# Project Update – what has been done so far?

We have contacted landowners within the onshore scoping area for the Phase 1 Habitat Surveys. These surveys are non-intrusive and involve a team of ecologists walking across parts of the scoping area and mapping the types of habitats present (e.g. woodland, pond, arable land).

Through characterising the local environment, we hope to ensure that any cable is routed to have as minimal impact on the local ecology and landscape as reasonably possible. When designing the final routing, we will also look at feedback received from our community consultation events.

#### Offshore update

Over the summer and autumn, a number of vessels have been conducting geophysical surveys to help characterise the seabed conditions of the offshore array area (the area within which we propose to install the turbines and substations), as well as the proposed electrical export cable (the area within which electricity from the wind farm will be transmitted from the wind farm to the national grid).

We are also in the process of collecting high-resolution aerial data on the distribution of bird and marine mammal species in the offshore array



area. These surveys commenced in March 2016 and are being conducted by our dedicated aerial survey partners, HiDef. Once all of the data has been collected, our geophysicists and environmental specialists will be able to build a better understanding of the seabed and wider environment, which will allow us to identify any areas of special consideration (e.g. shipwrecks and habitats of conservation interest) and to establish whether our proposed array site can accommodate an offshore wind farm.

## Bempton Cliffs Drone Trial

We have funded a successful trial for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), which involved utilising a high specification drone to count cliff-nesting seabirds at a reserve on the Yorkshire coast.

The trial took place at Bempton Cliffs, part of an internationally important site, which attracts over 250,000 birds annually, providing a breeding ground for many of them The data collected will help us in our proposed development of Hornsea Project Three. The birds showed minimal interest in the drone, which produced photos detailed enough to distinguish between guillemots and razorbills, two species of auk that look very similar when observed from a distance.



# Community Consultation Events

We will be holding our first round of community consultation events in late October / early November at various locations in Local Authorities across the Consultation Zone, following the publication of our Scoping Report.

These events are an opportunity for members of the local community and interested parties to come and meet the Project Team face-to-face and learn more about our Project. At these events, you will be able to have your say, voice any queries or concerns you may have, and fill out a feedback form (the results of which we will include in our Consultation Summary Report, which will be available on our website and attendees will be notified via email).

Wheelchair friendly: All of our events have wheelchair access. If you require any special arrangements please contact us ahead of the event and we will try to accommodate these.

Family friendly: Children are welcome to attend our events, and there will be craft materials available for them to use during their visit.

Unable to attend? If you are unable to attend one of our events in person, you will be able to access all of the event materials online and request a feedback form.

Feedback deadline: Each consultation phase will last a minimum of 28 days, and we ask that you submit any feedback forms relating to Phase One Consultation by 5pm on Monday 28th November 2016.

We would love for you to come and meet with us at one of the events listed below:

Monday 31st October 2016 3pm – 7pm Sheringham Community Centre, Holway Road, Sheringham, NR26 8NP

Wednesday 2nd November 2016 3pm – 7pm Aylsham Town Council, Town Hall, Market Place, Aylsham, Norfolk, NR11 6EL

Thursday 3rd November 2016 **3pm – 7pm** The Green Britain Centre, Turbine Way, Swaffham, PE37 7HT

Monday 7th November 2016 3pm – 7pm Great Yarmouth Town Hall, Hall Plain, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2OF

Tuesday 8th November 2016 2pm – 5:30pm Harford Community Centre, Harford Park, Peterkin Road, Norwich, NR4 6LQ

Wednesday 9th November 2016 2pm – 6:30pm Blackfriars' Hall, St Andrews St, Norwich, NR3 1AU

# What do you think?

We want to hear your thoughts on our proposal. There are a number of ways you can get in touch with us, both during the pre-application consultation period and beyond, to let us know your views.



Attend one of our events.



Visit our website: www.dongenergy.co.uk/hornseaproject3



Send us an email: contact@hornsea-project-three.co.uk



Call our Freephone information line: 0800 0288 466



Send us a letter:

Hornsea Project Three Offshore Wind Farm. c/o Emily Woolfenden, DONG Energy Power (UK) Ltd, 5 Howick Place, Victoria, London, SW1P 1WG

# Council Offices where the SoCC is displayed

- North Norfolk District Council Council Offices, Holt Road, Cromer, Norfolk, NR27 9EN Monday, Tuesday and Thursday: 8:30am-5pm, Wednesday: 10am-5pm Friday: 8:30am-4:30pm
- Broadland District Council 1 Yarmouth Road, Thorpe St Andrew, Norwich, NR7 0DU Monday-Friday: 8:30am-5pm
- South Norfolk District Council South Norfolk House, Cygnet Court, Long Stratton, Norwich, NR15 2XE Monday-Friday: 8:15am-5pm
- Broads Authority Yare House, 62-64 Thorpe Road, Norwich, NR1 1RY Monday-Friday: 9am-5pm
- Breckland District Council Elizabeth House, Walpole Loke, Dereham, NR19 1EE Monday-Thursday: 8am-6pm
- Great Yarmouth Borough Council Town Hall, Hall Plain, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2QF Monday-Friday: 9am-5pm
- Norwich City Council City Hall, St Peters Street, Norwich, NR2 1NH Aonday-Friday: 8am-5pm, Customer Centre: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 8:45am-5pm, Wednesday: 1pm-5pm
- Norfolk County Council County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, Norfolk, NR1 2DH Monday-Friday: 9am-5pm

Note: There will also be copies of the full DCO application available at some of the council offices listed above when this is submitted in 2018.

Should you require this document in large print, audio or Braille then please call **0800 111 4478** 

All graphics and maps in this document are for illustrative purposes only. Dates and figures are based on available information and are subject to change.





# Introduction

Welcome to the first DONG Energy community newsletter for Hornsea Project Three, a new offshore wind farm we are proposing to build in the North Sea, over 120km off the North Norfolk coast.

The purpose of these community newsletters is to ensure that anyone who has an active interest in our proposal is kept informed throughout the consultation period. Each newsletter will contain the latest information on the Project, including our recent activities and details about opportunities for you to have your say.

These newsletters will be available on our website, at your local council office or at our Community Access Points (CAP sites) located across the Consultation Zone (see page 3). To sign up to receive our newsletters, please visit our website where you can 'register your interest' in the Project or contact us directly (details are provided at the end of this newsletter).

### Who is DONG Energy?

DONG Energy is the global leader in the development, construction and operation of offshore wind farms. The UK is our largest market and we currently have eight operational offshore wind farms and a further four under construction. We also invest in the exploration of oil and gas, sell flexible solutions to our gas and electricity commercial and industrial customers, and are investing in new technologies that convert household waste into energy.

### What is Hornsea Project Three?

In August 2015, DONG Energy acquired the rights to develop the remainder of the Hornsea Zone by acquiring SMartWind Ltd, who were originally awarded the zone in The Crown Estate Round Three bid process. Hornsea Project One and Hornsea Project Two have both received planning consent and we are now exploring the potential to develop a third offshore wind farm in the zone, Hornsea Project Three (to the east) as shown in the map on page 4.



If built out to full capacity, Hornsea Project Three could be the world's largest offshore wind farm, capable of powering well over





Hornsea Project Three is currently investigating a Project area of 696km<sup>2</sup>, which is over

17 times the size of Norwich.

 $^{\scriptscriptstyle 1}$  This figure assumes a load factor of 42% and a household consumption of 4.1MWh per year. Source: DECC (July 2015).

# The Planning Process

As the proposed generating capacity of Hornsea Project Three exceeds 100 megawatts (MW), the Project is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), and must apply for a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008 (the Act).

Hornsea Project Three is currently in the pre-application phase for our DCO, with a consent application expected to be submitted in 2018. If the application is accepted, The Planning Inspectorate (PINS) will then coordinate the examination of our application with an independent Examining Authority panel, who will in turn make a recommendation to the Secretary of State (SoS) for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. If successful, construction of Hornsea Project Three is anticipated to take place between 2022 and 2025. The pre-application consultation process for Hornsea Project Three has been summarised in Figure 2 on page 4. Further details on our plans for community consultation can be found within our Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).

# Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)

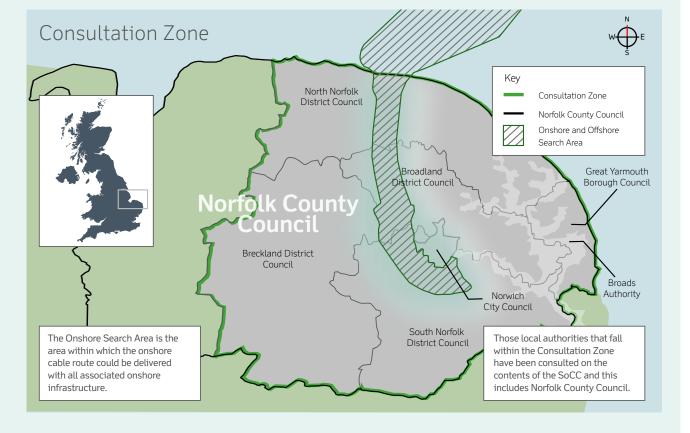
In accordance with Section 47 of the Act, we have published a SoCC for Hornsea Project Three. This document describes how we plan to consult with you on our proposed Project. It explains how you can engage in the consultation process, including the opportunities for you to hear more about the Project, meet with members of the Project Team and provide your comments.

To ensure that our approach to community consultation was fit for your area, we have consulted with your Local Authorities (see Consultation Zone map). Further details on the process and a summary of all the responses will be available in our final Consultation Report, which will be submitted alongside our DCO application in 2018.

This SoCC has been advertised in local newspapers in the Norfolk County area in accordance with Section 47(6) of the Act and on social media (#hornseaproject3). You can also find copies of the SoCC at the following locations:

- On our website (www.dongenergy.co.uk/hornseaproject3)
- At various CAP sites located across the Consultation Zone, details of which can be found in our Consultation Process report (which will be available on our website shortly)
- At any of the Council offices listed in the table overleaf

You can also email or phone us using the contact details at the end of this newsletter to request your copy of the SoCC.



# 1: Pre-application

2: Acceptance

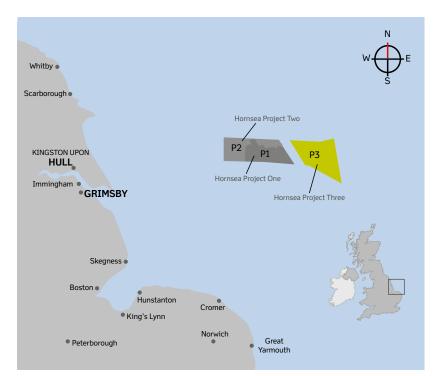
: Pre-examination

l: Examination

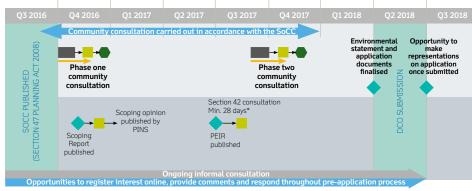
Recommendation & Decision

6: Post-Decision

## Where is Hornsea Project Three?



#### Consultation Timeline



#### Note: Regular newsletters and key documents will be available throughout the consultation process



Figure 2: Diagram illustrating the consultation process for Hornsea Project Three.

2 3