

SNS2022

ENERGY INTEGRATED IN THE EAST



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North Falls

Martin Whyte, Project Director North Falls at RWE/SSE

Introducing North Falls Offshore Wind Farm



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North Falls Offshore Wind Farm

SNS 2022 – Energy Integrated in the East

Martin Whyte, Project Manager, North Falls

NorthFallsOffshore.com

North Falls – the story so far – 2017 to April 2022:



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- In **February 2017**, The Crown Estate invited existing wind farm operators to apply for extensions to their existing projects. Eight project applications received, including one from Greater Gabbard.
- In **August 2019**, it was announced Greater Gabbard Extension had been successful in its bid.
- The project was renamed North Falls Offshore Wind Farm and an Agreement for Lease with The Crown Estate was executed in **Summer 2020**.
- North Falls has carried out onshore and offshore surveys, continues to assess project constraints and engage with stakeholders. The first public consultation was held in **late 2021**.
- The location of all the project's infrastructure will be subject to thorough assessments, design, surveys and consultation.
- The development consent order application and supporting environmental data is due for submission in **late-2023**.
- North Falls is being developed by a joint venture company owned equally by SSE Renewables and RWE.



Map: North Falls (dark blue) along with Five Estuaries (also in development) and operational projects Greater Gabbard and Galloper



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North Falls – key facts and figures:



150km²

Turbine array
areas coverage



Up to 70

Maximum number of
wind turbines



22.5km

Distance to shore
(closest)



2

Maximum number of
offshore substations



1

Onshore substation



400,000

Homes equivalent to be provided
with clean green energy



More than £1.5bn

Potential investment in UK
energy infrastructure

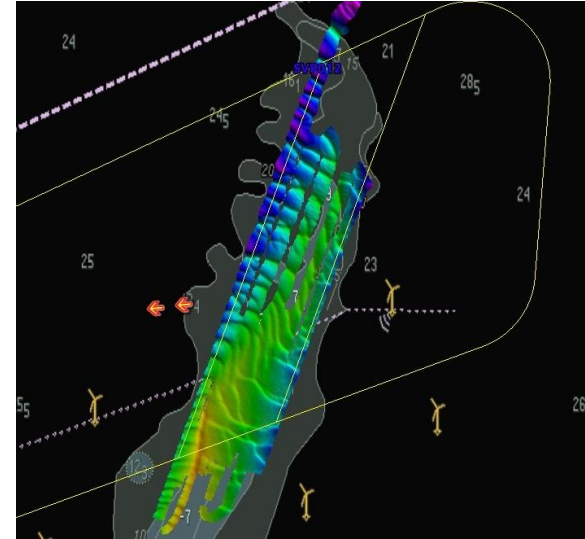


40GW by 2030

Contributing to the UK government's
ambitions of 40GW offshore wind by 2030

North Falls: Offshore progress to date

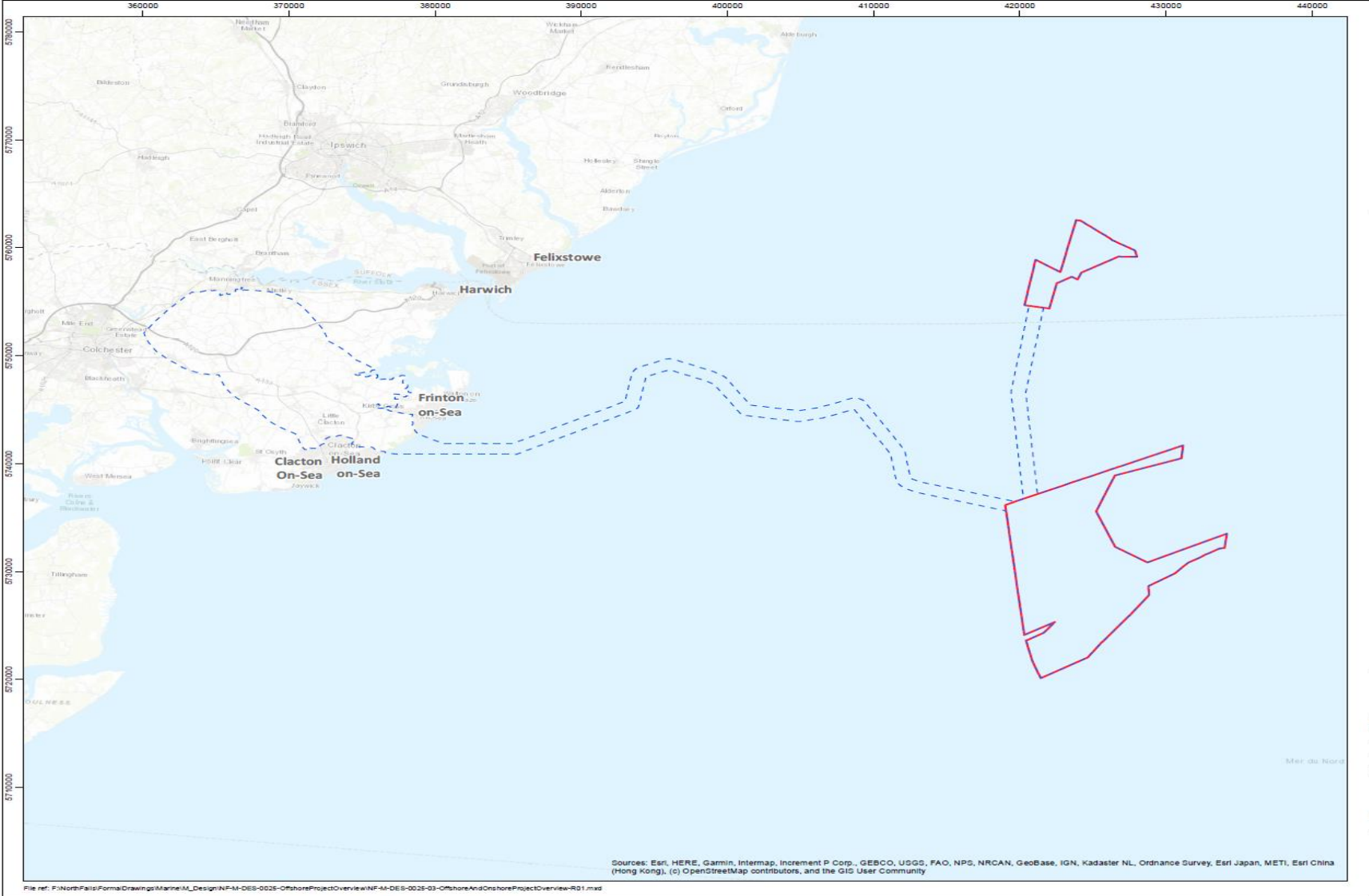
- A **site selection process** was undertaken to define the offshore export cable corridor between Q4 2020 and Q2 2021.
- **Series of workshops** defined an initial wide area of search, subsequently refined into a shortlist of route options, which was consulted on with marine stakeholders.
- Responses were fed into a final selection process in March 2021.
- The corridor runs **between the North Falls southern array boundary and the North Essex coast** (incorporating a north-south array interconnector corridor).
- **Ongoing surveys:** environmental and geophysical, ornithology and marine mammals and shipping and navigation.
- The **landfall area of search** is between Clacton-on-Sea and Frinton-on-Sea in Essex.
- This was defined by **technical considerations and feasibility studies** undertaken by the project and will be subject to a separate site selection process.



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North Falls Scoping Area: onshore and offshore



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See Planning Inspectorate Advice Note 9 & North Falls Scoping Report



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North Falls: Onshore – grid connection process

- North Falls requested a **grid connection agreement** from National Grid in April 2019.
- National Grid has been evaluating potential East of England onshore grid connection points since that time, generally settling on a location within the Tendring peninsula.
- North Falls expect to have the specific location of our new substation confirmed by National Grid, who have recently announced the development of **a new substation near Lawford**.
- North Falls will conduct a site selection process to identify the location for our own substation. Evaluation criteria to include **environmental, technical and electrical constraints**.
- North Falls has already undertaken a **high-level site selection process** for substation locations based on informal consultation with National Grid.
- The North Falls **Area of Search** extends from the coast, around the edge of Clacton to Lawford and this is reflected in the onshore Scoping boundary (map next slide).
- National Grid have recently announced the development of a new 400Kv substation near Lawford.
- A **cable route selection process** is now underway (at risk to the Project).

North Falls Scoping Area: onshore



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North Falls: Project benefits aligned to Greater Gabbard

As well as generating green electricity, helping combat the effects of climate change and contributing to the UK's net zero ambitions, the project will bring numerous local benefits via jobs, local economy and community involvement.

As an extension project, the aim would be to emulate the initiatives of our sister project and therefore create similar, if not greater, socio-economic benefit.

- A **total investment of around £1.5 billion** into the UK's energy infrastructure
- A **new facility constructed in Lowestoft** for operations & maintenance.
- Around **100 long-term, skilled O&M jobs** created, with 95% recruited from the local area.
- These roles were in addition to the **hundreds of jobs during construction**.
- **10 apprentices** engaged since the start of operation, eight pipeline trainees, junior engineer roles and **ex-fishermen employed** on crew transfer vessels as part of the drive to find locally skilled people for roles.
- Invested more than **£250,000 in community funds** and local training initiatives.





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North Falls: Local supply chain and skills

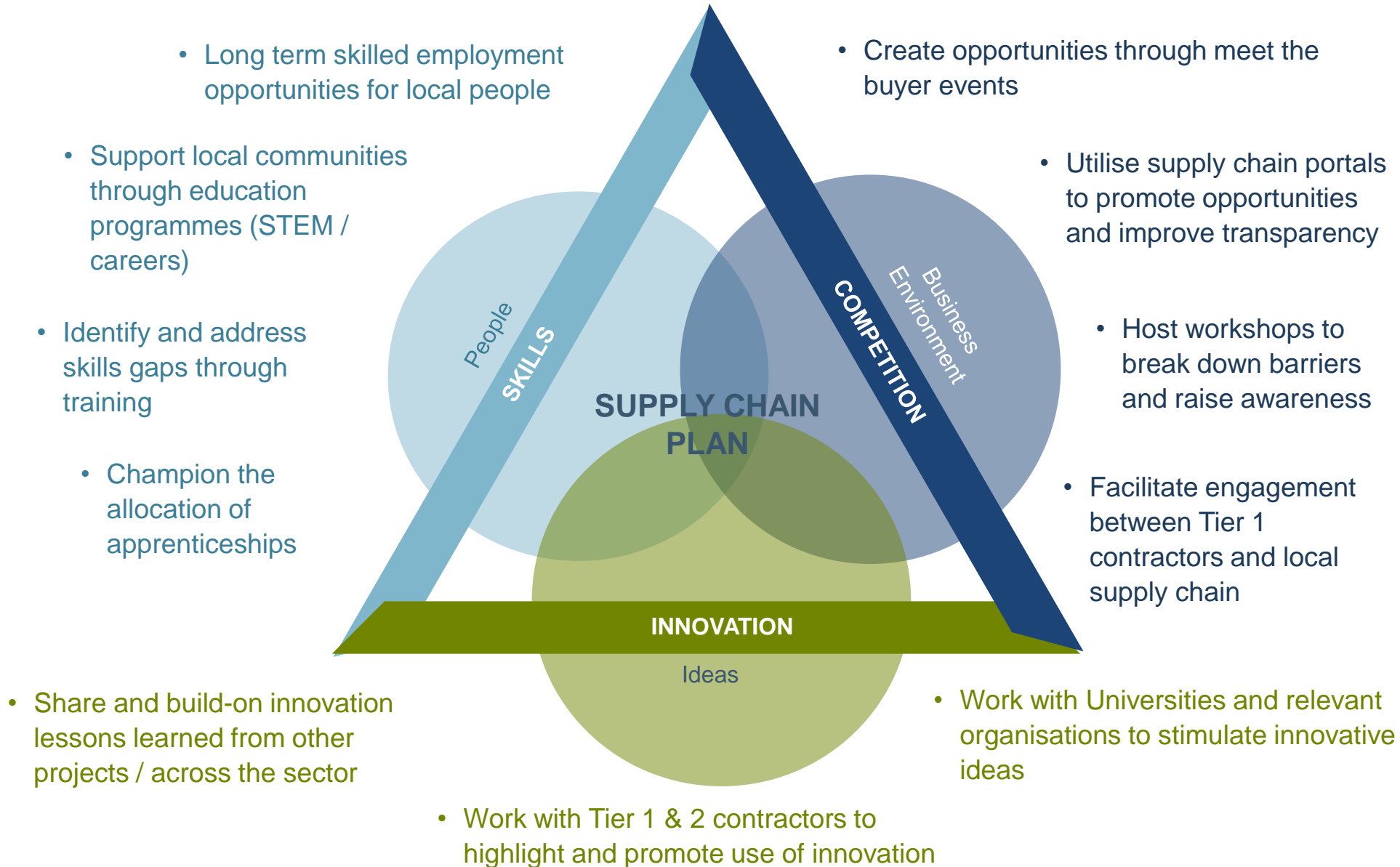
Each project submits a supply chain plan to be eligible for a contract for difference.

In due course North Falls will develop a project specific supply chain plan in which commitments are made to support **UK suppliers**, encourage **competition** and **innovation** and work with **skills and education** bodies to ensure the workforce will be available.

To date North Falls is:

- Working with **East of England Energy Group** to start raising awareness of supply chain opportunities locally
- Supporting **Essex Green Skills Infrastructure Review / Sector Development Strategy for Essex**
- Supporting **‘Gearing up 2 Grow’** - Norfolk/Suffolk/Essex project to understand demand projections for regional energy (onshore) and infrastructure construction work over the period to 2030.

Role of the supply chain plan in offshore wind



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Potential onshore construction work scopes for local SMEs

Potential timing	Requirements
Early <2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning, consenting, environmental and other surveys
Middle <2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Architectural design • Engineering design
End >2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project control/project management • Cable route civil works • Cable laying (electrical/data) & associated activities • Ground works (tracks, drainage) • Substation enabling and civil works • Substation M&E & HVAC installation • Steel fabrication • Water/treatment civil works • Water/treatment M&E & HVAC installations • Fencing (temporary and permanent) • Landscaping & habitat management • Traffic management • CCTV and security systems • Construction site security • Temporary buildings and tracks • Temporary access (eg scaffold, MUP hire) • Cranage • Plant hire

Indicative total based on 20km from shore: approx £150 - 230 million



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General tips for potential suppliers to an offshore wind farm

- **Be aware of the broader sector:** participate in industry events, join local clusters and industry groups.
- **Know where you sit within the supply chain:** identify your customers - are they developers like North Falls, Tier 1 suppliers or others within the supply chain? Establish who will issue the relevant invitations to tender (ITTs).
- **Identify who you need to talk to:** find the right people within a project/organisation.
- Be aware of **project timelines:** understand timescales for tender activities and opportunities.
- **Register your company details** on supply chain directories.
- Where information is provided to potential customers – pitch yourself in the right way, be **clear and concise**.
- **Anticipate future market** needs (floating, far from shore, digital) & shape your offering accordingly.



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Consultation process and current programme

Ongoing	Informal engagement Continued engagement including communication of updated project proposals and impacts resulting from the consultations
Autumn 2021	Informal Introductory Consultation Introduction to the project, scoping and early opportunity for feedback
Summer 2022	Statement of Community Consultation Published after consultation with local Councils and stakeholders
Autumn/Winter 2022	Pre-application Consultation 1 Consultation prior to commencing Preliminary Environmental Information Report
2023	Pre-application Consultation 2 Consultation on Preliminary Environmental Information Report Final Pre-application Consultation Final and limited consultation, primarily an engagement opportunity to communicate final Environmental Statement

North Falls: Next steps....

Onshore

- North Falls substation site selection process
- Onshore cable route corridor selection process
- Environmental data collection (ecology, archaeology, traffic, noise) across the development footprint to inform the assessments

Offshore

- Further surveys including vessel traffic surveys

Consultation

- Statutory & non-statutory consultation 2022/23
- Ongoing informal consultation

Suppliers

- Ramp up engagement with potential key suppliers (Tier 1), focus on post consent



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North Falls – to stay in touch or register for updates:

North Falls will establish an online supply chain register for potential suppliers post-consent however in the interim, you can get in touch with us, register your interest or ask questions using one of these contact methods.



Telephone (24/7): 0800 254 5340



Email: contact@northfallsoffshore.com



Website: www.northfallsoffshore.com



By post: FREEPOST North Falls



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Thank you for listening
Do you have any questions?

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Thank you



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