

Hornsea 3 Cable installation progress update

May 2025

Welcome

This update offers insights into the ongoing onshore construction activities of the Hornsea 3 Offshore Wind Farm in May 2025.

As a valued stakeholder, we are committed to keeping you informed through these monthly updates.

Our goal is to maintain open and transparent communication throughout our works.

Descriptions of the activities presented in this update are provided in the glossary at the end.

Hornsea 3 Offshore Wind Farm

We're building the world's largest offshore wind farm 121km off the Norfolk coast and 160km off the Yorkshire coast.



Up to 231 offshore wind turbines



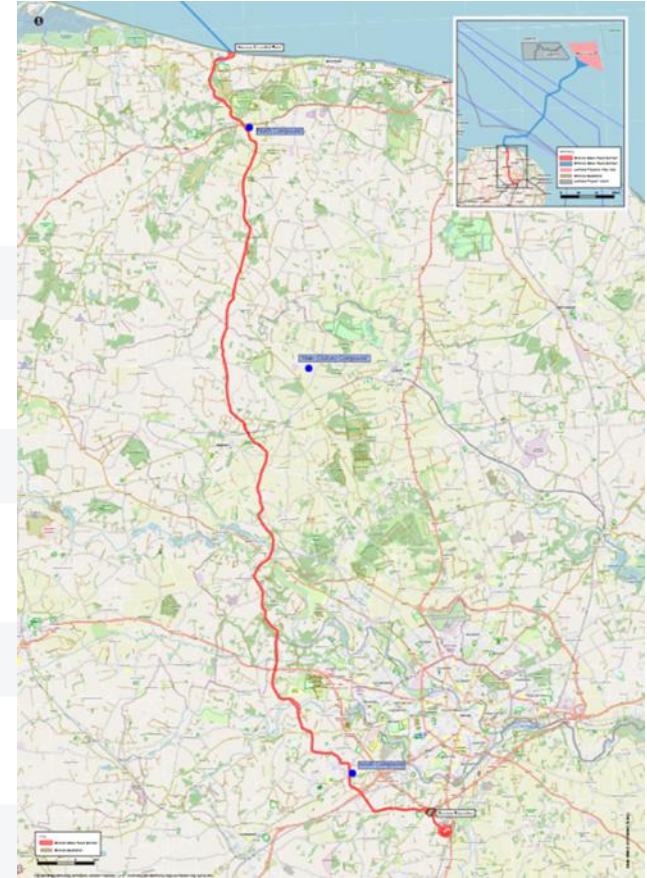
A 54km cable installed underground



c. 2.9GW of green electricity

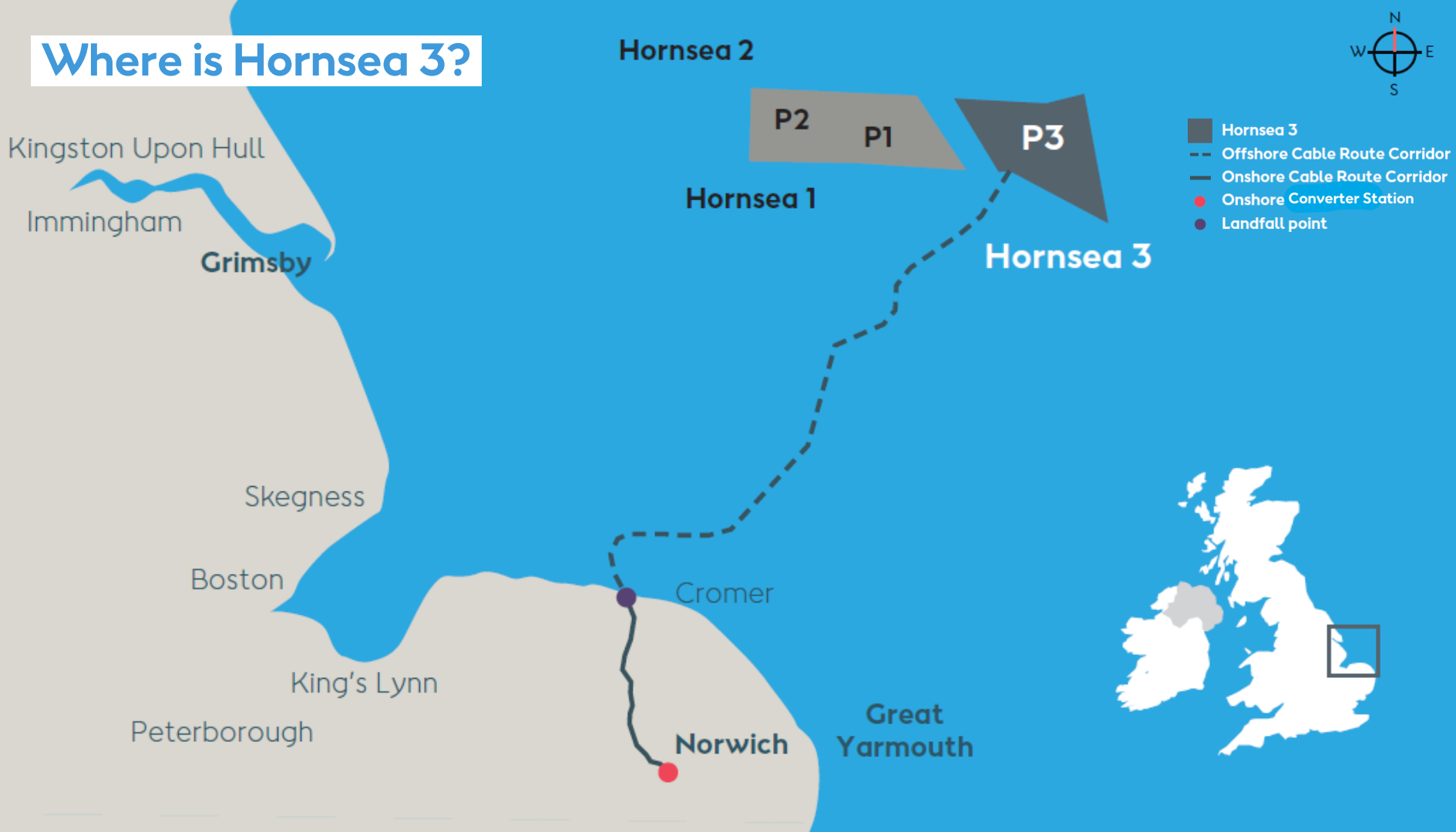


Enough clean energy to power
3 million UK homes



Hornsea 3 cable route from landfall (Weybourne) to the Converter Station (Swardeston)

Where is Hornsea 3?



Overall project progress to date

- part one

Since commencing our works on Hornsea 3 in March 2023, we have undertaken the following:

Access Points

- Completed all required access points.
- Access points will start to be taken out early July.

Pre-construction drainage

- Completed all 72 zones.

Post construction drainage

- Completed in seven zones.

Earthworks

- Stripped 71 zones.

Haul Roads

- Stoned up 71 zones, to allow the operation of our haul roads.



Overall project progress to date - part two

Ducting

- Completed 64 zones.

Horizontal Directional Drills (HDDs)

- Complex (large scale) HDDs: 26 completed along the route.
- Simple (smaller scale) HDDs: 65 completed along the route.

Joint bays

- Completed 41 joint bays.



Exciting news on our reinstatement progress

Reinstatement has been completed in 10 zones.

The process of reinstatement involves returning land back to its original state and function. This is done by:

- removing the Haul roads,
- placing soil back over the cable,
- removing the temporary access points; and
- replanting the hedgerows.

We work closely with our Principal Contractor, Volker Fitzpatrick, to make sure the right processes are in place so we can restore the land to its original condition upon completion. This includes carefully managing and protecting the topsoil throughout the project.

Once our project is complete, it is unlikely you will be able to see where we have undertaken works.



Glossary

Access points (bell mouths)

To access each land plot for our works, new gated construction traffic access points (bell mouths) need to be installed at highway entrance / exit points. The bell mouths provide access to the work area for plant, machinery, materials and anything else required to ensure the project is delivered on time.

Timeframes for installation vary depending on their size and complexity, however we will inform communities of any proposed disruption through Advance Work Notices (AWNs). As with all work on the highway, some short-term disruption may occur where a road closure or lane-closure is required.

Since works started in June 2022 we have sent out over 170 AWNs regarding any road or lane closure along the route.

Drainage

Pre-construction drainage is installed where necessary to keep the soils draining effectively during our trenching works. Post-construction drainage will then be installed to help the land return to its former use.

Ducting

Duct installation works consist of trench excavations where ducting will be laid. The ducting acts as a protective casing through which the cabling will be pulled later in the project. Upon completion of installing the ducting, the trench will be reinstated with subsoil.

A specialist insulating material is used to surround the ducting, to help reduce the risk of the cables overheating.

A team of groundworkers use excavator machines to complete the digging and backfilling of the trenches.

Glossary

Earthworks / Topsoil Strip

Prior to topsoil stripping, demarcation fencing is installed to define the construction working corridor using post and rope or stockproof fencing where applicable.

Excavators will scrape back the topsoil, which will then be piled at the side of the working area, to form a topsoil bund. This prevents the topsoil becoming damaged by working equipment. Topsoil and subsoil will be stored separately on a field-by-field basis.

These topsoil bunds are then seeded with an approved seed mix to reduce the risk of surface water run-off and soil erosion.

Haul Roads

A temporary haul road is constructed along the cable route to protect the subsoil from damage and create a safe, designated route for our construction traffic.

It's also important that the aggregate that we lay for the haul road is kept separate from the area of land we have just excavated. A separation membrane helps ensure this. Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) tipper wagons will be required to deliver the stone to site.

Horizontal Directional Drills

Horizontal directional drills (HDDs), also known as directional boring, are a minimal impact trenchless method of installing underground utilities, in this case ducting for high voltage cables.

There will be approximately 95 HDDs on Hornsea 3, located under roads, woodland, rivers and rail links, reducing the effects that open-trench construction methods would create and therefore minimising disruption.

Glossary

Joint Bays

The construction of joint bays is required to enable the installation and jointing of the cable sections to form a complete circuit. The joint bays are typically every 1-1.2km, depending on the length of the cable, road access, topography, soil type, rivers, roads, and other physical land constraints.

Jointing

Jointing is the process by which we connect the individual sections of cables together to form a complete circuit. This process is completed within our joint bays, where specialist teams of welders connect the ends of the cables. Before jointing can commence, small compounds need to be erected at the joint bays.

Reinstatement

Reinstatement is returning land back to its original state and function. This is done by removing the Haul roads, soil is put back over the cable, access points are removed and then finally the hedgerows are replanted.

We appreciate that the works we undertake are instructive, we work closely with our Principal Contractor to ensure that the correct processes are in place to ensure that soil fertility and structure that Preservation and control of the topsoil during the construction process to ensure that once works have finished, we're able to restore the land to how it was before.

Zones

The cable route is broken down into zones. There are a total of 72 zones along the onshore cable corridor route, all going through North Norfolk, Broadland and South Norfolk.

Landfall

The term landfall refers to the point at which the cables carrying power from an offshore wind farm reach the shore. This is where the offshore and onshore infrastructure is connected.

Engagement

Advance Work Notices (AWNs)

In line with our community engagement framework and commitment to inform communities about potentially disruptive works, the Hornsea 3 Community Relations Team has produced and distributed a total of **170 AWNs** since June 2022 to residents, businesses, and Parish Councils along the cable route.

Newsletters

Hornsea 3 publishes quarterly newsletters to provide stakeholders with an update on the progress of our Project. You can access all of our newsletters published so far by visiting [our website](#). To sign up to receive our quarterly newsletters straight to your inbox email: community@hornsea3.co.uk or scan the QR code on the next page.

Community Benefit Fund

Our Hornsea 3 Community Fund was officially launched in the North Norfolk and East Anglia region in 2024. This initiative commits **£7 million** over a period of at least 10 years, demonstrating our dedication and commitment to effecting positive change in this region.

The Hornsea 3 Community Fund is being independently administered by GrantScape, an independent grant-making charity. You can find more details on the fund, the eligibility criteria, funding zone map, and more, on GrantScape's webpage [Hornsea 3 Community Fund - Grantscape](#)

The first and second round of the CBF has been granted. To find out who was successful please see the link below:
[Hornsea 3 Community Benefit Fund Announces Awards](#)

Events and Meetings

In line with our community engagement framework to proactively engage with communities, the Hornsea 3 Community Relations Team has attended **76** community events and meetings with local stakeholders since our works commenced.

Have you signed up to the Hornsea Three Community newsletter?

The Hornsea 3 Offshore Wind Farm is a major infrastructure project of national importance. With a generating capacity of 2.9 GW, Hornsea 3 will produce enough green energy to power more than 3 million UK homes.

We know that as with any large-scale infrastructure project, people are curious about Hornsea 3 and have questions about it.

We're here to help.

If you would like to get our quarterly newsletters with detailed updates on the status of the project delivered straight to your inbox, please scan the QR Code below.



Please reach out to our dedicated Community Relations team if you have any further questions:

Email: community@hornsea3.co.uk

Telephone: 0800 158 2354

How to get in touch

Project enquiries

Community Liaison Officers

Telephone: 0800 158 2354

Email: community@hornsea3.co.uk

Community Relations Team

We aim to provide a full response to all enquiries within 10 working days.

Let's create a world
that runs entirely on
green energy

