

# Hornsea Project Three Offshore Wind Farm

---

## Community Newsletter

June 2017



# Hornsea Project Three and DONG Energy

Welcome to the third community newsletter for Hornsea Project Three, a new offshore wind farm that DONG Energy is proposing to develop in the North Sea, over 120 km off the north Norfolk 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 includes updates on the latest Project developments, our activities behind the scenes and details about how you can get involved.



## How big could it be?

If built out to full capacity, Hornsea Project Three could be the world's largest offshore wind farm, providing enough power to meet the average daily needs of well over **2 million** UK homes.



## Who is the developer?

DONG Energy is the **global leader** in developing, building and operating offshore wind farms, and our largest fleet is in the UK.

Since 2004, we have invested **£6 billion** in the UK and we expect to double this investment by 2020.

## Where is Hornsea Project Three?



## Offshore

We have refined our original offshore search area to an indicative preferred 1.5 km wide export cable corridor. This includes a proposed search area for siting the offshore High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC) booster station (if required).

The proposed corridor funnels out at the array area – where the turbines and offshore substation(s) will be located. The corridor is also wider at the landfall zone – where the cables carrying the electricity generated by the wind turbines will come ashore.

To improve our understanding of the offshore environment, we are undertaking surveys and assessments, and engaging widely with other offshore users and environmental bodies. We are also undertaking studies at the landfall, to understand what is technically feasible. The information gathered through this process will help us to further refine our proposal, ensuring we select the most appropriate route and landfall point that best considers the local environment and community interests.

## Interactive map

Enter postcodes into the search bar on our online interactive map to zoom into areas of interest. Detailed OS maps are also available on our website in our Documents Library or by request (see Contact Us).



## Will I be able to see the offshore turbines?

The turbines will be located over **120 km** offshore and will not be visible from the coast.



**The Project is engaging with local fishermen in the north Norfolk area to agree the best way for offshore surveys to be carried out with minimal disruption to fishing activity. This will help both parties to co-exist in the area while development work is taking place, and help build relationships for similar surveys in the future.**

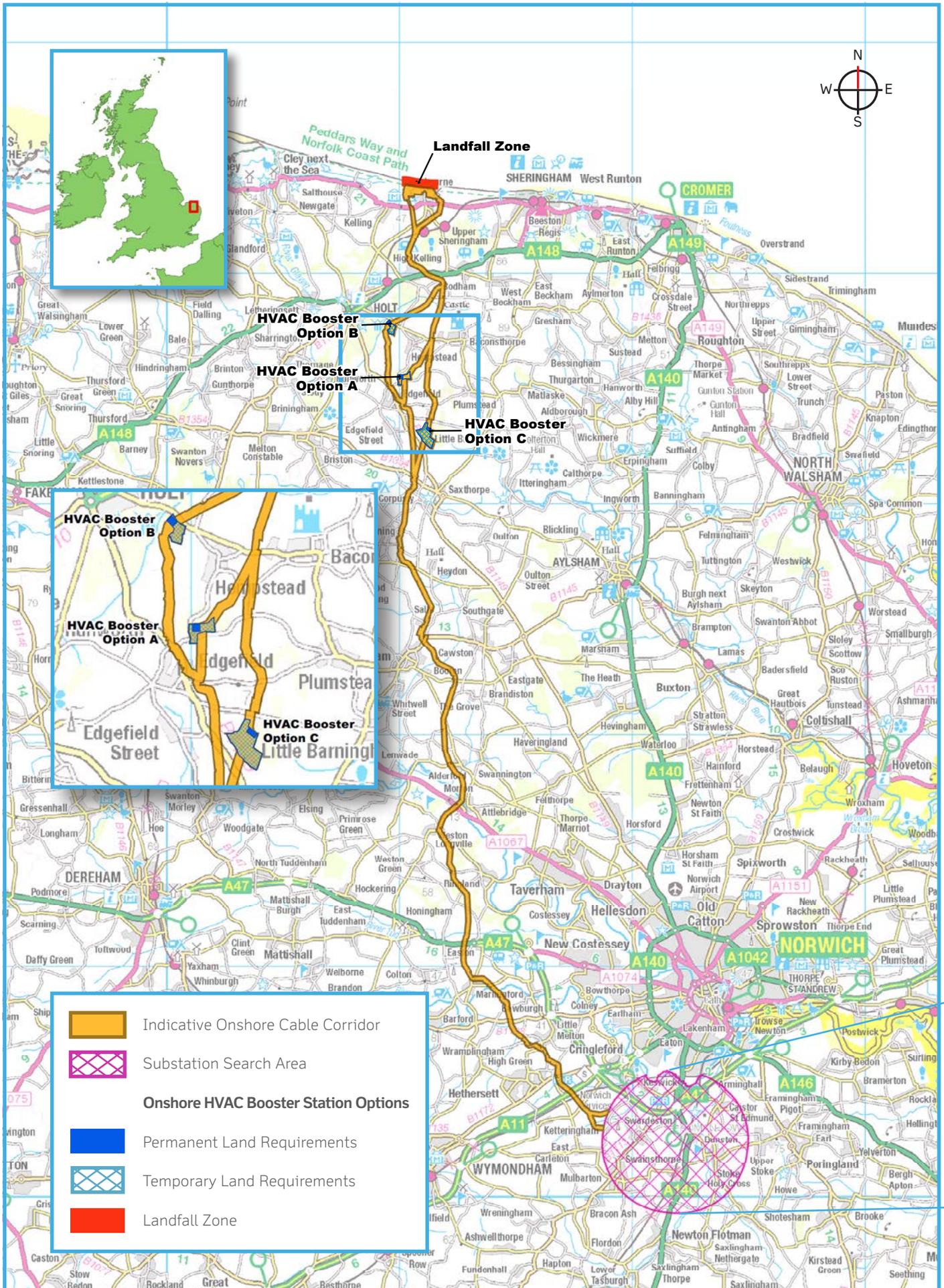


Figure 1: Map of the proposed 200 m indicative cable corridor (plus 100 m technical buffer either side) and substation / onshore HVAC booster station areas. Note: These plans were presented in more detail at the March 2017 Community Consultation events.

Inset left: Map of the onshore HVAC booster station options.

## Onshore cable corridor

Since our last community newsletter, we have published and consulted on our refined indicative preferred 200 m onshore cable corridor search area. This included a 100 m technical buffer to allow for flexibility, as we better understand potential technical and environmental constraints to routing the cable.



We are currently undertaking aerial surveys of the full route. The results of these surveys will improve our understanding of what is technically feasible and help us to further refine our onshore cable corridor.

In some areas, it may be necessary for the Project to consider alternative options. If this were the case, information on these will be shared with you at the earliest stage.

Ahead of submitting our planning application, we will further refine this corridor down to an 80 m cable route, 20 m of which is required for temporary working areas. This includes a haul road for construction vehicles and storage, which will help minimise any potential disruption locally. This refinement process will be informed by environmental surveys, technical and feasibility studies, as well ongoing consultation with landowners, statutory bodies and members of the local community.

## Onshore substation

Hornsea Project Three will require a new onshore substation near to the existing Norwich Main National Grid Substation. The onshore substation could require an area up to 100,000 m<sup>2</sup> and could be up to 25 m in height. An additional area of up to 28,000 m<sup>2</sup> will be required for visual mitigation.



The Project has performed a heat mapping exercise, layering known constraints (i.e. distance to residential properties and ancient woodland) to identify suitable sites within our original search area (within 3 km of Norwich Main). This information is being considered alongside the results of surveys, studies and feedback from landowners and members of the local community to help us identify and locate the best site.



Figure 2: Heat map of the onshore substation search area. The darker shades indicate the more constrained areas.

## Onshore HVAC booster station

Hornsea Project Three will apply for consent to use both a high voltage Alternating Current (AC) and Direct Current (DC) electrical transmission system. In the AC scenario, the Project could require a booster station near to the coast to mitigate against power losses between the offshore wind farm itself and the national grid connection point. The onshore HVAC booster station could require an area of up to 25,000 m<sup>2</sup> and could be up to 12.5 m in height.



We recently presented and sought feedback on three potential options (and the associated cable corridors) we were exploring for siting the onshore HVAC booster station. We have received lots of useful feedback from members of the local community on these proposed sites. This feedback is being considered alongside the other environmental, technical and commercial considerations to help inform the refinement process. The upcoming PEIR will show the refine single location the project is taking forwards for the proposed onshore HVAC booster station.

### What could the onshore substation and onshore HVAC booster station look like?

We recognise that members of the local community will want to understand what the proposed new infrastructure might look like. This was also a key piece of feedback from our last round of events. Our engineers are in the process of preparing some indicative visualisations of the onshore substation and onshore HVAC booster station. These visualisations will be available for you to view and comment on at our next round of community consultation events (details overleaf).

**We will present and seek feedback on a preferred single option for siting both the onshore substation and the onshore HVAC booster station in our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and at our next round of community consultation events (see Next Steps).**

## Meet the team

*"As the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Specialist for Hornsea Project Three, I'm responsible for collecting and visualising the spatial data to aid the project team in designing all aspects of the offshore wind farm. GIS technology has advanced considerably in the past decade and I enjoy trialing out new tools, which allow us to present project information in new and exciting ways.*



*I'm currently obtaining two surveys, one using a drone and the other with a plane, which will generate detailed and up to date information on the proposed cable corridor. I am also working with a specialist company to create a fully interactive 3D model of the offshore wind farm. This model will be available at our next set of community consultation events."*

**Kieran Bell, GIS Specialist.**

## Survey update

We recognise environmental sensitivities in this area and as part of our Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), contracted to RPS Group, we are currently undertaking extensive ecological surveys along the proposed onshore cable corridor. These include the areas being considered for the onshore HVAC booster station and onshore substation. Specialists Thomson Ecology are working closely with our Environment & Consents team to deliver the environmental surveys, including surveys for bats, reptiles, great crested newts, badgers, otters, water voles and white-clawed crayfish.

We have commissioned NIRAS Consulting, who are undertaking our wintering and breeding bird surveys, and we have completed noise, traffic and visual surveys to help inform our EIA. These surveys will help improve our understanding of the local environment and will feed into the route refinement process.

We are also consulting extensively with Natural England, the Environment Agency, The Wildlife Trust and the district and county ecologists, amongst other stakeholders and will look to address any concerns as the Project develops.



Photo: Thomson Ecology

## Community feedback

In March 2017, we held our second round of community consultation events (Phase 1.B) to update local communities and to gather feedback on our current plans. The events were held in seven locations across Norfolk along our refined 200 m onshore cable corridor and near to our onshore HVAC booster station options and onshore substation search area.

We are grateful to everyone who attended these events and provided feedback, both on the day and in the following weeks. Hornsea Project Three is a large-scale, ambitious Project which will benefit from involvement and local knowledge of the community.

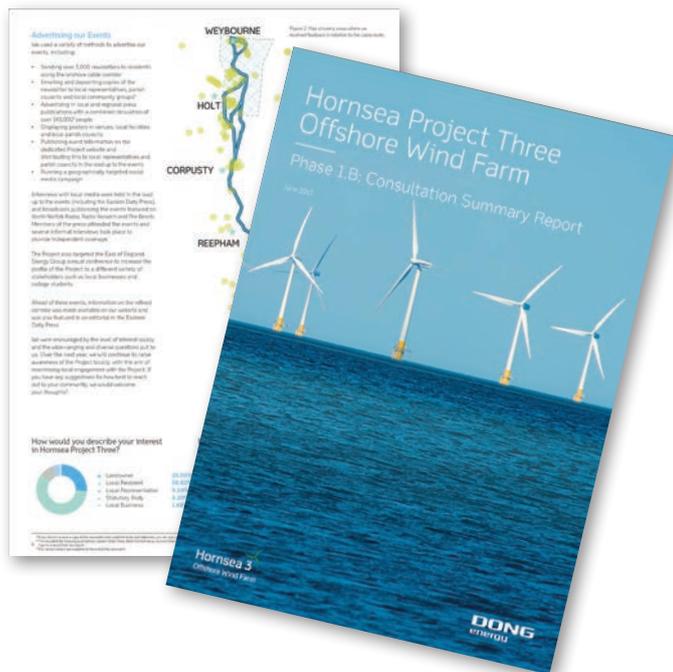


Figure 3: Pages from our Phase 1.B: Consultation Summary Report, now available on our website (See Contact Us).

## Listening and responding to feedback

### What did you tell us?



All the feedback that we received is being considered by the Project as we look to further refine our proposal over the next year. We have prepared a short summary report, capturing the views expressed at the March 2017 events and responding to some of the frequently asked questions. This report can be downloaded from our website and is available to collect from one of our Community Access Points (CAP sites) (details overleaf).

### Can I still access the event information?

You can access all of the information presented at the recent events on our website in the Document Library.

## What happens next?

In accordance with Regulation 10 of the Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009, the Project is carrying out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Over the Summer, we will publish and conduct our statutory (or formal) consultation on the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008. This document will incorporate the findings of initial surveys and assessments and will enable consultees to develop a more informed view of the potential environmental effects.

The consultation will be publicised in local media and statutory consultees will be notified in writing. The PEIR, along with a non-technical summary, will be available to download from our website. We will also deposit electronic storage devices containing the full PEIR at some of our Community Access Points (CAP sites). A list of these venues will be published shortly. In parallel to the formal consultation under Section 42, we will hold a third round of community consultation events (details overleaf), where we will present our latest plans and seek feedback from local communities.

# Phase 2 community consultation events

We will be holding a series of consultation events to update you on project developments and gather your feedback on our latest plans. Members of the Project team will be on hand to answer any questions you may have.

Venue	Date	Event Time
Swardeston Village Hall, The Common, Swardeston Common, NR14 8DX	Monday 4th September	3pm-7pm
King's Centre, King Street, Norwich, NR1 1PH	Tuesday 5th September	4pm-7:30pm
Corpusty and Saxthorpe Village Hall, Heydon Road, Corpusty, NR11 6QQ	Wednesday 6th September	4pm-8pm
Weybourne Village Hall, Beach Lane, Weybourne, NR25 7AH	Thursday 7th September	3:30pm-7:30pm
Reepham Town Hall, Church Street, Reepham, NR10 4JW	Friday 8th September	3:30pm-7:30pm
Hall for All, Church Street, Weston Longville, NR9 5JU	Tuesday 12th September	4pm - 7:30pm
Holt Community Centre, Kerridge Way, Holt, NR25 6DN	Wednesday 13th September	4pm - 7:30pm

## Contact us

We want to hear your thoughts on our proposal. There are many ways you can find out more information and get in touch to let us know your views:



Send us an email:  
[contact@hornsea-project-three.co.uk](mailto:contact@hornsea-project-three.co.uk)



Call our Freephone information line:  
**0800 0288 466**



Visit our website:  
[www.dongenergy.co.uk/hornseaproject3](http://www.dongenergy.co.uk/hornseaproject3)



Twitter:  
[@DONGEnergyUK](https://twitter.com/DONGEnergyUK) [#HornseaProject3](https://twitter.com/HornseaProject3)



Send us a letter:  
**Hornsea Project Three Offshore Wind Farm,  
c/o Emily Woolfenden,  
DONG Energy Power (UK) Ltd,  
5 Howick Place, Victoria, London, SW1P 1WG**



Community Access Points (CAP sites):  
**Locations where you can find copies of our latest consultation documents, including the Phase 1.B Consultation Summary Report**

## Keeping you informed

The consultation is ongoing, and there are still plenty of opportunities for you to get involved in the process. If you have any questions or want to comment on our proposal, you can contact us directly via the contact details listed at the end of this newsletter.

**You can sign up to our mailing list by 'Registering Your Interest' via our website or by contacting us directly. By doing this, you will receive future Project updates and copies of our community newsletters.**

### View our latest plans

Copies of this newsletter and our Phase 1.B Consultation Summary Report are available for you to take home from our identified Community Access Points (CAP sites).

Find your nearest CAP site by entering your postcode into our interactive online map or by contacting us directly.

### Can I still comment on the Project plans?

Yes, you can continue to comment on our plans at any point during the consultation period, in the lead up to the submission of our Development Consent Order (DCO) application in 2018 and beyond. You can do so by contacting us directly using the details at the end of this newsletter.

We are keen to hear your thoughts on all aspects of our proposal. You can contact us directly via one of the channels below.

Physical copies of our latest newsletter and Phase 1.B Consultation Summary Report are available to view at the following council offices.

- **North Norfolk District Council** Council Offices, Holt Road, Cromer, Norfolk, NR27 9EN, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday: 8:30am-5pm, Wednesday: 10am-5pm Friday: 8:30am-4:30pm
- **Broadland District Council** 1 Yarmouth Road, Thorpe St Andrew, Norwich, NR7 0DU, Monday-Friday: 8:30am-5pm
- **South Norfolk District Council** South Norfolk House, Cygnet Court, Long Stratton, Norwich, NR15 2XE, Monday-Friday: 8:15am-5pm
- **Broads Authority** Yare House, 62-64 Thorpe Road, Norwich, NR1 1RY, Monday-Friday: 9am-5pm
- **Breckland District Council** Elizabeth House, Walpole Loke, Dereham, NR19 1EE, Monday-Thursday: 8am-6pm
- **Great Yarmouth Borough Council** Town Hall, Hall Plain, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2QF, Monday-Friday: 9am-5pm
- **Norwich City Council** City Hall, St Peters Street, Norwich, NR2 1NH, Monday-Friday: 8am-5pm, Customer Centre: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 8:45am-5pm, Wednesday: 1pm-5pm
- **Norfolk County Council** County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, Norfolk, NR1 2DH, Monday-Friday: 9am-5pm

DONG Energy Power (UK) Ltd,  
5 Howick Place, Victoria, London,  
SW1P 1WG

© DONG Energy (UK) Ltd. 2017. All rights reserved. No parts of this publication may be reproduced by any means without prior written permission from DONG Energy (UK) Ltd.

All graphics in this document are for illustrative purposes. Dates and figures are based on available information and are subject to change.

Printed on  
recycled paper



[www.dongenergy.co.uk](http://www.dongenergy.co.uk)