Dogger Bank Creyke Beck Converter Station Working Group

8 March 2012



Chair's welcome



- Housekeeping
- Introductions
- Purpose of the group
- Terms of reference

Agenda



- Introduction to Forewind and the Dogger Bank Wind Farm
- What is a converter station?
- The site selection process so far
- Group exercise on siting the converter station
- Question and answer session
- Chair's closing remarks

Introduction to Forewind and the Dogger Bank Wind Farm

Lee Clarke – General Manager

8 March 2012





Forewind – Who Are We?

• A consortium of four major energy companies













Key Forewind Contacts

- Lee Clarke General Manager
- Mark Baxter Onshore Project Manager
- Amy Clark Onshore Environmental Impact Assessment Co-ordinator
- John Hughes Electrical Engineer
- Nikki Smith Stakeholder Manager



About Forewind

 Forewind's mission is to deliver development consents for safe, viable offshore wind capacity.



Forewind is developing Zone 3, one of the development concessions offered by The Crown Estate as part of its Round 3 Offshore Wind programme.



Dogger Bank Key Facts

- Capacity: Agreed target 9 GW, with the potential for approximately 13 GW.
- Area: 8,660km² (3,350 sq. miles); equivalent to size of North Yorkshire.
- Distance: 125-290 km (80-180 miles) from shore.
- Depth: 18-63 m (60-210 ft); c.4 GW in <30m water depth, c.8 GW in <35m water depth; shallow compared with other zones.
- Wind: High wind speeds of >10 m/s average wind speed across the zone.
- History: A "dogger" was a type of Dutch fishing boat that commonly worked in the North Sea in the seventeenth century.





Grid Connections

- Electricity generated at Dogger Bank must connect into the UK's national electricity transmission network – the National Grid
- 2000 MW of grid connection agreements with National Grid at Creyke Beck Substation
 - 500MW in 2016
 - 500MW in 2017
 - 500MW in 2019
 - 500MW in 2020

Connection point		Connection date
P1 – Creyke Beck	Yorkshire	Apr 2016
P2 – Lackenby	Teesside	Apr 2017
P3 – Lackenby	Teesside	Apr 2018
P4 – Creyke Beck	Yorkshire	Apr 2019
P5 – Tod Point	Teesside	Apr 2019
P6 – Tod Point	Teesside	Apr 2020



Forewind has secured grid connection points for 6 GW of capacity.

Consenting



- Projects of this scale are Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIP)
- Require an environmental impact assessment (EIA)
- Development Consent Order (DCO) applications and the environmental statements (ES) prepared by Forewind
- Examined by a new national infrastructure directorate of the Planning Inspectorate <u>http://infrastructure.independent.gov.uk/who-we-are/national-infrastructure-planning-transfer/</u>
- Determined by the Secretary of State, not the Local Planning Authority
- The Local Planning Authority is invited to submit a Local Impact Report

Consultation



- Stakeholder consultation is a key element of the <u>pre-application</u> process
- Phase 1 of statutory consultation was from 5 Dec 2011 20 Jan 2012
- Phase 2 will be in Autumn 2012
- In between statutory consultation periods, Forewind consult certain stakeholders on specific issues e.g. siting the converter station
- All consultation will be documented in the Consultation Report





Programme



- Oct 2010 Scoping report submitted
- Winter 2010-11 Preliminary site selection work
- Spring Summer 2011 Onshore and offshore surveys
- Dec 2011 Jan 2012 Phase 1 of statutory consultation
- Spring Summer 2012 Further surveys, EIA, non-statutory consultation
- Autumn 2012 Phase 2 of statutory consultation
- Winter 2012/13 Submit DCO application
- Summer 2013 Consent decision
- 2013 2014 Pre-construction period
- 2015 Construction begins





What is a Converter Station Why Do We Need One?

John Hughes – Electrical Engineer 8 March 2012



Windfarm Power Transmission







Why HVDC?



- The reasons for selecting HVDC instead of AC for a specific project are often numerous and complex. The most common arguments in its favour are:
- 1. Long distances to transmit electricity
- 2. Lower losses
- 3. Lower investment cost
- 4. Asynchronous interconnections
- 5. Controllability
- 6. Limited short-circuit currents
- 7. Environment.

Example 1 SIEMENS Trans Bay HVDC Station (USA)





Valve Hall is High-Tech





Indoor Filter Equipment





Example 2 ABB Estlink HVDC Station (E. Europe)





Example 3 ABB Shoreham HVDC Station (USA)





Example 4 SIEMENS Murraylink Victoria (South Australia) FOREWIND



Example 5 ABB Zambezi HVDC Station (Africa)





Example 5 ABB Zambezi HVDC Station - Aerial View





Example 6 ABB The Harku HVDC Station (Estonia)





Example 7 SIEMENS Thailand-Malaysia HVDC InterconnectorFOREWIND



Example 8 SIEMENS HVDC Station in Germany





Example 9 SIEMENS Sayreville HVDC Station (USA)





Example 10 SIEMENS HVDC Station in India





ABB East-West Interconnector Film



• This film shows a typical high voltage direct current (HVDC) link

www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZWY4OczIH9s

The Converter Station Site Selection Process

Mark Baxter – Onshore Project Manager 8 March 2012



Overview



- Study area identification
- Development considerations
- Potential sites Sectors A,B,C and D
- Identification of preferred sector
- Questions?



Scoping Envelope



Onshore Scoping Envelope Showing Indicative Cable Corridors





Proposed Onshore Cable Corridor and Converter Station Study Area





Converter Station Study Area Identification



FOREWINL



Examples of Consultation Responses

- Access from the A1079 preferred to Park Lane
- One site preferred to split sites
- Shorter buildings preferred
- Employment opportunities
- Flood risk assessment required
- View/setting of Beverley Minster, Old Hall and White Hall, Conservation Areas (Cottingham, Walkington, Skidby, Beverley)
- Use site to north of A1079 to utilise existing tree screening, minimise impact on PRoW and farms
- Screen buildings via tree planting
- Use site south of A1079



Converter Station Study Area Sectors

• The Study Area was split into four sectors to enable a detailed assessment and comparison of each area



Sector Level Development Considerations

- FOREWIND
- Environment (flood risk, ecology, archaeology, landscape, hydrogeology)
- Engineering (site efficiency, access)
- Community/Property (Residential properties, sensitive land uses, agricultural land)
- Planning (other development in the area)

Infrastructure



Drn. By Ckd. E MCG JPE

BNG



Access





Ecology





Archaeology

Flood Risk

FOREWIND

Ground Water Source Protection Zones

Landscape Designations

- Yorkshire Wolds Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV)
- Open Area of Local Importance policy E3

Key Visual Considerations – All Sectors

FOREWIND

- Views from Beverley and Cottingham
- Views from scattered farms and properties
- Visual setting of Beverley Minster (views to/from)
- Screening by built structures, road embankment and existing vegetation - effectiveness and seasonality
- Lighting of the Converter
- Potential for screening of and by existing substation infrastructure
- Potential for effective mitigation new mounding and planting
- Cumulative issues relating to existing infrastructure

Other Planning - Beverley Relief Road

Sectors Overview of All Constraints

Dark purple circle indicate a 200m sound buffer from residential properties (relevant if the two 1GW converter stations are separated)

Light purple circles indicate a 300m sound buffer from residential properties (relevant if the two 1GW converter stations are colocated)

Sector A: Key considerations

- Existing woodland, with treebelt and hedgerow planting to be effective in helping to screen localised views
- Outside the locally designated Yorkshire Wolds AHLV
- Outside of floodplain and in outer SPZ
- Construction access via A1079 and possible operational access via Long Lane
- Multiple options for co-locating 2GW
- Presence of regionally important archaeological finds
- Nearby properties

Sector B: Key Considerations

- Opportunity to set converter against mounded road corridor – partial screen
- Closer to existing infrastructure
- In areas of flood risk and inner SPZ
- More diverse habitats in associated with countryside stewardship schemes
- Potential access for construction off the A1079
- Presence of regionally archaeological finds
- Nearby properties

Sector C: Key considerations

- AHLV but existing infrastructure present to east
- Scope for reducing visual impacts through massing with existing Creyke Beck substation is limited
- Very open new planting would be needed – take time to become effective
- Within inner SPZ and areas of flood risk
- Less options for co-locating 2GW
- Proximity to properties

Sector D: Key considerations

- Areas of flood risk and inner SPZ, proximity to YW adits system
- Scope for reducing visual impact of the existing substation in views from the east
- Offers greatest scope for massing and visually linking the converter station/s with existing substation
- Limited options to co-locate converter stations
- Areas of potentially contaminated land

Preferred Sector – Sector A

 Microsite 2 x 1GW Converter Stations within Sector A

Micrositing Break-Out Session

Mark Baxter – Onshore Project Manager 8 March 2012

Comparison with Statutory Authority Workshop

Mark Baxter – Onshore Project Manager

8 March 2012

Statutory Bodies Workshop

- On the 26 January a workshop was held with Statutory Consultees
- Attendees present were from:
 - East Riding of Yorkshire Council Environmental Health, Senior Planning Officer, Major Projects Team, Landscape and Visual
 - Environment Agency Groundwater, Flood Risk, and Planning Liaison
- Natural England, English Heritage declined attendance and wanted to be involved once the Converter Stations had been micro-sited
- Yorkshire Water was unavailable but have been involved in the process, has seen the recommendation of Sector A and supports our selection process.

Outcome of Statutory Workshop

Next Steps

- Recommendations from the Statutory Workshop and the Community Working Group will be considered in the micro-siting process.
- Review the development considerations in relation to micro-siting, including:
 - Construction and Operational Noise,
 - Construction and Operational Access,
 - Drainage, and
 - Landscape and Visual Impact.
- Discussions with Landowners on preferred sector and micro-siting
- Forewind decision on micro-siting by 31 March 2012
- Proposed AC Cable Corridor from Converter Station to Creyke Beck Substation fixed for environmental impact assessment by April 2012
- Environmental Impact Assessment from April 2012 August 2012
- Consultation on draft Environmental Statement Autumn 2012

Question and Answer Session

- Questions taken through the Chair
- Forewind will take away any questions that cannot be answered today and will respond through the minutes or at a future working group meeting

Chair's Closing Remarks

- Responsibility of attendees to liaise with those they represent
- Minutes of the meeting
- Who to contact between meetings
- Media
- Agreement on next meeting date

Thank you

