



Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm Extension Projects

Section 47, Duty to Consult Local Community – Statement of Community Consultation

August 2022
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1 Statement of Community Consultation Cover Letter to Planning Authorities.

1.1 Section 47 Letter to Stephen Faulkner



Stephen Faulkner
Principal Planner
Norfolk County Council
County Hall
Martineau Lane
Norwich
Norfolk
NR1 2DH
Sent via email to: [REDACTED]

21 May 2020

Dear Stephen,

Re: Section 47 Planning Act (2008) Consultation on Draft Statement of Community Consultation with Local Planning Authorities under section 43(1).

Equinor is bringing forward proposals to extend both existing Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon offshore wind farms, located off the North Norfolk coast. We are seeking a common Development Consent Order (DCO) for the two new projects: Sheringham Extension Project (SEP) and Dudgeon Extension Project (DEP), collectively known as the Sheringham and Dudgeon Extension Projects (the 'Extension Projects'). Due to the proposed generation capacity being over 100 Megawatts (MW), the Extension Projects will be classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) and so must comply with the development consent order regime under the Planning Act 2008 ('2008 Act').

As part of our duty to consult the local community on the proposals for the Extension Projects, we have prepared a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). The SoCC outlines how communities can engage throughout the development process and explains how we intend to consult with communities in the vicinity of the scheme.

Local authorities have an important role in the 2008 Act process. In accordance with Section 47(2) of the 2008 Act, Equinor is required to consult with the host local authorities in which the development is situated on the draft SoCC, as prescribed under Section 43(1) of the 2008 Act. As a host authority in which the development is situated, we wish to invite comments to the draft SoCC from Norfolk County Council.

We recognise effective and appropriate consultation to be a vital part of the development of the Extension Projects. As a local authority, we strongly welcome local knowledge and insight from Norfolk County Council to advise us on how best community consultation should be conducted. In light of the current restrictions on public gatherings and access to community locations owing to COVID-19, we particularly welcome your comments on our proposed use of digital and non-digital communications methods to conduct our phase one public consultation due to commence in early summer 2020. We also welcome comments to our suggested approach to communicating with hard to reach groups (described on Page 13 of the draft SoCC) and other organisations we should be aware of in addition to those listed in Annex A of the draft SoCC.

In accordance with Section 47(3) of the 2008 Act, a statutory 28 days for comments is provided, commencing on the day after the day on which the local authority receives the consultation documents. Therefore, we kindly request all comments to the draft SoCC to be received by **18 June 2020**.

Following receipt of all comments from the local authorities, we will seek to incorporate comments and suggestions and, as required in Section 47(5) of the 2008 Act, demonstrate the regard had to all comments received.

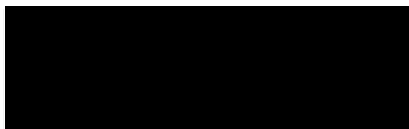
We intend to publicise the SoCC this summer, at which point the project will enter the public domain. We invite all comments to be received by **18 June 2020** to the following contact details:

Email: info@sepanddep.co.uk

Freephone: 0808 1963 673

Freepost: FREEPOST DUDGEON AND SHERINGHAM EXT

Yours sincerely,



Kari Hege Mørk

Project Manager
Equinor New Energy Limited

1.2 Section 47 Letter to Geoff Lyon



Geoff Lyon
Senior Planning Officer
North Norfolk District Council
Council Offices
Holt Road
Cromer
Norfolk
NR27 9EN
Sent via email to: [REDACTED]

21 May 2020

Dear Geoff,

Re: Section 47 Planning Act (2008) Consultation on Draft Statement of Community Consultation with Local Planning Authorities under section 43(1).

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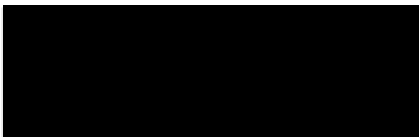
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Yours sincerely,



Kari Hege Mørk

Project Manager
Equinor New Energy Limited

1.3 Section 47 Letter to Claire Curtis (Broadland District Council)



Claire Curtis
Principal Planning Officer
Broadland District Council
Thorpe Lodge
1 Yarmouth Road
Norwich
NR7 0DU
Sent via email to: [REDACTED]

21 May 2020

Dear Claire,

Re: Section 47 Planning Act (2008) Consultation on Draft Statement of Community Consultation with Local Planning Authorities under section 43(1).

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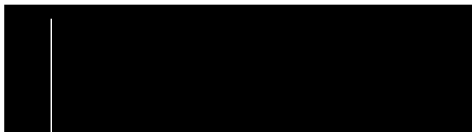
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Yours sincerely,



Kari Hege Mørk

Project Manager
Equinor New Energy Limited

1.4 Section 47 Letter to Claire Curtis (South Norfolk District Council)



Claire Curtis
Principal Planning Officer
South Norfolk District Council
South Norfolk House
Cygnet Court
Long Stratton
Norwich
NR15 2XE
Sent via email to: [REDACTED]

21 May 2020

Dear Claire,

Re: Section 47 Planning Act (2008) Consultation on Draft Statement of Community Consultation with Local Planning Authorities under section 43(1).

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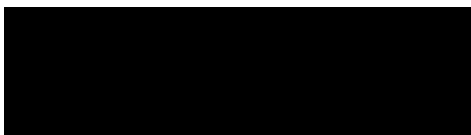
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Yours sincerely,



Kari Hege Mørk

Project Manager
Equinor New Energy Limited

1.5 Section 47 Letter to Sarah Hinchcliffe



Sarah Hinchcliffe
Senior Planner
Norwich City Council
City Hall
St. Peter's Street,
Norwich
NR2 1NH
Sent via email to: [REDACTED]

21 May 2020

Dear Sarah,

Re: Section 47 Planning Act (2008) Consultation on Draft Statement of Community Consultation with Local Planning Authorities under section 43(1).

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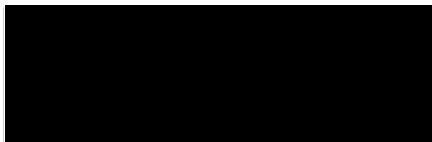
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Yours sincerely,



Kari Hege Mørk

Project Manager
Equinor New Energy Limited

2 Annex A SEP & DEP Hard to Reach Groups



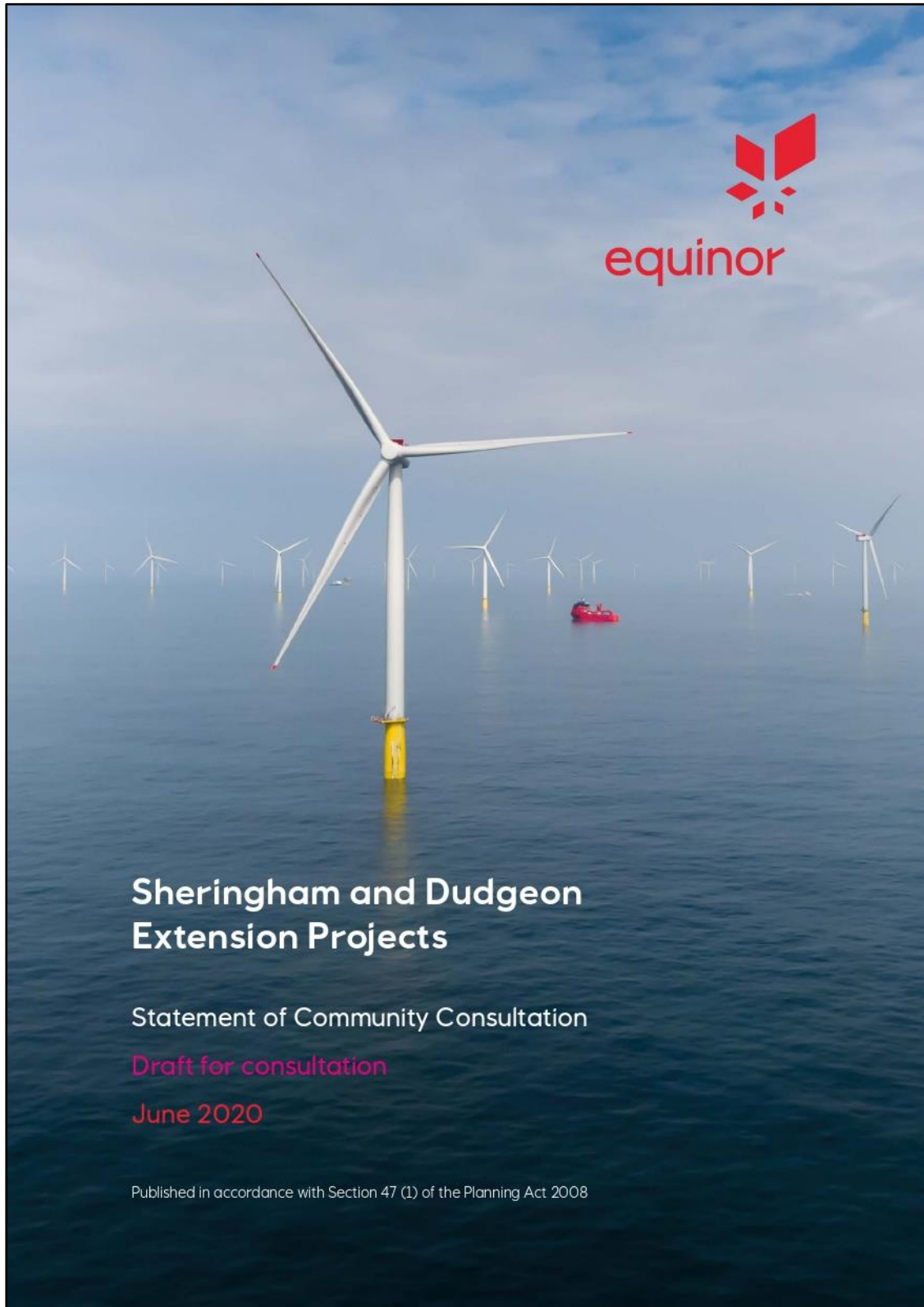
Annex A: Sheringham and Dudgeon Extension Projects Hard to Reach Groups

This table provides a list of organisations that may help us to engage with 'harder to reach groups'

Sector	Organisation
Disabilities	Norwich Mind
	West Norfolk Disability Information Service
	Equal Lives
	Accessible Norfolk
Homeless/Housing	St Martins Housing Trust
	Shelter Norwich
	Victory Housing
	Broadland Group
BME	The Bridge Plus
	Ethnic Minority Association of Norfolk (in Great Yarmouth)
Elderly	Age UK Norfolk
	WI Norfolk
	The Workers Education Association
Education / Youth	Norfolk Youth Advisory Board
	Norfolk Youth Parliament
	Norfolk Young Farmers
	University Technical College Norfolk (UTCN)
	Aylsham High School
	East Coast Colleges
	Reepham College
	Break Charity
	Active Norfolk
	OPEN Youth Trust
Other/Community Groups	Voluntary Norfolk
	Norfolk Community Foundation
	Community Action Norfolk (CAN)

	Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust
	Young Farmers and National Farmers Union (NFU)
Community Groups	Necton Substations Action Group
	No to Relay Stations Campaign
	Better Broadband for Norfolk
	Norfolk Community Foundation
	Community Action Norfolk (CAN)
	Norwich Friends of the Earth
Environmental / Recreational	Norfolk Rivers Trust
	Ramblers Association Wensum Group
	Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association
	Whitlingham Charitable Trust
	Norfolk Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG)
Tourism	Norwich Tourist Information Centre
	Visit Norfolk
	Visit East Anglia Tourist Information Centre
	Royal Yachting Association (RYA)
Coastal groups	Norfolk Coast Partnership
	National Coast Watch Institution
	North Sea Regional Advisory Council
	RNLI Cromer Lifeboat Station
	RNLI Happisburgh Lifeboat Station
	RNLI Wells-next-the-Sea Lifeboat Station
	RNLI Sheringham Lifeboat Station
	RNLI Great Yarmouth and Gorleston Lifeboat Station
	Wash and North Norfolk Marine Partnership
	Wells-next-the-Sea Harbour Commissioners
	Mundesley Volunteer Inshore Lifeboat
	Sea Palling Independent Lifeboat
	Hemsby Inshore Rescue Service
	Wells and District Sea Angling Club
Business	Norfolk Association of Local Councils
	Country and Land Business Association

3 Draft Statement of Community Consultation



1. Introduction

Equinor has been operating in North Norfolk for close to a decade. Our existing offshore wind farms, Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon provide enough electricity to power over 750,000 UK homes.

We are now seeking a common Development Consent Order (DCO) for two new projects: Sheringham Extension Project (SEP) and Dudgeon Extension Project (DEP), collectively known as the Sheringham and Dudgeon Extension Projects (the 'Extension Projects'). Although these are two separate offshore wind farm extension projects, Equinor has adopted a strategic approach to developing the projects jointly to minimise local impacts. Equinor will apply for a common DCO for the Extension Projects and will consult on both projects together.

With the potential to generate renewable power for 820,000 UK homes, the Extension Projects will make an important contribution to the UK's legislated decarbonisation targets and efforts to tackle climate change.

Your views matter to us at Equinor. We develop responsibly by engaging with communities and understanding the local environment as we develop our projects. We welcome your feedback and comments to our plans for the Extension Projects.

This document, known as a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), outlines how we intend to keep you informed and how you can provide your feedback on our proposals for the Extension Projects, as required under the Planning Act 2008.

2

2. About us

Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm are owned by two separate joint venture partnerships known as Scira Offshore Energy Ltd. and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Ltd., respectively. Equinor is involved in both joint venture partnerships and acts as the operator for both offshore wind farms. On behalf of both these partnerships, Equinor is bringing the two Extension Projects together as part of one application for development consent, which forms the Sheringham and Dudgeon Extension Projects.

Headquartered in Norway, we are a broad energy company and have been a major provider of energy to the UK for 40 years. We power over one million homes across Europe with renewable energy from our existing offshore wind farm projects in the UK and Germany. Our current UK offshore wind farms provide enough renewable electricity to power over 750,000 UK homes. We currently have four offices in the UK, creating local jobs, supporting local skills and using local suppliers.



3

3. Sheringham and Dudgeon Extension Projects

SEP is planned to have a generating capacity of up to 317 MW while DEP is planned to have a capacity of up to 402 MW. The Extension Projects will be located next to each respective existing wind farm, with SEP being approximately 17.5 kilometres (km) (11 miles) offshore at the nearest point to shore, and DEP being approximately 31 km (20 miles) offshore at the nearest point to shore.

At Equinor, we have adopted a strategic approach to developing the projects to minimise onshore and offshore impacts of the project. We will apply for a common DCO for the Extension Projects and will consult on both projects together. As part of the common DCO application, the Extension Projects have a shared point of connection at the existing National Grid Norwich Main Substation. With this approach we seek to minimise potential impacts on the community and environment by adopting a shared onshore footprint for the Extension Projects.

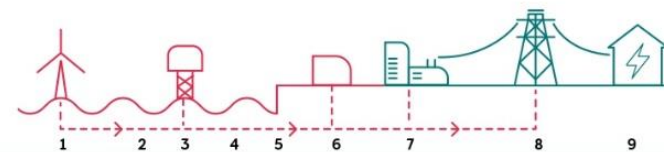
The Extension Projects will include the following new infrastructure:

- Subsea array and interlink cables to connect the offshore wind turbines to an offshore substation.
- Up to two offshore substations and foundations.
- Offshore subsea export cables.
- Landfall.
- Offshore export cable and scour protection.
- Onshore underground export cables.
- Up to two onshore substations.
- The potential for energy storage or energy balancing technology on site at the onshore substation.
- A grid connection point at the Norwich Main Substation.
- Other associated development such as site access, utilities and potential landscaping/screening.

4

The graphic below provides an overview of the typical components of an offshore wind farm.

1. Offshore wind turbines
2. Interarray and/or interlink cables
3. Offshore substation(s) (Alternating Current (AC))
4. Offshore export cables
5. Cable landfall and onshore underground export cables
6. Equinor onshore substation(s)
7. Existing National Grid Substation
8. Existing National Grid power lines
9. UK homes



5

4. Our onshore proposals

Electricity generated by the projects offshore will be brought ashore via subsea cables, which will reach the coastline at a point known as landfall. To avoid the use of permanent overground infrastructure, the cables are then buried underground, along a cable route leading to an onshore substation close to the grid connection point.

Landfall

Supported by initial environmental assessments, we were previously evaluating two potential locations for where the offshore cables will come ashore, Weybourne and Bacton. After further technical and environmental analysis, Weybourne has been selected as the landfall point.

We published a Scoping Report in October 2019, which presented the project search area. We are currently assessing the best cable route and options to locate the onshore substation(s). We will be seeking your feedback to help shape our plans during our consultation process.

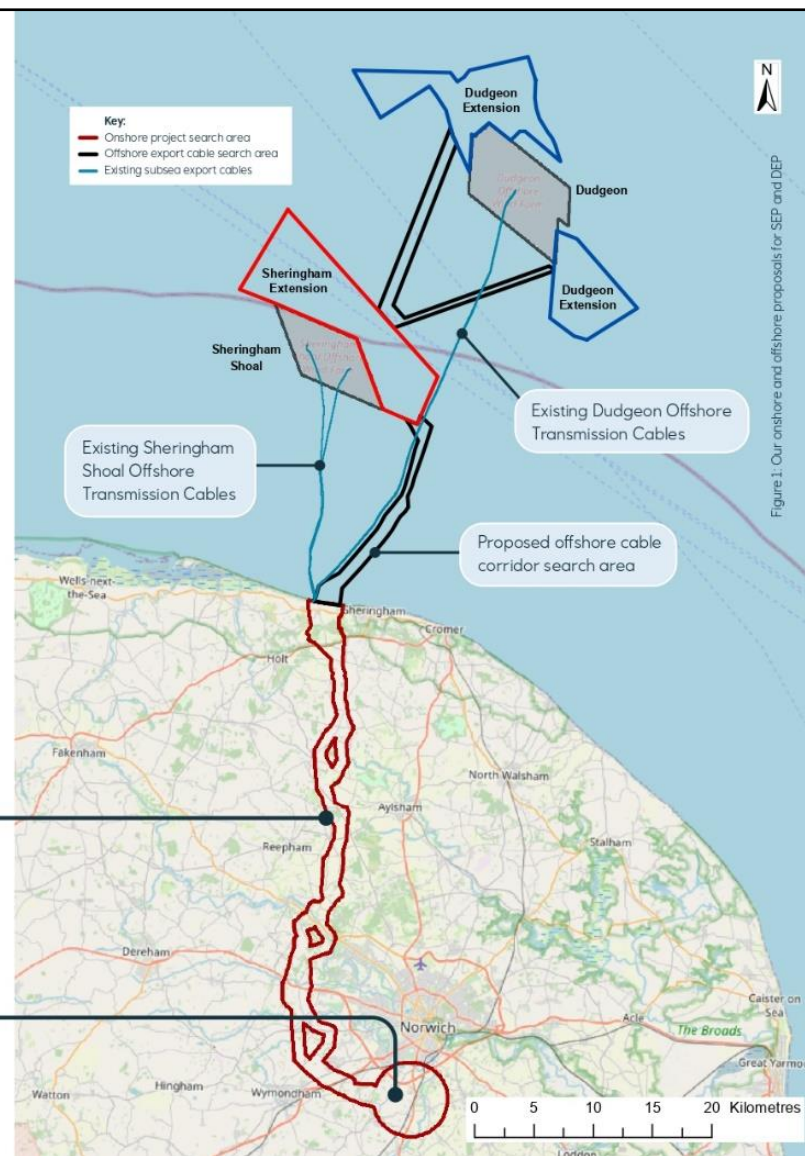
Onshore underground cable route options

We will refine the current 1 km (roughly 0.6 miles) wide onshore search area for the underground cables. Since we published our Scoping Report, we have undertaken environmental and technical assessments and are exploring options outside of the 1 km wide search area to explore:

- o Routing the onshore underground cabling to the south of Weybourne, where the cables come ashore;
- o Crossing the River Bure via trenchless Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) methods;
- o Crossing existing onshore underground cabling for other offshore wind developers in the area;
- o Crossing existing proposed developments, including local road network improvements and housing developments.

Onshore substation area

We are assessing options for the location of the onshore substation area. Our preferred option is to use one common substation, however if the projects are built in phases, up to two substations may be needed within the same footprint. We are assessing site options within a 3 km (roughly 1.9 miles) radius of the existing Norwich Main National Grid Substation. This includes the opportunity to accommodate for energy storage or energy balancing technology.



5. Our public consultation

As set out in **Section 8**, we are dedicated to using a wide variety of communications methods to ensure we can continue the conversation on the Extension Projects and involve all members of the community.

Our consultation process

The consultation process for the Extension Projects will be an iterative one as the feedback and information we receive will help inform the refinement of project options. Our consultation will consist of at least two phases of consultation, including:

- **A phase one consultation**, lasting 6 weeks, from XX June – XX August 2020.
- **A phase two statutory consultation**, lasting 6 weeks, indicatively planned for Spring 2021.

Phase one public consultation

During phase one, we will invite feedback to our proposals to help inform our site selection process for the location of the onshore substation and potential energy storage/balancing area and refinement of the onshore cable route. We will analyse all of the feedback we receive and, together with information from our environmental surveys and as well as discussions with technical stakeholders, we will further refine our proposals.

The phase one consultation will be open to all interested members of the public and will feature digital and non-digital methods for consultation as outlined in Section 8.

Phase two public consultation

This statutory consultation, in accordance with section 47 of the Planning Act 2008, will allow us to update you on our project plans, including how the feedback we received during the phase one consultation has helped shape our proposals for the Extension Projects.

At our phase two consultation, we will consult on our refined plans together with the results from our environmental surveys and studies, which will be published in our PEIR. This will include detailed landscape and seascape visualisations of the proposals.

8

Ongoing engagement

We will be seeking to continue the conversation on our proposals by convening dedicated working groups, which will be established with the advice of the local planning authorities.

Local knowledge is important to us, and we will consider the feedback and comments we receive on an ongoing basis and incorporate these within our proposals where possible.

Interim reporting

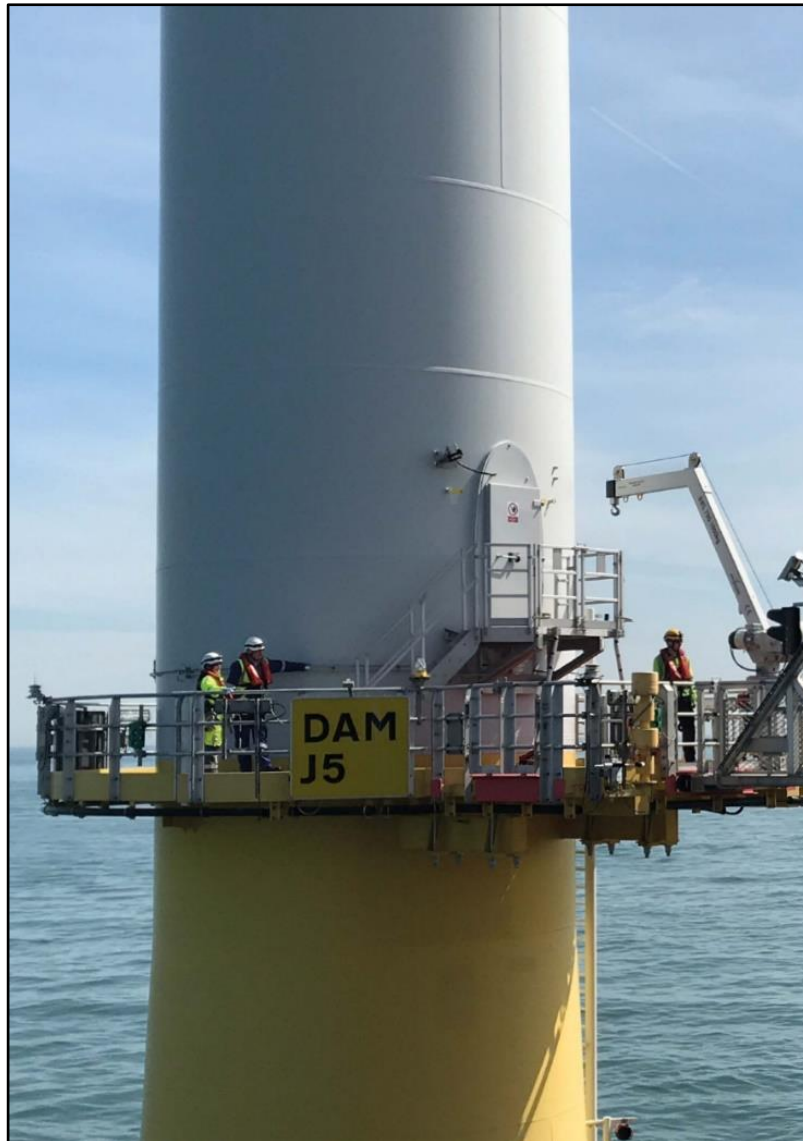
We will publish a consultation summary report after each phase of consultation to keep the community updated as to how their feedback has been considered in the development of the plans for the Extension Projects.

Consultation Report

As part of the DCO application due to be submitted by the end of 2021, we will publish a Consultation Report that:

- Describes the consultation process;
- Explains how we have sought to comply with the relevant legal requirements to consult;
- Details how we have worked with local planning authorities to ensure our consultation is suitable for the area;
- Provides a summary of the feedback and consultation responses we have received;
- Responds to the feedback we have received, including explaining how your feedback has influenced our proposals.

9



6. What will we consult on?

The overriding aim of our public consultation on the Extension Projects is to ensure that both community and technical consultees have a chance to understand, comment and influence the proposals.

We encourage local communities to give their views about how the Extensions Projects may affect them or their local area. We will be seeking feedback to help develop our proposals regarding, but not limited to:

- Our site selection process for the location of the onshore substation and potential energy storage/balancing search area and refinement of the onshore cable route.
- The offshore environment including consultation with the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and commercial fisheries organisations.
- Short-term and temporary impacts during construction, such as traffic impacts, impacts on local amenities and the environment.
- Long-term operational impacts, such as on the local environment, landscape and visual amenity.

At each phase of consultation, we will give the community the opportunity to discuss details of the Extension Projects with the project team via our consultation methods listed in **Section 8**.

7. Who will we consult?

This consultation is open to anyone who may be interested or in any way feels impacted by our proposals for the Extension Projects. Our communications channels (listed in **Section 8**) can be used by interested parties to get in touch with us to find out more information and make comments.

We have spoken to the local planning authorities (LPAs) about plans for the Extension Projects, to help us develop our understanding of the area and surrounding communities. This mapping of the local area has informed a consultation area to guide our consultation process. This area has been divided into two separate zones:

A core consultation zone, which extends by a minimum distance of 100 metres either side of the onshore project search area (shown in **Figure 2**). This ensures that all individuals and stakeholders identified within a minimum distance of 100 metres from any associated underground or overground infrastructure are consulted. This will guide the refinement of the core consultation zone together with any project search area changes, which may include the refinement of route options and the selection of preferred sites for project infrastructure, such as the onshore substation area. Properties within the core consultation zone will directly receive communications such as leaflets and newsletters from us in the post.

A wider consultation area, as we recognise that there may be some interested individuals or parties who are not within the core consultation zone. We are committed to ensuring that these interested parties still have an opportunity to view our proposals and have their say. We will notify communities within the wider consultation area by advertising in local media and using social media. Informative consultation materials will be published online and available to view and collect via our contact details.

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Throughout the development of our proposals, we will continue to work with local planning authorities to identify any relevant community groups, business organisations and area committees who should be consulted. As well as the community consultation, we will be discussing the Extension Projects with a range of statutory and non-statutory consultees, including:

- Owners, tenants and occupiers of the land included within the DCO application;
- MPs, local authorities and parish councils;
- Statutory stakeholders, such as Natural England, the Environment Agency and Historic England;
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- Local interest and community groups in the coastal area with a particular interest in seascape visual amenity.

Hard to reach groups

Equinor has developed its consultation to be accessible to all groups in the community. This is particularly important in the current situation where public gatherings are restricted in line with government guidance and health protection measures because of COVID-19. The approach to consultation outlined in this SoCC seeks to offer an inclusive range of communications methods for conducting an open and meaningful consultation across the community during the COVID-19 pandemic and in the instance of any future recurring or regional lockdown measures.

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13



8. How will we consult?

The UK and world over have been living through unprecedented times owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are all adapting to changes in our daily lives. Our consultation activities include a range of methods to ensure our consultation can be accessed by all members of the community, which is especially important given current restrictions on meeting in person owing to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Open communication

A freephone information line is available for interested parties to call to ask questions and provide feedback: 08081963673 (open 09:00 – 17:00. A voice message service will operate for out of office hours and all enquiries will be acknowledged within 24 hours).

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Consultation website

A dedicated consultation website is live for you to find out more information and provide your feedback: [to be included]. This includes access to our digital engagement platform (see above for details).



Advertising

Local media will publish adverts to inform local communities of our consultation. Local information points will host posters containing information on how to get involved.

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9. Environmental information

Equinor will be undertaking a robust Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in accordance with the Planning Act 2008 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) and the Infrastructure Planning (EIA) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations). The methodology and scope of the EIA and how it will be carried out will be agreed with the relevant regulatory and environmental bodies (such as Natural England), the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) and your local planning authority throughout the development of our plans for the Extension Projects.

The following reports (listed below) will be made available electronically and on our consultation website as part of the EIA process and as the DCO application is prepared:

Scoping Report – Our Scoping Report was published in October 2019 and described the process we will undertake to assess any potential impacts onshore and to the existing environment. Feedback on this from the local planning authorities and statutory consultees resulted in a Scoping Opinion which was published by PINS in November 2019. Both of these documents are available to view on PINS website: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/sheringham-and-dudgeon-extension-projects/>

As described in **Section 4** of this SoCC, we have since undertaken environmental and technical assessments and are exploring options for the onshore underground cable outside of the initial 1 km wide search area, also shown in **Figure 1**.

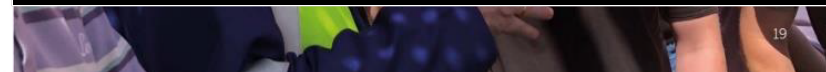
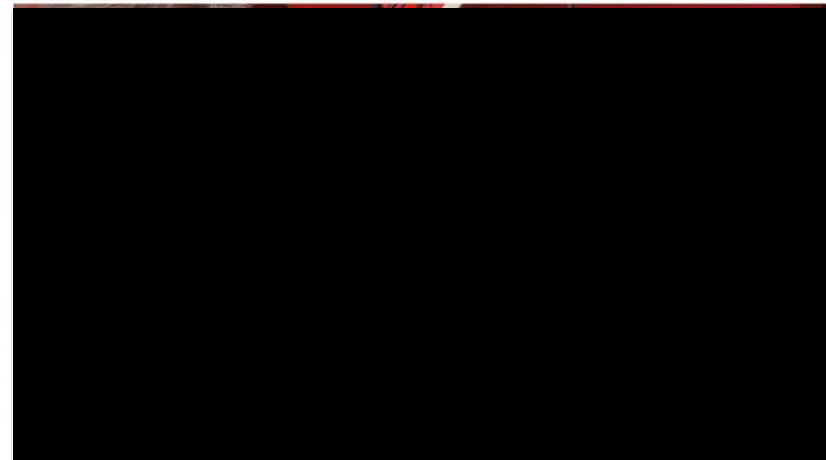
A more detailed plan is included in a EIA Scoping Extension document on the Equinor project website at <http://sheringhamshoal.co.uk/extensionproject/documents/>¹. We will be consulting on the cable route as part of our phase one consultation.

¹ This document will also be available on the Dudgeon website at: <http://dudgeonoffshorewind.co.uk/extensionproject/documents>

Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) – The PEIR will build upon the findings from the scoping phase and the feedback received through our consultation process. It will incorporate the findings of the surveys and initial assessments that have been carried out and will provide more details about the design of the onshore substation area and underground onshore cable route.

Our environmental surveys began in May 2018 and will run until approximately spring 2021. At our formal phase two community consultation, we will be seeking feedback from local communities and all other stakeholders on the findings of these surveys in our PEIR.

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 projects and any mitigation measures that need to be implemented. The ES will form part of the DCO application.



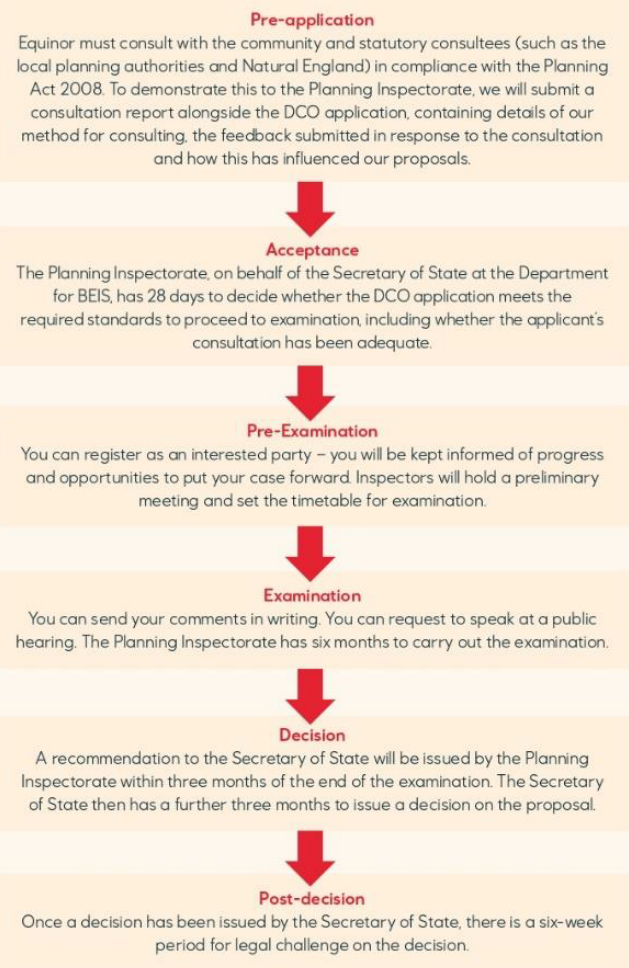
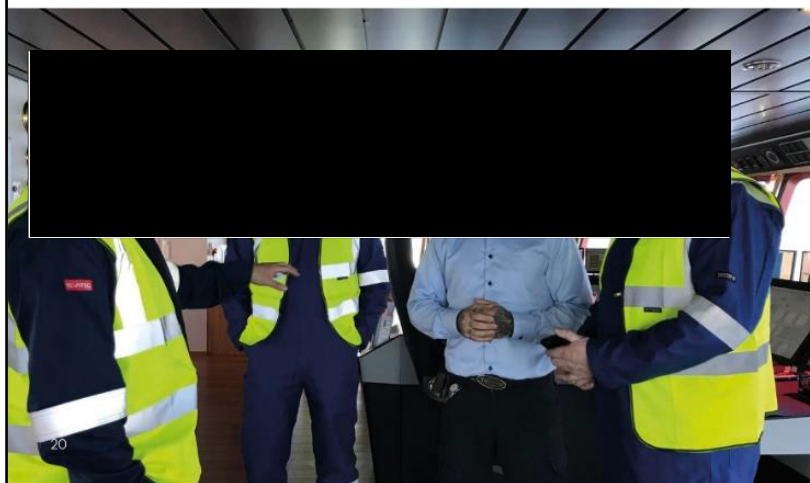
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The DCO application will be dealt with by PINS, the agency responsible for managing the examination process for NSIPs. If the application is accepted, it will then be examined by an independent Examining Authority, who will then make a recommendation to the Secretary of State 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.

For more information on this process or advice on how to respond to our pre-application consultation, you can access PINS' advice note (eight) at:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>²



² Please contact us at the contact information in Section 14 should you wish to request a hard copy.

11. Community consultation timeline



22 Future dates are indicative and subject to change.

12. Phase one consultation details

We welcome you to our phase one community consultation as detailed below. Due to government restrictions and guidance on social distancing, our consultation events will be provided via a virtual platform hosted on our consultation website. If it becomes possible to hold face to face events in addition to this virtual consultation, and we decide to do so having consulted with the relevant local planning authorities, this will be publicised in local media and other means.

Our phase one consultation period will run between **XX June 2020 and XX 2020**. We welcome all comments to our phase one consultation during these dates.

[insert dates and details of virtual consultation events]

If you are unable to attend our virtual events or do not have internet or computer access, you can speak to one of the members of our project team to answer any of your questions and provide your feedback by calling **08081963673** or writing to us at: **FREEPOST DUDGEON AND SHERINGHAM EXT**

13. Community access points

All of our consultation documents will be available to view and download from our consultation website. Alternative methods of receiving documents can also be arranged via our project communication lines for those without computer or internet access. Documents may also be requested in alternative formats such as large print, audio or braille formats.

When government guidance allows for public buildings to open, we will display hard copies of the consultation documents or ensure that there is computer access to those documents online at the following locations:

[placeholder table]

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14. Contact Us

Our consultation team is on hand to take your questions and register your comments on the proposals for the Extension Projects. You can:



Email us at:
info@sepandddep.co.uk



Call our Freephone information line at:
08081 963673



Visit our consultation website at:
To be included at the start of phase one consultation

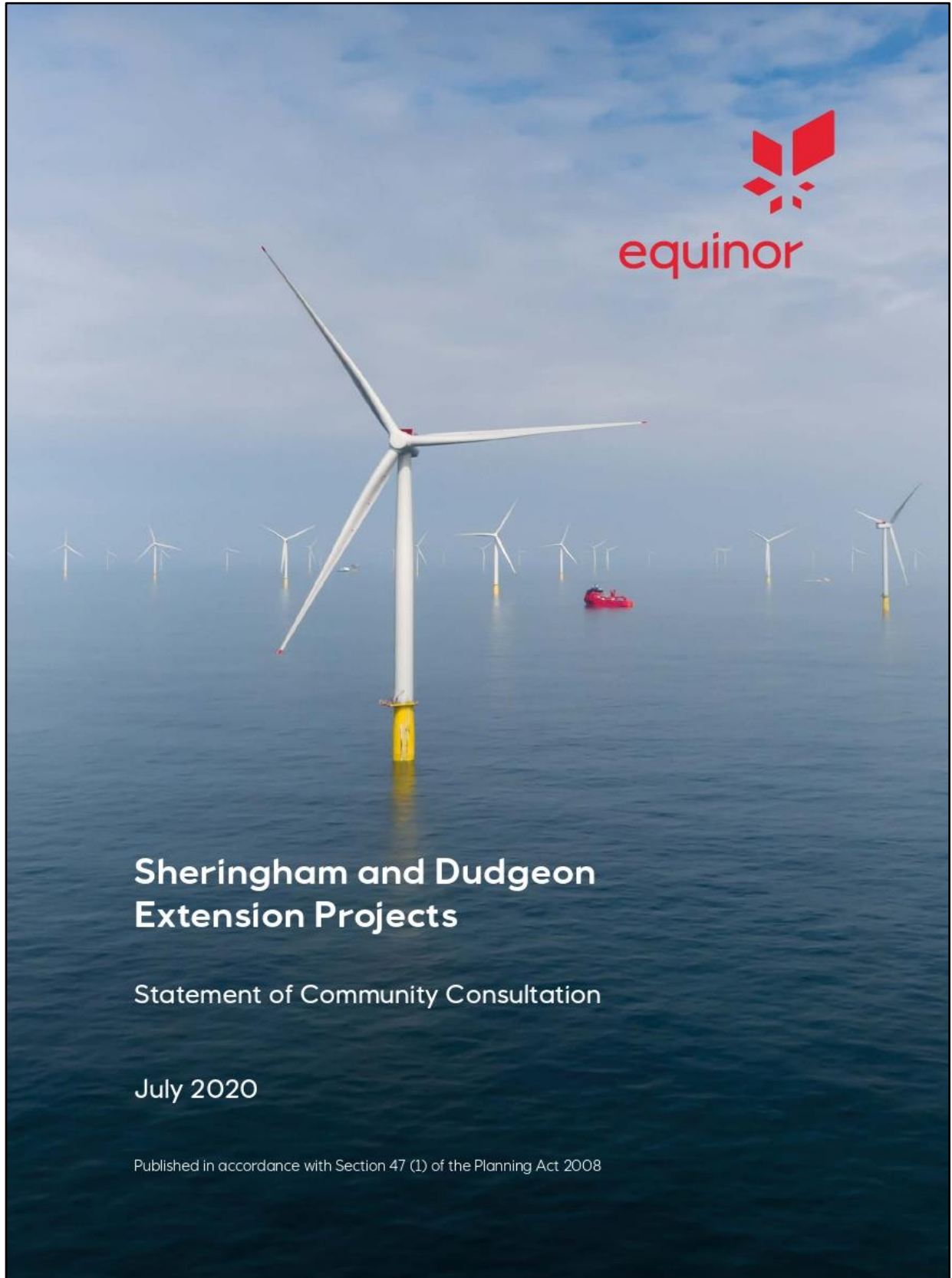


Write to us at:
FREEPOST DUDGEON AND SHERINGHAM EXT



Follow us on Twitter at:
@Equinor_UK

4 Final SoCC



1. Introduction

Equinor has been operating in Norfolk for close to a decade. Our existing offshore wind farms, Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon provide enough electricity to power around 750,000 UK homes.

We are now seeking a common Development Consent Order (DCO) for two new projects: Sheringham Extension Project (SEP) and Dudgeon Extension Project (DEP), collectively known as the Sheringham and Dudgeon Extension Projects (the 'Extension Projects'). Although these are two separate offshore wind farm extension projects, at Equinor we have adopted a strategic approach to developing the projects jointly to minimise local impacts. We will apply for a common DCO for the Extension Projects and will consult on both projects together.

With the potential to generate renewable power for 820,000 UK homes, the Extension Projects will make an important contribution to the UK's legislated decarbonisation targets and efforts to tackle climate change.

Your views matter to us at Equinor. We develop our projects responsibly by engaging with communities and understanding the local environment as the plans evolve. We welcome your feedback and comments to our plans for the Extension Projects.

This document, known as a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), outlines how we intend to keep you informed and how you can provide your feedback on our proposals for the Extension Projects, as required under the Planning Act 2008.

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2. About us

Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm are owned by two separate joint venture partnerships known as Scira Offshore Energy Ltd. and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Ltd., respectively. At Equinor, we are involved in both joint venture partnerships and we act as the operator for both offshore wind farms. On behalf of both these partnerships, we are bringing the two Extension Projects together as part of one application for development consent, which forms the Sheringham and Dudgeon Extension Projects.

Headquartered in Norway, we are a broad energy company and have been a major provider of energy to the UK for 40 years. We power over one million homes across Europe with renewable energy from our existing offshore wind farm projects in the UK and Germany. Our current UK offshore wind farms provide enough renewable electricity to power over 750,000 UK homes. We are proud to support local skills, utilise local suppliers and support local projects.



3

3. Sheringham and Dudgeon Extension Projects

SEP is planned to have a generating capacity of up to 317 megawatts (MW), while DEP is planned to have a capacity of up to 402 MW. The Extension Projects will be located next to each respective existing wind farm, with SEP being approximately 17.5 kilometres (km) (11 miles) offshore at the nearest point to shore, and DEP being approximately 31 km (20 miles) offshore at the nearest point to shore.

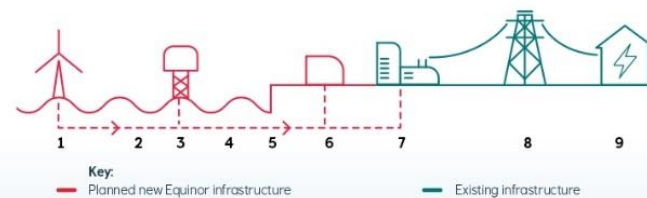
As part of the common DCO application, the Extension Projects have a shared point of connection at the existing National Grid Norwich Main Substation. With this approach we seek to minimise potential impacts on the community and environment by adopting a shared onshore footprint for the Extension Projects.

The Extension Projects will include the following new infrastructure:

- Offshore wind turbines and foundations.
- Interarray and interlink cables to connect the offshore wind turbines to an offshore substation.
- Up to two offshore substations and foundations.
- Offshore subsea export cables and scour protection.
- Landfall.
- Onshore export cables.
- Up to two onshore substations.
- A grid connection point at the National Grid Norwich Main Substation.
- Other associated development such as site access, utilities and potential landscaping/screening.

The graphic below provides an overview of the typical components of an offshore wind farm.

1. Offshore wind turbines
2. Interarray and/or interlink cables
3. Offshore substation(s) (Alternating Current (AC))
4. Offshore export cables
5. Cable landfall and onshore export cables
6. Equinor onshore substation(s)
7. Existing National Grid Substation
8. Existing National Grid power lines
9. UK homes



4. Our onshore proposals

Electricity generated by the Extension Projects offshore will be brought ashore via subsea cables and will reach the coastline at Weybourne. They will then be installed in a trench heading south towards our new onshore substation area near to the existing National Grid Norwich Main Substation.

Landfall

Supported by initial environmental assessments, we were previously evaluating two potential locations for where the offshore cables would come ashore, Weybourne and Bacton. After further technical and environmental analysis, Weybourne has been selected as the landfall point.

We published a Scoping Report in October 2019, which presented the project search area. We are currently assessing the best cable route and options to locate the onshore substation(s). We will be seeking your feedback to help shape our plans during our consultation process.

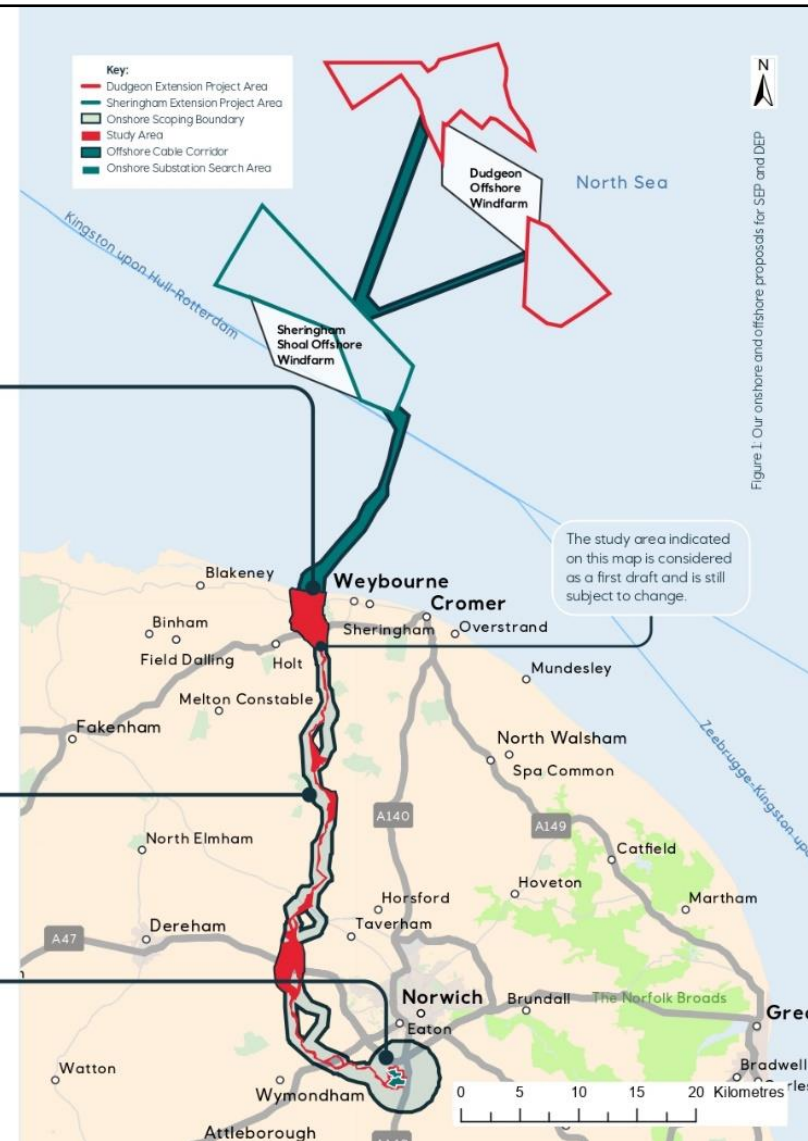
Onshore cable corridor search area

We will refine the current 1 km (roughly 0.6 miles) wide onshore scoping boundary for the onshore export cables. Since we published our Scoping Report, we have undertaken environmental and technical assessments and are considering options outside of the 1 km wide scoping boundary to explore:

- o Routing the onshore cabling to the south of Weybourne, where the cables come ashore.
- o Crossing the River Bure via trenchless Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) methods.
- o Crossing existing onshore cabling for other offshore wind developers in the area.
- o Crossing existing proposed developments, including local road network improvements and housing developments.

Onshore substation area

We are assessing options for the location of the onshore substation area. Our preferred option is to use one common substation, however if the projects are built in phases, up to two substations may be needed within the same footprint. We are assessing options within a 3 km (roughly 1.9 miles) radius of the existing National Grid Norwich Main Substation.



5. Our public consultation

As set out in **Section 8**, we are dedicated to using a wide variety of communications methods to ensure we can continue the conversation on the Extension Projects and involve all members of the community.

Our consultation process

The consultation process for the Extension Projects will be an iterative one as the feedback and information we receive will help inform the refinement of project options. Our consultation will consist of at least two phases of consultation, including:

- **A phase one consultation**, lasting 6 weeks, from 09 July to 20 August 2020
- **A phase two consultation**, lasting 6 weeks, indicatively planned for spring 2021

Phase one public consultation

During phase one, we will invite feedback to our proposals to help inform our site selection process for the location of the onshore substation area and refinement of the onshore cable corridor. We will analyse all of the feedback we receive and, together with information from our environmental surveys and as well as discussions with technical stakeholders, we will further refine our proposals.

The phase one consultation will be open to all interested members of the public and will feature digital and non-digital methods for engagement as outlined in Section 8.

Phase two public consultation

This consultation, in accordance with section 47 of the Planning Act 2008, will allow us to update you on our project plans, including how the feedback we received during the phase one consultation has been considered as we developed our proposals for the Extension Projects.

At our phase two consultation, we will consult on our refined plans together with the results from our environmental surveys and studies, which will be published in our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). This will include detailed landscape and seascape visualisations of the proposals.

8

Ongoing engagement

We will be seeking to continue the conversation on our proposals by convening dedicated working groups, which will be established with the advice of the local planning authorities.

Local knowledge is important to us, and we will consider the feedback and comments we receive on an ongoing basis and incorporate these within our proposals where possible.

Interim reporting

We will publish a consultation summary report after each phase of consultation to keep the community updated as to how their feedback has been considered in the development of the plans for the Extension Projects.

Consultation Report

As part of the DCO application due to be submitted by the end of 2021, we will publish a Consultation Report that:

- Describes the consultation process.
- Explains how we have sought to comply with the relevant legal requirements to consult.
- Details how we have worked with local planning authorities to ensure our consultation is suitable for the area.
- Provides a summary of the feedback and consultation responses we have received.
- Responds to the feedback we have received, including explaining how your feedback has influenced our proposals.

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6. What will we consult on?

The overriding aim of our public consultation on the Extension Projects is to ensure that both community and technical consultees have a chance to understand, comment and inform the proposals.

The feedback from our community consultation will help us to mature our plans for the Extension Projects. We are asking for comments from an early stage of development so we can develop a deeper understanding of key issues in the community and can take them into account as the project evolves. This will be part of an ongoing dialogue with communities, during which we will welcome all kinds of feedback.

We encourage local communities to give their views about how the Extension Projects may affect them or their local area. We will be seeking feedback to help develop our proposals regarding, but not limited to:

- Our site selection process for the location of the onshore substation area and refinement of the onshore cable corridor search area.
- The offshore environment including consultation with the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and commercial fisheries organisations.
- Short-term and temporary impacts during construction, such as traffic movements, local amenities and the environment.
- Long-term operational considerations, such as on the local environment, landscape and visual amenity.

At each phase of consultation, we will give the community the opportunity to discuss details of the Extension Projects with the project team via our consultation methods listed in **Section 8**.

7. Who will we consult?

This consultation is open to anyone who may be interested or in any way feels impacted by our proposals for the Extension Projects. Our communication channels (listed in **Section 8**) can be used by interested parties to get in touch with us to find out more information and make comments.

We have spoken to the local planning authorities (LPAs) about plans for the Extension Projects, to help us develop our understanding of the area and surrounding communities. This mapping of the local area has informed a consultation area to guide our consultation process. This area has been divided into two separate zones:

A core consultation zone, which extends by a minimum distance of 1,000 metres either side of the onshore project search area (shown in **Figure 2**). This ensures that all individuals and stakeholders identified within a minimum distance of 1,000 metres from any associated underground or overground infrastructure are consulted. This will guide the refinement of the core consultation zone together with any project search area changes, which may include the refinement of route options and the selection of preferred sites for project infrastructure, such as the onshore substation area. Properties within the core consultation zone will directly receive communications such as leaflets and newsletters from us in the post.

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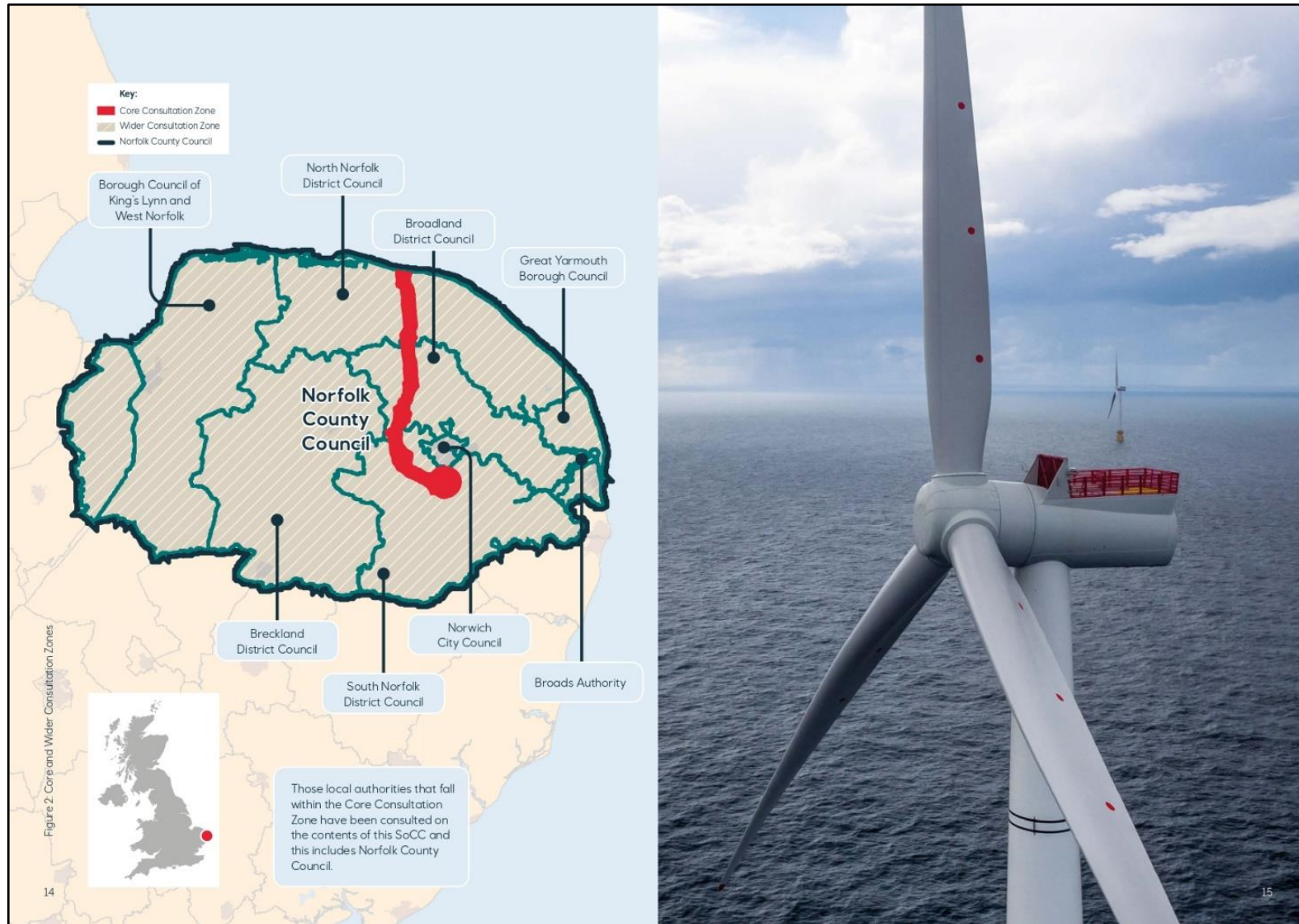
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Our consultation activities include a range of methods to ensure our consultation can be accessed by all members of the community, which is especially important given current restrictions on meeting in person owing to the COVID-19 pandemic.



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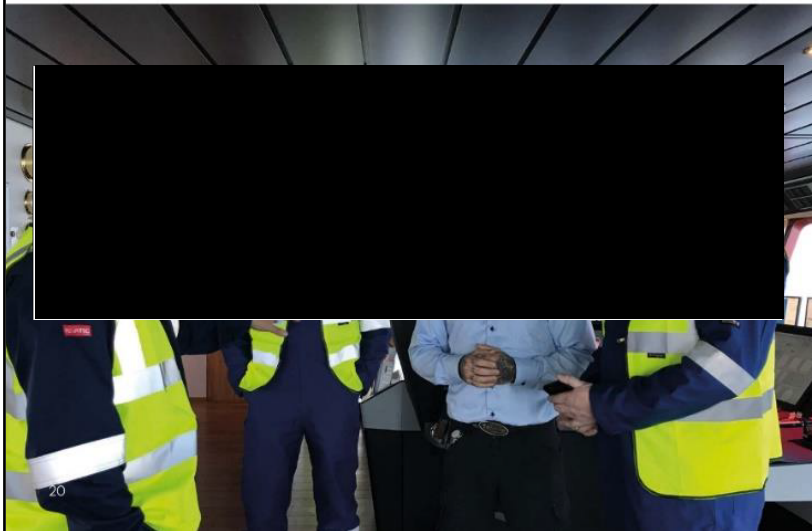
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Pre-application
Equinor must consult with the community and statutory consultees (such as the local planning authorities and Natural England) in compliance with the Planning Act 2008. To demonstrate this to the Planning Inspectorate, we will submit a Consultation Report alongside the DCO application, containing details of our method for consulting, the feedback submitted in response to the consultation and how this has influenced our proposals.



Acceptance
The Planning Inspectorate, on behalf of the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has 28 days to decide whether the DCO application meets the required standards to proceed to examination, including whether the applicant's consultation has been adequate.



Pre-examination
You can register as an interested party – you will be kept informed of progress and opportunities to put your case forward. Inspectors will hold a preliminary meeting and set the timetable for examination.



Examination
You can send your comments in writing. You can request to speak at a public hearing. The Planning Inspectorate has six months to carry out the examination.



Decision
A recommendation to the Secretary of State will be issued by the Planning Inspectorate within three months of the end of the examination. The Secretary of State then has a further three months to issue a decision on the proposal.



Post-decision
Once a decision has been issued by the Secretary of State, there is a six-week period for legal challenge on the decision.

² Please contact us at the contact information in Section 14 should you wish to request a hard copy.

11. Community consultation timeline



22 Future dates are indicative and subject to change.

12. Phase one consultation details

We welcome you to our phase one community consultation as detailed below. Due to government restrictions and guidance on social distancing, our consultation events will be provided via a virtual platform hosted on our consultation website at sepanddp.commonplace.is. If it becomes possible to hold face to face events in addition to this virtual consultation, and we decide to do so having consulted with the relevant local planning authorities, this will be publicised in local media and other means.

Our phase one consultation period will run between **09 July and 20 August 2020**. We welcome all comments to our phase one consultation during these dates.

During this consultation period, the latest information about the Extension Projects can be viewed at our virtual exhibition space. This can be viewed and accessed via our consultation website.

If you are unable to view information at our virtual exhibition space, or do not have internet or computer access, you can speak to one of the members of our project team to answer any of your questions and provide your feedback by calling **08081 963673** or writing to us at **FREEPOST DUDGEON AND SHERINGHAM EXT.**

13. Community access points

All of our consultation documents will be available to view and download from our consultation website. Alternative methods of receiving documents can also be arranged at no extra cost for those without computer or internet access.

Documents may also be requested in alternative formats such as large print, audio or braille formats. To do this, please contact us at the details listed in Section 14.

As and when government guidance allows for public buildings to open, and hosting public documents does not produce a health hazard, we will display hard copies of the consultation documents, or ensure that there is computer access to those documents at publicly available locations. These locations will be advertised accordingly at the time.

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14. Contact us

Our consultation team is on hand to take your questions and register your comments on the proposals for the Extension Projects.



Email us at:
info@sepanddep.co.uk



Call our freephone information line at:
08081 963673



Visit our consultation website at:
sepanddep.commonplace.is



Write to us at:
FREEPOST DUDGEON AND SHERINGHAM EXT



Follow us on Twitter at:
@Equinor_UK

Landowner interests

If you are a landowner, have an interest in any of the land which interacts with our proposals, or if you have any questions relating to land interests in the area, please contact the Dudgeon and Sheringham Extension Projects Land Team at Dalcour Maclaren by:



Calling: 01869 352725



Emailing: equinor.ukextensions@dalcourmaclaren.com



Alternatively, you can write to Simon Hinchliffe or Rhiannon Price at: **Dalcour Maclaren, 1 Staplehurst Farm, Weston on the Green, Oxfordshire, OX25 3QU**

If you would like this document in large print, audio or braille formats, please contact us using the details above.

All documents, illustrations and graphics are for illustrative purposes. Printed on FSC paper.

5 Section 47 Statement of Community Consultation Advertisements

5.1 Eastern Daily Press

Eastern Daily Press | Thursday, 9 July 2020 31

Notice Publicising a Statement of Community Consultation in accordance with Section 47 (6) of the Planning Act 2008

Equinor New Energy Limited of 1 Kingdom Street, London, W2 6BD (Equinor) is seeking a common Development Consent Order (DCO) for two new projects: Sheringham Extension Project (SEP) and Dudgeon Extension Project (DEP), collectively known as the Sheringham and Dudgeon Extension Projects (the 'Extension Projects'). Although these are two separate offshore wind farm extension projects, Equinor has adopted a strategic approach to developing the projects jointly to minimise local impacts. Equinor will apply for a common DCO for the Extension Projects and will consult on both projects together.

Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm are owned by two separate joint venture partnerships known as Sciro Offshore Energy Ltd. and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Ltd., respectively. Equinor is involved in both joint venture partnerships and acts as the operator for both offshore wind farms. On behalf of both these partnerships, Equinor is bringing the two Extension Projects together as part of one application for development consent, which forms the Sheringham and Dudgeon Extension Projects.

SEP is planned to have a generating capacity of up to 317 MW while DEP is planned to have a capacity of up to 402 MW. The Extension Projects will be located next to each respective existing wind farm, with SEP being approximately 17.5 kilometres (km) (11 miles) offshore at the nearest point to shore, and DEP being approximately 31 km (20 miles) offshore at the nearest point to shore.

The onshore cable corridor will be located within our 'search area' from landfall at Weybourne to the onshore substation area. The onshore substation area will be located to the south of Norwich, within a 3km (roughly 1.9 miles) radius of the existing Norwich Main National Grid Substation.

With the potential to generate renewable power for 820,000 UK homes, the Extension Projects will make an important contribution to the UK's legislated decarbonisation targets and efforts to tackle climate change.

As both SEP and DEP have a proposed generating capacity of over 100 MW, they will be classified as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIP). Accordingly, Equinor must submit an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) under the Planning Act 2008.

The project is considered to require an Environmental Impact Assessment and therefore the application will be accompanied by an Environmental Statement.



The consultation process

As part of the Extension Projects, Equinor has a duty to consult the local community under Section 47 of the Planning Act 2008. Equinor has therefore prepared a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) that explains how people living in the vicinity of the Extension Projects will be consulted throughout the pre-application process and how it intends to consult on the Preliminary Environmental Information which will inform the final Environmental Statement. The consultation process is designed to provide information about the Extension Projects and provide the opportunity for local communities to have their say and help develop the proposals. At least two phases of consultation will take place before the application is submitted.

This advertisement provides formal notice of the publication of the SoCC which is available to view online on the project website:
sepandep.commonplace.is

All of our consultation documents will be available to view and download from our consultation website. Alternative methods of receiving documents can also be arranged at no extra cost for those without computer or internet access. Documents may also be requested in alternative formats such as large print, audio or braille formats. To do this, please contact us at the details listed at the bottom of this notice.

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Equinor also announces its phase one public consultation. This consultation is being held between **09 July and 20 August 2020**. During this time, Equinor will host a series of consultation activities, which will all be available online throughout the period to all interested members of the community. Equinor is unable to hold face-to-face events for its first public consultation due to COVID-19 restrictions on social gatherings. Members of the public can view the virtual exhibition which can be accessed via the the consultation website. All consultation material is available to view on the consultation website. Paper copies of the material can be provided on request. Please contact us using the details below.

Feedback to the phase one consultation can be provided through the digital engagement platform, accessible via the consultation website. At this consultation, we are particularly interested in feedback on our site selection process for the location of the onshore substation area and the refinement of the onshore cable corridor search area. Feedback forms can also be downloaded directly from the website and emailed or posted back, free of charge. All feedback must be received by **11:59pm on 20 August 2020**.

 Visit our consultation website: sepandep.commonplace.is

 Email us at: info@sepandep.co.uk

 Write to us at: **Freepost: DUDGEON AND SHERINGHAM EXT**

 Call our Freephone information line: **0808 196 3673**

5.2 North Norfolk News

North Norfolk News | Thursday, 9 July 2020

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Notice Publicising a Statement of Community Consultation in accordance with Section 47 (6) of the Planning Act 2008



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