

Consent for extensions to generate more renewable energy



■ Wind turbines off the coast of Norfolk (Image courtesy of Richard Sykes)

Equinor's application to build and operate the Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Extension Projects (SEP and DEP) was approved by Claire Coutinho MP, Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, on 17th April 2024.

Once constructed, SEP and DEP will double the electricity generation capacity of the exiting Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farms, significantly contributing to the UK's renewable energy targets with the potential to generate

enough energy to power a further 785,000 UK homes.

Commenting on this significant milestone for SEP and DEP, Equinor's Project Director, Kari-Hege Mørk said:

"We are very pleased that the Secretary of State has approved the application for a Development Consent Order, and greatly appreciate the support of the many organisations and individuals that have worked with us over the last 6 years to enable us to reach this point."

"We will now continue to develop the project plan in line with the conditions attached to this consent,

and we will be providing regular project updates to all our stakeholders and those communities affected by our plans."

The SEP and DEP projects have been combined in a single application for a Development Consent Order, a first for the offshore wind industry. The approval of the consent is a significant development for this innovative approach.

Construction of both projects is expected to commence during 2026 ■

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Working with the Norfolk supply chain...

...2024 Internships



■ Equinor's 2023 Interns with Tim Pick, Offshore Wind Champion

The Ogden Trust is a charitable trust which exists to promote the teaching and learning of physics, and each year it runs a Coastal Energy Internship Programme.

Participating organisations create projects with real business value, which students from local partner colleges complete during their funded placements..

During 2024 the Ogden Trust will be working with Equinor to provide opportunities for eight students to participate in the Internship Programme. Two students will undertake their internships at the Equinor O&M Hub (Operations and Maintenance Hub) in Great Yarmouth whilst, with the support of a grant from the Dudgeon Community Fund, the remaining six placements will be offered across the company's wider regional supply chain □

...Apprenticeship Levy Transfers

The UK Apprenticeship Levy was introduced in 2017 to help businesses offer more sustainable apprenticeship programmes and opportunities.

Levy-paying companies can transfer some of their levy funds to other non-levy paying organisations with the aim of supporting smaller businesses' training needs,

Armutra is a family run metal fabrication business based in Great Yarmouth, Norfolk. Using the Equinor Apprenticeship Levy Transfer, it supports three Level 3 Metal Fabrication Apprentices and one Level 4 Engineering Manufacturing Apprentice, all of whom are studying at East Coast College for a 42 month period □



■ One of Armutra's metal fabrications workshops. (Image courtesy of Armutra Ltd)

Working together - Equinor and CERTEX UK

The maintenance of offshore wind turbine generators involves lifting equipment and technicians working at height in challenging conditions, and it is of paramount importance to the health and safety of the personnel undertaking these activities that the equipment they use is in pristine working order.

At the Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farms, the inspection, service and maintenance of all this equipment is the responsibility of

CERTEX UK, a leading provider of lifting and safety equipment and services based in Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.

CERTEX UK undertakes the Statutory Inspections of all safety and lifting equipment on each wind turbine generator, and throughout Equinor's O&M Hub in Great Yarmouth.

Terry Hoenes is the Divisional Manager of CERTEX UK's Renewables Operations, and he is proud of the company's working relationship with Equinor, saying:

"Our commitment to ensuring that clients always have the correct lifting and safety equipment for the job, and to ensuring that equipment is kept in



■ CERTEX UK engineer working offshore with Equinor (Image courtesy of CERTEX UK)

first class condition, is fully matched by Equinor's total commitment to health and safety."

He added: *"Working together, Equinor and CERTEX UK have created an efficient environment that is designed to protect all Equinor's employees, contractors and consultants, from workplace injury and harm" □*

Supporting Marine Science and Technology

Equinor's ongoing commitment to the development and enhancement of marine sciences and technologies was further demonstrated by the company's lead sponsorship of the 2024 conference *Energising the East: New technologies enabling offshore revitalisation*.

Held in Norfolk in April 2024, the conference was organised by the East of England Energy Group's (EEEGR) Marine Science and Technology Sector Council, and Equinor made important contributions to the day's proceedings.

Equinor's Bouchra Souab is a GeoPhysicist focusing on offshore wind, and together with GeoTechnical Engineer colleague Antoine Bertrand, they gave a presentation on the geophysical and geotechnical surveys conducted for the Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Extension Projects.

Equinor was also represented on the conference's Offshore Energy and Planning Panel, where Daniel Richards, Consenting Manager for the Extension Projects, provided a general projects update and outlined associated research and development activities before taking questions from conference delegates ☐



Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farms Visitor Centre at Sheringham Museum

An interactive and fun exhibition; accessible to everyone, group visits welcome.

- See the development and construction of the wind farms unfold before you
- Learn about the daily operation and maintenance activities at the wind farms

FREE Exhibition
(Normal entry fees apply when visiting the Sheringham Museum)

2024 opening times to be found at www.sheringhammuseum.co.uk
Sheringham Museum at the Mo, Lifeboat Plain, Sheringham, NR26 8BG
01263 824482 www.sheringhamshoal.co.uk



Educational visits welcome
Contact us for more information

From the Norfolk Stakeholder Manager's diary



Over the last few months, Norfolk Stakeholder Manager Susan Falch-Lovesey has continued to represent Equinor and the Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farms at national and regional events.

February 2024: Engineering UK Annual Conference

More than 100 people attended Engineering UK's Tomorrow's Engineers Live Conference, where delegates heard from industry representatives, including Susan, about STEM outreach initiatives and ways to inspire the next generation into engineering and technical careers.

March 2024: The Festival of Knowledge

Organised by Norfolk Chambers of Commerce, the Festival of Knowledge, held at the Norfolk Showground, brought together businesses, schools, education and training providers to deliver skills, careers and jobs inspiration to students, as well as showcasing opportunities for job seekers of all ages.

Nardia Woodland, from Equinor's offshore wind farm control room in Great Yarmouth, joined Susan on the East of England Energy Group's (EEEGR) stand to talk about the many career opportunities in Norfolk's rapidly expanding renewable energy industry.



☒ Nardia Woodland talking to students at the Festival of Knowledge

April 2024 footnote from Susan: "This will be the last extract from my Norfolk diary as I have recently moved to a new position in Equinor as the UK Head of Social Value. I shall continue to live in Norfolk and will maintain a keen interest in Equinor's many activities across the county. I am sure the next issue of this newsletter will introduce my replacement to the local community" ☐

Community Funds Update

STEM grant for 'waste' fashion competition

With the help of a grant from the Dudgeon Community Fund's STEM Skills and Employability for Younger People programme, Wastesmiths CIC has been working with students at East Norfolk Sixth Form College to enter the global Junk Kouture Fashion Competition (www.junkkouture.com)

"The competition challenges students to design and make an outfit from waste materials," said Dan Harper from Wastesmiths. "The STEM elements of waste materials, and manufacturing from those materials, is the whole world at Wastesmiths, so the focus of these workshop sessions has been a great platform for students STEM learning."

Chris Hosea is the Power Plant Manager of the Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm, which makes an annual donation to the Dudgeon Community Fund. Commenting on this project, he said:

"I hope that the Wastesmiths workshops funded by the Dudgeon grant have helped and encouraged those students looking to make careers in the fashion and clothing industries, giving them a sustainability and employability edge."

Visit www.norfolkfoundation.com for full details of the Dudgeon Community Fund 



■ Material experiments for the fashion competition
(Image courtesy of Wastesmiths CIC)

Support for village halls in North Norfolk



■ George Brett-Reynolds welcomes Susan Falch-Lovesey to Wighton Village Hall
(Image courtesy of Susie Freeman)


A recent grant to Community Action Norfolk (CAN) has provided the funding for the organisation to undertake an innovative pilot project working with five village halls and community centres in North Norfolk looking to launch projects to improve their sustainability and energy efficiency.

As part of the initiative, CAN will hold a number of broader workshops, including funding capital improvements and energy efficiency, to ensure that the funding has a wider reach than just the

halls involved in the pilot programme.

www.communityactionnorfolk.org.uk

The Sheringham Shoal Community Fund has already supported many capital improvement projects for village halls and community centres in North Norfolk, and one of the latest grants has enabled Wighton Village Hall to install a 430kWH solar PV panel system.

Grant applications to the Sheringham Shoal Community Fund are considered at the panel meetings in May and November each year. Visit www.norfolkfoundation.com for full details 

Contact details and more information:

Equinor is the operator of both the Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farms, and the Operations and Maintenance base for each wind farm is located at:

50 South Denes Road, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR30 3PR | +44(0)1493 841700

Sheringham Shoal is owned by Equinor, Equitix and Green Investment Group through Scira Offshore Energy Limited.

www.sheringhamshoal.co.uk
info@sheringhamshoal.co.uk

Dudgeon is owned by Equinor, Masdar and China Resources through Dudgeon Offshore Wind Limited.

www.dudgeonoffshorewind.co.uk
info@dudgeonoffshorewind.co.uk