

Sheringham Shoal

Operated by Statkraft



The Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm is 9-17 miles off the coast of North Norfolk

Statkraft becomes the Operator of the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm

The Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm is owned by the two Norwegian companies, Statkraft and Statoil. It comprises 88 wind turbines (317MW) situated between 9-17 miles off the coast of North Norfolk, and in January 2014 Statkraft became the Operator of this important power plant which has the capacity to generate sufficient electricity to power 220,000 UK homes.

During the construction phase of the wind farm, Statoil led the development, and for the first year of operation the joint venture company Scira Offshore Energy managed the daily running of the wind farm. Statoil's many years of experience in offshore oil and gas production was crucial during the construction and initial operation and maintenance (O&M) stages of this £1 billion project. However,

Statkraft is Europe's leader in renewable energy and already operates hydropower and onshore wind farms across the UK; it was therefore a natural progression for Statkraft to assume responsibility for the operation of the power plant following its completion and first year of operation since its full commissioning.

Commenting on the change of responsibility, Jason Halsey, Sheringham Shoal Power Plant Manager, said:

"Statkraft taking responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm has been a highly significant change for all of us working here; it means we are now part of a global power generator which is bringing many benefits to the business and opportunities for its employees.

"Outwardly though, nothing has changed. The focus of our activity still centres around HSE, production availability, and

reducing the cost of generating energy. We are continuing to recruit locally here in North Norfolk wherever possible, and we have an on-going commitment to support the local supply chain."

A reception was held on 9 January 2014 at Wind Farm Place, Sheringham Shoal's O&M base near Wells-next-the-Sea in Norfolk, to celebrate Statkraft becoming the Operator of the wind farm. It was attended by around 50 people including Hilde Bakken (Executive Vice President) and Gundolf Dany (Senior Vice President) of Statkraft alongside Sheringham Shoal's staff, local stakeholders including Town and District Councillors, Wells Harbour Master and Harbour Commissioners, and teachers from the local schools and colleges with which strong links have been forged.



From left to right: Gundolf Dany, Hilde Bakken and Jason Halsey of Statkraft, Cllr Tom FitzPatrick and Wells Harbour Master Robert Smith at the celebration reception

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Improvements at the Salle onshore substation

The electricity generated by the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm is transmitted to a purpose-designed onshore substation at Salle, near Cawston in Norfolk, from where it then enters the National Grid.

Equipment improvements are now being planned at this substation, and these improvements will involve the installation of harmonic filters to aid the smooth flow of electricity into the National Grid.

Construction work is likely to take place during 2015, but a Public Drop-In Exhibition to inform the residents of Salle and Cawston about the work will take place later this year.

Sheringham Shoal team welcomes...

Six new technicians



From L to R, Bryan Glasser, Sam Vincent, Andy Hack, John Boyes, Roy Wilkes, Richard Nunn and Mark Rockliff outside Wind Farm Place

The conclusion of the warranty period on the 88 turbines which make up the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm, which started at the end of June 2014, has resulted in the recruitment of an additional six highly skilled technicians who are lending their support to the

turbine fault diagnostics and reactive maintenance carried out by the Operation & Maintenance team.

These technicians, who are based predominantly offshore, are led by Manager, Richard Nunn. Richard is a qualified electrical engineer from Fakenham, Norfolk – a seasoned employee who has been with the company for over three years.

"I was recruited to support the commissioning process during the construction phase of the wind farm, where I gained my experience," comments Richard. *"These latest appointments are part of a planned and exciting development; in keeping with Statkraft's policy of hiring local people where possible, all six of the new technicians are Norfolk-based. I feel a great sense of pride in the development of our plant and personnel, and I'm looking forward to leading this highly-efficient team."*

Other New people

Two warehouse personnel have been appointed to support the O&M team by managing and distributing tools and spare parts. Nigel Lavender and his colleague Paul Garrett both live in Wells-next-the-Sea, and are in fact next door neighbours.

Juliet Allen is providing maternity cover for Charlotte Monsey, who is responsible for the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm procurement function. During the construction phase, Juliet was one of the people who manned the Sheringham Shoal Information Point in Staithe Street, Wells-next-the-Sea.

And finally welcome to Stuart Newby who has joined Malcolm Wesby in the F&C team which is managed by Tim Hardy.



Stuart Newby with Tim Hardy



Nigel Lavender and Paul Garrett



Bjorn Mo Østgren

Statkraft introduces new General Manager position

Statkraft has introduced the new position of General Manager of the joint venture company Scira Offshore Energy Limited, through which Statkraft and Statoil own the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm.

This is primarily an asset management function, and Bjørn Mo Østgren, who has been appointed to this new position, reports to the Scira Board of Directors. He has overall accountability and responsibility for all the management and operations of Scira Offshore Energy Limited.

The General Manager's position is needed to create a clear differentiation between Statkraft managing the company on behalf of the owners, and the operation of the wind farm by its Production and Generation team.

"I know Scira well from my involvement with the company's operations to date, and I am very pleased to have been asked to assume the role of General Manager. My responsibilities include stakeholder management and community engagement; I know Scira has already established valued relationships with many individuals and organisations at a local, regional and national level, and I look forward to being involved in the business' on-going stakeholder engagement activities," commented Bjørn Mo Østgren.

Local Initiatives...

Exciting times for The Mo in Sheringham

The Mo is the building on the seafront in Sheringham, Norfolk which is home to both Sheringham Museum and the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm Visitor Centre, and Sheringham Museum is hoping to obtain grant funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund for an extension to the building.



The anchor donated by Scira Offshore Energy Limited

The project will involve creating an additional exhibition space, primarily to house the Atlantic 75 lifeboat, the 'Manchester Unity of Oddfellows', establishing an education programme which can be delivered from a dedicated education area within The Mo and providing additional space for the display of marine artefacts.

On completion of the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm, the owners donated a cannon and anchor which were discovered on the seabed during the installation of the export cable which brings the electricity generated by the wind farm to landfall at Weybourne Hope, just a few miles west of Sheringham. Provided that the planning and grant funding applications are successful, it is intended that these two artefacts will be amongst the first new marine exhibits.

Philip Miles, Manager of the Sheringham Museum said: *"This is a very exciting time for The Mo and we were all very grateful for Scira's practical support when we made our initial presentation to the Heritage Lottery Fund."*

Diary date: Greenbuild 2014

Greenbuild 2014 takes place in Felbrigg Park near Cromer, Norfolk NR11 8PR on Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th September 2014 and once again The Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm will have a community information marquee at this event.

Wind Farm Visitor Centre

At The Mo...

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

- Learn about climate change & renewable energy
- Understand the historic importance of wind energy to North Norfolk
- See the development and construction of the wind farm unfold before you
- Learn about the daily operation and maintenance activities at the wind farm

The Sheringham Shoal Wind Farm is expected to generate enough clean energy to power almost 220,000 British homes each year.

Free entry to exhibition
(Normal entry fees apply if combining a visit to the Sheringham Museum).

Open: March 1st to Nov 2nd 2014
Tues to Sat: 10am – 4.30pm Sundays: Noon – 4pm
Mondays throughout June to September & school holidays.

Operated by Statkraft

01263 824482
The Mo, Lifeboat Plain,
Sheringham, NR26 8BG
www.scira.co.uk

Business Magic Skills Event with North Norfolk District Council

The education pathfinder work which the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm team has been undertaking over the last two and half years or so played an important role in the North Norfolk Business Magic Skills Event which took place earlier this year at Davenport's Magic Kingdom.



Sheringham Shoal's education work featured at the Business Magic Skills Event

The aim of the event, which was hosted by North Norfolk District Council (NNDC) and North Norfolk Business Forum (NNBF), was to enable business people to explore issues and opportunities which will lead to the development of a skilled workforce, whilst encouraging them to play a pro-active role in the career of development of young people in North Norfolk.

As has been reported in previous issues of this newsletter, the Sheringham Shoal team has worked very closely with students at both Alderman Peel High School in Wells-next-the-Sea and Fakenham College, and Liz Hancock was joined by Alistair Ogle from Alderman Peel High School and Colin Bye from Fakenham College in a presentation entitled **Business and schools working together**. This was then followed by a presentation **Work experience needs for young people** given by students from Fakenham College.

"This event was very well attended and the people I spoke to after the presentations were very impressed with the way that the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm had gone about building a meaningful relationship with students in North Norfolk, some of whom are now likely to be part of their future workforce," commented North Norfolk District Councillor Russell Wright.

The Sheringham Shoal Community Fund

Since its establishment in 2010, the Sheringham Shoal Community Fund has made grant awards totalling around £280,000 to various community groups, charities and schools in North Norfolk.

The fund criteria relate to renewable energy, marine environment and safety, sustainability, or education in these areas. The fund is operated by Norfolk Community Foundation, and a panel made up of local representatives from the community, business and education sectors, sits twice a year to consider applications and award grants. Panel meetings happen in May and November.

Case Study 1

Helping to sustain Great Ryburgh village store

A grant of £15,000 from Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm's Community Fund has helped to insure the viability of the Village Shop and Post Office in Great Ryburgh, North Norfolk.



The Sheringham Shoal Community Fund funded solar panels for Great Ryburgh Village Shop

In 2007, the failing store was due to close, which, following the demise of the church, pub and school, would rob the village of its remaining amenity. Andrew Purdy, who headed the rescue operation said, "Grants and a share issue allowed us to form a Community Interest Company (CIC), and in March 2009, the shop moved to its present location."

In looking for ways to reduce overheads, Andrew put forward the idea of installing solar panels on the roof. It would need funding, and he found the Sheringham Shoal Community Fund (SSCF), which

awards grants to ventures that meet the key criteria, one of which is sustainability. Great Ryburgh Village Shop was awarded £15,000 to install 16 panels on each side of the east-west facing roof, each with a micro-inverter to convert the DC current into the AC current that feeds into the grid.

Over the course of a year, a saving of £1,838.66 has been made for the shop. Andrew says, "The whole community is grateful to Sheringham Shoal Community Fund. This is a wonderful example of how it can help sustain community life in rural North Norfolk."



The NCI Station at East Runton

Case Study 2

Support for new Coastwatch Station at East Runton

The National Coastwatch Institution (NCI) was established in 1994 to replace the visual watch element around the UK shoreline which was lost when Coastguard lookouts ceased to be maintained.

In some areas of the UK, the NCI has been able to re-open some of the disused Coastguard lookout stations, but in Cromer the lookout stations had been sold. However, thanks to a team of NCI volunteers, a suitable site for a look out was found in East Runton, and in late 2012 the Sheringham Shoal Community Fund awarded a grant of £4,200 to help establish this new facility.

The station, which is now up and running, is well placed at East Runton to help maintain coastline safety by keeping watch on the sea and beach areas. The Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm is visible from the lookout on clear days; at the nearest point it is only 9.5 miles at 348 degrees from the East Runton lookout station.

A question from the community

How is the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm working with the fishermen?

The Sheringham Shoal management team endeavours to work in mutual cooperation with the North Norfolk fishing community.

There is a 50 metre exclusion zone around each wind turbine, but otherwise fishermen can work in the wind farm field.

For reasons of health and safety, each fisherman who regularly works there has recently been given an Automatic Identification System (AIS) which enables Scira Marine to monitor their exact location.

If you would like a question answered in the next newsletter, please email info@scira.co.uk

Contact details and more information

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Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm is jointly owned by Statoil and Statkraft through Scira Offshore Energy Limited. Statkraft is the operator for the Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm. Scira Offshore Energy Limited is the legal entity.