

Update on North Falls Offshore Wind Farm



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Offshore Wind Farm

North Falls Offshore Wind Farm

EEEGR's SNS 2024

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NorthFallsOffshore.com

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About the Project

- North Falls is an extension to the southern array of the existing **Greater Gabbard Offshore Wind Farm**
- Final generating capacity is yet to be confirmed but will be **up to 1GW**
- Development Consent Order (DCO) application scheduled for **submission this summer**
- North Falls is being developed by a joint venture company owned 50/50 by **SSE Renewables and RWE Renewables**.



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Project at a glance



Up to 57

Maximum number of wind turbines



≈ 40km

Distance to shore (closest)



97km²

Turbine array area coverage



≈ 400,000

Homes equivalent to be provided with clean green energy



More than £1.5bn

Potential investment in UK energy infrastructure



50GW by 2030

Contributing to government net zero ambitions



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Story so far

- The Agreement for Lease between North Falls and The Crown Estate was signed in **Autumn 2020**
- The Project's pre-application phase is now at an **advanced stage**
- The Project's aim is to submit its application to the Planning Inspectorate in **July 2024**
- The Project's Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has included **four previous stages of consultation**
- Throughout this period there has been ongoing technical design and engineering work to develop the **best possible Project**
- If the Project's application is successful, we anticipate being granted a Development Consent Order (DCO) in **2026**



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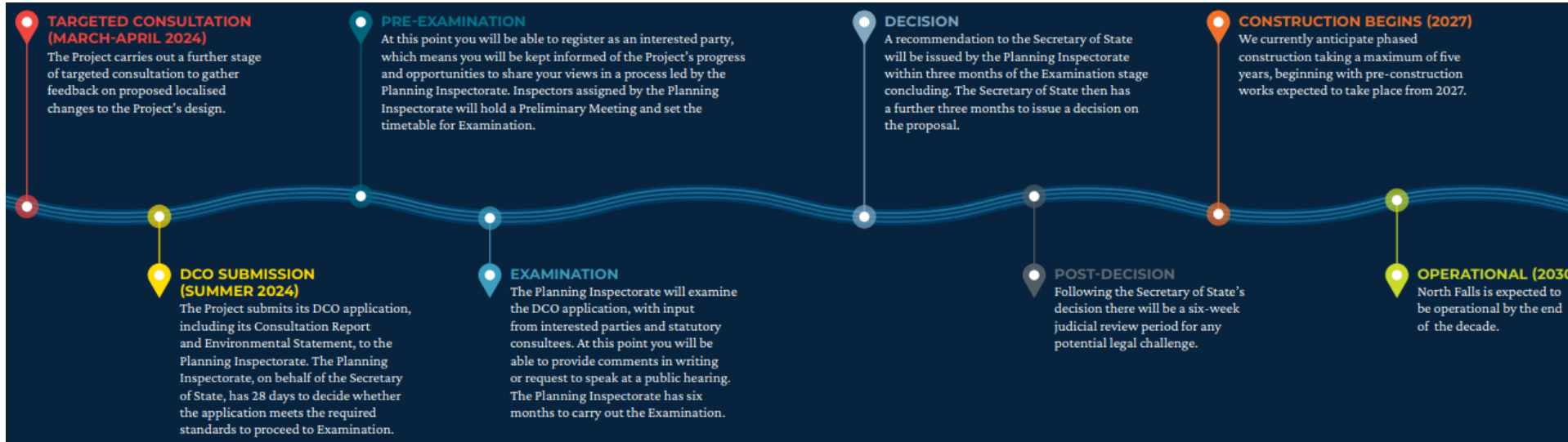
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Project timeline



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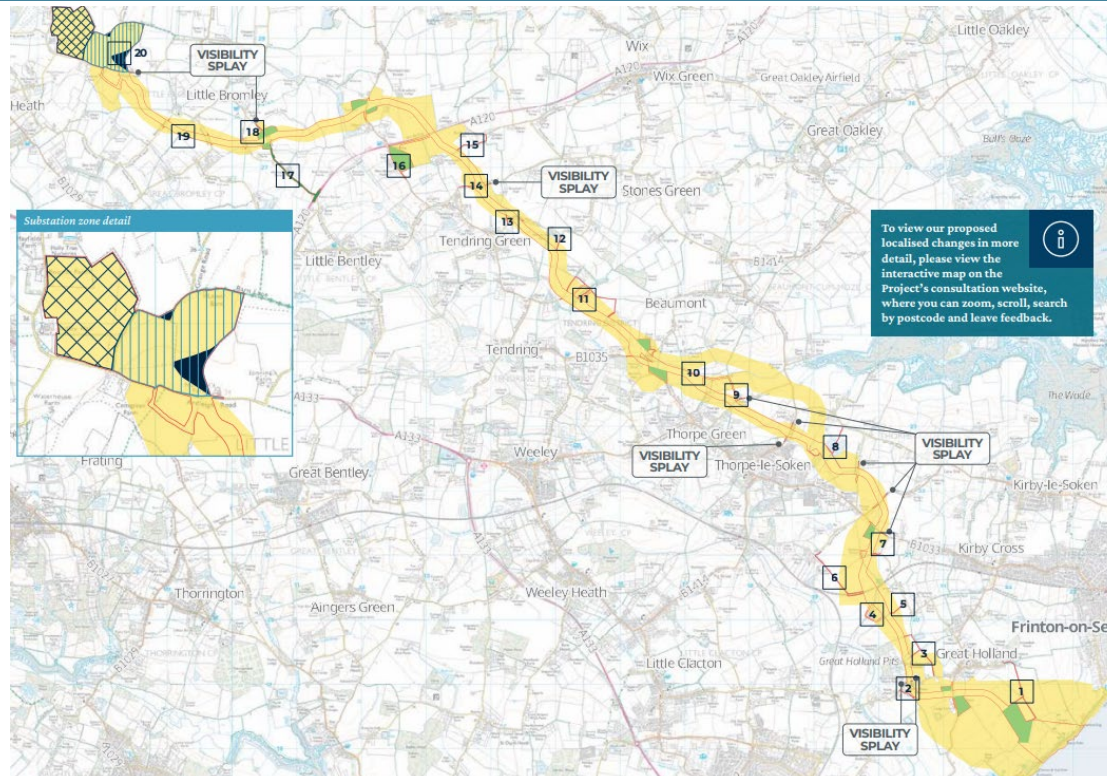


We are here

Project update

The feedback received during the Project's previous stages of consultation, as well as further technical, engineering and environmental work, has allowed us to:

- Increase the distance from shore to the nearest point of the offshore array area by **approximately 20km**
- Reduce the offshore array area by **approximately 55km²** by removing the northern array
- Reduce the number of wind turbine generators we will need by **15**
- **Reduce the overall onshore cable corridor width** at various locations from what was presented in our PEIR during summer 2023's statutory consultation
- Reduce the amount of onshore export cables we'll need to connect the Project from **four to two**
- Footprint of onshore substation reduced from **eight to six hectares**
- **Greater alignment with Five Estuaries** in terms of cable corridor, landfall construction compound location and onshore substation location



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North Falls socioeconomic benefits

North Falls will generate **clean, green, renewable electricity** that will help **combat climate change**, contributing to the UK government's ambition of being **net zero by 2050** and future **energy security**.

The Project will contribute to the UK government's target to build **50GW of offshore wind** by 2030.

North Falls also aims to emulate the initiatives of Greater Gabbard in terms of socioeconomic benefit:

- Total investment of around **£1.5bn**
- **New facility** constructed in Lowestoft
- Around **100** long-term, skilled operations and maintenance jobs – 95 per cent of which were recruited locally
- **Hundreds of jobs** during construction
- **10** apprentices, junior engineer roles and ex-fishermen employed
- **Five-year trainee plan** to further grow apprentice numbers
- More than **£250,000** invested in community funds and local training initiatives, plus an additional **£50,000** investment fund was announced to celebrate the project's 10-year anniversary

North Falls' initial socioeconomic benefit study found the Project is likely to contribute:



4,000

Annual full-time equivalent jobs



£400 million

Gross value add for the local area



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Working together with Five Estuaries

Working together to streamline design and minimise local impacts as far as practicable is important to both North Falls and Five Estuaries. Through coordination, we have or will be able to:

- Almost fully align the onshore cable corridors
- Identify possible shared works accesses and construction compounds
- Exchange data and share surveys
- Agree on a shared location for each project's substation and identify possible shared access and screening concepts
- Increase the coordination of engagement with landowners
- Share our navigational risk assessments and measures to ensure vessel coordination during construction
- Exchange information on project design at an early stage to carry out cumulative seascape, landscape and visual impact assessments

Both parties signed a 'Good Neighbour Agreement' in summer 2023, which has enabled closer liaison, information sharing and joint planning.

We will continue to coordinate so that we can reduce impacts, support local skills and create employment opportunities.



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Offshore Coordination Support Scheme (OCSS)

A consortium led by North Falls, consisting of National Grid's Sea Link, Five Estuaries and North Falls, was awarded funding under the Offshore Coordination Support Scheme (OCSS) in December 2023.

The consortium has undertaken a series of assessments to determine the feasibility, challenges and solutions to enable a coordinated offshore connection of the wind farms to Sea Link instead of radial connections. A feasibility study, considering the economics, engineering and regulatory challenges, logistics, and programme delivery aspects, was submitted to DESNZ in March 2024.

This feasibility study is currently being evaluated by DESNZ as it considers whether to grant a second tranche of funding to facilitate more detailed feasibility studies.

Currently, National Grid Electricity Transmission's East Anglia Connection Node remains the only connection available to the Project.



11 June 2024



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Supply chain growth central to offshore wind sector

| Date | Project phase | Suppliers |
|-----------|---|---|
| 2024-2025 | Development / pre-DCO application | Consultancies: legal, environmental, engineering, planning |
| 2025-2027 | Post-consent / pre-construction | Tier 1 and 2 suppliers Engineering design / consultancy |
| 2027-2030 | Construction and commissioning Beginning of operations | Tier 1 and 2 contractors: steel supply, all engineering, cables, turbines, foundations Onshore: groundworks, ducts, cables, site management Project management Vessels / ports: all marine suppliers |
| From 2030 | Operations and maintenance | Marine suppliers, safety, vessels, office/admin |



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Sustainable Industry Rewards (SIRs) now central to offshore wind supply chain for CFD eligibility



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SIRs

- Significant macroeconomic, geopolitical and social trends, creating supply chain challenges for OSW/FLOW.
- There are recognised challenges for the economic, environmental and social sustainability of these supply chains.
- UK Government has acted to make changes to the current CfD scheme, on the basis that we need an industry which can weather economic and global challenges and deliver sustainable deployment now and in the future.
- As a result, a consultation process kicked off Apr 2023 to assess ways in which renewable projects could capture wider value.
- Supply Chain Plan replacement (for OSW & FLOW for 3 Allocation Rounds – AR7 (light-touch), AR8 & AR9)

| Criterion | What it involves |
|--|---|
| (1) Investment in shorter supply chain – UK deprived areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Investment in a Tier 1 manufacturing facility, key components or port, located in UK deprived areas – evidenced by a conditional contract or MoU ▪ Deprived areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>England</u>: Local authorities between 2-4 measures of deprivation in the bottom quartile of the DLUHC dataset ▪ <u>Scotland</u>: Data zones in deciles 1-5 on overall deprivation <u>or</u> data zones in deciles 1-2 on the geographic access to services indicator (included to capture sparsely populated regions) |
| (2) Investment in more sustainable means of production | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Investment in a Tier 1 manufacturing facility that is owned by or operated by a manufacturer that has set and is pursuing a science-based target that has been validated and communicated – evidenced by a conditional contract or MoU. Firms can be anywhere in the world. |
| (3) Combined criteria | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Investment in a Tier 1 manufacturing facility that is both located in a UK deprived area and is owned by or operated by a manufacturer signed-up to SBTs - this is to attract an uplift in scoring (a multiplier to be determined) |

Next steps

Following the close of a targeted consultation in April, the Project is carefully considering the feedback received alongside further technical, engineering and environmental work, to finesse the Project's final design envelope.

The design envelope for the Project's DCO submission (planned for July 2024) will consist of:

- Our offshore array area, where the wind turbine generators, subsea export cables and offshore substation platform(s) are located
- Our onshore Project area, including the onshore cable route, onshore substation, and other associated infrastructure

We currently anticipate phased construction taking a maximum of five years, beginning with pre-construction works expected to take place **from 2027**.

North Falls is expected to be **operational by the end of the decade**.

To stay up to date with the Project's progress, register for updates via northfallsoffshore.com, or by scanning the QR code with your phone's camera.



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Thank you



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