



Partners in UK offshore wind

Morgan Offshore Wind Project: Generation Assets

Statement of Community Consultation

Morgan Offshore Wind Project
Generation Assets



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1 Introduction

1.1 Overview of the SoCC

This Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) sets out how we propose to consult on our proposals for the Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets application ('the Project'), as part of the Morgan Offshore Wind Project.

The Project sits entirely at sea and so there is no requirement to prepare this SoCC under the Planning Act (2008) (the 'Planning Act'). However, we understand that consultation is an integral part of developing our proposals. This SoCC therefore sets out how the Project proposes to consult with those that may be affected by our proposals during the pre-application phase, in accordance with the principles of the Planning Act.

We have publicised this SoCC through public notices in the Blackpool Gazette and the Lancashire Evening Post, as the newspapers serving the closest coastal communities to the Project.

This SoCC sets out the following:

- Purpose of community consultation
- A summary of the Project
- An overview of the planning process
- Information on why the project is required
- Who will be consulted, where and when the consultation will take place
- How the consultation will be undertaken
- Where people can view consultation materials and find out more
- The importance of feedback and how people can provide their comments

1.2 Why we are consulting

The consultation is an important opportunity for local communities (including residents, businesses and organisations) to have their say on and influence our proposals.

The consultation is designed to help people understand the consultation process and participate by providing feedback, which will help shape our proposals. All of the feedback we receive will be logged and responses will be provided as a part of the Consultation Report to be submitted with the final application.

As a project, we are committed to delivering an open, constructive, collaborative and solutions-focused consultation, listening to our stakeholders and engaging with respect and integrity.

1.3 Why the Project is needed

To achieve the UK's commitment to reach net zero by 2050, offshore wind has a vital role to play. Our project will be operational by 2030, leading the way in decarbonising the UK.

The fight against climate change

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges the world faces. It is affecting every country and we must all play a role in helping to combat it. In 2015, representatives from the international community met in Paris to agree a global response to the changing climate. In total, 197 countries signed the Paris Agreement to keep temperature rises "well below" 1.5°C to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. The delegates met again in Glasgow in 2021, where they agreed that more action was needed to achieve the 1.5°C aim and pledged to make the 2020s a decade of climate action and support.

In the UK, the government has committed to ambitious plans that will put the country at the forefront of the fight for a greener future. As part of these plans, we will need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050. To achieve this, we will need to change how we heat our homes, power our vehicles and, importantly, how we generate our electricity.

UK Government policies and offshore wind

The commitments the UK has made to achieving net zero are enshrined in law. To reach our climate goals, the UK government has adopted a number of strategies for achieving net zero – most notably the 10-point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution and the Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener. These plans recognise the importance of offshore wind in achieving net zero goals in the UK. In fact, 'advancing offshore wind' is point one in the UK government's 10-point plan.

The UK is a world leader in offshore wind and the seas around Britain are ideal for harnessing wind power. The UK already generates around 13GW of its power from offshore wind, which is more than any other country in the world. It plays an increasingly important role in our energy mix – for a period on 29 Jan 2022, offshore wind was providing 64 per cent of our total energy output. But we need to go a lot further.



1.4 About the developers

About EnBW

Energie Baden-Württemberg AG (EnBW) is one of the largest energy supply companies in Germany and Europe, with a workforce of 27,000 employees supplying energy to around 5.5 million customers. Installed renewable energy capacity will account for 50 percent of EnBW's generating portfolio by the end of 2025.

EnBW was among the pioneers in offshore wind power with its Baltic 1 wind farm in the Baltic Sea. EnBW has developed, constructed and operates four offshore wind farms in Germany with a total installed capacity of 945MW.

Another 960MW from the offshore wind farm He Dreiht are currently under development; the final investment decision in March 2023 cleared the way for the start of construction.

About bp

bp's purpose is to reimagine energy for people and our planet.

bp has set out an ambition to be a net zero company by 2050, or sooner, and help the world get to net zero.

This strategy will see bp transform from an international oil company producing resources – to an integrated energy company providing solutions to customers.

bp already has a significant onshore wind business in the US with a gross generating capacity of 1.7GW, operating nine wind assets across the country as well as a 5.2GW net offshore pipeline.

2 The proposed development

2.1 Overview of the projects

Morgan Offshore Wind Limited, a joint venture between bp and Energie Baden-Württemberg AG (EnBW), is developing the Morgan Offshore Wind Project.

This wind farm is expected to generate approximately 1.5GW of energy and is located approximately 22km from the Isle of Man coastline and 36km from the north west coast of England. The wind farm is expected to be operational by 2030.

In addition to our application for the Project a separate application will be progressed for the Transmission Assets associated with the Morgan Offshore Wind Project.

The Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets (known as the Transmission Assets) will be developed collaboratively with the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm. This approach is being progressed under the Offshore Transmission Network Review, led by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, which aims to simplify connecting offshore wind projects to the UK National Grid.

The Transmission Assets will comprise shared offshore and onshore export cable corridors, connected to onshore substations and onward connection to the national grid at Penwortham, Lancashire.

Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Ltd. will publish a SoCC relating to the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets which is a separate development proposal.

Generation and Transmission Assets explained:

This SoCC relates only to the Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets. Where we refer to 'the Project' this is what we mean. A separate SoCCs will be published for the Transmission Assets.

'Generation Assets' refers to the parts of the wind farms that generate the electricity. This includes the proposed offshore wind turbines, and associated infrastructure, such as the cabling that connects the turbines to the offshore export cables.

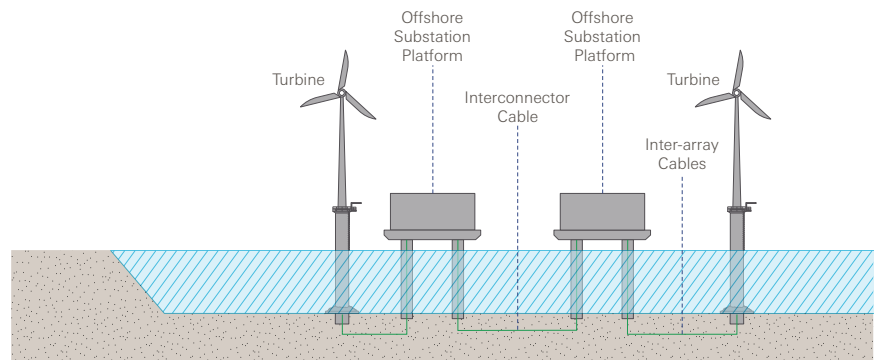
'Transmission Assets' refers to the elements that are responsible for connecting the 'Generation Assets' to the national grid, such as the offshore and onshore export cables and onshore substations.

2.2 What we are proposing to build

The Project will include:

- Wind turbine generators (up to 107 turbines)
- Offshore substation platform(s)
- Interconnector cables
- Inter-array cables

The proposed wind turbine generators and offshore substation platforms will be fixed to the seabed with foundation structures. The electricity generated by the wind turbine generators will then be transported to the national grid via the Transmission Assets project as described above.



The components of the Project

3 The planning process

The Project has a generating capacity in excess of 100MW, which means it is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). Therefore it must apply for a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the Planning Act.

The DCO application will be examined by the Planning Inspectorate (PINS).

Following the submission of our application, the Planning Inspectorate will follow a number of steps to receive and review the application, seeking further comment from interested bodies and individuals. It will make a recommendation to either give or refuse consent, for a final decision to then be made by the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero.

More information on the planning process for NSIPs can be found at: www.infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Advice-note-8.0.pdf



How the DCO application process works:



3.1 Our pre-application work so far

We are committed to early engagement with communities. This allows the people, communities, businesses and other stakeholders who may be impacted by our proposals to provide us with views and information that helps us to find the best possible designs and solutions.

Potential mitigation measures can be considered and, where appropriate, built into the proposed development before an application is submitted.

Morgan and Morecambe 2022 non-statutory consultation

We carried out a non-statutory consultation between 2 November and 13 December 2022. This was a shared consultation with the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm (generation assets) and the shared Transmission Assets. The aim of these consultation events was to allow members of the public to learn more about the projects, to ask questions and to discuss a wide range of topics about the different projects and how they relate to each other.

Following the conclusion of this non-statutory consultation, we analysed the feedback we received, along with conducting further technical impact assessments and design work to develop our proposals, ahead of further public consultation.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

The Project is required to produce an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) as defined in The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, as amended, and The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007.

The EIA process ensures that the likely effects of the Project are properly understood, including whether mitigation can be put in place. The application for development consent will therefore be accompanied by an Environmental Statement containing the results of the EIA.

Our team has produced our EIA Scoping Report setting out the intended scope of the EIA. It can be viewed fully on the EnBW-bp website by scanning the QR code.

Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)

We are also required to produce a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which is an important document within the consenting process relating to environmental considerations.

The PEIR contains the early findings of the EIA process, regarding the likely significant environmental effects of the project. It includes extensive details of how we have drawn our conclusions, such as survey methodologies and outcomes, and the feedback we have received as part of the ongoing consultation process.

It also sets out measures that could prevent, reduce or offset any environmental effects, identified as part of early assessments and consultation.

Consulting further on the PEIR itself gives consultees and stakeholders an opportunity to consider how we have used the information we have gathered and to provide further feedback. This is an important part of the consultation process, providing accountability, transparency and confidence.

The PEIR is a key part of this consultation and will be published in full on the consultation website www.morecambeandmorgan.com/morgan

Our EIA Scoping Report can be viewed by scanning this QR code





4 This Consultation

4.1 Who we will consult

Section 47 of the Planning Act sets out that developers must provide a statement on how they intend to consult with those who live in the vicinity of the land. As the Project application sits entirely at sea, this SoCC has been prepared in line with principles of the Planning Act, and the Planning Inspectorate's pre-application guidance. In doing so, the SoCC aims to establish consultation which is proportionate to the proposals and the related potential environmental effects.

The Project has sought the views of the following, on the consultation strategy provided within this SoCC:

- Marine Management Organisation – in relation to potential impacts arising from the construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning of the generation assets' offshore infrastructure on the environment and to commercial fisheries and other sea users.
- Local planning authorities – from where the turbines may be viewed, based on a preliminary identification of a worst-case impact area for the Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (SLVIA). This includes coastal local planning authorities along with the local planning authorities potentially affected by the Transmission Assets.

Where the Project may give rise to additional impacts which become apparent through the development process, additional and targeted consultation will be undertaken with those people and communities who could potentially be affected.

This process has also been informed by the feedback we received during our non-statutory consultation in 2022, in which we engaged a range of stakeholders from the coastal, island and maritime communities in and around the Irish Sea.

As well as directly engaging these groups during our statutory consultation, we will also contact a wide range of elected representatives in the areas which may be affected by SLVIA. In line with our approach to the 2022 non-statutory consultation, we will consult with local authorities, councillors, parish councils and parliamentarians.

We will also engage with the general public, encouraging participation through a combination of advertising and consultation events as detailed in sections 4.5 and 4.6 of this SoCC.

We also recognise that there are groups and individuals that may have difficulties taking part in the consultation process for a range of reasons. We made efforts to consult with these seldom heard groups and communities during our non-statutory consultation and will do so again in our statutory consultation.

We will engage with these consultees directly and will be inviting them to comment on our proposals during the consultation. We'll look carefully at all of the feedback we receive, and this will be considered to help finalise our proposals ahead of our application.

All the feedback we receive will be summarised in our Consultation Report, which will be an important part of our application for development consent.

4.2 What we will consult on

Our statutory phase of consultation will begin following the publication of this SoCC. This follows our non-statutory consultation in 2022.

Our approach to engagement and consultation is to seek general feedback on the proposals, including specific focuses on:

- The location for our offshore wind turbines and associated infrastructure
- How we can minimise the impacts of our project
- Our Preliminary Environmental Information Report

4.3 When we will consult

The statutory consultation will run from **19 April 2023 to 4 June 2023**.

The minimum consultation period is 28 days starting from the day after the publishing of consultation documents, such as the PEIR.

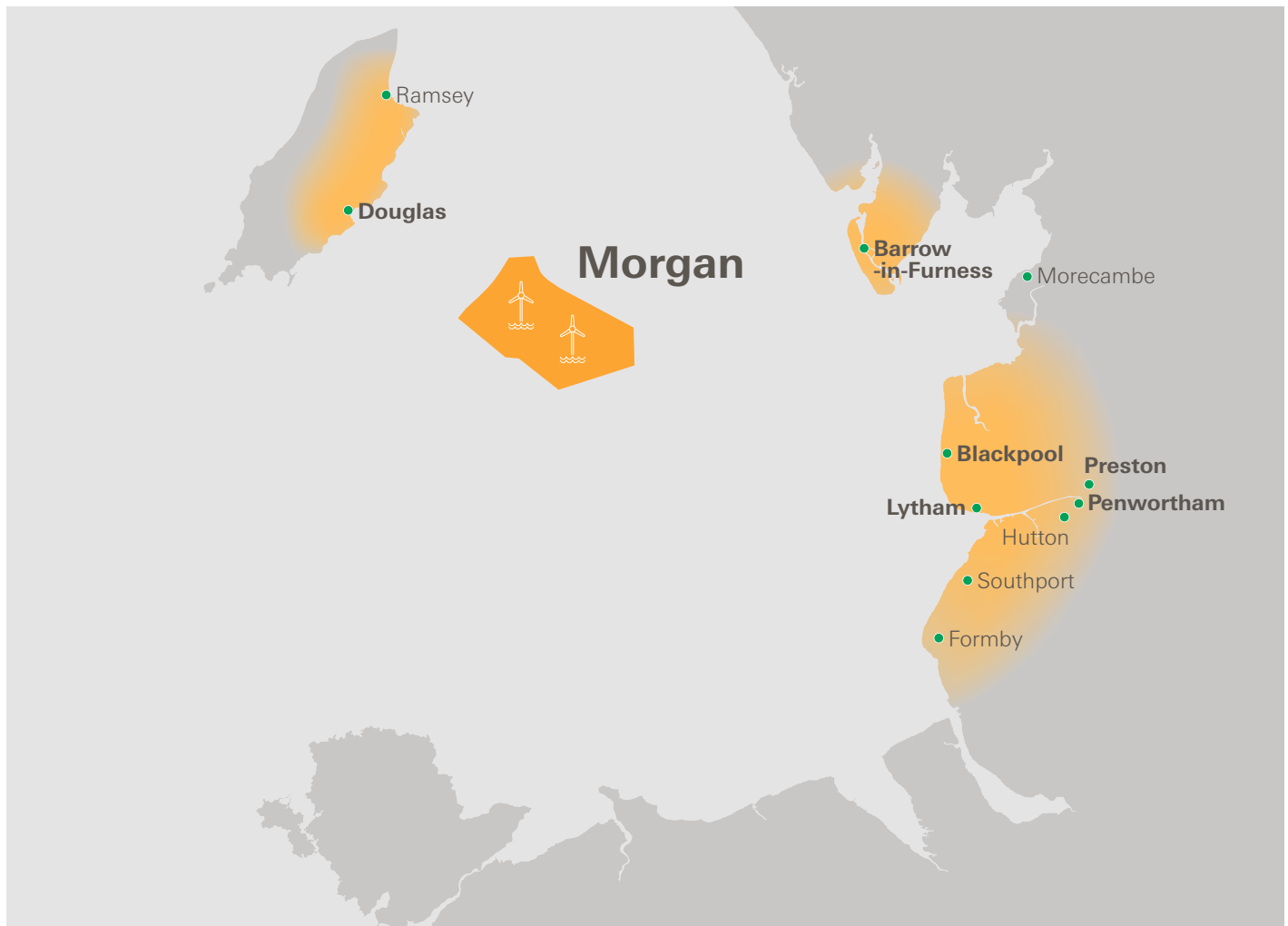
We are extending this period to give people as much opportunity as possible to provide their feedback.

More details about our previous consultations and the progress of the project beyond this point can be found in Section 4 (Our work so far) and Section 6 (Submitting feedback).

4.4 Where we will consult

We will hold public consultation events in the coastal communities that may be visually impacted by the Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets. Consultation materials will be distributed in public places in these communities.

We will promote the consultation through advertising and press releases in local newspapers that serve these communities.



4.5 How we will consult

We will consult using a variety of methods to help explain our proposals and encourage people to provide their comments.

Community materials

These materials will help people to understand the proposed development and provide their comments to the consultation. They will be easy to follow, use plain English and, where appropriate, make strong use of images and graphics.

- **Consultation postcards** – this A5 dual sided postcard will be sent to all residential and business addresses in the vicinity of the public consultation events. It will highlight the consultation dates and clearly explain where further information can be found, with a focus on encouraging people to visit the website or contact us via the project information channels. Details of the consultation exhibition events will also be included.
- **Website** – the project website will be the main public source of information and will be updated to explain the latest proposals. The website will make clear how people can take part in the consultation and what the deadline for feedback is. It will include an interactive feedback map of the proposals and a feedback form. All project materials will also be available on the website.
- **Consultation brochure** – this brochure will provide a summary of the latest proposals and details of the consultation using easily accessible, plain English. It will make clear how people can take part in the consultation and what the deadline for feedback is. The brochure will be available at consultation events, on request from the project team and made available on the website.
- **Feedback form** – this questionnaire will provide an easy way for people to record and submit their feedback. People will be able to submit feedback by filling in the printed form, or visiting our project website and completing the form online. The feedback form will be designed to encourage people to provide feedback specific to our proposals and also to provide wider feedback in relation to the proposed development. Forms will be available at our public consultation exhibitions and online.

A range of other materials, including the PEIR, will also be made available to help people better understand our proposals and provide us with their feedback.



Community events

To give local people the opportunity to meet the project team, better understand the proposals and ask any questions they may have, public consultation exhibitions will be held in the communities which may be directly affected by these proposals. We will decide which communities to engage based on the feedback to our non-statutory consultation.

Two types of events will be held:


- **Consultation events** – a series of public events for people to visit and meet the project team, find out about the project and ask any questions they might have.

The events will be located at accessible public locations. Project materials will be available at the event and people will be able to submit feedback.

- **Pop-up events** – members of the team will be out and about in the communities, to provide information on the project and answer any questions people might have. These events will be located in areas where people are going about their daily activities such as supermarkets, leisure venues and transport hubs.

The events, which will be publicised in the postcard, via print and online advertising and on the project website, will be held at the locations and times listed here.


Consultation events

These are drop-in events, meaning you can come along at any time between the hours stated below. There will be printed materials and members of the project team there for you to talk to and find out more. 

Please check www.morecambeandmorgan.com/morgan before attending a consultation event in case of any unforeseen changes.

Location	Date	Time
Winter Gardens Blackpool 97 Church Street, Blackpool FY1 1HL	Weds 10 May	3pm to 7pm
Fylde Rugby Football Club Woodlands Memorial Ground, Blackpool Road, Lytham St Annes FY8 4EL	Fri 12 May	3pm to 7pm
Kingsfold Methodist Church Hawksbury Drive, Kingsfold, Penwortham PR1 9EN	Sat 13 May	10am to 1pm
Ramsey Town Hall Parliament Square, Ramsey, Isle of Man IM8 1RT	Thurs 18 May	3pm to 7pm
Douglas Borough Council Town Hall, Ridgeway Street, Douglas, Isle of Man IM99 1AD	Fri 19 May	3pm to 7pm
Hutton Village Hall Moor Lane, Hutton, Preston PR4 5SE	Mon 22 May	3pm to 7pm
Royal Clifton Hotel Southport Promenade, Southport PR8 1RB	Weds 24 May	4pm to 8pm

Pop-up events

These are smaller-scale events in areas of high footfall, but still a great way to meet the project team and ask any questions you may have. 

Location	Date	Time
Barrow Park Leisure Centre Greengate Street, Barrow-in-Furness LA13 9DT	Thurs 11 May	10am to 1pm
Affinity Outlet Shopping Lancashire Anchorage Road, Fleetwood FY7 6AE	Tues 23 May	10am to 1pm
Preston Market 28 Market Street, Preston PR1 2AR	Weds 24 May	10am to 1pm
Waitrose & Partners Formby Three Tuns Lane, Formby, Liverpool L37 4AJ	Thurs 25 May	10am to 1pm
JunctionONE Retail Park Bidston Moss, Wallasey CH44 2HE	Thurs 25 May	3pm to 6pm

We will also hold an online webinar. This will be publicised in consultation materials and people will be able to register online. The webinar will consist of an overview presentation about the project and a Q&A session, with a range of project team members available to answer questions.

It is our preference to hold a range of in-person and online events. But in the event that we are unable to hold events in-person (for example as a result of extreme weather or new Covid restrictions), we will make alternative arrangements to deliver a larger, broader range of online consultation events.

Reference locations

Printed copies of our SoCC and our consultation brochure will be available to view at the following locations. Please call your nearest venue to check the most up to date opening times.

Enquiries and information

The project will operate a freephone enquiry line answer phone service during the consultation. People will be able to leave a message and a member of the project team will respond swiftly.

Deposit locations

These are publicly accessible venues where printed copies of the SoCC, consultation brochure, PEIR, NTS and feedback form can be viewed.



Isle of Man

Location	Opening times
Henry Bloom Noble Library 8 Duke Street, Douglas, Isle of Man IM1 2AY	Mon-Weds and Fri: 8.30am to 5pm Thurs: 10am to 7pm Sat: 9am to 4pm
Ramsey Town Library Parliament Square, Ramsey, Isle of Man IM8 1RT	Mon-Thurs and Sat: 9am to 4:30pm Fri: 9am to 4:00pm

North West

Location	Opening times
Abbots Vale Community Centre Barrow-in-Furness LA13 9PA	Mon-Fri: 9am to 8pm
Barrow-in-Furness Main Public Library Barrow-in-Furness, Ramsden Square LA14 1LL	Mon-Thurs: 9:30am to 6pm Fri: 9:30am to 5pm Sat: 10am to 4pm
Egremont Community Centre Egremont Mission, Guildford Street, Wallasey CH44 0BP	Mon-Fri: 9am to 4pm
Penwortham Town Council and Community Centre , Kingsfold Drive, Penwortham, Preston PR1 9EQ	Mon-Thurs: 10am to 3pm Fri: 10am to 12pm
Preston City Council Town Hall, Lancaster Road, Preston, PR1 2RL	Mon-Weds and Fri: 9am to 5pm Thurs: 10am to 5pm
Southport Library Lord Street, Southport PR8 1DJ	Mon-Fri: 10am to 5pm Sat: 10am to 2pm



Using our project website:

www.morecambeandmorgan.com/morgan



Using our project freephone number:
0800 915 2493 (option 1)



Send an email to:

info@morganoffshorewind.com



Write to our freepost address:

Freepost MORGAN

Online event

If you can't make it along to an in-person event, you can register to attend our online event from 19 April 2023 by scanning the QR code below, or visiting **www.morecambeandmorgan.com/morgan**. This event will include a presentation by the project team and a question-and-answer session.



Location	Date	Time
This online event will take place on Zoom.	Weds 3 May	6pm to 7pm



4.6 Publicising the consultation

- **Advertising** – the project will run two rounds of advertising in local media – in advance of the launch and close of consultation, encouraging people to take part. This will consist of print advertising in newspapers in circulation in appropriate local planning authorities, for example relevant coastal authorities. We will also advertise online, using local media platforms.
- **Press releases** – news releases will be issued to local media during the consultation. A press release will be issued at the start of consultation and another two weeks before the close of consultation, encouraging people to take part.
- **Social media** – promoting the consultation on social media channels that are owned and managed by Morgan Offshore Wind Project.
- **Public notices** – the project will also take out public notices in local and national newspapers, in accordance with the principles set out in the by the Planning Act.
- **Posters** – will be printed and issued for display via relevant local planning authorities venues hosting events and to other local venues such as supermarkets, shops and libraries.
- **Letters** – will be sent to key stakeholders including local councillors, inviting them to take part and to encourage others to do so. Letters will also be sent to other relevant interest groups and local community organisations.

4.7 Seldom heard groups

To allow people to engage with the consultation at their own convenience, the project has designed a 'digital first' consultation. This allows people to take part even if they cannot attend a consultation event.

The online webinar will be open to anyone to attend and ask questions of the project team. All information will be available on the website and people are encouraged to submit feedback using the online feedback map or online feedback form.

People will be able to ask questions and find out more by calling the enquiry line or using the freepost or email addresses.

For those who are less comfortable engaging digitally, we have developed the consultation to be accessible and this has played an important role in planning consultation activities.

Community events will be held in accessible public locations over a number of different days, and at different times of day, to encourage attendance.

We will ensure that venues are accessible via public transport, have sufficient parking and are easy to navigate.

We recognise that some individuals or groups may have difficulties taking part in the consultation process for a range of reasons. We have identified a number of organisations representing seldom heard groups in the area.

As with our non-statutory consultation, these organisations will be written to at the start of the consultation. Requests for specific consultation activities will be planned and agreed with the requesting organisation so that our activities best meet the needs of those it represents.

We will provide key consultation documents in other formats to meet accessibility requirements upon request, such as large print, Braille or audio versions.

4.8 Requests for documents

We will respond to reasonable requests for further copies of documents. Requests for hard copies will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. A reasonable copying charge may apply, to be paid by the recipient in advance.

5 Submitting feedback

5.1 How to submit feedback

The consultation is an important opportunity for affected people, groups and communities to have their say on the final proposals, prior to application for development consent.

There are several ways to submit feedback:

Everyone submitting their comments to us (and providing their contact details) will receive an acknowledgement that their feedback has been received.

We are not able to respond individually to every question, but the themes and issues raised during this consultation will be summarised in our Consultation Report, which will be published as part of our DCO application.

We will reply to queries received about the logistics of the consultation itself, details of the events being held, availability of consultation materials or advice on how to submit a response. The project takes data privacy seriously and all data will be held in line with GDPR best practice.



Feedback map – this interactive map of the proposals allows people to drop a pin and leave comments online and / or attach files (such as document or images) to their feedback.



Feedback form – available on the project website www.morecambeandmorgan.com/morgan, at consultation events or by request from the consultation team



By email – to info@morganoffshorewind.com



In writing – Freepost MORGAN (please be advised it is not possible to send registered post to a freepost address)

5.2 What happens next

At the close of consultation, we will look carefully at all the feedback we've received, alongside further technical assessments, and finalise our proposals.

If, as a result of the feedback, the project changes to the extent that it is necessary to carry out further consultation, this further consultation will be carried out in accordance with the principles set out in this SoCC and targeted geographically as is appropriate.

A Consultation Report will be produced that sets out how feedback from all of our consultations has shaped the design of the proposed development.

The Consultation Report will include a summary of consultation responses, including how this feedback was considered and how it may be used. It will detail the consultation process, demonstrating how it was undertaken in accordance with this SoCC, and how it met all legal requirements.

Morgan Offshore Wind Limited will then submit a DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate.

5.3 Indicative timeline

Indicative timeline

(as of publication April 2023)

● **2023**

- Statutory consultation on Morgan offshore wind farm

● **2024**

- Application submitted for Development Consent (DCO)

● **2026**

- Earliest anticipated commencement of construction

● **2028/29**

- Expected start – Commercial Operations Date (COD)



6 Contact us



Find out more on our website
www.morecambeandmorgan.com/morgan
or use this QR code



Phone:
0800 915 2493 (option 1)



Email:
info@morganoffshorewind.com



Post:
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