

Offshore Cable Installation Construction

South Fork Wind is entering its offshore construction season, beginning with work to install the project's 68-nautical mile submarine cable starting in early 2023.

Submarine power cables, just like South Fork Wind's, are common. Similar submarine cables are currently located under Jones Beach, Long Island Sound, between Greenport and Shelter Island, and to connect the islands of Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket and Block Island to the mainland, to name a few.

The work is being completed by New York union construction workers, under our National Offshore Wind Agreement with the Building Trades.

Safety Measures

Safety vessels will be located every 6 miles along the cable route to monitor all activity 24-7 and communicate with other marine users. Safety vessels will ensure no interactions with the cable between the cable lay and burial phase.

Trained lookouts are aboard all South Fork Wind construction vessels to monitor, and avoid, any protected marine species in the area. Please note, the vessels carrying the cable and cable burial equipment will be moving very slowly.

South Fork Wind requests fishermen temporarily avoid use of bottom-contacting fishing gear in the cable corridor to prevent interference with seabed preparation and cable laying. Transiting over the cable corridor remains unrestricted. Mariners will be informed of the areas to be avoided via our regular mariners' briefings as well as by the safety vessels monitoring the work. South Fork Wind's

fishing liaisons are also available on the docks.

Timeline

Our expected schedule is below. Please note: Weather or sea conditions and other factors may impact the schedule. Our twice-weekly mariners' briefings remain the best place to stay updated on our work at-sea.

The work installing South Fork Wind's submarine cable involves six key stages: 1. Seabed preparation 2. Sea-to-shore interconnection preparation 3. Nearshore cable laying 4. Nearshore cable burial. 5. Offshore cable laying and 6. Offshore cable burial.

Cable vessel arrival: Early February (ProvPort, Rhode Island):

The cable laying vessel, Living Stone, picked up the New York union crew at ProvPort, in Rhode Island. From there, it will transit to the Nexans Cable facility in South Carolina to pick up the submarine export cable for installation.

Seabed preparations: February – mid- to late-March.

This includes relocating boulders from the path of the cable, surveying to identify debris or "ghost gear" along the cable route, and clearance of debris, where necessary.

Sea-to-Shore Interconnection: Late February to early March

The area off Wainscott Beach in East Hampton will be prepared to receive the cable, and the cable will be pulled ashore through a previously installed conduit buried 80 feet beneath the beach. A team consisting of the cable-lay barge, lift boat, support vessels, and specialized divers will mobilize off Wainscott Beach as early as February 19. New York union construction workers will handle the work, in accordance with the National Offshore Wind Agreement.

Cable laying: Early February – end of April.

After the export cable is pulled ashore starting in mid-to-late February, we'll begin laying the first, 28 nautical-mile section of cable along the offshore route, known as the "Nearshore Cable". Cable laying takes approximately a week. Then, this cable section is buried, and we survey it to ensure the target depth of 4 to 6 feet is reached. The cable burying process takes approximately 3 weeks to complete.

We'll lay the remaining 28-nautical mile long cable section, known as the "Offshore Cable," to the wind farm area starting at the end of March, with the same process and timelines.

Finally, we will place specialized concrete "mattresses" to protect the cable in areas where we can't achieve the desired burial depth because of existing cable crossings. The concrete mattresses provide reliable additional protection for the cable in these instances.

Areas to be avoided related to bottom trawling, anchoring and pots in the cable corridor will be lifted once each section of the cable is confirmed in its appropriate position via survey. We'll notify mariners that fishing in the cable corridor can resume then.

South Fork Wind will be fully operational by the end of 2023.

Monitoring Vessels

Safety vessels will be located every 6 miles along the cable route to monitor all activity during offshore cable installation activities. Mariners can tune to VHF FM 16 and 13 for more information, or contact the project's Fishing Liaison officer via the marine radio.

Locational data of the cable, the mattresses, and seabed clearance routes is available to NOAA and the US Coast Guard for charting and notification purposes, on our website, and is available upon request.

All project vessels have trained lookouts on board. These professionals have specialized training on how to monitor and avoid protected marine species (animals federally protected under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA)) while transiting. With the exception of transits in Long Island Sound and Narragansett Bay, all project vessels will operate below 10 knots, as an added safety measure and in accordance with our North Atlantic Right Whale Agreement.

Contact Information

Mariners Brief:

[Offshore Wind Farm Information for Mariners | Ørsted \(orsted.com\)](#)

Where can I find additional information about the project?

Additional information on the project can be found on our project website at www.southforkwind.com.

Who do I contact with questions that go beyond the information on the website?

Questions can be submitted on our project website at www.southforkwind.com/contact-us or by email at info@southforkwind.com.

Will there be a project hotline?

Yes. Questions or concerns can be directed to 631-887-5470.

Can I sign up for project alerts?

Yes, please feel free to sign up for our mailing list to stay up to date on all project announcements and milestones at www.southforkwind.com/contact-us.