

Hornsea Offshore Wind Farm (Zone 4) - Project One

Developer: Smart Wind Limited

Site Size:

Covering an area of approximately 400km².

Site Location:

The Hornsea Zone is adjacent to the River Humber, 200km South of Newcastle and 75km north of The Wash. The East Riding of Yorkshire coast lies 31km to the west of the Zone's boundary and the Zone's eastern boundary is 1 km from the median line between UK and Netherlands waters. Project One is located 103km off the Yorkshire coast at its closet point. Swell in the area is prominently north north-easterly. Several surf beaches between Hornsea (126km) and Cromer (105km) could be affected.

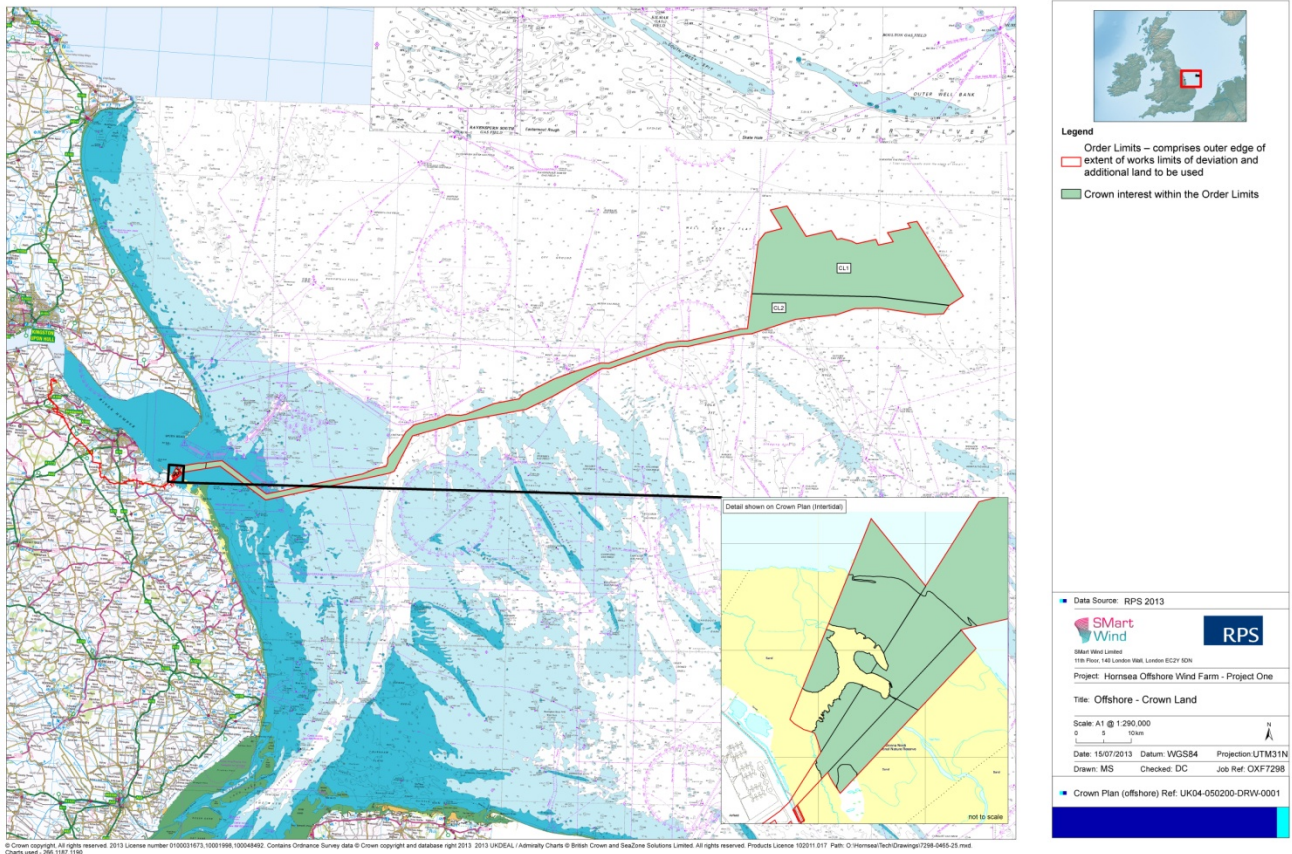


Image: © Smart Wind Limited

Technology:

Depending on the rated capacity of the turbines selected, the estimated number of wind turbines will be between 150 and 332, generating up to 1200MW. This is enough energy to generate the average energy needs of up to 900,000 homes. The proposed models are:

WTG size	Number of	Max blade tip height (m)	Max rotor diameter	Indicative
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(MW)	WTGs	above MHWS	(m)	spacing (m)
3.6-6	332	200	178	924x1320
3.6-6	269	200	178	924x1617
6	208	200	178	1155x1617
8	150	200	178	1651x2046

Three foundation types for the WTG are being considered as more information is needed before a final decision can be made. It is possible that more than one type will be used across the project. The proposed foundations are:

- Monopiles – comprised of a large diameter steel or concrete tube driven vertically into the seabed. It will rely on the surrounding seabed to provide lateral resistance to horizontal forces, such as wind and waves. The maximum diameter will be 8.5m with a seabed penetration maximum of 50m.
- Steel jackets/space frame structure – a steel lattice construction comprising tubular steel members and welded joints which is fixed to the seabed using piles at the corners of the bases. There will be 3-4 piles per jacket with maximum leg spacing of 40m.
- Gravity base foundation – uses a wide area base which is significantly heavy to resist horizontal forces of winds and currents. The maximum external diameter will be 50m. Some seabed levelling to a maximum depth of 5m may be required.

Export cables will consist of two single core subsea cables that may be laid separately or bundled together. Cables will be installed below the seabed utilising ploughing or trenching/jetting rock-cutting. Where cable burial is not possible, placement of some sort of cable protection (rocks, frond mattresses or grout bags) may be deployed. The landfall point is at Horseshoe point in North Lincolnshire. HDD will be used for installing the cables between the intertidal area and the TJB. This method will allow the cables to be installed under the sea defences and sensitive dune habitats without impacting them.

Development Stage:

This project is currently in the examination stage. Details of the preliminary meeting and examination dates will be posted shortly.

Timeline:

Scoping Report Submitted: 11/2012

Scoping Opinion Published from the IPC: 12/2012

Community Consultation Period: 03/2011 – 04/2011

11/2011

06/2012- 08/2012

Application Submitted: 30/07/2013

Application Accepted: 22/08/2013

Registration of Interested Parties Begins: 05/09/2013

Registration of Interested Parties Ends: 11/10/2013

Preliminary Meeting: 10/12/2013

Examination Dates: To Be Confirmed

Construction Dates: To Be Confirmed

If you are an interested party, you will receive notifications about the examination and you will also be notified about the final decision.

If you have a legal interest in land affected by a nationally significant infrastructure project and have not already registered to become an interested party, then you can make a request to the Examining Authority to become an interested party under s102A of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended).

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- Planning Inspectorate case team:
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Consultees:

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SAS Traffic Light System:

Amber - Surfers Against Sewage have some concerns about the proposed development. The proximity to Hornsea Two and Triton Knoll could have a combined effect reducing the wave height and affecting wave direction and refraction. These problems would be aggravated by the use of Gravity Base foundations.

