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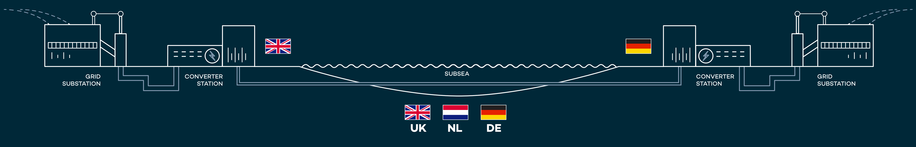
THE TARCHON INTERCONNECTOR PROJECT

The proposed Tarchon Interconnector Project will create a direct power link between the UK and Germany. Connecting the two energy markets, it will increase energy security and reliability, reduce CO_2 emissions and help to reduce energy costs.

If one country has a surplus of energy and the other has a shortage, this energy can be transferred through the interconnector to help meet the power demand during this time; and vice versa, rather than curtailing and wasting this power it can be traded to the benefit of the country's economy.



Tarchon is being developed by Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP), a global leader in renewable energy investments committed to making significant and meaningful contributions to the green transition, with support from a broad array of experts in their fields.

Volta Partners has a minority ownership stake in Tarchon. The team has experience developing transmission lines and interconnectors, including the 1.4GW NeuConnect interconnector between the UK and Germany.

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WHAT ARE INTERCONNECTORS AND WHY ARE THEY NEEDED?

Interconnectors are high-voltage electricity cables that connect neighbouring countries, allowing power to flow in both directions across land and under the sea. They help countries share electricity, improve energy security, reduce costs, and support the transition to cleaner energy.

BENEFITS OF INTERCONNECTORS

Improved energy security – Interconnectors strengthen energy security. The more connected a country's energy system is, the less vulnerable it becomes to energy shortages, supply disruptions, or volatility in global fossil fuel markets. This creates a more resilient and reliable energy system for consumers and businesses.

Lower energy costs – Interconnectors allow electricity to flow from areas where it is more abundant or less expensive to areas where demand is higher. By increasing access to available power and improving competition between energy markets, they help reduce overall system costs and support more affordable electricity for consumers.

Supporting renewable energy – Interconnectors enable excess renewable electricity, such as wind power, to be exported instead of wasted. This reduces the need for curtailment (when renewable generation is reduced because there is insufficient demand or network capacity), helping maximise the use of clean energy, lower carbon emissions, and improve the efficiency of the electricity system.

Reduced reliance on fossil fuels – Greater international connectivity helps reduce dependence on imported oil and gas.

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WHY IS THE TARCHON PROJECT NEEDED?

The proposed Tarchon Project will:

- **Strengthen the UK's energy security.**
- **Support lower energy costs by enabling electricity trading between the UK and Germany.**
- **Help both countries achieve decarbonisation goals.**

The UK has a relatively large renewable energy mix and often generates significant renewable electricity. The Tarchon Project will allow surplus clean energy to be exported when available and imported when needed, creating a more resilient, efficient, and sustainable energy system for both countries.

Key benefits:
• Energy security • Lower consumer costs
• Greater use of renewable energy • Reduced fossil fuel reliance

The Tarchon Project aims to make significant investments across the UK, Netherlands and Germany, with the delivery of the interconnector. Building the project will create many jobs during the multi-year development and construction phases and enable workers to develop skills and expertise in a growing global industry. As part of the project development, Tarchon aims to create long-term, tangible benefits for society through both job creation and utilising local supply chains.

TARCHON KEY FACTS

Tarchon will allow up to **1.8GW of electricity** to move between the UK and Germany in both directions.

The interconnector will be a combination of onshore and offshore cables approx. **760km** in length.

Once constructed, this will be one of the **longest interconnectors in the world.**

With its capacity, Tarchon can reliably **supply up to 1.9 million households** with electricity.

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TIMELINE SINCE WE LAST SPOKE TO YOU

At our early non-statutory consultation in Q1 2025, we presented the initial onshore search area. Since then, we have continued site selection, stakeholder engagement and environmental assessment to refine our proposals.

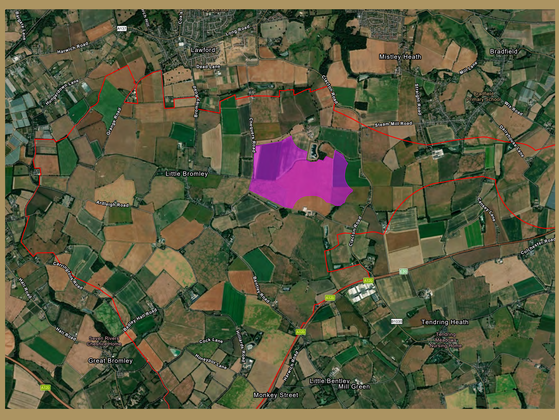
In April 2025, the project was designated a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). This means the project is being taken forward through the Development Consent Order (DCO) process, with further assessment and consultation required before any final decisions are made. (See separate DCO banner for more details)

Our early site selection work screened potential areas in the 5 km vicinity of National Grid's proposed East Anglia Connection Node (EACN), and identified a zone as an area for a potential converter station location.

In Q1 2025 voluntary option agreements were signed with landowners within this part of the initial search area. This area remains our current preferred area, based on initial site assessment. However, the site selection process has not yet been finalised and remains subject to further environmental assessment, technical analysis, and consultation.

During 2026/2027 the Project is seeking to refine the converter station area down to a defined location, undertaking further detailed assessment and consultation on how it fits into the surrounding landscape.

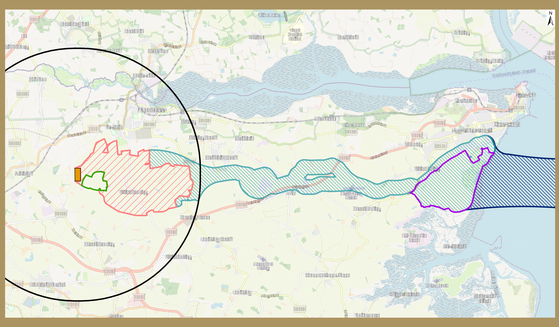
In Q1 2025 voluntary option agreements were signed with landowners within the pink area shown below, only approximately 7.5 hectares of the site will be required for the operational converter station (the pink area currently covers approximately 110 hectares). Separate landscape and visual assessments for possible screening are ongoing and will be consulted on through the consenting process.



Why is the scoping boundary wider than the current preferred area?

The scoping boundary shows the maximum area being considered at this stage. It was widened to allow us to continue environmental studies, respond to feedback, reflect changes in the planning context including the Tendring District Council Local Plan, and refine the project.

Old non-statutory consultation 2025 map with initial search area.



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ONSHORE SCOPING BOUNDARY AND PROJECT INFRASTRUCTURE

The Tarchon Project comprises of both onshore and offshore infrastructure.

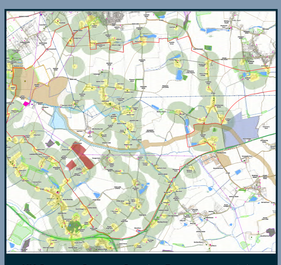
In the UK, the proposed Tarchon Interconnector Project will come onshore in the Tendring peninsula, Essex, with a landfall zone being considered south of Harwich.

Approximately 15 km of underground cables will travel from landfall to connect with the Tarchon converter station which will transfer the HVDC power to HVAC power.

The Tarchon converter station will then connect with approximately 5 km of underground cable to National Grid's proposed East Anglia Connection Node (EACN) substation.

UK Onshore Scheme Scoping Boundary.
Please see the larger maps for more detail.

The map below highlights the various constraints that need to be considered when investigating the location for the proposed converter station. Please see the larger maps for more detail.



UK Onshore Scheme Scoping Boundary overlaid with a variety of known constraints.
Please see the larger maps for more detail.

National Grid has proposed a new East Anglia Connection Node (EACN) 400kV substation in Tendring. Tarchon was allocated the EACN as the connection point for the project. Consequently, project infrastructure must be sited in close proximity to the EACN grid connection point, requiring a landfall, onshore cable route and onshore converter station within the Tendring district to facilitate the connection. The converter station should be within 5 km of National Grid's proposed EACN to minimise electrical losses. **All Tarchon cabling will be buried.**

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TIMELINE

Here is the indicative high-level Tarchon Project timeline in the UK:

We want to work with the community to help us shape the project and we welcome your views. Please do speak to the team here today to find out more about the project, to discuss your views and suggestions, and to find out how to provide feedback.

There are several ways you can share your feedback:

- Complete a feedback form and pop it in the box here today.
- Visit the Tarchon Project website and complete a form online.
- Send us your views by email.
- Send us a letter or return the feedback form by post using our FREEPOST address.

CONTACT US

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Freepost TARCHON ENERGY

You can stay in touch with the Tarchon Project by signing up to receive information via email and visiting the website.

To express your interest as a supplier for the Tarchon Project, please send an email to **info@tarchoninterconnector.com** with the subject **"FAO Supply Chain"**.

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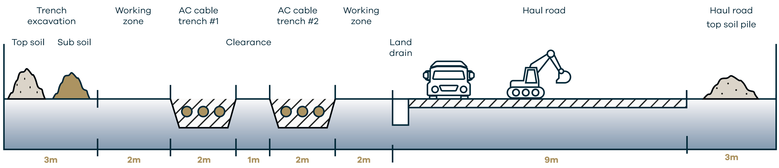
ONSHORE CABLE

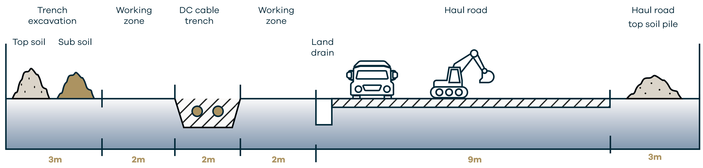
INDICATIVE CROSS SECTION OF A TYPICAL CORRIDOR CONSTRUCTION

Cross section of an indicative HVAC onshore cable corridor



The above diagram shows two trenches for an Alternating Current (AC) cable corridor, which requires two cable trenches; the majority of the Tarchon Project onshore cable route will be Direct Current (DC) cabling which will only require one trench (see diagram below). During construction there will be a maximum temporary corridor width of 40 metres to allow for complicated crossings etc.

Cross section of an indicative HVDC onshore cable corridor



As all cabling will be underground or sub-sea, Tarchon will not install any pylons or overhead lines.

The exact methods for onshore cable installation will depend on the final cable route and constraints present. Typically, cable installation will involve the following activities:

- Open cut: the cable trench is excavated by a mechanical excavator, then backfilled using a combination of excavated soils and sand and the land reinstated above.
- Trenchless methods such as Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) or pipe jacking: trenchless methods of cable installation which allow the cables to be installed beneath constraints such as rivers, roads and sensitive habitats, thereby avoiding direct impacts.

During construction there will be a maximum temporary corridor width of 40 metres. After construction, land along the onshore cable corridor will be restored so that it can return to its original use. Small inspection chambers will be placed along the cable corridor with a chamber lid at surface level, positioned as close to field boundaries as possible.

The image above shows an indicative single cable cross-section; it is envisaged that Tarchon will consist of two such cables and a fibre optic cable bundled together.

The photo above shows cable installation occurring across agricultural land.

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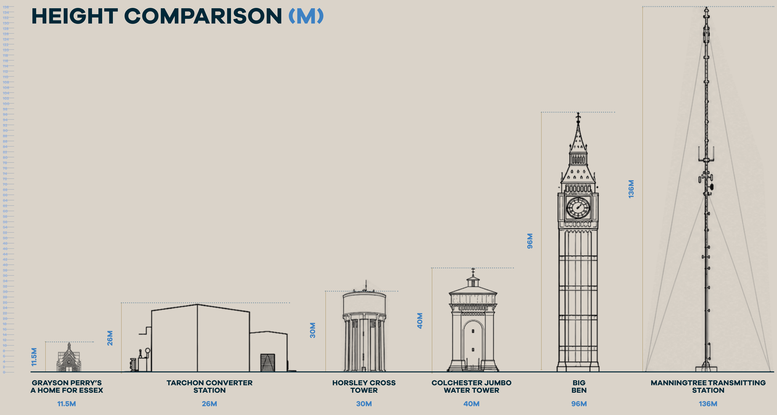
CONVERTER STATION

Interconnectors consist of high-voltage cables that can run both underground on land and underwater/under the seabed. For connections across large bodies of water – for example, between the European mainland and the UK – high-capacity subsea cables are used.

Subsea interconnectors mostly use High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) cables to minimise losses over long distances. This requires converter stations at each endpoint, where electricity is converted from the High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC) used in the UK's national grid, to HVDC for transmission; and vice versa.

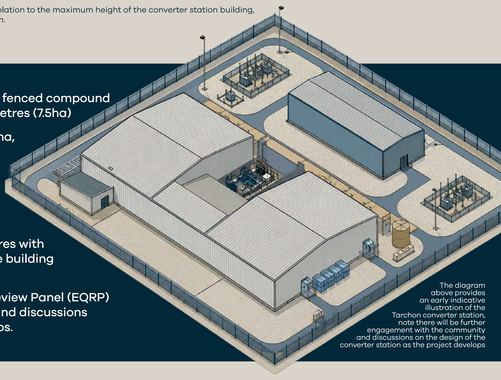
Tarchon Project's UK converter station will consist of a collection of technical buildings and electrical equipment. The illustration below shows the maximum height of the converter station in comparison to local landmarks.



Please note the scale guide above is provided to allow a representative comparison in relation to the maximum height of the converter station building, the width and other dimensions are unlikely to be accurate for the various images shown.

- The proposed UK converter station will occupy a securely fenced compound with an operational footprint of up to 300 metres x 250 metres (7.5ha)
- The overall land take during construction will be up to 10 ha, of which 2.5 ha will accommodate visual screening measures and landscaping upon operation
- Additional screening over a wider area may be required and will be developed following further assessment once the converter station location is confirmed
- The maximum height of the main buildings will be 26 metres with a lightning mast up to 30 metres in height adjacent to the building (up to 4m higher than the converter station).

The Tarchon Project plans to work with the Essex Quality Review Panel (EQRP) and there will be further engagement with the community and discussions on the design of the converter station as the project develops.



The diagram above provides an early indicative illustration of the Tarchon converter station, note there will be further engagement with the community and discussions on the design of the converter station as the project develops

Viking Link UK converter station taken from approx. 1.2 km away from the building

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LANDFALL

At landfall, once all UK landfall works are completed, the only visible infrastructure above ground will be a manhole cover of approximately 2 metres by 2 metres. This will be positioned over the Transition Joint Bay (TJB), a buried inspection chamber/joint connecting offshore and onshore cables at the landfall.

A smaller inspection bay for the fibre optic transmission may also be required; this would result in an additional manhole cover of approximately 1 metre by 1 metre. Both manhole covers would be flush to, or slightly raised above, the land surface.

At the proposed UK landfall, the project is applying for open cut installation or a trenchless technology, where only one of these would be utilised. Trenchless techniques such as Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD), or similar, are our preferred method of cable laying if these are feasible, in order to minimise disruption and potential negative impacts to the designated ecological sites and recreational activities within the intertidal and nearshore zone adjacent to the UK landfall area.

Cables will not be installed beneath residential properties (including gardens), commercial premises (excluding farmland) or other buildings.

Works at the proposed UK landfall will likely be undertaken in two seasons (separate years). In the first season the cable ducts will be installed; in the second season the cables will be pulled through the ducts to the UK landfall.

Example landfall construction set up. Credit: Green Link (once the landfall is completed this will be returned to its initial state; aside from a manhole/ access cover, nothing else will be visible)

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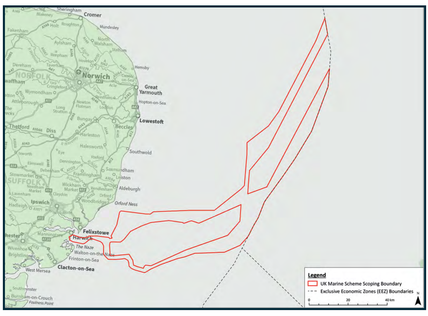
OFFSHORE SCOPING BOUNDARY AND PROJECT INFRASTRUCTURE

The Tarchon Project comprises of both onshore and offshore infrastructure.

The Offshore Scoping Boundary shown here highlights the UK Marine Scheme (UKMS) that will form the offshore part of the Development Consent Order application process.



The UK Marine Scheme (UKMS) comprises all proposed Tarchon Project infrastructure within UK waters, including UK territorial waters (within 12 Nautical Miles (nm) from shore), and the UK Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) (12 to 200 nm from shore).

This includes offshore High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) transmission cables, the associated fibre optic cable, and the elements of the UK landfall that will be present below Mean High Water Springs (MHWS), for example, the offshore entry/exit point for trenchless cable installation at the UK landfall.

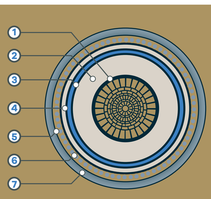
The route corridor for the underwater HVDC cable is currently being determined (based on technical assessment, offshore surveys, environmental assessments and continued consultation). The goal is a technically feasible, environmentally compatible, and spatially coordinated route through the EEZ and territorial seas of the participating states. In the UK waters, we are currently appraising potential options by following best practice guidance where it is available, for example from The Crown Estate. We are also in discussion with key stakeholders to confirm the optimal route. Through this work Tarchon is aware of the constraints in this area of the North Sea which include the complexity of shipping operations, fishing activities and protected habitats and species, on both a national and European level.

SUBSEA CABLE

The subsea cable bundle will consist of up to two HVDC cables and one fibre optic cable. The cable bundle will be installed within a single trench with a maximum width of 10 metres or surface laid where burial is not achievable due to surrounding conditions (in such a circumstance, some form of cable protection would be utilised). The cable will typically be buried up to 3 metres below the seabed to ensure long term cable protection.

An indicative cross section of a HVDC subsea cable and bundled cable configuration

1 CONDUCTOR
2 INSULATION (XLPE)
3 LEAD SHEATH
4 POLYMERIC CORROSION PROTECTION
5 ARMOUR BEDDING TAPES
6 ARMOUR (GALVANISED STEEL)
7 SERVING (POLYPROPYLENE)



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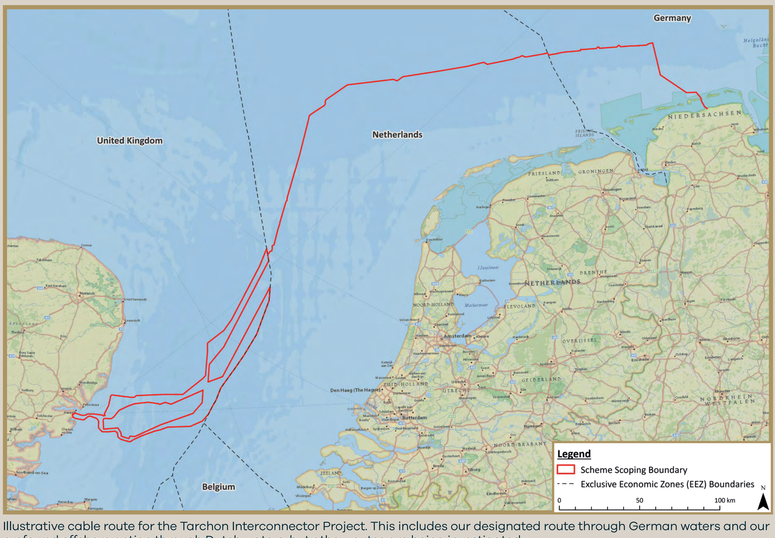
THE NETHERLANDS AND GERMANY



Illustrative cable route for the Tarchon Interconnector Project. This includes our designated route through German waters and our preferred offshore option through Dutch waters, but other routes are being investigated

The offshore project elements include approximately 620 km of subsea cabling, which will traverse UK, Dutch and German waters; with approximately 120 km of onshore cabling in Germany (in comparison to approximately 20 km onshore in the UK). In this way, a direct, high-capacity electricity connection is created between two important European energy markets.

In Germany, the cable runs through the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the Federal Republic, then through the 12-nautical-mile zone and finally beneath the island of Langeoog through the Wadden Sea.

INDICATIVE TIMELINE ILLUSTRATION

2025
Ongoing optioneering and site selection work across the jurisdictions

2026
Surveys/consents preparation

2028
Consents submissions

2030
Construction

2034
Commercial Operation Date

The Tarchon Project has been recognised by the European Commission as a Project of Mutual Interest (PMI). PMIs are key cross-border energy infrastructure projects recognised by the European Commission for their strategic importance in connecting the energy systems of the UK and other countries in the EU. PMI projects help achieve affordable, secure and sustainable energy for all citizens, and the long-term decarbonisation of the economy.

The Tarchon Project strengthens security of supply, improves the cross-border integration of renewable energies and supports the decarbonisation of the energy system.

Ultimately, the Tarchon Project provides economic benefits through improved electricity market efficiency and increased energy reliability for businesses and consumers, enabling the reduction in overall energy bills.

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DCO CONSENTING PROCESS

In April 2025, the UK Secretary of State granted the Tarchon Project Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) status. Under legislation (the Planning Act 2008), NSIPs are developments which require Development Consent Orders (DCO) to be granted by the Secretary of State for the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero.

DCO application process.

Further details can be found on the PINS website https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/decision-making-process-guide

1. Pre-application (where we are now)

Before an application is submitted, we will carry out a minimum of two consultations; an early (non-statutory) consultation has already taken place in 2025, and we are currently undertaking a non-statutory consultation to discuss the submitted Scoping Report. Finally we will undertake a statutory consultation in 2027. Following other application activities including further surveys and submission of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), we will submit our Environmental Statement and DCO application in 2028.

2. Acceptance

After an application is submitted, the Planning Inspectorate, on behalf of the Secretary of State has 28 days to decide whether it meets the standards required to be accepted for Examination.

3. Pre-examination

During this stage you can register as an Interested Party by making a Relevant Representation, which is a written summary of your views. Inspectors are selected, who then hold preliminary meetings and set out the timetable for Examination

4. Examination

The Planning Inspectorate has a six-month period to carry out the Examination. This is mostly a written process, and those who have registered as Interested Parties will be invited to provide further information in writing. There will also be open floor hearings, which the public can register to speak at.

5. Decision

The Planning Inspectorate has three months to prepare a report, which includes a recommendation. The Secretary of State then has a further three months to issue a decision.

6. Post-decision

In the event of a positive decision by the Secretary of State, a DCO would be granted (or 'made' as it is a form of legislation). Tarchon would take a final investment decision and then discharge requirements and comply with the powers and provisions of the DCO.

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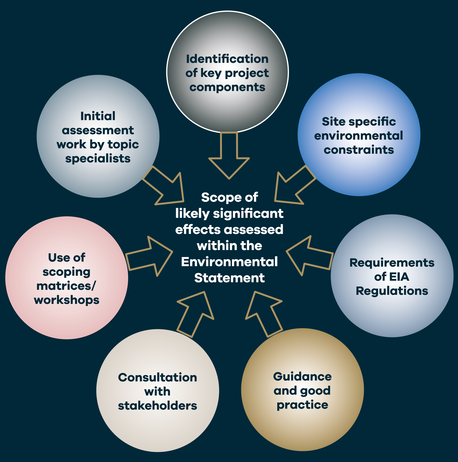
SCOPING REPORT

The Tarchon Project's Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in April 2026 and the Planning Inspectorate, on behalf of the Secretary of State, provided its Scoping Opinion on our EIA Scoping Report in May 2026. The Scoping Opinion sets out feedback from stakeholders on the main issues and uncertainties they believe should be considered as part of the assessment, along with the reasons for their views.

This is an important early step in the planning process and helps to define the scope of the environmental assessments and the proposed methods that will be used to understand potential effects of the project on people, communities, and the environment.

The impact assessments will then be progressed through the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) phase and finalised at the Environmental Statement (ES) stage for submission as part of the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for examination and decision.

OVERVIEW OF THE SCOPING PROCESS



The Scoping Report and Planning Inspectorate's Scoping Opinion are publicly available on the Planning Inspectorate's website, ensuring transparency around the assessments that will inform the project design and future consultation stages.

Details of the proposed scheme and proposed assessment methodologies can be found within the EIA Scoping Report:

https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN0210009

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COMMUNITY BENEFIT

We are committed to creating long term, tangible community benefits as part of the project development, such as improving skills and education locally.

We will complete social value and economic assessments to inform our plans and create meaningful opportunities for the community.

Tarchon will use the experience of other CIP projects to develop initiatives. For example:

Ossian Wind Farm has committed to collaborating with University of Highlands and Islands (UHI) and fellow ScotWind projects to support the expansion of STEM across the country to ensure we can build a skilled workforce for the future of offshore wind.

Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm is supporting an Education and Training Fund, which provides scholarships to select students from Thurso and Farr High Schools who are going on to higher education and training courses focused on STEM and Renewable Energy.

CREDIT: PENTLAND FLOATING OFFSHORE WIND FARM

ALREADY THE PROJECT HAS:

Started initial conversations with the Essex Community Foundation to see if we can work together to develop and administer a Community Benefit Fund. We are committed to providing a Community Benefit Fund and will provide more details on this during our Statutory Consultation.

Joined the East of England Energy Group (EEEGR), a trade body representing the energy sector in the East of England, and spoke at EEEGR's Southern North Sea (SNS) conference in 2025, introducing the project to the local supply chain.

Committed to desk space in Freeport East's Harwich. Innovation Hub.

Been in discussions with Essex County Council regarding inward investment opportunities and took part in the Greater Essex Energy Roundtable.

As we work towards our planning submission, we will provide further detail on the benefits the project will bring to the local area and the whole of the UK. We would also welcome your input into what benefits are important to you, please do contact us with your suggestions.

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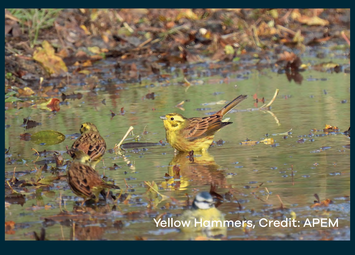
SURVEYS

ONSHORE

As the Tarchon Project continues to develop, our environmental consultants are carrying out a range of onshore surveys and assessments, including collecting information and data on local onshore wildlife and habitats as well as noise, traffic and flood risk studies.

Some surveys may be intrusive, meaning small-scale physical investigations such as drilling boreholes, digging trial pits, or taking ground samples to better understand soil and ground conditions. Appropriate permissions and permits will be obtained as required, and any elements disturbed during such sampling would be returned to their original state upon completion.

This information will support the development of the engineering design, helping to ensure that all environmental considerations are taken into account while maintaining a technically viable solution.



Yellow Hammers, Credit: APEM

OFFSHORE

As the project progresses specialist contractors will also begin a range of marine surveys along the proposed offshore cable corridor to understand the seabed and the conditions beneath it. This will include geophysical surveys, which use sonar and other acoustic equipment to map the shape and features of the seabed; benthic surveys, which will identify seabed habitats; and geotechnical surveys, to understand conditions below the seabed.

The aim is to understand the baseline environmental, physical and chemical conditions of the local seabed and underlying layers. This will help support the selection of a cable route that is both environmentally appropriate and technically feasible.

Example survey vessel, Credit: Fugro

SURVEY RESULTS

All available survey results and assessments will be presented in our forthcoming Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which is expected to be submitted and consulted on in 2027. A complete set of survey results and assessments will then be provided in the Environmental Statement accompanying the Development Consent Order (DCO) application, planned for submission in 2028.

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NEXT STEPS

We want to work with the community to help us shape the project and we welcome your views. There are several ways you can share your feedback:

- Complete a feedback form available at this event and pop it in the box here today.
- Visit the Tarchon Project website and complete a form online.
- Send us your views by email.
- Send us a letter or return the feedback form by post using our FREEPOST address.

If you require assistance or have accessibility needs, please speak to one of our team here today who will be happy to help.

We will hold further consultations to seek your views on our more detailed proposals. Information will be published on our website and advertised locally.

CONTACT US

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Please do sign up to our newsletters to ensure you are kept up-to-date.

Many thanks from the Tarchon Project team.

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