

Hornsea Project Three Offshore Wind Farm

Phase One: Consultation Summary Report

December 2016



Phase One Consultation Summary Report

A series of Community Consultation events were held across Norfolk in the last week of October and early November 2016. These events were part of the first phase of informal community consultation for Hornsea Project Three Offshore Wind Farm.

The aim of these events was to provide members of the public with the opportunity to hear more about our proposal, ask any questions they may have and for us to get feedback on the Project at the earliest stage. Knowledge gained at these events will improve our understanding of the local area, concerns and sensitivities that exist. Which in turn will aid the refinement of the search area and preferred cable route for the onshore elements of the Project. In short, public feedback will influence the final proposal to some degree.

This Consultation Summary Report provides an overview of all of the views expressed at these events that were recorded. We are keen to be open and transparent during this consultation, so that we understand what the local community is most interested in and can show how we have addressed any concerns that they may have regarding our proposal. The report also explains the next steps for the Project and the opportunities for you and your community to engage and be further informed as the Project evolves.



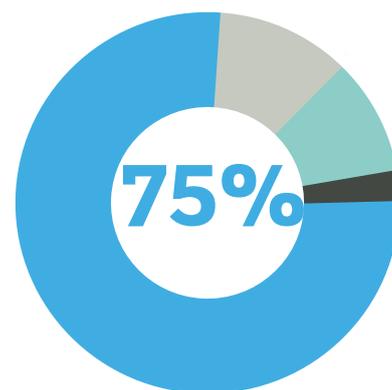
Our Community Consultation Events

Six consultation events were held in Sheringham, Aylsham, Swaffham, Great Yarmouth, Harford and central Norwich. These locations were chosen to be equally spread across the wider Consultation Zone, in order to make them accessible to anyone who may feel either directly or indirectly impacted by the Project.

The events were advertised in the Eastern Daily Press, Norwich Evening News, North Norfolk News and Diss, Wymondham & Attleborough Mercury. They were also promoted in the newsletter and via event posters sent to each venue, as well as in our Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)¹.

A range of communication methods were used at the events to provide information about the Project, including large exhibition banners, an information pack for attendees, large display boards showing maps of the local area and our latest newsletter. Our dedicated website, email address and Freephone information line were also advertised for those with further queries after the events.

In order to ensure that the events were accessible to all, large print, audio and braille copies of all documents were made available. All of the venues had wheelchair access and there was a craft table for children.



75% of respondents support Hornsea Project Three Offshore Wind Farm.

Table 1: Percentage of respondents who agreed or disagreed with each statement ²

	Agree	Don't know	Disagree	N/A
Climate change is an important issue	95.4%	2.3%	2.3%	0.0%
I support renewable energy	93.0%	4.7%	2.3%	0.0%
I believe that offshore wind should be a significant source of renewable energy	88.4%	9.3%	2.3%	0.0%
I prefer wind farms to be placed out at sea rather than on land	60.5%	13.9%	25.6%	0.0%
I support offshore wind power in the North Sea	88.1%	9.5%	2.4%	0.0%
Offshore wind farms will encourage visitors to the area	27.5%	37.5%	35.0%	0.0%
Offshore wind farms have created jobs and supported local businesses in the area	69.1%	23.8%	7.1%	0.0%
Today's event helped me understand the proposed plans for the wind farm	86.1%	9.2%	4.7%	0.0%
All my questions were answered properly	88.4%	4.6%	7.0%	0.0%
I have, or know how to get, all the information I need to understand how the proposed wind farm may impact upon me	81.0%	11.9%	7.1%	0.0%
I am able to easily express my views on the proposed wind farm development	88.4%	6.9%	4.7%	0.0%
My views will be taken into account as the proposed wind farm is developed	43.9%	46.4%	7.3%	2.4%
The final wind farm will reflect my views and opinions and those of my local community	40.5%	50.0%	7.1%	2.4%
I support Hornsea Project Three Offshore Wind Farm	75.0%	15.0%	7.5%	2.5%

¹ The SoCC sets out how we plan to consult people living in the vicinity of the land of the proposed development.

² Not all respondents answered all of the questions. As such the percentages shown in the table above are reflective of those participants who responded. For the purpose of this report we have grouped Strongly disagree/Disagree and Strongly agree/ Agree.

Community Feedback

172 people signed in at the six events.

This included members and officers from District, Borough, Parish, City and Town Councils, local business representatives including fishermen and farmers, members of the public and local landowners.

53 people completed a feedback form.

This was either during or after the events. Paper-copy feedback forms were made available at the events, and an electronic version was accessible via the Hornsea Project Three website. This meant that anyone who was not able to attend the events in person had the opportunity to provide feedback on our proposal at this important stage.

Local Concerns

Helpful topics were raised, many of which are now being fed into the Project proposals. People raised concerns about the **mitigation measures** that would be taken to minimise the impact to the local environment, as well as ensuring that **any potential disruption to residents is kept to an absolute minimum** during construction.

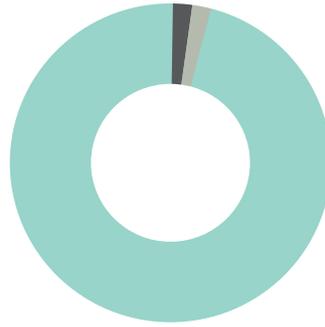
Local Knowledge

We really appreciated attendees taking the time to view the boards and maps and write down their thoughts, whether it be to inform us about a known development in the area, or to point out a road particularly prone to heavy traffic or an area with protected species etc.

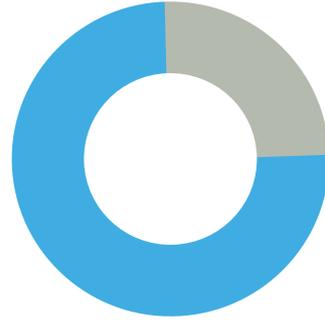
Public Engagement

When asked what they thought was the most important issue to be considered whilst developing our Project, **almost a quarter** of those who answered said that it **was keeping the local community informed**. **91%** of attendees also signed up to receive our quarterly newsletters³.

More information on our plans for community consultation, including the methods by which you can engage in this process, is available in our SoCC, which is available on our website.



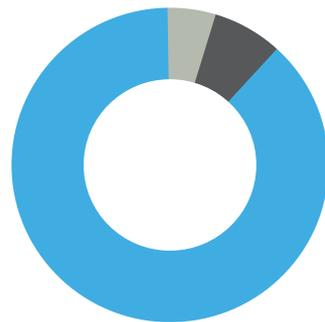
95% of respondents believe that climate change is an important issue.



74% of respondents thought that wind was the best way to generate electricity.



81% of respondents felt that the events provided all of the information they needed in order to comment on the proposed Project at this stage.



88% felt they could easily express their views on the proposed wind farm development.



However, over **55%** of attendees were either unsure or did not feel that their views would be taken into account.

³ This does not include people who signed up to receive the newsletter at the welcome desk.

Your Questions

1. Why Norfolk?

The location of any onshore infrastructure is largely determined by the grid offer we discuss and agree with National Grid. This is assessed by National Grid from an economic and strategic perspective, in relation to additional costs and investments required based on the capacity and timing of energy production sought by the developer. Hornsea Project Three received the offer of Norwich Main Substation and as such, we are currently investigating potential routes for connecting into the grid at this point.

2. Will the proposed development affect my land / my business / my day-to-day routine?

We will present a more refined cable corridor at our next set of events, details of which will be available in our next newsletter (expected January 2017). We encourage you to attend these future events to find out more information and have your questions answered as the design proposal develops.

3. How will the proposed development affect the local environment?

As part of our DCO (Development Consent Order) application, we will be undertaking and reporting on an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), which will assess the potential for positive or negative environmental, social and economic impacts from our proposed development. This process involves gathering environmental information, assessing the significance of potential impacts in relation to the Project, and where required proposing ways of reducing, avoiding and mitigating any significant adverse effects.

4. Are you planning to use overhead pylons?

No, all onshore cables transporting the electricity from the offshore wind farm to the National Grid will be buried. The only onshore infrastructure that might be visible would be the onshore substation or the onshore HVAC booster station (should an AC transmission system be built). However, we will seek to minimise any potential impact this may cause.

5. How much energy is lost from the offshore wind farm to the national grid?

For a project the size of Hornsea Project Three, and its distance offshore, electrical losses of the offshore transmission system are expected to be between 3.5% and 7% of the energy generated by the wind farm, depending on the final type of technology chosen and on the design of the system. This is similar to other transmission systems of this type.

6. How much subsidy is offshore wind currently getting?

Offshore wind is still a relatively young technology, however costs are falling rapidly as technology improves. Subsidies for offshore wind have already fallen by almost 40% and industry anticipates that costs could fall even further to £80 – 90 MWh by 2025, making it cost competitive with other new generation in the mid-2020s⁴.

7. What is the working life of an offshore wind farm?

Our existing offshore wind farms have a 25-year lifetime.

8. Who pays for decommissioning?

The owner of the offshore wind farm is responsible for the decommissioning cost.

9. How effective are your existing offshore wind farms?

On average UK wind farms will produce energy over 90% of the time. Across our newest wind farms, we are now installing larger, more powerful turbines, which produce more energy per turbine.

10. Will you use local suppliers?

The offshore wind industry aspires to maximise UK content on projects and utilise local expertise where possible. Locally, we will work with the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEPs), local authorities and business groups to understand what can be supplied locally and to make local companies aware of potential opportunities.

11. How will Norfolk benefit from Hornsea Project Three?

As part of our EIA, we will be assessing the potential socio-economic benefits associated with the Project. A draft version of this document in the form of a Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) will be available in late Summer 2017.

Many of you raised concerns about the potential impact of electromagnetic fields (EMFs). We will shortly circulate a document providing more information on this topic to put this into perspective.



5 ⁴ Offshore Wind Vision (November 2015). Available online: http://offshorewind.works/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/151106_Offshore-Wind-Vision_AW-V2-single-pages.pdf

Next Steps

The consultation is ongoing, so there are still opportunities for you to get involved. You can give us a call to tell us your views, email us or sign up to our quarterly newsletter to keep up-to-date with the latest news and developments. Further details on how to get in touch are listed in the Contact Details section below.

We will continue to consult with a range of stakeholders including various local community groups, and will provide briefings to groups who would like to hear more about our plans. If you know of any groups that would be interested please let us know.

We will be holding further consultation events in 2017, so come along and have a look at how our plans have developed, and most importantly, tell us what you think.

Some people who attended the events were concerned that not all parts of the community were aware of this first set of events. We have taken these comments on board, and in addition to the advertisement channels previously used, we intend to send information directly to all landowners within or near our refined route. More information on these events will be available in our January newsletter.

Your Views

Your views are important to us and this pre-application consultation is your opportunity to influence our proposal. After each consultation event, we will carefully consider all of the feedback received at that point in time. No decisions will be made until detailed studies and public consultation has been carried out. At the end of the consultation period, we will submit a **Consultation Report** alongside our consent application in 2018, which will explain how we consulted, summarise all of the feedback we received and explain how your views have influenced our plans.



“We would like to thank everyone who attended one of our community consultation events. We hope that you found these sessions useful and left feeling more informed about our current plans and the consultation process.”

Attendees brought with them a wealth of knowledge and experience, and our team has taken away a lot of useful information that will help us to further develop our proposal. We hope to see you at one of our future events, and in the meantime if you do have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.”

Stuart Livesey, Project Development Manager

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Contact Details



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Visit our website:
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Twitter:
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Send us a letter:
**Hornsea Project Three Offshore Wind Farm,
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DONG Energy Power (UK) Ltd,
5 Howick Place, Victoria, London, SW1P 1WG**



Community Access Points (CAP sites)
CAP sites are places where you can obtain information about Hornsea Project Three. They are local sites easily accessible to people in the area, such as shops, libraries and community buildings. You can find your nearest CAP site by using our online mapping tool on our website.