

DOGGER BANK WIND FARM



DEME Offshore signs contract for largest ever inter-array cable order with Dogger Bank Wind Farm

20 August 2020: Dogger Bank Wind Farm has signed the contract with DEME Offshore for the largest ever inter-array cable order which, subject to the project reaching Financial Close, will be installed at Dogger Bank A and Dogger Bank B.

The far-reaching scope of this ground-breaking contract includes the engineering, procurement, construction and installation (EPCI) of the subsea cables for the combined first two phases of the offshore wind farm. In total DEME Offshore will supply, install and protect 650km of 66kV inter-array cables and all related accessories.

The 3.6GW Dogger Bank Wind Farm is located more than 130km off the Yorkshire coast in the North Sea and is currently being developed in three 1.2GW phases by joint venture partners SSE Renewables and Equinor. Dogger Bank will be the world's largest offshore wind farm when complete and will generate enough energy to power over 4.5 million homes every year – around 5% of the UK's electricity needs.

Production of the cable will start in 2021 and will be installed using DEME's cable installation vessel 'Living Stone', which has a cable capacity of more than 10,000 tonnes. The vessel has a unique dual-lane system, consisting of two cable highways – one for laying the cable and one where the next cable can be simultaneously prepared and have the cable protection system (CPS) installed. This significantly reduces the time needed for preparing the cables, minimises manual handling, increases the vessel's workability and ultimately, improves production rates.

DEME Offshore will work closely with SSE Renewables and Equinor to engage with the UK supply chain in the delivery of the project.

Steve Wilson, Dogger Bank Wind Farm's Project Director at SSE Renewables, said: *"We are delighted to welcome DEME Offshore to the Dogger Bank project to undertake the manufacturing and installation of the 66kV inter-array cables for Dogger Bank phases A and B in what is the largest inter-array cable order of its type. DEME, using its state of the art 'Living Stone' vessel, has a proven track record in delivering large inter-array cable scopes, and this experience and capability will be essential to successfully install the 650km of cable required for Dogger Bank A and B."*

Halfdan Brustad, Vice President for Dogger Bank at Equinor said: *"Dogger Bank Wind Farm is pioneering new technology, and at the forefront of scaling up significant energy infrastructure. This contract, for the largest ever order for inter array cables, demonstrates the sheer scale of this project: when complete it will be able to generate around 5% of the UK's electricity needs with power from the wind. The dual lane system on the Living Stone means we can reduce the time needed to install the cables, which for a project of this size greatly helps to reduce costs."*

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Bart De Poorter, General Manager DEME Offshore, commented: *“We are very proud to have been awarded this exceptional project, which represents the largest ever inter-array cable contract in the world to date. The renowned cable-laying capabilities and stellar reputation of ‘Living Stone’ were key factors in securing this important contract.”*

Dogger Bank Wind Farm’s three projects, Dogger Bank A, Dogger Bank B and Dogger Bank C, secured 3.6 GW of offshore wind contracts in the UK Government’s 2019 contracts for difference auctions.

SSE Renewables is leading the development and construction phases of Dogger Bank Wind Farm and Equinor will lead on operations for its lifetime of at least 25 years, creating around 200 jobs in the North East from its [new Operations and Maintenance base](#).

The contract with DEME Offshore is subject to joint venture partners SSE Renewables and Equinor reaching Financial Close on Dogger Bank A and Dogger Bank B, expected in late 2020.

Ends



Image caption: DEME Offshore’s cable installation vessel ‘Living Stone’ will be deployed to lay the 650km of 66kV inter-array cables and associated cable protection systems for Dogger Bank A and Dogger Bank B. **Image source:** DEME Offshore

About Dogger Bank Wind Farm

- A 50:50 joint venture between Equinor and SSE Renewables.
- Financial close on Dogger Bank A and Dogger Bank B is expected in late 2020 with FID for Dogger Bank C expected in late 2021.

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- Consent was granted in 2015.
- Located in the North Sea, with each phase more than 130km from the Yorkshire Coast.
- Each phase of the project (Dogger Bank A, Dogger Bank B and Dogger Bank C) will have an installed capacity of 1.2GW and will be able to power 1.5 million homes. Together, they can provide approximately 5% of the UK's estimated electricity generation.
- The first phase, Dogger Bank A, is expected to be operational in 2023.
- The wind turbines will be installed on monopile foundations. Preferred supplier for foundation fabrication will be announced in 2020.
- The project will be the first in the UK to use a High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) transmission system due to long distance to grid connection point.

About SSE Renewables

SSE Renewables is a leading developer, owner and operator of renewable energy across the UK and Ireland, with a portfolio of around 4GW of onshore wind, offshore wind and hydro. Part of the FTSE-listed SSE plc, its strategy is to drive the transition to a net zero future through the world class development, construction and operation of renewable energy assets.

SSE Renewables owns nearly 2GW of operational onshore wind capacity with over 1GW under development. Its 1,459MW hydro portfolio includes 300MW of pumped storage and 750MW of flexible hydro. Its operational offshore wind portfolio consists of 580MW across three offshore sites, two of which it operates on behalf of its joint venture partners. SSE Renewables has the largest offshore wind development pipeline in the UK and Ireland at over 6GW.

About Equinor in the UK

Equinor has been operating in the UK for over 35 years. Headquartered in Norway, the company employs 22,000 people globally, and over 650 in the UK. As a broad energy company, Equinor is committed to long term value creation in a low carbon future, and targeting carbon neutral operations globally by 2030.

Equinor is the UK's leading energy provider and supports the UK economy by investing billions in crucial energy infrastructure, working with over 700 suppliers across the country. Its energy supplies from Norway meet more than one quarter of the UK's demand for natural gas and around one fifth of its demand for oil, both produced with one of the lowest carbon footprints in the industry. It operates the Mariner oil field, one of the largest and most digitally advanced offshore investments in the UK over the last decade, and is progressing Rosebank, the largest undeveloped field in the UK.

Both projects support hundreds of jobs and economic activity in Scotland. Equinor also operates two offshore wind farms off the East Coast of England, Dudgeon and Sheringham Shoal. It is a pioneer in floating wind technology with Hywind Scotland, the world's first floating wind farm off the coast of Peterhead, which is partnered with Batwind, the world's first battery for offshore wind. And with its partner SSE Renewables, Equinor is building the largest offshore wind farm in the world, Dogger Bank, off the North East coast of England. It is also a leader in both carbon capture utilisation and storage (CCUS) and hydrogen, and is developing a number of projects in Europe, including in the Humber and Teesside regions of North East England.

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About DEME

DEME is a world leader in the highly specialised fields of dredging, solutions for the offshore energy industry, infra marine and environmental works. The company can build on more than 140 years of know-how and experience and has fostered a pioneering approach throughout its history, enabling it to be a front runner in innovation and new technologies.

DEME's vision is to work towards a sustainable future by offering solutions for global challenges: a rising sea level, a growing population, reduction of CO2 emissions, polluted rivers and soils and the scarcity of natural resources.

While the company's roots are in Belgium, DEME has built a strong presence in all of the world's seas and continents, operating in more than 90 countries worldwide. DEME can rely on 5,200 highly skilled professionals across the globe. With a versatile and modern fleet of over 100 vessels, backed by a broad range of auxiliary equipment, the company can provide solutions for even the most complex projects.

DEME achieved a turnover of 2.62 billion euros in 2019. www.deme-group.com

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