ERYC, a construction access for the onshore cable corridor off the A164 was amended due to the interaction with the Jock's Lodge junction improvement scheme. This change was the subject of a targeted consultation in July 2021.



Landfall

In April 2021, our contractors Natural Power mobilised on the beach and clifftop field to collect sub-surface geotechnical data, including cone penetration tests, which involves insertion of a metal rod into the ground up to a depth of 20m. This enables us to calculate the strength of different soil types and data from these works will help us to design the export cable which will bring green electricity to shore and helps us decide how we should install it.



Derogation and Compensation Case Offshore proposals

Following the Secretary of State's (SoS) decision letter for Hornsea Three, that indicated that all future projects with any potential for adverse effects on the integrity of designated sites need to consider ecological compensation measures during the pre-application period, we carried out a non-statutory targeted consultation on potential compensation measures for Hornsea Four.

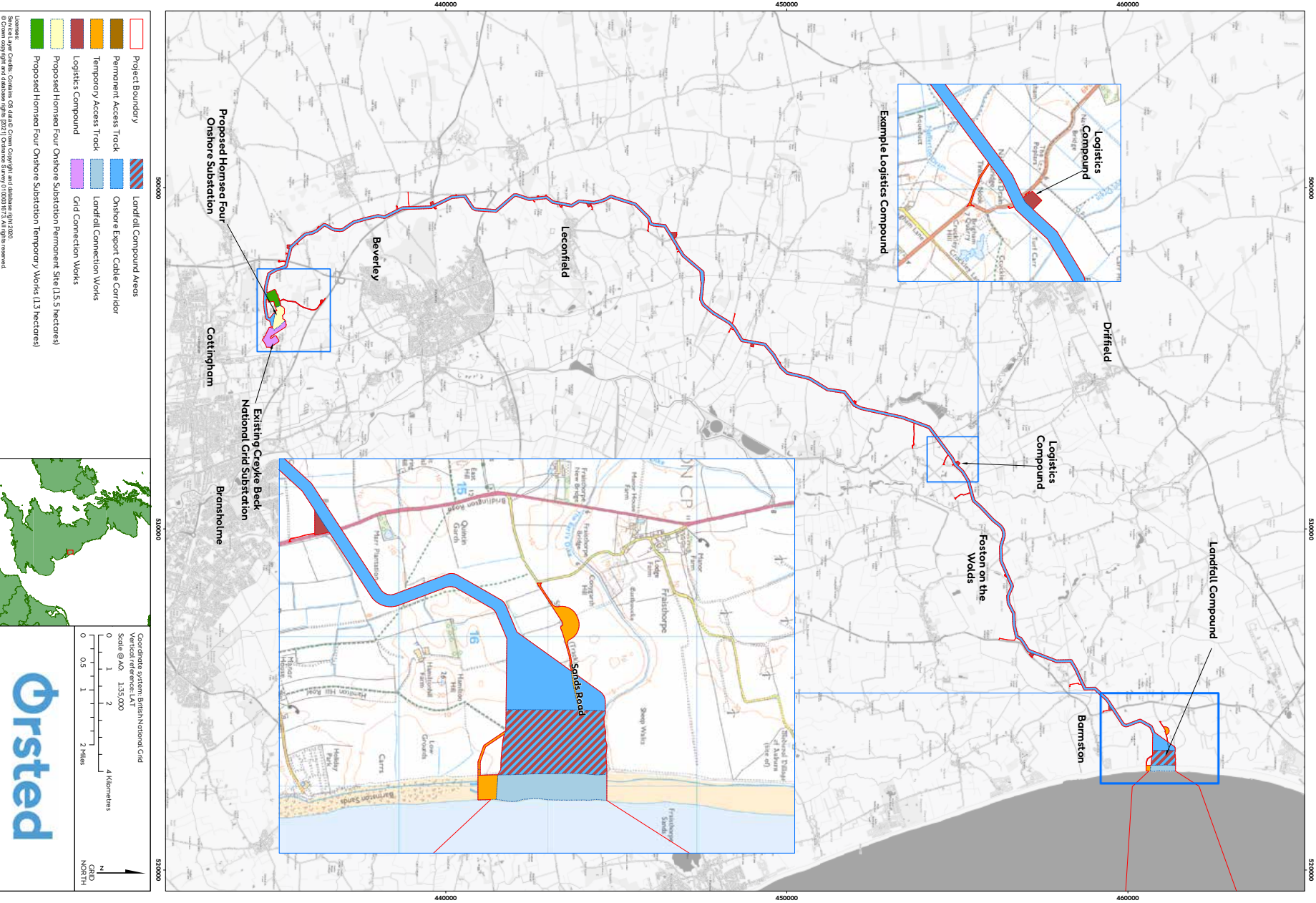
The potential compensation measures include options for four seabird species, including Guillemot, Gannet, Razorbill and Kittiwake species. Following our non-statutory targeted consultation on potential compensation measures, we are continuing to engage with organisations as we refine our proposals.



Logistics Compound

Following continued discussions with ERYC and undertaking appraisal work we have removed the additional onshore cable corridor and primary logistics compound option added previously (adjacent to the A164 and Station Road, approximately 1.3 km east of Lockington), leaving one route option and primary logistics compound location. This decision removes the requirement to drop one of the two options at a later date.

Hornsea Four Onshore Export Cable Corridor



Register your interest and comment on the application

With this newsletter, we are notifying you of how to get involved with the DCO application now that it has been accepted for examination. We will contact you again when the application is under review.

Hornsea Four submitted a DCO application on 29 September 2021. The Planning Inspectorate had 28 days to accept the DCO application for examination. The DCO application was accepted for examination on 26 October. The formal examination process will be managed by the Planning Inspectorate and individuals wishing to get involved will need to follow the prescribed process described below.

Representations can be made once it has been accepted for examination. The DCO application documents are available to view on the Planning Inspectorate's website via: infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/yorkshire-and-the-humber/hornsea-project-four-offshore-wind-farm-generating-stations

Any representations (giving notice of any interest in, or objection to, the DCO application) must be made on the Planning Inspectorate's Registration and Relevant Representation Form, which is accessible on their website.

All details about application acceptance are on our project website. From 4 November 2021, individuals wishing to make a representation will have 6 weeks to do so. The deadline for submitting a representation is **11.59pm on 16 December 2021**.

Please see the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Notice 8.2: How to register to participate in an Examination (December 2016), on how to register and make a relevant representation. This can be accessed via the following link: infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Advice-note-8-2v3.pdf

You can also 'Register Your Interest' on the Hornsea Four website (hornseaprojects.co.uk/en/Hornsea-Project-Four) and receive updates on how our application is progressing.

Examination

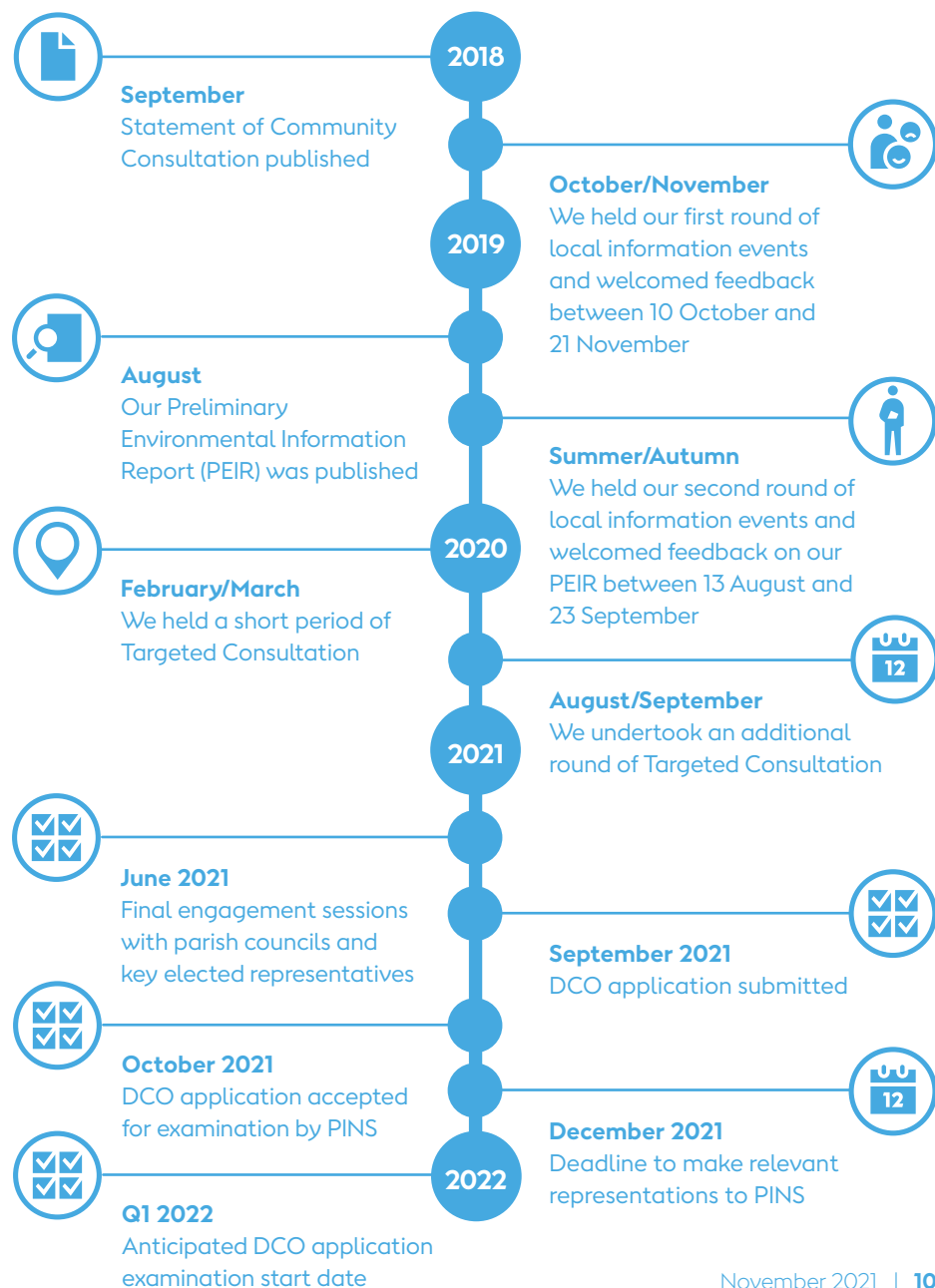
Following the Relevant Representation Period, the Planning Inspectorate will appoint an Examining Authority and interested parties will be invited to attend a preliminary meeting (the date will be determined by the Planning Inspectorate).

Typically, the pre-examination period lasts approximately three months after which the formal examination begins, which lasts for a predefined period of 6 months.

After the examination stage, the Planning Inspectorate have three months to prepare a report, including a recommendation for the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), and the Secretary of State then has a further three months to grant or refuse development consent.



Consultation timeline



*All dates remain indicative



Contact us

You can get in touch with our community relations team at any time by any of the methods below:



Send us an email:

contact@hornseaprojectfour.co.uk



Call our Freephone information line:

0808 169 3030



Contact our Community Liaison Officer, Andrew Acum, on:

andrew.acum@mercury-group.co.uk or 07939 005 719



Visit our website:

hornseaprojects.co.uk/en/hornsea-project-four



Visit our digital engagement platform:

hornsea4feedback.commonplace.is



Send us a letter:

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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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