

Offshore Coordination project

Consultation feedback form

We launched our consultation on **30 September 2020** and it closes on the **28 October 2020**.

Please use this form to send in your written feedback. If you would like to feedback via this route. We are also working with stakeholders to receive verbal feedback. Please contact us if you would prefer to provide feedback verbally.

We would like to publish responses to our consultation following its closure. Please can you confirm whether you would like us to treat your response confidentially by selecting one of the options below: (delete those that do not apply)

- ~~Confidential – please do not share the feedback or company~~
- ~~Confidential – you can publish the feedback without our name or sector included~~
- ~~Confidential – you can publish the feedback without our name but you are welcome to identify which sector we come from~~
- **Non-confidential – you can publish the full response**

Throughout the consultation document we have asked some questions on our three reports that we would like your feedback on to shape our final documentation. These are below and do not need answering if you do not have views. If you would like to provide any other feedback, please feel free to do so.

Holistic Approach to Offshore Transmission Planning Report

Q1. Do you agree with our assessment of the key technology and system risk barriers coming from the Holistic Approach to Offshore Transmission Planning Report?

Yes

Q2. Do you have any proposals on how to most effectively bring the technology to market for when needed?

Q3. Do you have any additional evidence to inform the assessment we have made?

Q4. Do you have any further feedback on the report?

It is important that these changes are made sooner rather than later, not only to secure supply and reduce long-term costs, but to ensure that the cumulative harms to the environment, society and communities of successive landing points, onshore cable corridors and substations and extensions are largely avoided.

Cost-benefit Analysis Report

Q1. Do you agree with our assessment of the costs and benefits?

Q2. Do you have any other evidence to support or challenge the assessment made?

Q3. What do you see as the potential impact on the environment of these proposals, particularly the reduction in the number of assets and landing points?

An essential long-term solution to the problem of unnecessary harm being done to landscapes and the environment, as well as the costly, lengthy and frequent disruptions to local residents and visitors is the construction of an Offshore Ring Main (ORM) or

alternative offshore grid connection system. This would enable multiple connections from offshore wind farms to be made offshore, with only one cable corridor being necessary from each ORM or other offshore grid connection system to the National Grid. This would result in much lower environmental and social impacts across the many miles of landscape the cable-corridors transverse, with separate works being needed for each offshore windfarm as it connects to the National Grid onshore. Despite needing considerable investment, a change in the current system of permissions for connecting offshore wind farms to the National Grid and time to put into operation, an ORM would reduce connection costs in the long-term as well as making connections quicker and easier, as the report demonstrates.

Q4. Do you have any further evidence on the potential social and community impacts of these proposals? We would particularly welcome responses from local authorities on this question.

In North Norfolk, Breckland and Broadland LPAs some 30 Parish and Town Councils support Oulton Parish Council in their campaign for an Offshore Ring Main connecting all offshore wind farms to the grid, off the coast of East Anglia. CPRE Norfolk also supports this campaign or for an alternative offshore grid connection system. This wide-ranging support helps to demonstrate the harmful social and community impacts that the current system brings, through having a separate onshore cable-corridor for each offshore installation.

Q5. Where do you see value for further work to build on and test these findings? Either from the proposed list or beyond?

Offshore Connections Review Report

Q1. Do you think that if the areas we are highlighting were improved, that the ability to coordinate projects would be significantly increased?

Q2. Do you think we have missed anything in our offshore connections review that would add value and increase coordination?

Do you have any other feedback, if so please add below. Many thanks for taking the time to provide written feedback. When we publish our final documentation, we will let you know what we have done with the feedback and how it has shaped our work.

CPRE Norfolk

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(Planning Campaigns Consultant)