

## **Introducing**

# Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms



#### **Overview**

The Dogger Bank South (DBS) offshore wind farm projects are located more than 100 km off the northeast coast of England at the shallow offshore area of the North Sea known as Dogger Bank. DBS is made up of two separate sites, DBS East and DBS West.

Each project could have an installed capacity of up to 1.5 GW meaning that together, they could generate enough clean renewable energy to power up to 3.4 million typical UK households per year.

DBS East and DBS West are owned by RWE which is progressing the development phase of the projects.

The number of turbines for each site has not yet been determined, but the design allows for up to 300 wind turbines (a maximum of 150 for each project). The final number will be dependent on the size of turbines eventually installed. It is possible that more than one wind turbine model could be used across the two sites.

#### The Story So Far

In January 2023 we entered into Agreements for Lease with The Crown Estate for the DBS projects, giving RWE exclusive seabed development rights for the sites.

Although development of the projects is at an early stage, offshore and onshore surveys have been underway since March 2021, including metocean data collection and a series of geophysical and environmental surveys.

In July 2022, RWE submitted the Scoping Report for the DBS projects to the Planning Inspectorate who then issued a Scoping Opinion in September 2022.

Following the conclusion of the Introductory Consultation in the Autumn, a number of updates to the project proposals were announced. You can view the updated project proposals in our Winter newsletter on our website, www.rwe.com/doggerbanksouth.

#### **Grid Connection**

National Grid ESO, the UK electrical system operator, completed a Holistic Network Design (HND) process with the aim of designing a future-proofed solution for the national grid which allows for planned offshore wind expansion in a way which is economical and efficient, and considers the impact on the environment and local communities.

The results of the HND process were published in July 2022 and identified that connections to the national grid would be made in the vicinity of a newly proposed national grid substation at the location known as Creyke Beck 1. The DBS substations will be located near to this new site.

#### **Next Steps**

As the DBS projects are classed as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs), we are required to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment. This will be included in our formal application for development consent to the Planning Inspectorate.

The zones and routes which remain under consideration will be further assessed within the Preliminary Environmental Impact Reports (PEIR) for the projects. The PEIR process identifies potentially significant adverse impacts resulting from the projects, allowing them to be avoided or minimised where possible, as well as identifying any potential beneficial environmental impacts. The report will present the findings of the surveys and assessments that we have completed along with the significance of the results. The purpose of PEIR is to provide early

information to allow stakeholders to develop an informed view of the impacts of the development.

We plan to publish the PEIR around Spring 2023 and, as part of the process, will hold our Statutory Consultation at this point. Like with the Introductory Consultation, there will be a number of ways to provide feedback on our proposals including through public exhibitions, an online consultation platform and webinars. Prior to the Statutory Consultation, we will publish our Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) which will detail how we will consult on the project proposals and the ways in which people can get involved.

Our formal application for development consent is planned to be submitted in 2024.

#### **DBS in Numbers**

**Two projects**make up Dogger Bank South
Offshore Wind Farms

Each site is

500 km² in size



DBS East and DBS West could generate enough renewable electricity to power up to

3.4 million UK households per year





The DBS sites were awarded as part of The Crown Estate's Offshore Wind

**Round 4** auction process



allows for up to

150 turbines
at each of the two sites





### **Contact Us**

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