Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm Extension Projects

Stakeholder Briefing Pack (June 2020 & May 2021)

August 2022
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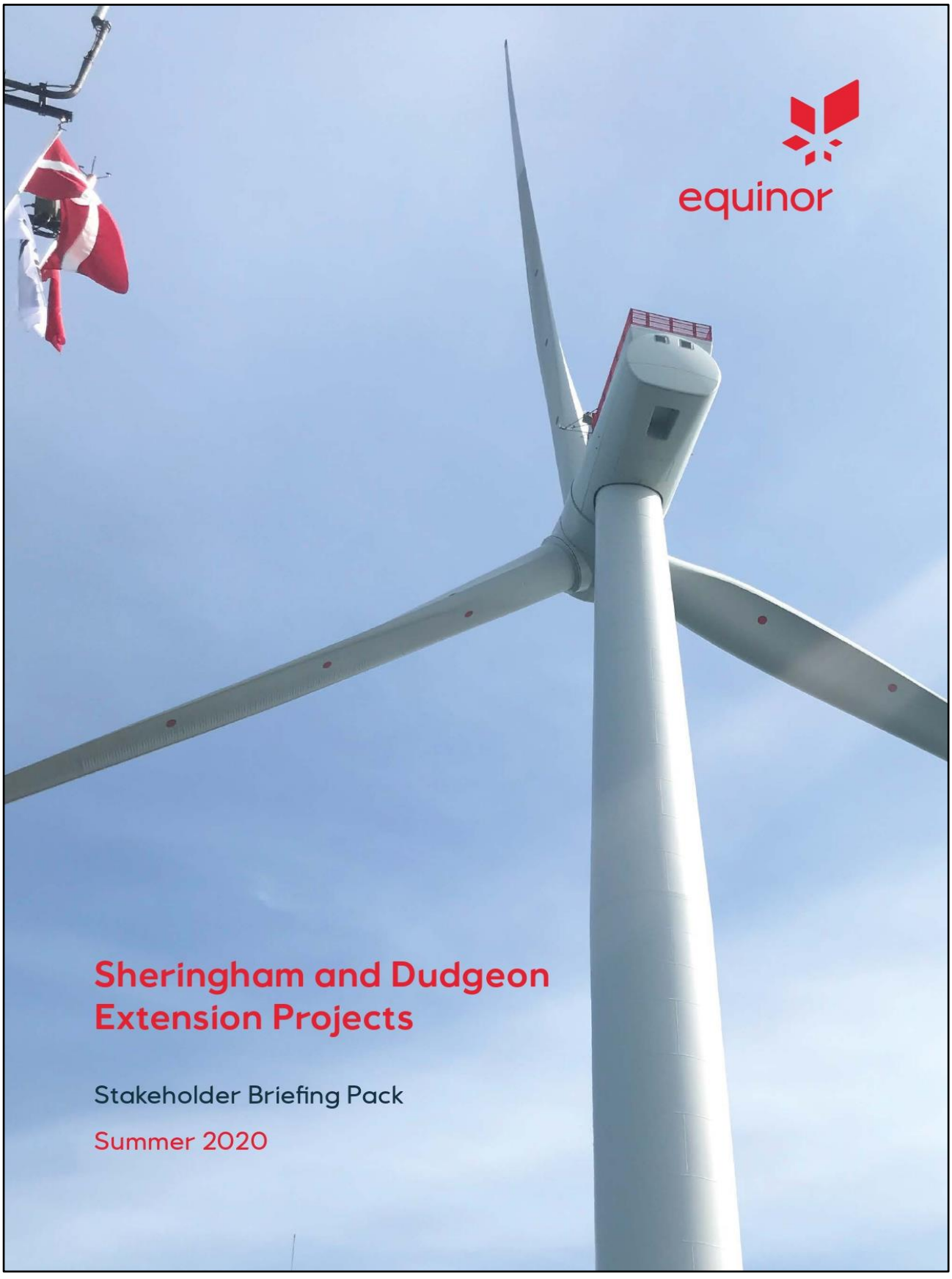


Introduction

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 over 750,000 UK homes.

We are bringing forward proposals to extend the existing Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farms. By proposing to extend both offshore wind farms, Equinor is contributing towards achieving the UK Government's ambition of 40 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind capacity by 2030. This will help the UK to address climate change and reach its target of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

This briefing pack introduces who we are, the early stage plans for the Sheringham and Dudgeon Extension Projects (the 'Extension Projects') and how to have your say as part of our consultation process.

Who we are

Equinor is the UK's largest energy supplier, and we are committed to investing in projects that secure reliable energy for years to come. As a broad energy company leading the way in decarbonisation, we are a key contributor for the UK in meeting its net zero targets.

Headquartered in Norway, we are one of the world's largest offshore wind developers. 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.[1] We currently have four offices in the UK, and are proud to support local skills and use local suppliers.

We have extensive experience developing, building and operating offshore wind farms in the UK, having already built Sheringham Shoal, Dudgeon and Hywind Scotland offshore wind farms. The proposed Extension Projects have the potential to generate a combined 719 megawatts (MW) of renewable energy to power 820,000 UK homes.

The Extension Projects will make an important contribution to the UK's renewable energy targets and decarbonisation goals, along with providing benefits to local communities through local jobs and economic opportunities.

[1] Based on the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy's 2018 energy consumption data

Our presence in the UK

Our existing UK offshore wind farms power over **750,000** UK homes with renewable energy and we are currently, with our partners, building the world's biggest offshore wind farm; Dogger Bank.[1]

We are part of a new '**Zero Carbon Humber**' campaign supporting the region's ambition to become the world's first zero carbon economy.

Our existing offshore wind farms off the Norfolk coast provide over **100** local jobs.

Since the launch of our Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Community Funds, we have awarded grants of over **£1 million** to support community projects and education initiatives in Norfolk.

Equinor in Norfolk

We are committed to continuing our good cooperation with communities in Norfolk during the development of the Extension Projects.

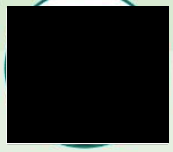
The establishment of the Operation and Maintenance bases at Egmere for Sheringham Shoal and in Great Yarmouth for Dudgeon has created over 100 new jobs, and the service and supply contracts issued by both these organisations contribute to the East Anglian supply chain.

Both projects have established funds to support community life in the areas of Norfolk in which they operate. The Sheringham Shoal Community Fund and Dudgeon Community Fund both operate on an annual basis with funds managed and allocated by Norfolk Community Foundation, an independent local charity.

Through our Sheringham Shoal Community Fund, £100,000 per annum is made available for grant awards for successful community initiatives. A notable example is The Norfolk Rivers Trust, who received a grant in 2018 enabling it to work with five North Norfolk schools on micro-plastics in the marine environment, and to take part in the Big Micro-Plastics Survey.

Through our Dudgeon Community Fund, we have established a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) programme, which makes £100,000 available each year for the duration of the programme to kick-start projects that benefit pupils aged 12-16 years.

Matthew Bramwell - Operations and Maintenance Leader at Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm



"**I work for Equinor at our office based in Great Yarmouth. My role is overseeing operations and to ensure that both planned and corrective maintenance works are carried out safely and efficiently offshore. I was born in Norfolk and am currently based in Gorleston-on-Sea.**

I started my career via an apprenticeship, gaining engineering qualifications from Lowestoft College and EAGIT, an engineering and industrial training centre based in Norwich. Following my apprenticeship, I have worked for a local company in Great Yarmouth for offshore oil and gas platforms, but quickly moved to working as Project Engineer for offshore wind scopes when the presence of offshore wind grew in the UK and Europe.

I have worked on various wind farms around the UK and been working on large wind projects, including Sheringham Shoal. At Sheringham Shoal, I saw that Equinor operated with a high focus on safety and welfare, and they put people first as the most important asset, so I applied for a job with Equinor directly in 2015.

I have worked from the beginning of the Dudgeon project and have seen how important the local area is for Equinor. There are obvious visible things: projects funded from our community fund, using local contractors to provide services on and offshore, and of course locally employed staff. But there are also less visible things such as local companies used to supply food to the base, local B&Bs and hotels used by travelling personnel, using the training centres and offshore businesses that bring more jobs to the area."

Sheringham and Dudgeon Extension Projects

Equinor is bringing forward proposals to extend both existing Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon offshore wind farms, located off the North Norfolk coast.

The Sheringham Extension Project (SEP) is planned to have a generating capacity of up to 317 MW, while the Dudgeon Extension Project (DEP) is planned to have a capacity of up to 402 MW. Both Extension Projects will be located next to each respective existing wind farm, with SEP being approximately 17.5 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 Extension Projects to minimise onshore and offshore impacts. We will apply for a common Development Consent Order (DCO) for the Extension Projects and will consult on both projects together.

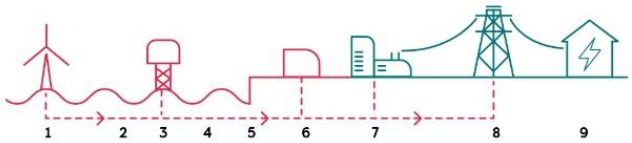
As part of the common DCO application, the Extension Projects have a shared point of connection at the National Grid Norwich Main Substation. With this approach we seek to minimise potential impacts on the community and the environment by adopting a shared onshore footprint for the Extension Projects.

We anticipate submitting an application for a DCO by the end of 2021. We will be undertaking a robust consultation and series of environmental surveys and studies to inform our application.

Components of a typical offshore wind farm

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



*Graphic not to scale, for illustrative purposes only

If built, the Extension Projects will:

Increase opportunities for the local supply chain and economy.

Save a total of approximately **810,000** tonnes of CO_2. Which is the equivalent of taking **365,000** petrol cars off the road.[2]

Provide clean, renewable energy to power **820,000** UK homes.[1]

Help the UK reach its ambitious net-zero climate targets by **2050**.

[1] Based on BEIS 2019 carbon conversion factors and Department for Transport's anonymised MOT results.

The development process

SEP and DEP are classified as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs). We have adopted a strategic approach to minimise impacts of the projects by adopting a shared onshore footprint. We will apply for a common DCO application for the Extension Projects and will consult on both projects together.

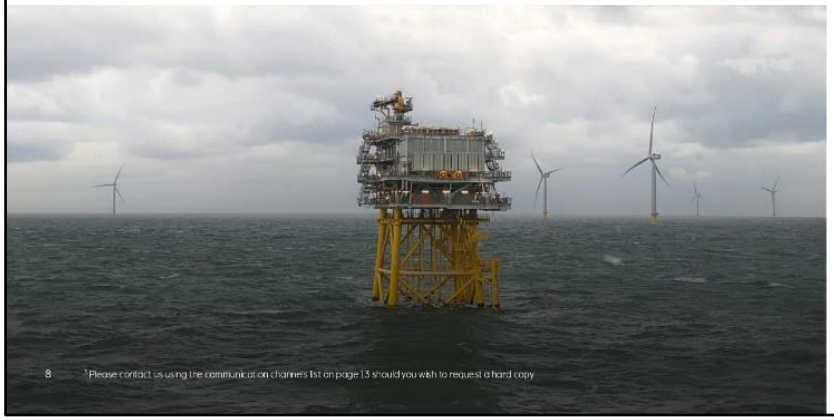
Our DCO application, submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS), will be determined by the Secretary of State (SoS) for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

A DCO application is planned to be submitted at the end of 2021. Prior to this we will be commencing a multi-phased consultation on our plans for the scheme, described in further detail on page 12.

Once PINS has received the DCO application it will consider whether to accept the application for examination. To be accepted, we must satisfy PINS that robust and adequate consultation has been undertaken. Alongside our DCO application, we will submit a Consultation Report, demonstrating how we have ensured the concerns of local communities have been addressed.

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

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Advice-note-8.0.pdf [3]



8 [3] Please contact us using the communication channels list on page 13 should you wish to request a hard copy.

Our onshore proposals

Electricity generated by the Extension 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

Since publishing our Scoping Report in October 2019, we have been assessing the most suitable cable landfall location. This has enabled the commencement of our environmental surveys and studies as part of our Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

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 recognise the sensitivities at the chosen landfall point, including temporary community disruption which will be caused by construction activities. During our consultation process, we will consult on our cable route and proposed mitigation solutions at landfall to reduce impacts to the community and landowners.

The preferred approach to installing the cables at landfall is to use a technique known as horizontal directional drilling (HDD), which allows us to drill underneath the whole landfall area, and avoids the need for open trenching above ground. This means we can avoid the need to trench environmentally sensitive areas. A technical assessment was undertaken which considered how feasible it would be to use HDD in both areas. Considering the height of the cliffs, seabed and ground conditions, we concluded that HDD is more technically challenging in Bacton compared to Weybourne.

Caring for the environment throughout construction remains important to us, and as such we have assessed both locations to understand environmentally sensitive areas, with particular attention paid to the Cromer Shoal Chalk Beds Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ). The MCZ straddles the Norfolk coastline from west of Weybourne to Happisburgh. The presence of chalk is a qualifying feature of the designation, and the outcropping chalk is considered a key environmentally sensitive feature of the MCZ. At Weybourne the exposed chalk reef is so close to shore that the planned HDD for installing the landfall also can be used to drill under the exposed chalk and therefore avoid damaging the sensitive chalk features.

Taking the above into account, Weybourne is our preferred choice of landfall for the export cables from the Sheringham and Dudgeon Extension Projects. Through our robust consultation and environmental impact assessment process, we will seek to minimise impacts to the community in Weybourne and along our cable route.

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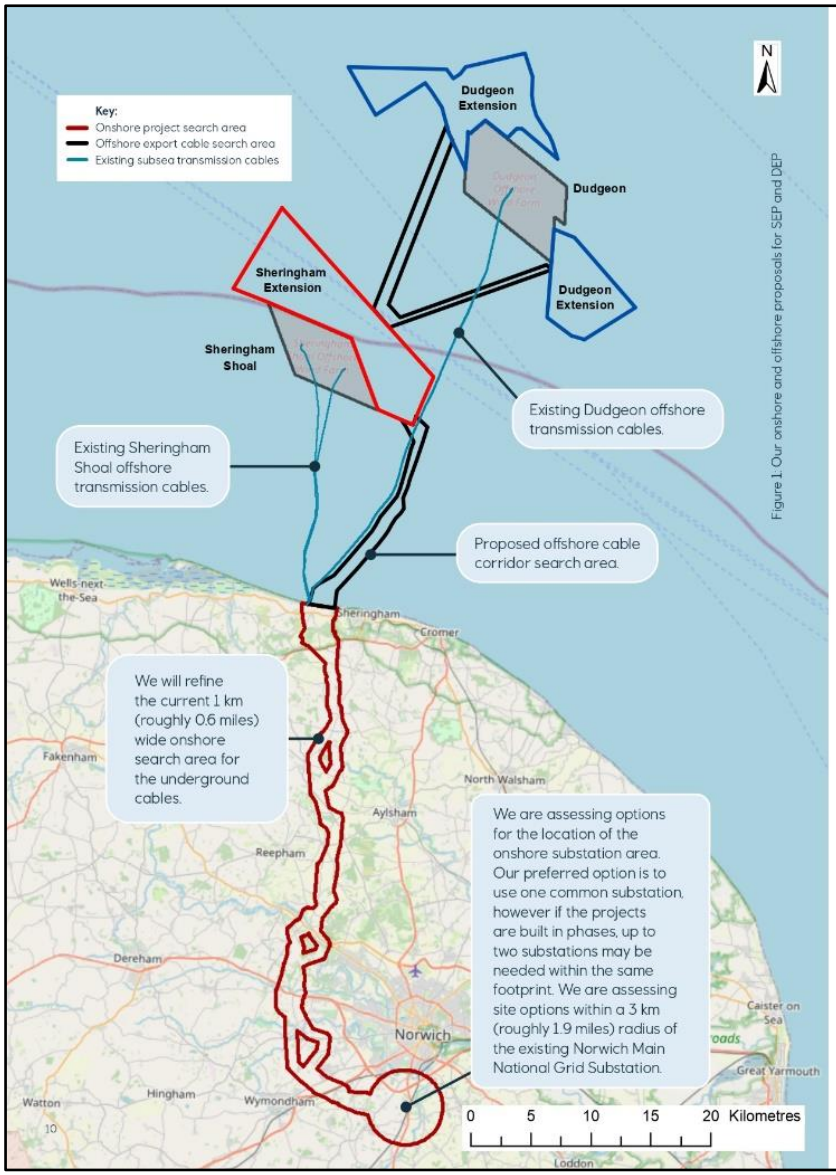

Figure 1 Our onshore and offshore proposals for SEP and DEP

Our site selection process

Through our ongoing consultation we will use the feedback and information we receive to inform the refinement of project options.

Onshore cable route

Since we published our Scoping Report in October 2019, we have undertaken environmental and technical assessments on the current 1 km (roughly 0.6 miles) wide onshore search area for the underground cables. We are now exploring options outside of this (which are included in the onshore search area on page 10, with more detail in the 'Extension to Scoping Area' document on the project webpage) to explore:

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

Onshore substation area

Both SEP and DEP will connect into the National Grid at Norwich Main Substation. A new combined substation area is planned for SEP and DEP to accommodate the necessary infrastructure to connect to Norwich Main Substation. The new substation area will be located within 3 km of the existing Norwich Main Substation. The configuration of the Extension Projects' substation area will be consulted on during the development process. This includes the opportunity to accommodate for energy storage or energy balancing technology.

We will be identifying a shortlist of sites for our onshore substation within the original 3 km wide search area and in the vicinity of the National Grid Norwich Main Substation. The site selection information will be presented as part of our phase one consultation. We will then use the feedback and ongoing engagement to refine our plans ahead of the phase two consultation.

Our Environmental Impact Assessment

In order to understand the local environment and how we can reduce and mitigate any potential impacts of the project, we will undertake a robust and extensive EIA process. This will include a range of surveys and studies, including but not limited to ecology, traffic and transport, archaeology, and effect of the surrounding landscape and visual impact.

We have already begun a series of environmental surveys along the onshore cable corridor and around Norwich Main Substation. Surveys will continue until approximately summer 2021. The results of all of our surveys and studies will be reported and included within our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) which we plan to consult on in spring 2021.

Our final Environmental Statement will advance the details presented in the PEIR to also incorporate the responses from the consultation and results of the surveys undertaken. The final Environmental Statement will form part of the DCO application that is submitted to PINS.

Copies of these reports will be made available as we conduct the public consultation.

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Our consultation process

Throughout the consultation process for the Extension Projects, we are committed to working with local stakeholders to help shape our proposals. We aim to create an open and meaningful dialogue with communities to understand how we can best develop our proposals.

Our Statement of Community Consultation

We plan to publish a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) in summer 2020. This will explain how we will consult with the communities and groups who may be affected by the proposals. It will also explain how the local community can provide feedback and how this feedback will be taken into account in the development of our plans.

Our multi-phased consultation

Following publication of our SoCC, we plan to hold two phases of 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 route. We will analyse all of the feedback we receive and, together with information from our environmental surveys and studies, and discussions with technical stakeholders, we will further refine our proposals.

During phase two of 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. We anticipate this phase of consultation will take place in spring 2021.

All feedback received, together with a clear explanation as to how it has been considered, will be presented in our final Consultation Report, which will form part of our DCO application. We will also be producing interim consultation summary reports following each round of public consultation, which will be distributed to the local community.

Our consultation activities

Meetings and events

As part of our consultation process, we are meeting with residents, landowners, local councillors and other interested members of the community.

We plan to hold public consultation events which provide an opportunity for people to meet with the project team and view our latest project information. We also plan to give presentations to parish councils and convene working groups with local stakeholders.

In circumstances where we are unable to hold public meetings or events in line with the Government's COVID-19 guidance, we will endeavour to continue the conversation through other methods. We will be able to offer online meetings and webinars, and engage the community through our dedicated digital engagement platform. We are aware that not everyone has online access and so we will be maintaining our freephone and Freepost communications lines, as well as our community mailouts to ensure everybody has the chance to have their say.

We are committed to delivering regular project updates through these different methods and continuing to invite feedback on our proposals.

Newsletters and leaflets

Our consultation leaflets will provide information on our proposals and how people can provide feedback during the consultation periods. Newsletters will be distributed on a regular basis to update residents and local stakeholders on the plans and proposals.

Copies of this information will also be made available online.

Communication lines

A freephone information line is available for anyone to ask questions and provide feedback about the Extension Projects. Please call us at: **08081 963673**

A project email address is also open for you to send us your questions and comments. Please email us at: **info@sepanddep.co.uk**

A freepost address is open for you to send letters and provide comments and feedback. Please address your letter, free of charge, to: **FREEPOST DUDGEON AND SHERINGHAM EXT**

A dedicated Community Liaison Officer (CLO), Nigel Tompkins, is based locally in North Norfolk and can be contacted at: **nigel@ni4b.co.uk** and **01263 822427 / 07860 206565**

Publicly available information

We will be launching our dedicated consultation website and digital engagement platform at the start of our phase one consultation, providing the opportunity to view the latest project information and feedback.

We will also publish advertisements and notices in local newspaper and media publications to inform local communities of our consultation.

Consultation timeline

2019

October 2019
Scoping Report published and public information day at Aylsham.

November 2019
Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.

2020

Spring 2020
Start of onshore environmental surveys and studies.

Summer 2020
Publication of the Statement of Community Consultation.

Summer 2020
Commencement of phase one community consultation.

Autumn/Winter 2020
Ongoing engagement with the community and stakeholders on refinement of project options.

2021

Spring 2021
Commencement of phase two community consultation. We will also publish our PEIR for consultation.

End of 2021
Final DCO application submission to the Planning Inspectorate.

14 Future dates are indicative and subject to change.

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Contact us

We want to keep you informed and hear your views.

Send us an email:
info@sepanddep.co.uk

Call our freephone information line:
08081 963673

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

Send us a letter free of charge:
FREEPOST DUDGEON AND SHERINGHAM EXT

Follow us on Twitter:
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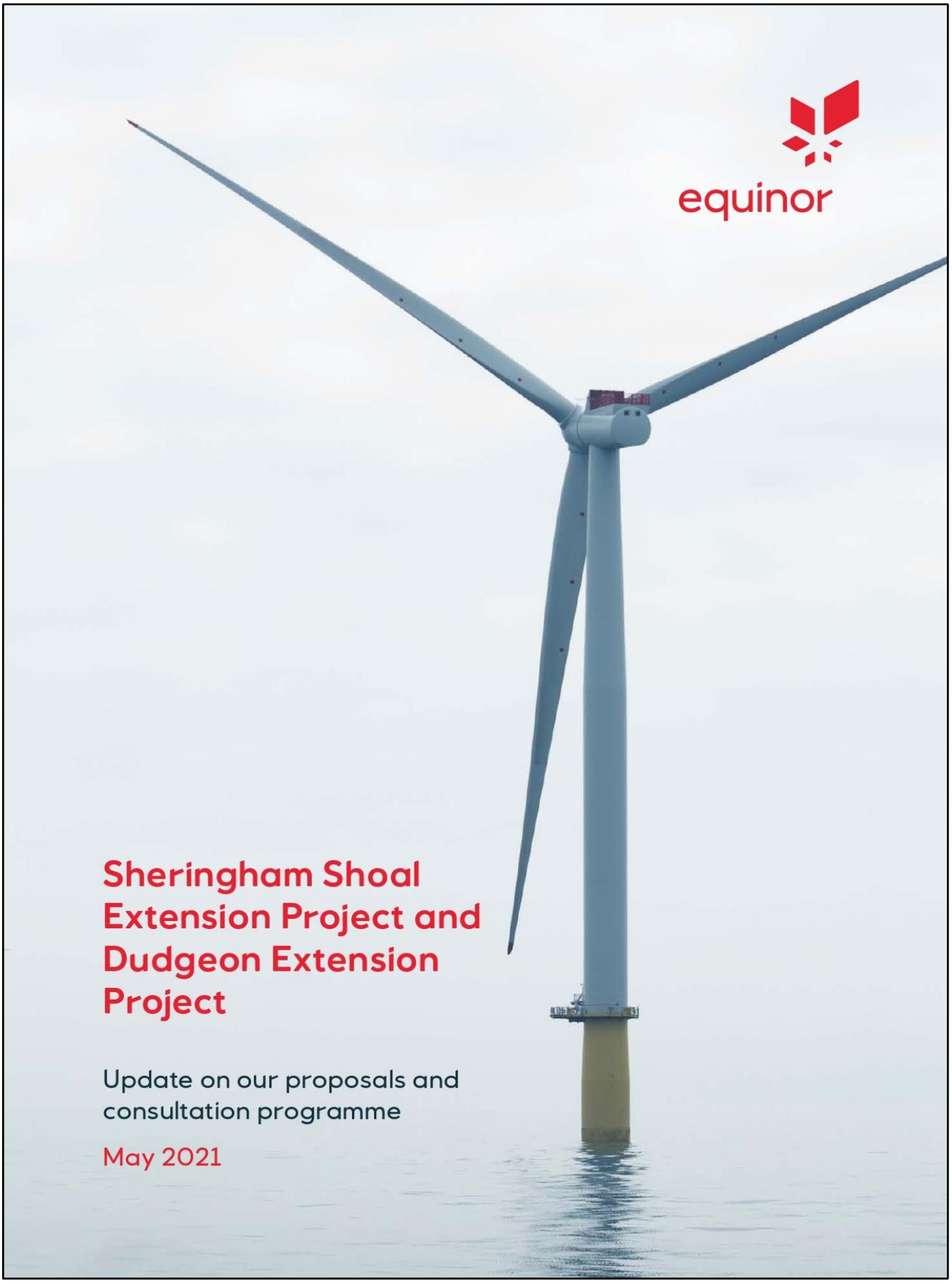
2 Stakeholder Briefing Pack (May 2021)



Introduction

We are proposing to extend the existing Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm.

The previous briefing pack published in Summer 2020 provided initial information on the projects in their early stages. This briefing pack provides an update on our plans for Sheringham Shoal Extension Project (SEP) and Dudgeon Extension Project (DEP). Additionally, it provides details on our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and our phase two consultation. Our phase two consultation started on Thursday 29 April. It will run for 6 weeks, closing on Thursday 10 June.

Who we are

Equinor is a broad energy company that has been operating in the UK for over 35 years and is the UK's largest energy supplier.

In the UK, we currently power around 750,000 homes through our three wind farms: Sheringham Shoal, Dudgeon, and the world's first floating wind farm, Hywind Scotland.

As a key contributor to the UK's efforts to meet its net zero carbon target, Equinor is leading the way in decarbonisation. Equinor supports the UK economy, investing billions of pounds in crucial energy infrastructure, employing 650 people that are based in the UK, and working with over 700 suppliers across the country.

Equinor's plans for SEP and DEP will double its offshore wind capacity off the coast of Norfolk. Equinor will also operate Dogger Bank, the largest offshore wind farm in the world, off the North East coast of England. When complete it will be capable of generating around 5% of the UK's electricity demand.

SEP and DEP will be located off the coast of North Norfolk, adjacent to the currently operational windfarms, and will have the potential to power 820,000 UK homes. The projects will make an important contribution to the UK's renewable energy targets and decarbonisation goals, along with providing benefits to local communities through local jobs and economic opportunities.

Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm is owned by Equinor, Masdar and China Resources. **Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm** is owned by Equinor, Equitix and Green Investment Group.

Both wind farms have established community funds of **£100,000** per year which in total have awarded over £1 million to projects in Norfolk.

The funds were set up to provide grants to **Norfolk community groups,** including schools and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), seeking financial assistance for initiatives that focus on renewable energy, marine environment and safety, sustainability, or education.

Our presence in the UK

Our existing UK offshore wind farms power over **750,000** UK homes with renewable energy and we are currently, with our partners, building the world's biggest offshore wind farm – Dogger Bank.

We are part of a new **'Zero Carbon Humber'** campaign supporting the region's ambition to become the world's first zero carbon economy.

Our existing offshore wind farms off the Norfolk coast provide over **100** local jobs.

Since the launch of our Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Community Funds, we have awarded grants of over **£1 million** to support community projects and education initiatives in Norfolk.

Sheringham Shoal Extension Project and Dudgeon Extension Project

Equinor is the operator of the existing Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon offshore wind farms located off the North Norfolk Coast, and is now proposing to extend these assets on behalf of their two operational partnerships.

By proposing to extend both offshore wind farms, Equinor is contributing towards achieving the UK Government's ambition of 40 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind capacity by 2030. This will help the UK to address climate change and reach its target of net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

Supporting coordination in offshore wind

The UK Government has set a target of reaching net zero by 2050, with the goal of producing 40 GW of offshore wind by 2030 to support this aim. However, they have also recognised the need to balance these goals against the desire for greater coordination in the sector.

Equinor is fully supportive of efforts for greater coordination and we are continuing to work with trade body RenewableUK, the teams at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), Ofgem and National Grid, to feed into the Government's ongoing Offshore Transmission Network Review (OTNR). This review expects the necessary shared infrastructure to be in place by 2030 at the earliest, which will be too late to serve SEP and DEP, with both SEP and DEP estimated to be constructed prior to this date.

Our preferred option is to develop SEP and DEP as an integrated project, with an integrated grid option, providing electrical infrastructure which services both wind farms. This strategic approach will particularly benefit the planning and construction of the electrical infrastructure system, and is likely to reduce the overall environmental impact, as well as responding to concerns regarding the lack of a holistic approach to offshore wind development in general.

However, because each project has different ownership, a separated grid option (i.e. infrastructure which allows each project to transmit electricity separately) will allow SEP and DEP to be constructed in a phased approach, if necessary. Therefore, the Development Consent Order (DCO) application will seek consent for alternative development scenarios, including the development of either SEP or DEP in isolation, or both SEP and DEP developed together – either at the same time or one after the other.

If built, SEP and DEP will:

Increase opportunities for the local supply chain and economy.

Save a total of approximately **810,000** tonnes of CO_2, which is the equivalent of taking **365,000** petrol cars off the road.

Provide clean, renewable energy to power **820,000** UK homes.

Help the UK reach its ambitious net zero climate targets by **2050**.

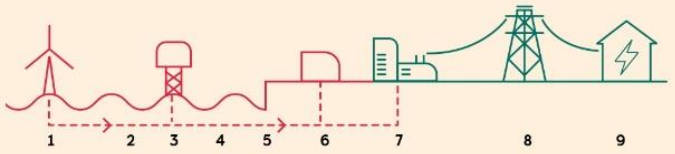
Help the UK meet its target of **40** gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind capacity by **2030**.

Aim to achieve a biodiversity net gain for the onshore elements of SEP and DEP.

Components of a typical offshore wind farm

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

1. Offshore wind turbines and interarray cables
2. 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



Key:
— Planned new Equinor infrastructure
— Existing infrastructure

Our refined proposals

Since our last round of consultation in July and August 2020, we have been developing our proposals in response to feedback received from residents and statutory stakeholders, as well as technical and environmental considerations.

During our phase one consultation, we welcomed over 1,700 visitors to our virtual exhibition and received almost 300 pieces of feedback. The feedback we received has helped us to improve our understanding of the local area and highlight specific concerns and sensitivities that exist.

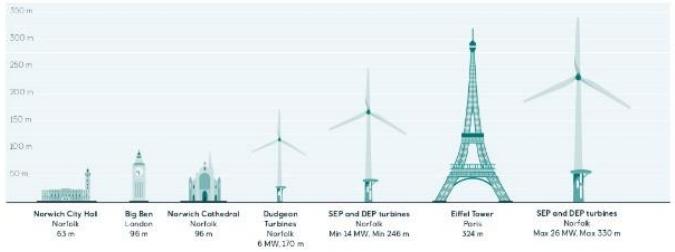
For more information regarding this feedback, including our Consultation Summary Report, please visit our documents library in our consultation website at **sepanddep.commonplace.is**.

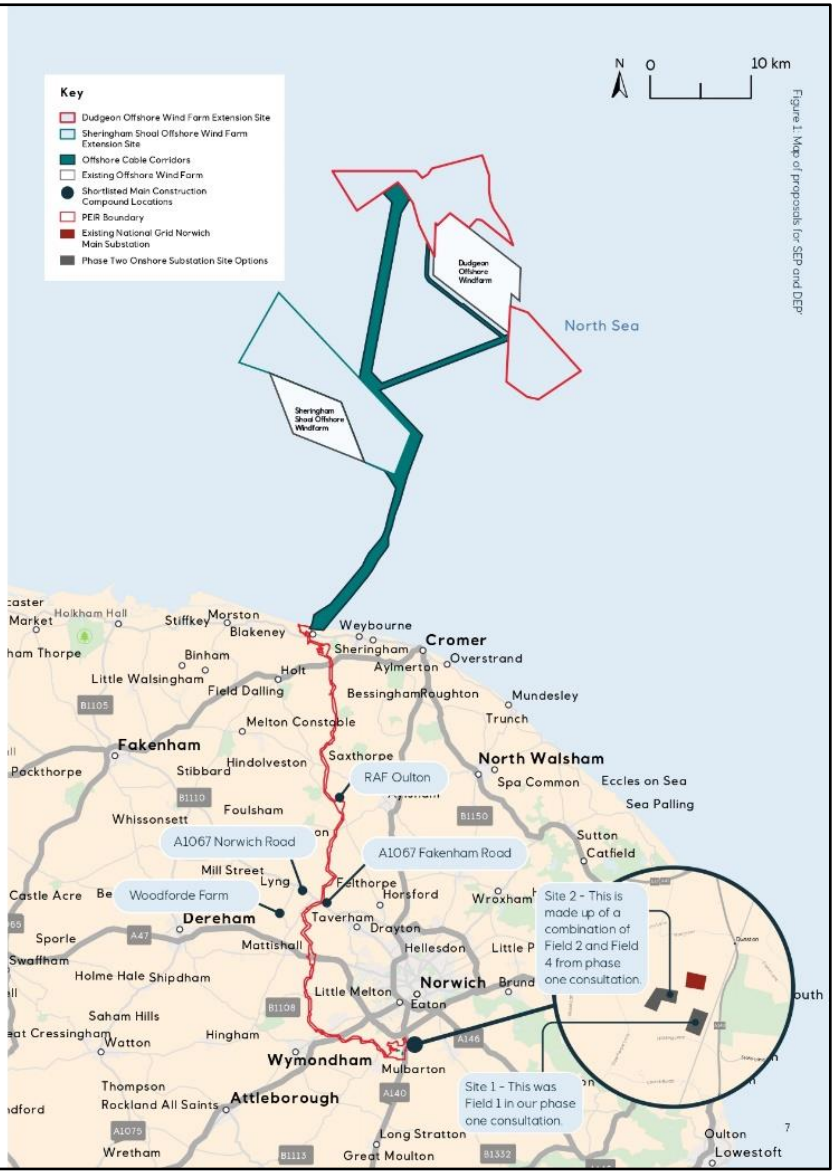
During our phase two consultation we are requesting feedback from stakeholders on our offshore array area, our onshore proposals and our PEIR.

Offshore array area

SEP and DEP will be located approximately 14 kilometres (8.7 miles) and 25 kilometres (15.5 miles) offshore at the nearest point to shore, respectively. We are investigating offshore generating areas of up to 196 kilometres squared in total, where 30 to 56 turbines could be located. Each offshore turbine could be between 14 and 26 megawatts (MW) in capacity and between 246 and 330 metres in height.

A Seascape Visual Impact Assessment (SVIA) has been included in our PEIR, which considers the potential visual effects of SEP and DEP from a number of coastal viewpoints. These viewpoints have been agreed with the relevant local authorities and other stakeholders. Visualisations of the proposed offshore array areas can be viewed via our virtual exhibition, at **event.sepanddep.co.uk**.





Onshore proposals

Onshore cable corridor

We have now identified an onshore cable corridor between landfall and the onshore substation that is typically 200 metres wide, as shown in figure 1. This has been refined using phase one consultation feedback, inputs from landowner discussions, environmental surveys, and engineering studies. For more information on how we have refined our onshore cable corridor, please visit our consultation website **sepanddep.commonplace.is**.

The main principles that have informed the refinement of the onshore cable corridor include:

- avoiding populated areas
- avoiding key sensitive features where possible
- a preference for the shortest route

Following phase two consultation, the onshore cable corridor will be further refined to a width of 60 metres for the DCO application (except for trenchless crossing zones, such as main rivers and A roads where the width will be 100 metres). This will be informed by phase two consultation feedback, as well as further technical studies and ongoing environmental survey and assessment work.

Construction compounds

Temporary construction compounds are required to support the onshore cable installation. This will include several secondary compounds along the onshore cable corridor, and up to two main compounds for project offices, welfare facilities, staff parking, and material and equipment storage. In addition, the landfall and substation works would have their own dedicated construction compounds.

We are still in the process of identifying locations for the construction compounds. Key criteria for identifying potential main compound locations include areas with existing infrastructure to reduce the need for initial site establishment works, and suitable access to and from the compounds to reduce disruption to the local road network.

The total size of the main compound(s) will be up to 60,000 metres squared, approximately 14.8 acres, however it may be preferable to use two smaller sites, which could potentially reduce traffic impacts in the area.

A main compound site selection report, with more details on the criteria used, can be viewed on our virtual exhibition at **event.sepanddep.co.uk**.

At this stage, a number of secondary compound locations have been identified, and we have also shortlisted four preferred locations for the main compound, from which we will choose up to two main compound locations:

- A1067 Fakenham Road
- Woodforde Farm
- A1067 Norwich Road
- RAF Oulton

Landfall location

Following our selection of Weybourne as the landfall location, we have refined our proposals further. To find out more about how we refined our proposals to this point, please view our previous updates in our documents library on our consultation website: **sepanddep.commonplace.is**.

Since our phase one consultation, through technical assessments and working with local stakeholders, we have identified a preferred landfall location to the west of Weybourne beach car park at the Muckleburgh Military Collection. This location benefits from favourable conditions for Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) to install cable ducts beneath Weybourne beach, minimising disruption to the shoreline. Additionally, the Muckleburgh landfall location minimises the need for site access works that would otherwise be required for landfall to the east of Weybourne.

We are in the process of refining the onshore cable corridor routing from Weybourne to Bodham. Our goal is to select the best route from a balance of technical, environmental and landscape considerations, whilst minimising disruption to the local community. Refinement will be based on a balance of technical and environmental considerations, your phase two feedback and further survey results, such as summer ground conditions surveys. Currently, we are considering three routing options. For more information about our landfall routing options, please visit our virtual exhibition at **event.sepanddep.co.uk**.

Onshore substation

Equinor has been offered a grid connection at Norwich Main Substation by National Grid. Following an extensive site selection and refinement process, we have identified two preferred site options for the onshore substation, based on your phase one consultation feedback, and environmental and technical assessment, as shown in figure 1. To find out more on the full site selection process, please visit our virtual exhibition at **event.sepanddep.co.uk**.

A number of factors have influenced the selection of the two preferred sites. Both sites are close to the existing Norwich Main Substation and benefit from existing screening that restricts views from surrounding areas. The sites also allow sufficient space for the Hornsea Project Three connection to Norwich Main Substation. The onshore substation will require an operational area of up to 6.25 hectares, which will be large enough to accommodate the electrical infrastructure for both SEP and DEP. We will use feedback from our phase two consultation, along with technical, environmental and landscape considerations, to bring forward one site option as part of our DCO application.

As part of our Environmental Impact Assessments, we have carried out a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA). The LVIA has considered the potential visual effects of the onshore substation from a number of viewpoints, which have been agreed with the relevant local authorities and other stakeholders. Visualisations of the onshore substation site options have also been prepared for this consultation from a selection of viewpoints. View our onshore substation photomontages on our virtual exhibition.

Onshore substation access

Onshore substation access during both construction and operation is an important consideration for determining the final onshore substation location. Our preferred access option is entering via the existing National Grid Norwich Main Substation access, however this would need to be managed carefully to avoid impacting existing operations at the Norwich Main Substation. Work is ongoing with National Grid to establish the best solution for substation access. As part of this process, we are also considering the value of other access options, which could be temporary or permanent.

Read more about the onshore substation access proposals in our virtual exhibition. We will refine our proposals using phase two consultation feedback, alongside ongoing technical, environmental and landscape considerations. Our final access proposals may include one access route or a combination of the shortlisted routing options.

Our consultation process

SEP and DEP each have an expected generating capacity greater than 100 MW and as such are classified as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs).

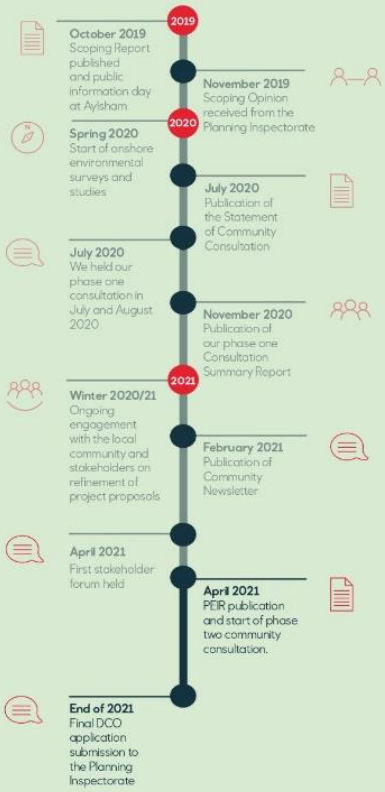
We must therefore apply for a DCO through the NSIP planning process. The DCO application will be dealt with by the Planning Inspectorate (PINS), the agency responsible for managing the examination process for NSIPs. If accepted, it will then be examined by an independent Examining Authority Panel, which will make a recommendation to the Secretary of State (SoS) for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). Finally, the SoS will review and comment on this before making a decision on whether to grant a DCO.

Public consultation for SEP and DEP began in 2020 and will continue up to the point of DCO application submission, planned for the end of 2021.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process

Since May 2018, we have undertaken a series of environmental studies and assessments as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment process. These have informed the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which is available as part of our phase two consultation.

The PEIR has been informed by site specific studies, desk based studies, and consultation with relevant stakeholders. All potential impacts of the construction, operation and decommissioning of SEP and DEP have been identified across a wide range of onshore and offshore topics, and an assessment made on the significance of each potential impact.



Next steps and phase two consultation

Our phase two consultation for SEP and DEP started on Thursday 29 April and will run for 6 weeks until Thursday 10 June 2021. We will be requesting feedback on our PEIR and our refined proposals for SEP and DEP.

We have relaunched our dedicated consultation website and digital engagement platform, providing the opportunity to view the latest project information and feedback. We have also published advertisements and notices in local newspapers and media publications to inform local communities of our consultation.

Members of the community have been provided both online and offline methods to learn about the proposals and provide their feedback. Our consultation activities are detailed below.

Viewing our proposals and providing feedback

During phase two consultation, stakeholders will be able to view and comment on our proposals in the following ways:

Virtual exhibition: By visiting our virtual exhibition to view information about SEP and DEP at **event.sepanddep.co.uk**

Consultation website: Our consultation website will allow stakeholders to find out more information about SEP and DEP, view all consultation documents (PEIR and associated plans, maps and reports) and provide their feedback online, at **sepandep.commonplace.is**

Post: Over 11,500 stakeholders in the core consultation zone have been sent a consultation leaflet detailing our proposals, and a feedback form. This feedback form can be sent back free of charge using an envelope provided by us. A freepost address is also open for stakeholders to send letters and provide comments and feedback free of charge, at: **FREEPOST DUDGEON AND SHERINGHAM EXT**

Hard copy requests: We can send hard copies of phase two consultation documentation, such as the PEIR non-technical summary, PEIR boundary plans, virtual exhibition boards, and our consultation leaflet and feedback form. Consultation documents are also available in large print, audio or braille. Hard copies of the totality of PEIR chapters are also available if required, for a set charge.

PEIR USBs: For those interested in reading our full PEIR, USBs preloaded with our PEIR documentation are also available upon request.

Phone: A freephone information line is available for anyone to ask questions and provide feedback about SEP and DEP, at **08081 963673**

Email: A project email address is also open for anyone to send us questions and comments, at **info@sepanddep.co.uk**

Community Liaison Officer: A dedicated Community Liaison Officer (CLO), Nigel Tompkins, is based locally in North Norfolk and can be contacted at: **nigel@ni4b.co.uk** and **01263 822427 / 07860 206565**

Contact us

We want to keep you informed and hear your views.

Send us an email:
info@sepanddep.co.uk

Call our freephone information line:
08081 963673

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

Send us a letter free of charge:
FREEPOST DUDGEON AND SHERINGHAM EXT

Follow us on Twitter:
@Equinor_UK

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