

Fisheries Update 4

Examination of Dogger Bank projects update

The six-month examination phase for Dogger Bank Teesside A&B started in August, at the same time the examination process for Dogger Bank Creyke Beck was coming to a close.

The Dogger Bank Teesside A&B examination is now more than half-way through, with hearings now complete. They were held in Redcar, Teesside in October and November, with the final series held in early December.

The examination started in August with a preliminary meeting held by the Planning Inspectorate, which focussed on the procedures involved in the examination of the application for the 2.4GW offshore wind energy project.

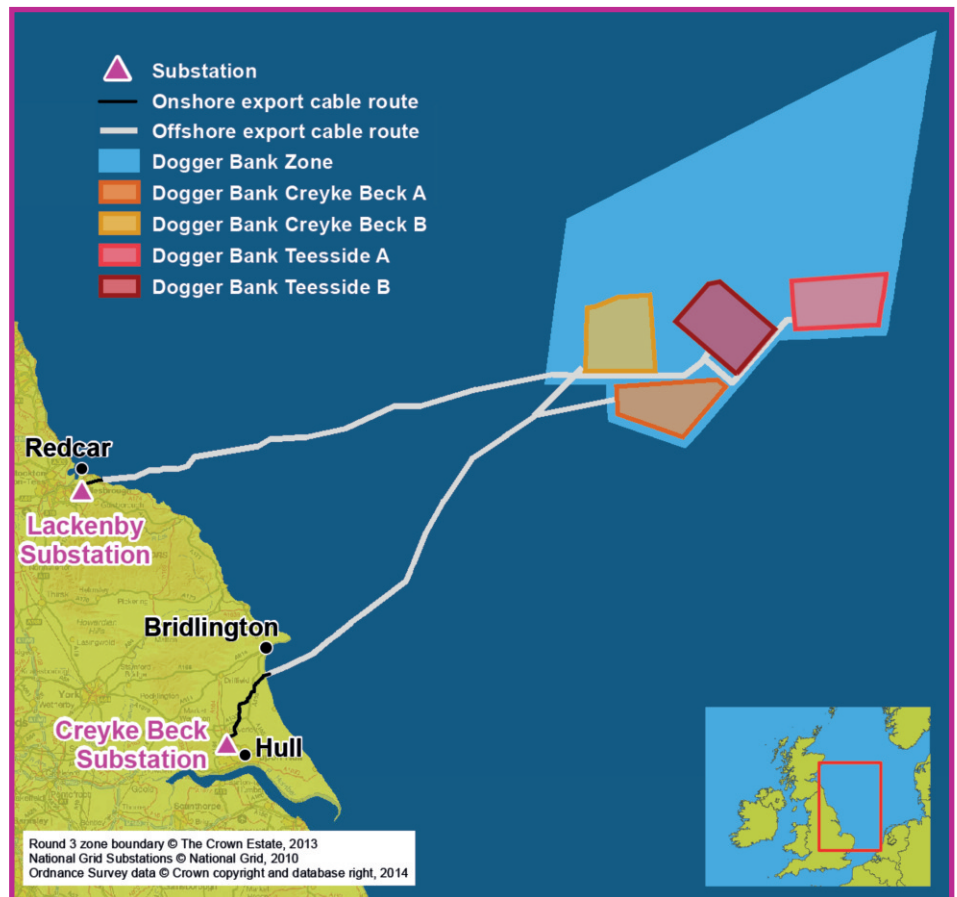
Consent manager for the development, Andy Guyton said that this is designed to be an open and iterative process to ensure that everyone who would like to be involved or have their say, has the opportunity to do so.

"Fishermen and others in the industry interested in the progress of the examination of Dogger Bank Teesside A&B, or with questions about the application, can continue to get in touch with our fisheries liaison contacts," he said. "They can also regularly check the National Infrastructure Planning Portal as well as the Forewind website to ensure they are up to date with the latest information and any specific news."

The examination phase is due to end on 4 February 2015. This is just before the decision is expected from the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change on the Dogger Bank Creyke Beck development consent order application.

Dogger Bank Creyke Beck

The examination of the 2.4GW Dogger Bank



Forewind currently has wind energy proposals totalling 4.8GW with the Planning Inspectorate.

Creyke Beck application ended on 18 August this year, and involved more than 30 stakeholder groups and individuals with an interest in the proposals. A total of more than 500 documents were submitted as part of the process.

Dogger Bank Creyke Beck consent manager Melissa Read said it was an open and thorough process with full involvement of stakeholders and interested parties.

"Forewind worked hard to agree nearly 100 statements of common ground with key stakeholders, including numerous fisheries organisations," she said.

The examiners have prepared a recommendation for the Secretary of State, who will now consider the consenting decision.

Issue highlights

This is the fourth edition of Fisheries Update – Forewind's newsletter for the commercial fishing industry. It is produced to coincide with milestone dates in the Dogger Bank development and consenting calendar.

If you would like to receive copies electronically please email your request and contact details to info@forewind.co.uk.



Dogger Bank Teesside A&B comprises two up to 1.2GW wind farms subject to a single development consent order application. Together the two wind farms have the potential to generate around 8 Terawatt hours (TWh) of green power every year, which is equivalent to the electricity used annually by approximately 1.8 million British homes. It could also create up to 4750 new direct and indirect jobs and generate more than £1.5 billion for the UK economy.

Fisheries Liaison Plan for Dogger Bank Teesside A&B complete

As part of the Dogger Bank Teesside A&B development process, Forewind has produced a detailed draft Fisheries Liaison Plan outlining the approach to ongoing liaison and consultation with the fishing industry.

The plan built on the previously published Zonal Fisheries Liaison Plan, which was developed in relation to the whole Dogger Bank Zone.

The more tailored plan, now submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, has been drafted with the support of the current Fisheries Liaison Officers who have worked with Forewind throughout the consultation process.

Forewind's Offshore Environmental Impact Assessment Manager, Martin Goff said that central to the plan is Forewind's position that the fishing industry and the Dogger Bank Teesside A&B offshore wind farm development can co-exist peacefully.

"For example, Forewind believes fishing activity can continue within the wind farm areas in the long term, with restrictions only related to applying standard safety

zones during construction and operational safety zones around manned platforms," he said.

"The most sustainable approach to co-existence is to avoid and reduce impacts."

A successful co-existence strategy will require open and continuous communication between the project operators and the fishing industry and a dedicated document will be drafted in consultation with the relevant statutory bodies and fisheries stakeholders once the final construction design has been developed.

The Fisheries Liaison Plan covers not only Forewind's approach to coexistence, it also covers its strategy to ensure effective and meaningful consultation, including its objectives for transparent stakeholder engagement.

"In reaching this stage of development for Dogger Bank Teesside A&B, Forewind has actively engaged all relevant stakeholders and future liaison will continue on the principles of pro-active communication, transparent and open consultation, and

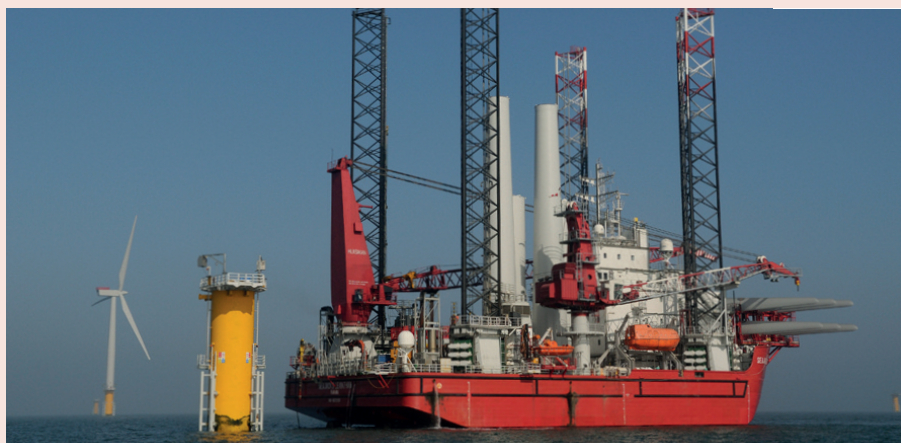


The Dogger Bank Teesside A&B Fisheries Liaison Plan (draft) can be downloaded from the Forewind website.

with recognition of others' interests and points of view," he said.

The various necessary roles are defined and also a mitigation process for commercial fisheries with residual significant impacts.

The draft Dogger Bank Teesside A&B Fisheries Liaison Plan is now available for download from the Forewind website.



Deemed Marine Licences integral to consent

The Dogger Bank Teesside A&B Fisheries Liaison Plan will be secured through the Deemed Marine Licences, which are an integral part of the development consent order. These licences will include, for example, the conditions to be met during pre-construction, construction and operation and maintenance phases.

Deemed Marine Licences include conditions to be met during construction.

Questions from the examination

As part of the Dogger Bank Teesside A&B examination interested parties, including fisheries groups, were invited to make relevant representations with comments and questions on the proposals.

A number of written questions were received and Forewind submitted answers, which can be found on the Planning Inspectorate portal. Two key fisheries industry concerns have been summarised here.

How will Forewind develop suitable mitigation measures and compensatory policies to address impact on earnings and costs associated with any long-term loss of access to fishing grounds or temporary relocation of static gear?

Firstly, where potential impacts have been defined as major or moderate, options will be explored to reduce or mitigate the impacts where practicable. For all fisheries receptors and for all phases of development, only seine net fishermen are likely to experience significant impact, due to displacement from their traditional fishing grounds.

Limited access to data, which is largely due to data protection constraints, has meant Forewind could only take a standard approach to assess the impacts at fishing fleet level. Impacts on certain individual vessels may differ considerably from those found at fleet level, and so may warrant further assessment.

Due to the nature of the Rochdale envelope approach – which allows a broad project description within a number of agreed parameters for the purposes of a consent application – and uncertainty around project construction timeframes, it is not possible to fully define potential mitigation or compensatory policies at this stage. Forewind will continue to actively engage with fishermen though the extent of the impact to their vessels cannot be known until the project design is complete. Mitigation options will be discussed in detail at that time.

As for temporary relocation compensation, Forewind intends to follow the Fisheries Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables best practice guidelines. The organisation has been actively involved in the development of its guidance on 'Recommendations for Fisheries disruption settlements and displacement'.



The specific impacts on fishermen will be better defined once the project design is complete.

What are the effects on commercial fish stocks of rock armour protection, heat generation and electrical and magnetic fields from cables?

Forewind has been in consultation with fisheries and statutory stakeholders about these issues and evaluated a number of studies.

Two sections about the impacts on fish and shellfish ecology from rock armour as cable protection can be found in the Fish and Shellfish Ecology section of the Environmental Statement. The impacts do not exceed minor adverse for the offshore project areas and negligible for the export cables.

With regards to the effect of heat generated by cables on fish and shellfish ecology, a further section in the same chapter concludes that there will be no significant impacts.

Forewind employed a precautionary approach to assess both the heat impacts and electric and magnetic fields (EMF) – invisible sources of energy associated with the use of electrical power and present everywhere in our environment. The work focused on the most sensitive species, elasmobranchs (cartilaginous fish) and concluded there would be no significant impacts. It is reasonable to assume that less sensitive species, such as gadoids (bony fish) would also not be significantly affected.

In line with the National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3 paragraph 2.6.75), the Dogger Bank wind farms will use armoured cables, buried wherever feasible, or remedial cable protection where burial is not feasible. This approach aims to ensure that residual effects of EMF on sensitive species during operation would not be significant. Likewise, once installed, operational EMF impacts are not likely to have the range or strength to create a barrier to fish movement.

There are a large number of subsea cables around the UK and there is no current evidence of negative impacts as a result of EMF.

Additional questions?

If individuals or groups have additional questions not covered by the examination, or subsequent to the end of the process, they can contact Martin Goff directly via email:
martin.goff@forewind.co.uk.

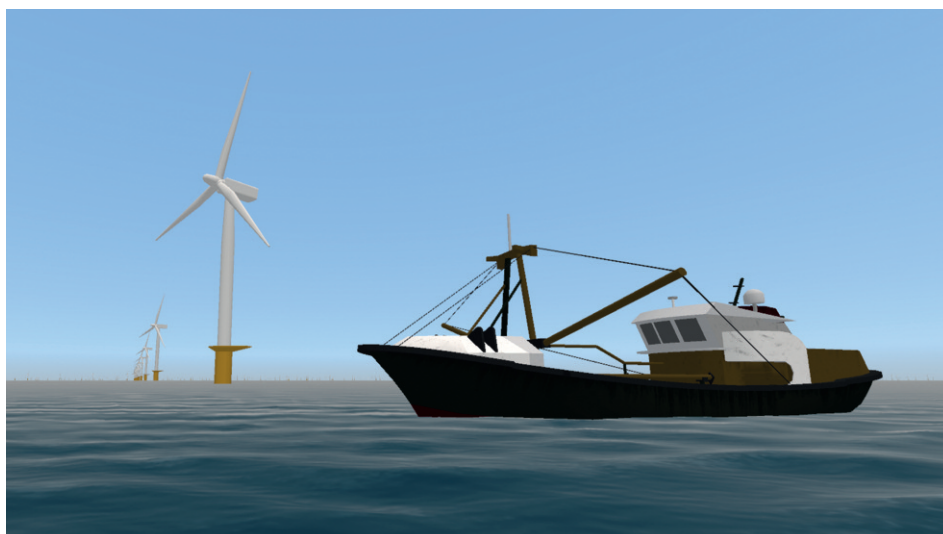
Questions can be answered directly however if there is an issue of potential wider interest, it may be published in the next edition of Fisheries Update.

3D simulation now available to download

Forewind's 3D computer generated simulation of the proposed Dogger Bank offshore development can now be downloaded from the Forewind website.

The model, which was developed to enable fishermen and offshore authorities to better understand and visualise how the development will look once constructed, can be explored via the computer keyboard and mouse. It is also envisaged that it could be a useful learning tool for schools and other educational institutions.

Users can choose wind turbine size and layout, the type of foundations used and other infrastructure as they navigate the programme. They can also control whether it



The 3D computer simulation enables a better understanding of the size and scale of the proposed wind farms.

is night or day, and what sea or weather conditions they may encounter such as fog, haze and rough waves.

Those wishing to download a copy of the model should email info@forewind.co.uk to

request a username and password. They can then visit the Downloads section of www.forewind.co.uk to install the 2GB .exe file and find instructions and a user guide.

Handover to the Dogger Bank operators

Forewind's remit has been to achieve the development consent orders for the Dogger Bank projects, with operators taking over for the pre-construction and construction phases, prior to operation and maintenance.

The selection process for the operators of each Dogger Bank project has not yet concluded, however it is expected the operators for the two Dogger Bank Creyke Beck projects will be known early in 2015.

Maintaining good working relationships with the fisheries industry will be a priority for the operators and Forewind will facilitate a smooth handover to ensure a positive continuation.

At least two series of fisheries workshops are likely to be held as part of this handover.

The first would be in the Spring 2015 to personally introduce the fisheries contacts

from the Dogger Bank Creyke Beck operators and ensure mutual understanding of the fishing related requirements in the development consent order and conditions within the Statements of Common Ground.

A second series of workshops is expected later for the Dogger Bank Teesside A&B projects, with the timing to be confirmed.

In addition to these series of workshops, Forewind will publish at least two more editions of Fisheries Update during 2015, to coincide with relevant milestones.

As of January 2016, the operators will take over full responsibility for fisheries liaison and the aim will be to ensure that communications are co-ordinated and engagement is managed efficiently.

Until that time, the fisheries liaison contacts named opposite will remain as the focal point for any relevant enquiries or concerns.

Fisheries contacts

Any queries about Forewind's activity can be directed to:

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