ossian

March 2025

Public consultation

Ossian Transmission Infrastructure

Welcome

We are delighted to welcome you to Ossian's consultation event in Lincolnshire.

Our project information days in October 2024 introduced Ossian to the community in Lincolnshire. We are now undertaking a second consultation on the proposed Ossian Transmission Infrastructure which represents an important step in the overall development of Ossian's consents application, known as a Development Consent Order (DCO).

The aim of this consultation is to provide an opportunity for those who live and work in the community to find out more about Ossian, latest proposals in Lincolnshire and provide valuable feedback to help shape and inform the project.

Our team is available to answer any questions you might have about our proposals, and we encourage you to use the feedback form provided to have your say. You can also visit our website, attend our webinar or contact us directly via the website, freephone, email or post.

The information presented represents the latest iteration of our proposals. As our plans develop, we will return to the Lincolnshire area to further consult on our proposals for Ossian in greater detail.

Meet the team

SSE Renewables

With an operational portfolio of 4GW across offshore wind, onshore wind and hydro sites and a further development pipeline equating to 13GW, SSE Renewables is well versed in delivering projects across the UK and Ireland. This has included work on projects such as the 3.6GW Dogger Bank Wind Farm as well as Scotland's largest and the world's deepest fixed bottom offshore site, the 1.1GW Seagreen Offshore Wind Farm in the Firth of Forth.

sse Renewables

Marubeni Corporation

With expertise in floating offshore wind, Japanese conglomerate Marubeni Corporation operated the Fukushima Floating Offshore Wind Farm between 2013 and 2020, Marubeni will help bring the technology behind Ossian to life.

Marubeni

Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners

Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP) is a fund management company specialising in tailormade global energy infrastructure investments. Their experience in renewables alongside their role in developing a 100MW floating wind farm off the coast of Dounreay makes them well placed to help deliver this project.

CIP
Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners

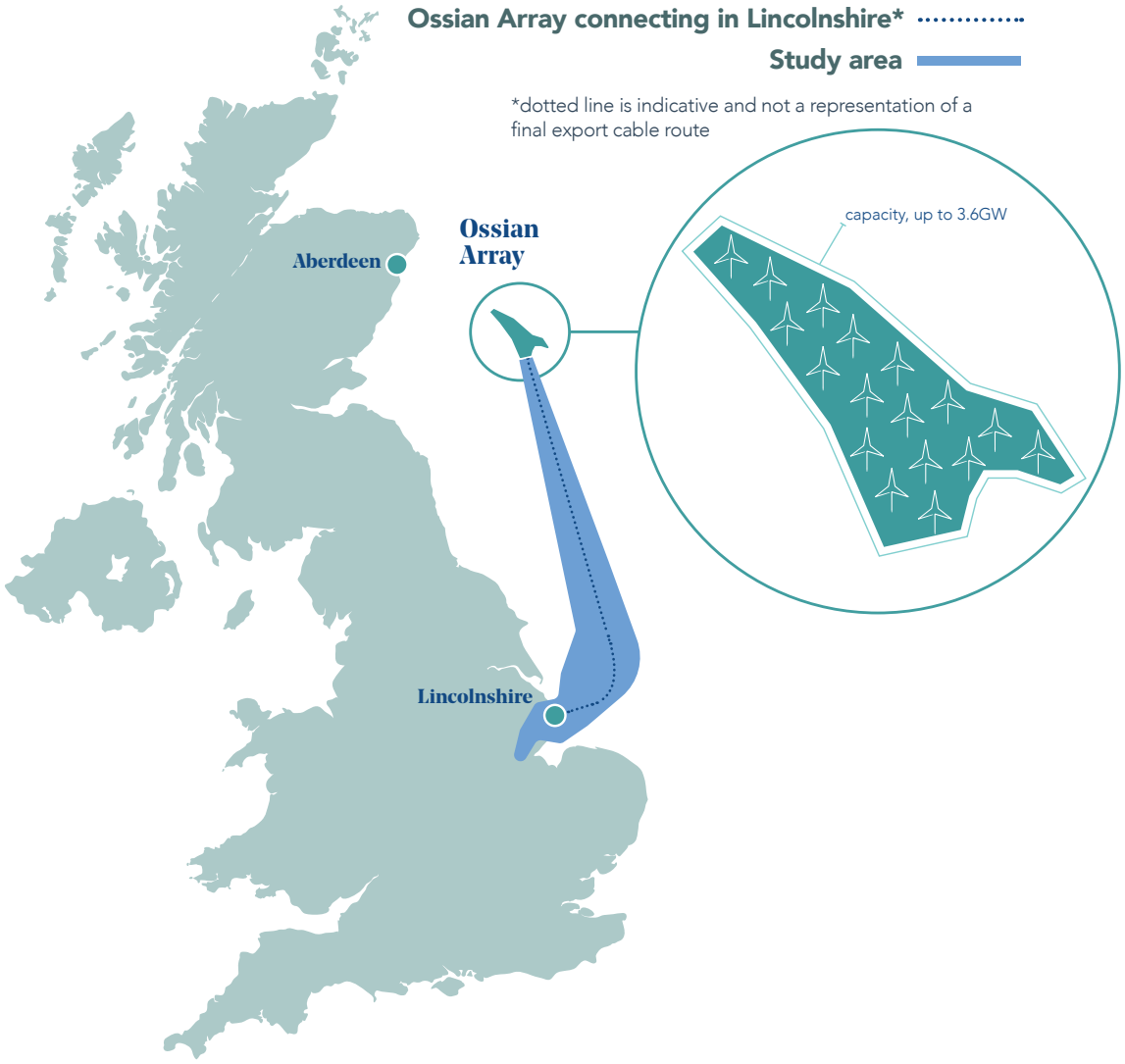
Introducing Ossian

Ossian is a proposed floating offshore wind farm located approximately 80km off the east coast of Scotland (referred to as the Ossian Array). It has the potential to deliver up to 3.6GW of renewable energy and, once built, it will connect to new national grid infrastructure, at proposed substations near Spalding and Alford in Lincolnshire.

Ossian will have the capability of powering up to **6 million homes** and **displacing up to 7.5 million tonnes of carbon emissions** each year. This makes it vitally important in supporting the UK's target of reaching **net zero by 2050**. There are two principal elements of the Ossian Offshore Wind Farm project:

- The Ossian wind farm array, including the floating offshore wind turbines.
- The Ossian transmission infrastructure that will connect and deliver the renewable energy generated by the wind farm to the national grid.

The array itself requires a separate application process to the transmission infrastructure, and this application was submitted to the Scottish Ministers in June 2024.

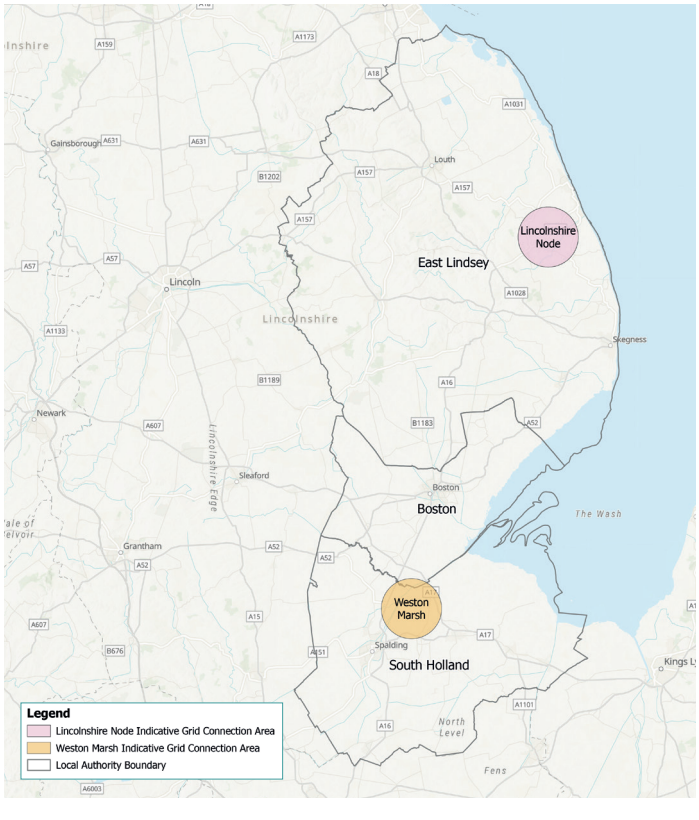


Ossian grid connection locations

National Energy System Operator (NESO, formerly ESO), which manages the supply of electricity within Great Britain, confirmed that Ossian will be required to connect to the transmission network – often known as the national grid – at the following two locations in Lincolnshire.

- Lincolnshire Connection Node, near Alford (LCN)
- Weston Marsh, near Spalding (WM)

Contextual plan showing Ossian array and Lincolnshire County Council boundary



Plan showing local authority boundaries and indicative grid locations

What are we consulting on?

To consent Ossian, we are consulting and seeking views on the following areas;

Offshore Transmission Infrastructure

- Offshore subsea cables from the Wind Farm Array to Landfall.

Landfall

- Where the offshore cables are brought ashore and connected to the onshore cables.

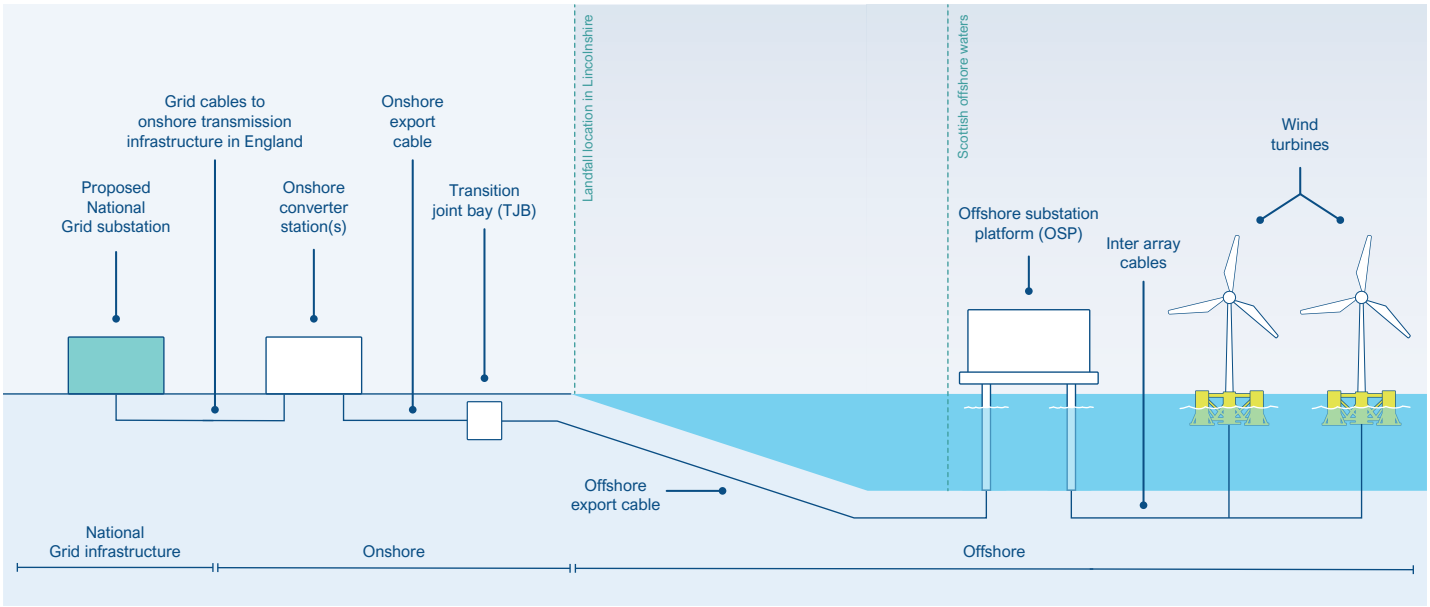
Onshore Transmission Infrastructure

- Onshore cables from the Landfall to onshore converter stations.
- One converter station at the Lincolnshire Connection Node; and
- Two converter stations at Weston Marsh.
- Onshore cables between onshore converter stations and the points of connection to the National Grid.

Onshore export cables will be installed below ground along this corridor. No overhead lines are being proposed as part of the Ossian Transmission Infrastructure.

We expect these cables to be installed using open trenching techniques, with trenchless techniques such as horizontal directional drilling, being employed where the route crosses.

Indicative offshore wind infrastructure



What we are not consulting on

The electrical infrastructure, including national grid substations & overhead lines, proposed by National Grid Electrical Transmission (NGET) as part of its Grimsby to Walpole Project, are not part of the Ossian Transmission Infrastructure proposed development and are separate projects.

Consenting Process

The Planning Inspectorate is responsible for the process governing how nationally significant infrastructure projects are consented in England. This is known as the Development Consent Order (DCO) process.

The Ossian Transmission Infrastructure is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project and will therefore be required to apply for the development which falls within England. This is typical for infrastructure projects of this size.

The decision to grant development consent is made, in the case of energy projects such as Ossian, by the Secretary of State for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero based on the recommendations of the Planning Inspectorate.

Public consultation forms an important and statutory part of the decision making process. Ongoing local engagement and feedback will serve to inform and influence the development of our proposals for Ossian.

Photo credit: Fukushima Offshore Wind Consortium

The DCO process has six stages which are set out below. We are currently in the pre-application stage and anticipate submission of our application in 2026.

We Are Here

Stage 1
Pre-application

Responsibility of
Ossian

Timescale
Approx 2 years

Activities
- Site selection
- Consultation
- EIA
- Land referencing
- Design
- Surveys

Stage 2
Acceptance

Responsibility of
Planning Inspectorate

Timescale
28 days

Activities
- Adequacy of consultation representations by local authorities
- Consistency of documents

Stage 3
Pre-examination

Responsibility of
Planning Inspectorate/ Ossian

Timescale
3-5 months

Activities
- Examining Authority holds a preliminary meeting and sets the timetable for the examination. Stakeholders can register as an interested party.

Stage 4
Examination

Responsibility of
Examining Authority

Timescale
6 months

Activities
- Questions, representations, hearings, local impact reports, updates to key documents

Stage 5
Recommendation

Responsibility of
Examining Authority

Timescale
3 months

Activities
- Recommendation made to Secretary of State

Stage 6
Decision

Responsibility of
Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero

Timescale
3 months

Activities
- Consideration of recommendation
- Decision made

Environmental Impact Assessment Process

To support our DCO application the project will undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

EIA process

An EIA identifies and assesses the potential significant effects of a project, informs its design from an environmental perspective, and sets out measures to mitigate a project's impact on the environment.

We will prepare an EIA report to support the application for the Ossian Transmission Infrastructure, the topics of which will be confirmed after feedback from stakeholders and following scoping. Potential topics associated with the development of onshore transmission infrastructure include, but are not limited to the those listed below. Following the outcome of the EIA process, we will all produce an Environmental Statement with further information.

Human environment

- Landscape and visual
- Archaeology and cultural heritage
- Population and human health
- Socio-economics and tourism
- Land use change
- Traffic and transport
- Electric and magnetic fields
- Air quality and dust
- Major accidents and disasters
- Cumulative and in-combination impacts
- Aviation

Biological environment

- Soils and contaminated land
- Geology, hydrogeology and hydrology (including flood risk)
- Ecology
- Ornithology

Physical environment

- Noise and vibration
- Materials and waste
- Climate

A Scoping Report is prepared by prospective applicants to accompany a formal Scoping Request to the Planning Inspectorate who consult statutory consultees on what aspects should be assessed in the applicant's Environmental Statement (ES). Having considered the consultation responses received, the Planning Inspectorate then issues its Scoping Opinion which sets out the technical requirements of the ES.

Renewable energy: securing a sustainable future

Historically, most of the UK's electricity has been generated by fossil fuels, which has had a sizeable impact on carbon emissions.

Renewable energy sources (such as wind, solar, biomass and hydroelectricity) emit lower or no emissions and are vital to the future of energy security. Currently, around 41% of our energy is renewable but the UK government plans to fully decarbonise our power system. Offshore wind projects, like Ossian, will help get us there.

The scale of Ossian, alongside the floating technology we use, will make it a game changer in the UK renewable energy sector and help the UK reach net zero by offsetting up to 7.5 million tonnes of carbon emissions each year and help ensure the country's future energy security.

Project Updates

Since our Project Information Days in October 2024, Ossian has:

- Undertaken ecological surveys and commenced environmental data gathering.
- Produced a You Said, We Did brochure.
- Held Expert Steering Group Meetings.
- Submitted Scoping Report.
- Engaged with landowners and other developers.
- Continued to undertake our site selection work to consider options for the transmission infrastructure and refined study area from that shown at Public Information Days to a reduced boundary area for PEIR Stage.

Landowner Engagement

It is important for Ossian to consider those with an interest in land, whether as an owner, tenant, lessee or an occupier. As part of the application process, there is a legal requirement to identify who owns or has an interest in the land that could be affected by the project and our land agents Dalcour Maclaren will continue to engage with all parties to facilitate detailed discussions about the onshore proposals. We encourage those with an interest in land to come along to the consultation events and meet with the land team.

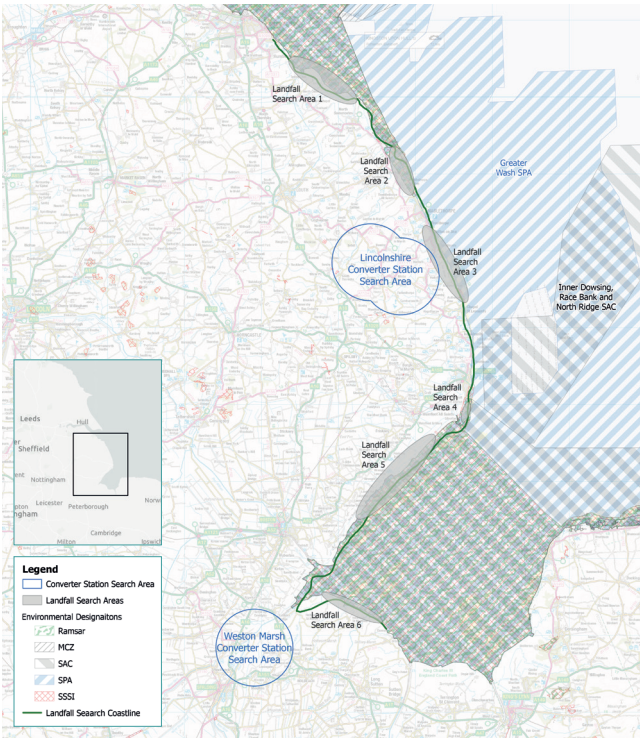
Approach to Site Selection

Following confirmation that the Ossian Array would require to connect to the National Grid in Lincolnshire, Ossian commenced a process of site selection to determine suitable search zones.

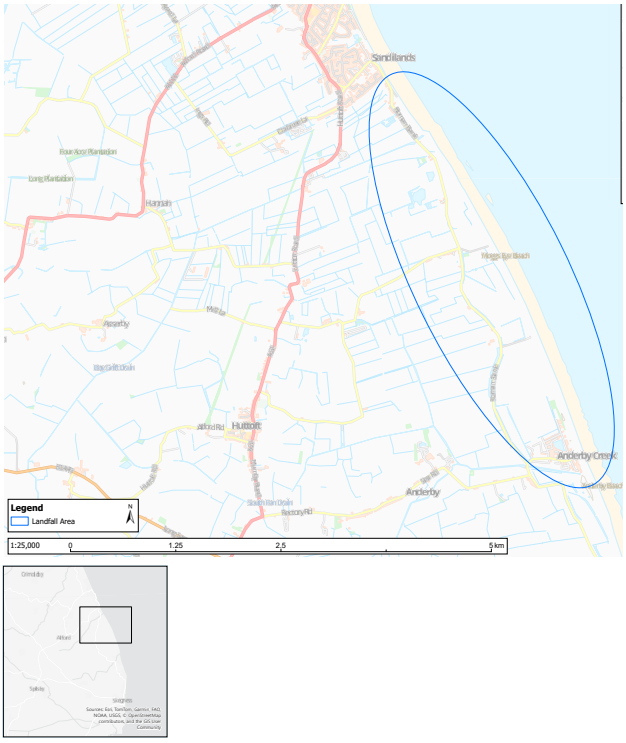
Landfall Search Zone

The landfall options presented during our last stage of engagement have been refined. As part of further site selection work, the option to make landfall at Theddlethorpe (search area 2) which was previously being considered has been dropped due to being a highly sensitive area with multiple designations, engineering feasibility challenges and feedback received from Natural England

Landfall search areas at Public Information Days



Landfall search area now refined



Through the site selection process, environmental and engineering constraints were considered and the following key design principles adopted to minimise impacts where practicable

- Avoiding urban and industrial zones.
- Avoiding cliff heights over 20m.
- Avoiding ecological and heritage sites.

Following detailed assessment Ossian's preferred landfall search area, is Landfall Search Area 3 – otherwise known as Sandilands / Anderby Creek.

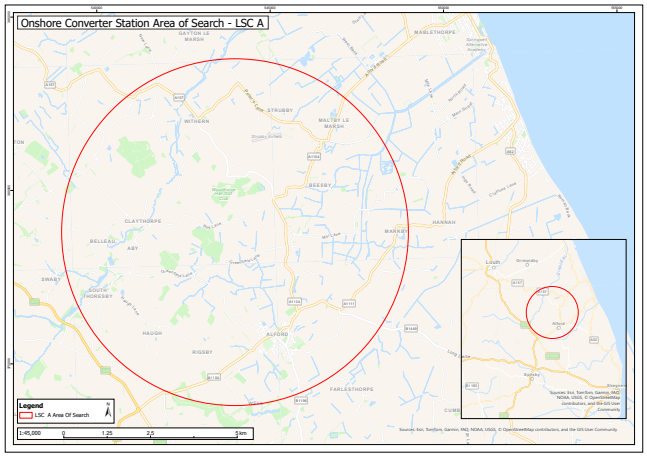
Onshore converter station search zone

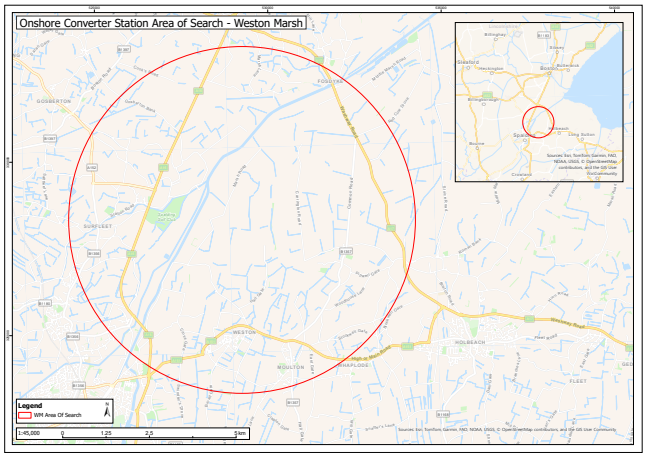
Two Onshore Converter Station Areas of Search have been identified. The locations of these areas have been informed by NGET's preferred siting zones for the new LCN and Weston Marsh Substations that will provide their points of connection for Ossian.

Ossian has since refined the area of search for connection to LCN to focus on what is referred to as Lincolnshire Connection Substation A (LCSA) in East Lindsey District Council.

The Areas of Search are derived from a 5km radius around the preferred siting zones of LSCA within East Lindsey District Council and a 5km radius around the Weston Marsh preferred siting zones.

There are technical, efficiency and environmental benefits to siting the onshore converter stations in proximity to the proposed NGET substations, such as; reduced cable connection lengths, resulting in a smaller construction area and less potential impact for local communities.





The following design principles were adopted to minimise impacts where practicable

- Avoiding urban and industrial zones.
- Avoiding ecological and heritage sites.
- Avoiding high flood risk areas.
- Locations should take advantage of the screening provided by landform and existing features.
- Options should keep the visual, noise and other environmental effects to a reasonably practicable minimum.
- The space required should be limited to the area required for development.
- Minimise impacts upon agricultural land use.

APPROACH TO SITE SELECTION CONTINUED

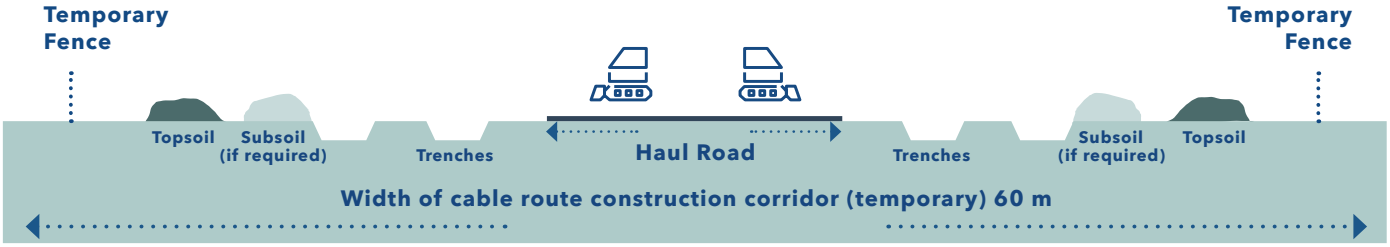
Onshore cable corridor study Areas

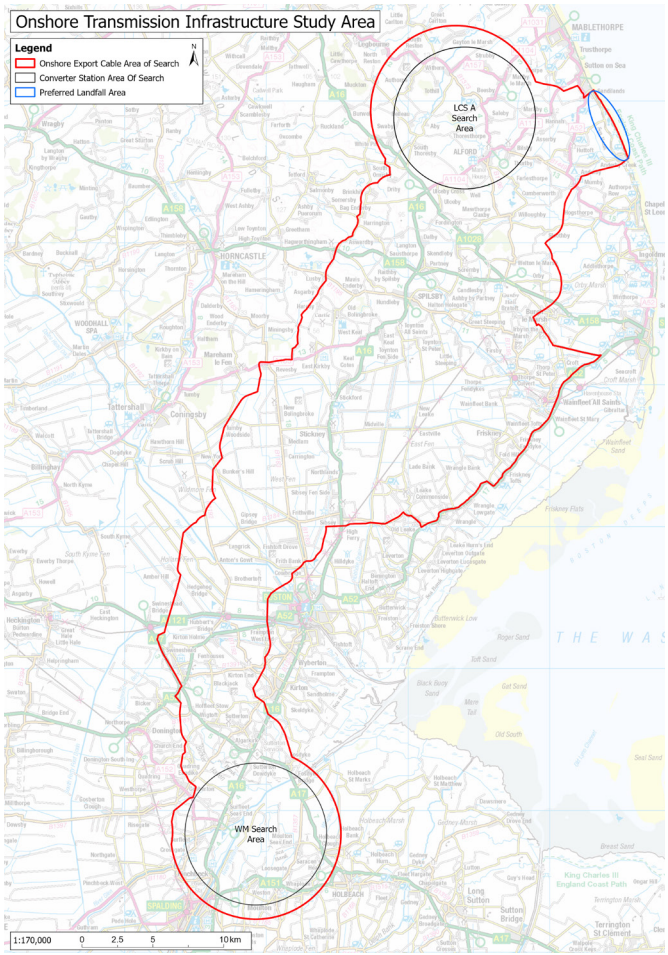
Ossian has been offered a grid connection location by NGET within the Lincolnshire area, this is the primary reason our areas of site selection are focused in this area. As we develop our options for potential site locations we must be aware of various existing constraints, such as environmentally sensitive areas and areas where existing infrastructure exists, such as cables and utility networks.

We have developed site options which seek to minimise potential impacts (such as environmental and social impacts) of Ossian where possible. In our area of search, known environmental constraints have been considered and avoided, including historic monuments, heritage conservation areas, functional flood zones and ecological designations. This consultation and our on-going site surveys will allow us to further refine our proposals to ensure we continue to design proposals for Ossian around stakeholder and community feedback.

We are engaging with multiple stakeholders regarding our site selection process. Engagement with landowners and communities is important to us as we progress with these ongoing survey works.

Furthermore, we understand local concerns regarding potential impacts of several developments being proposed at the same time in the region. Ossian have done, and will continue to, engage with developers of other proposals to minimise cumulative impacts where possible.





The following design principles were adopted to minimise impacts where practicable

- Routing should be kept as straight and as short as practicable avoiding tight bends.
- Avoid residential land (including garden) where possible.
- Avoid direct significant effects to internationally and nationally designated areas.
- Avoid direct significant effects to mature woodland and ancient woodland.
- Avoid scheduled ancient monuments and listed buildings.
- Avoid historic or active landfill sites.
- Reduce the number and length of trenchless crossings.
- Reduce the number of crossings of assets (e.g. utilities).
- Reduce the number of road and rail crossings.
- Minimise impacts upon agricultural land use.

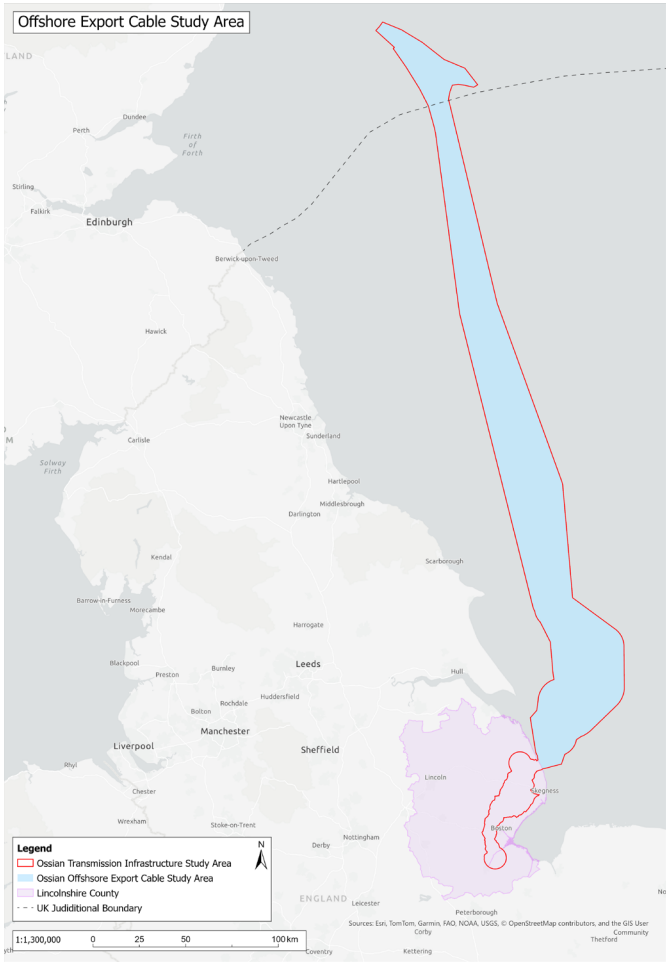
Offshore export cables

Electricity generated at the Array will be brought ashore via subsea export cables. These cables will be located in a corridor running from the Array to make landfall on the Lincolnshire coast where they will connect with the onshore export cables.

The identification of the export cable corridor search area was primarily dictated by the start and end points of the onshore export cables, between the array and the landfall search areas on the Lincolnshire coast.

Ossian commenced early offshore optioneering work in 2023 to understand the key offshore constraints and risks as shown below. This work is ongoing.

The onshore export cables route will be further informed by a number of technical and ecological surveys to determine the suitability of the sea bed and the ecological sensitivity of the area.



We've considered a number of factors in determining options for the onshore export cables route, including

- Avoiding and minimising impacts to protected environmental sites for birds, marine mammals and benthic habitats.
- Avoiding protected wrecks and archaeological features.
- Protecting other users of the sea (including fishing, shipping and recreational activities).
- Avoiding existing infrastructure (cables, pipelines, oil & gas infrastructure, aggregates and disposal sites) and.
- Geology and bathymetry.

What's next?

Ossian Transmission Infrastructure is currently in its pre-application stage, and we anticipate submission of our DCO application in the latter half of 2026.

EIA scoping

We submitted our scoping report in February 2025. The Scoping report sets out how we will consider and assess the offshore and onshore environment. The Scoping Opinion from the Planning Inspectorate will inform what we are required to assess within our Environmental Impact Assessment.

Surveys

Ossian is engaging in an extensive site selection process to determine suitable search areas for the transmission infrastructure that will bring the generated electricity onshore.

An important part of this process involves a broad range of surveys that will allow us to consider any environmental constraints that may influence how we further refine our proposals.

Onshore, we will carry out environmental surveys to understand the local ecology and historic interest, evaluate potential access routes for construction traffic and examine ground conditions.

Offshore, we have already conducted surveys related to offshore ornithology, and this summer, we have completed surveys to study the benthic and intertidal ecology and geophysical environment.

Consultation

Applications for development consent require a robust pre-application consultation process prior to submission to the Planning Inspectorate. We will carry out non-statutory consultation and statutory consultation at specific stages of the Project with the community and technical consultees as well as engage further with land owners through the site selection process

Statement of Community Consultation

The SoCC will be produced by Ossian to establish the way it will consult with the local community at the Pre-application stage. The SoCC is sent to the host local authorities to comment on.

Change to Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)

We will use the findings of our assessments, feedback received during this stage of consultation and the potential for measures to address environmental effects to develop our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) which will be the subject of our statutory consultation which we expect to take place later this year.

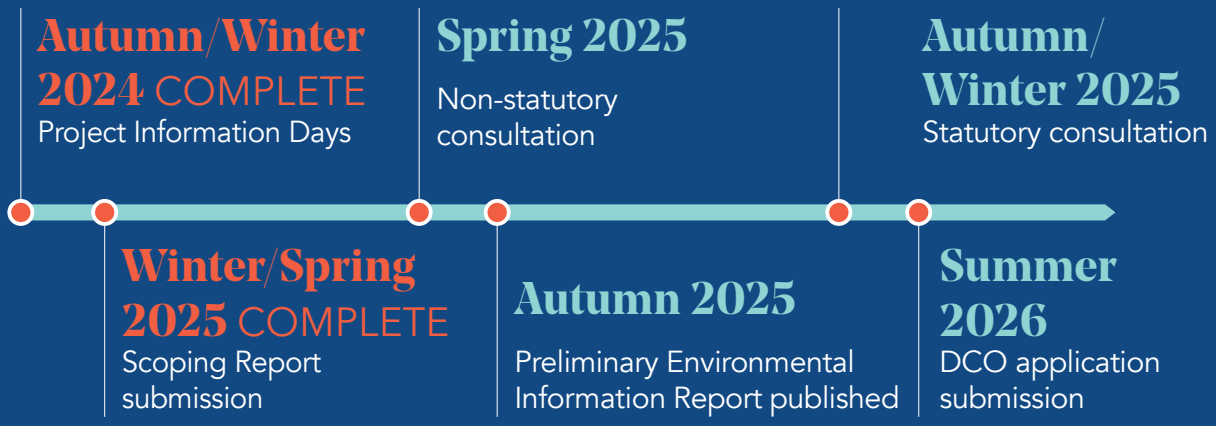
How to get involved

Here's how you can have your say on proposals for the Ossian transmission project:

- Visiting our website at **ossiantransmission.com**
- Emailing us at **info@ossiantransmission.com**
- Writing to us at **freepost ossian transmission**. It's free and you don't need a stamp.

If you have any questions, please call the project team on **0800 138 5407**.

Key dates



Notes

Contact details

If you have any questions on the Ossian Transmission Infrastructure, you can get in touch with the team on:

Email:
info@ossiantransmission.com

Freepost:
freepost ossian transmission

Phone:
0800 138 5407
(this number is free from a landline, other network providers may charge and is open from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday).

If you would like to register to be kept up to date with our proposals as they progress, please visit the consultation website:
https://ossiantransmission.com/register/