

What is the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)?

Introduction

The DBS Statutory Consultation coincides with the publication of our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). We are seeking feedback from local communities and all other stakeholders on the findings of the environmental assessments presented in the PEIR.

The full PEIR will be available to view on our website, www.doggerbanksouth.co.uk throughout our Statutory Consultation period, and the information provided as part of the report will assist people in responding and giving their feedback. There are a number of signpost documents that can help guide readers through the PEIR which are described later in this leaflet.

What is the PEIR?

As the Dogger Bank South (DBS) Projects are in excess of 100MW, they are classed as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) and therefore, we are required to complete an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

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.

We have already spent almost two years developing the projects including offshore and onshore studies, collecting metocean data and a series of geophysical and environmental surveys. The data captured during these surveys has been used to inform the PEIR process. In July 2022, we submitted the Scoping Report for the DBS projects to the Planning Inspectorate. The Scoping Report describes the process we are undertaking to assess the potential impacts to the existing environment, both onshore and offshore. The Planning Inspectorate issued their Scoping Opinion in response to our Scoping Report in September 2022.

The PEIR presents the findings of our surveys and the assessments that have been carried out to assess the impacts of the projects and reports on the significance of the results. The purpose of the PEIR is to provide early environmental information to allow stakeholders to develop an informed view of the impacts resulting from DBS.

PEIR Structure

The PEIR is made up of three volumes:

- Volume 1: PEIR Chapters
- Volume 2: Figures
- Volume 3: Appendices

The PEIR is also accompanied by a Non-Technical Summary (NTS).

What is a PEIR Chapter?

A PEIR chapter presents the information that makes up the PEIR. There are 30 chapters in the PEIR for the DBS projects, which can be broadly separated into seven introductory chapters, ten offshore chapters, nine onshore chapters and four chapters covering wider scheme aspects. With the exception of the introductory chapters, these present the emerging findings of the impact assessment process for each EIA topic. For example, PEIR Chapter 24 Traffic and Transport presents the emerging findings of traffic assessments that have been undertaken and includes proposals for mitigation to avoid impacts or reduce them to acceptable levels.

All PEIR chapters are contained within Volume 1 of the PEIR and can be accessed on our website here: www.doggerbanksouth.co.uk

What are PEIR Figures?

Any figures such as maps, plans and images which are included within the PEIR chapters are contained within Volume 2: Figures. Volume 2 of the PEIR can be viewed on our website here: www.doggerbanksouth.co.uk

What are PEIR Appendices?

Each PEIR chapter may be accompanied by an Appendix or Technical Report which is summarised within the chapter. The appendices may contain maps, plans or images to support the information contained within the PEIR assessments, including baseline data.

Technical Reports and other appended information can be found in Volume 3: Appendices, which can be accessed on our website: www.doggerbanksouth.co.uk

Summary Documents

In addition to the PEIR, we have also produced a Non-Technical Summary (NTS) which includes a high-level summary of the PEIR chapters using non-technical language where possible. A Consultation Brochure has also been produced for the Statutory Consultation which helps guide you through the chapters and details how you can respond with your comments on the PEIR.

You can access both the NTS and the Consultation Brochure on our website, (www.doggerbanksouth.co.uk) or you can request a hard copy by contacting us using the details below. You are also able to view the NTS and Consultation Brochure at our Public Exhibition events or free of charge at one of our local access points (listed on our website).

How to provide feedback on the PEIR

As part of our Statutory Consultation, which runs from **6 June 2023 to 17 July 2023**, we are inviting feedback on our PEIR. The PEIR, along with all supporting documentation, can be viewed on our website throughout the consultation period. Electronic and hard copies of the NTS and Consultation Brochure can be requested using our contact details below but are also available to view at our Consultation Events and at a number of local access points (detailed on our website).

To give feedback, you can complete our Consultation Questionnaire directly on our website or you can request a hard copy be posted to you. Copies of the Consultation Questionnaire will also be available at our Consultation Events where members of the DBS team will be on hand to provide any further information or guide you through the feedback process.

How to contact us

Email: dbs@rwe.com

Phone: 0800 254 5459

Post: FREEPOST DBSOWF

