

DOGGER BANK WIND FARM



Contract signed for transport and installation of Dogger Bank A foundations

Dogger Bank Wind Farm has signed a contract with OHT for the transport and installation of foundations for the 1.2GW first phase of the project, Dogger Bank A.

The 3.6GW Dogger Bank Wind Farm, which is being delivered in the North Sea in three 1.2GW phases, is set to be the world's largest offshore wind farm when complete and is a joint venture between SSE Renewables and Equinor.

The monopile foundations will be amongst the largest ever used for offshore wind and their installation will mark the monopile installation debut for OHT's specialist new-build vessel, the Alfa Lift. The foundations are expected to be installed between 2022 and 2023 at Dogger Bank A.

The announcement follows on from OHT being chosen as the preferred supplier in November 2019 for the transport and installation of foundations for the first two phases of the project: Dogger Bank A and Dogger Bank B. The contract for the second phase, Dogger Bank B, is expected to follow in due course.

Since the preferred supplier contract was announced in November last year, planning for the project has progressed well and OHT is keen to engage with the local supply chain. OHT is already in detailed discussions regarding supply contracts with multiple UK companies and will soon be announcing details of some of the remaining key scopes of work they are looking to award.

Companies interested in supplying OHT can register on the [supplier portal](#) on their website.

Steve Wilson, Dogger Bank's Project Director, said: "It's great news to confirm the OHT Alfa Lift vessel for Dogger Bank A. Their vessel is one of the most innovative heavy transportation and installation vessels on the market and we are very pleased to have them working with us as we deliver this ground-breaking project."

"We look forward to working with Norway's OHT to make Dogger Bank a success. The Alfa Lift is an excellent example of the new, efficient and innovative vessels which we need to revolutionise the offshore wind industry and make it even more competitive," Halfdan Brustad, vice president for Dogger Bank in Equinor, said.

Alfa Lift will transport the monopile foundations and transition pieces to the North Sea offshore site, more than 130km off the north-east coast of England, and install them in water depths up to 35 metres, utilising the vessel's class leading 3,000-tonne crane, state-of-the-art mission equipment, and smart deck handling system.

Torgeir Ramstad, CEO, OHT, said: “The contract is a significant milestone for OHT and we welcome the opportunity to demonstrate Alfa Lift’s market-leading capabilities in delivering this landmark project. We are privileged to be working with likeminded, forward-thinking colleagues at SSE Renewables and Equinor.”

OHT’s Alfa Lift vessel, of Ulstein design, will arrive in Europe in good time before project mobilisation.

Ends

Image source: OHT

Image caption: The construction of OHT’s Alfa Lift is progressing well at China Merchant Heavy Industries fabrication yard in Jiangsu Province, China.

About Dogger Bank Wind Farms:

- A 50:50 joint venture between Equinor and SSE Renewables
- Consent was granted in 2015.
- Located in the North Sea, approximately 130km from the Yorkshire Coast.
- Water depth ranges from 20m to 35m.
- Each project will have an installed capacity of 1.2GW and will be able to power 1.5 million homes. Together, the projects can cover approximately 5% of the UK’s estimated electricity generation.
- The first project is expected to be operational in 2023.
- The WTGs will be installed on monopile foundations. Preferred supplier will for foundation fabrication will be announced in 2020.
- The transmission system will be High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) due to long distance to grid connection point.
- The Contract for Difference is a 15-year contract which will be indexed for inflation. The strike price will be paid for every MWh generated by the wind farms during the contract. After the CfD contract ends, the projects will receive the market price for electricity.
- The joint venture continues to progress towards final investment decision for all three projects, aiming for Q4 2020 for Doggerbank A and B and late 2021 for Dogger Bank C.

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.

About OHT

OHT (Offshore Heavy Transport) is a heavy transport and installation contractor and experienced vessel owner/operator with integrated in-house operations, engineering, technical and commercial management.

OHT specialises in transporting oversized heavy cargoes for various markets including Oil & Gas, Offshore Wind and large infrastructure projects. The company has executed hundreds of successful projects on behalf of its customers and has transported jack-up rigs for the majority of rig-owners worldwide. The company currently owns and operates five open deck semi-submersible heavy transportation carriers: MV Hawk, Osprey, Albatross, Falcon and Eagle.

In 2021, OHT will launch their new build vessel Alfa Lift; their first vessel built specifically for the offshore wind market. The heavy lift crane installation vessel with semi-submersible heavy transportation capabilities will be the world's largest, custom-built vessel for offshore wind foundation installation and will optimise efficiency for the transport and installation of next generation foundations. Learn more at OHT website: www.oht.no