



Ørsted

# Community Newsletter

August 2024

## Hornsea 3 Offshore Wind Farm

# Welcome to the latest community newsletter for Hornsea 3

Hornsea 3, with a capacity of 2.9 GW, will be the world’s single-largest offshore wind farm upon completion. An £8.5 billion infrastructure project, Hornsea 3 will make a significant contribution toward UK energy security, as well as the local and national economy through supply chain investment and jobs.

In this newsletter, we’ll share updates on the project’s progress and introduce you to our new Senior Project Director, Jason Ledden. We’ll also cover the recent abnormal load movements that have taken place and provide an update on the community work our team has undertaken.

Thanks for reading and please do get in touch if you have any questions.

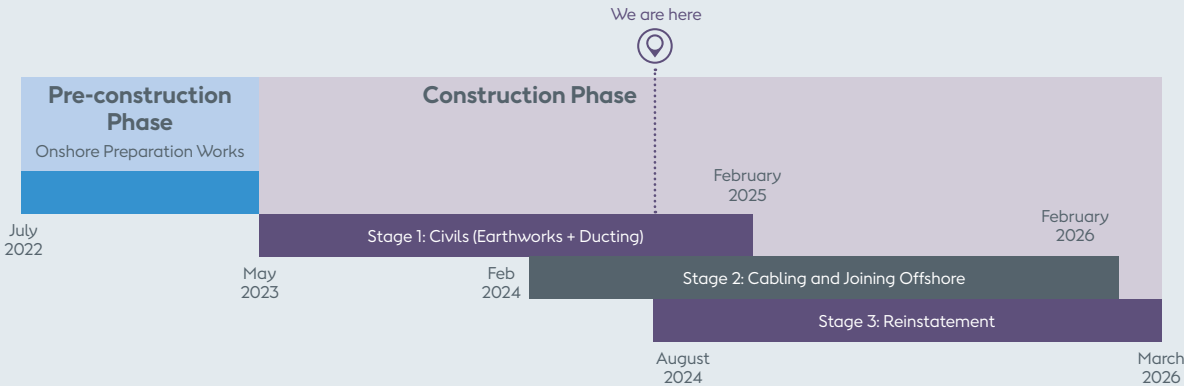


**Jason Ledden**  
Senior Project Director,  
Hornsea 3



# Project updates

The timeline below provides an overview of where we are with our construction works against the wider construction programme.



Since our May 2024 newsletter, the first four cables have been delivered to our construction sites in North Norfolk and the cables have started to be pulled underground. Additionally, joint bays have been installed in three locations, which are large underground enclosures that will allow for safe and accessible cable management in the future.

Here are some examples of the work we’ve done since starting construction in March 2023:

- Completed all required access points for heavy machinery to enter and exit our work sites.
- Completed drainage work in 53 locations to ensure soil drains effectively during trenching.
- Surfaced land for the installation of haul roads in 34 locations. The haul roads are installed along the cable route to protect the subsoil from damage and create a safe, designated route for Hornsea 3 vehicles.
- Completed 29 Horizontal Directional Drilling sites along the cable route which will enable the installation of underground cables, pipes and ducting beneath existing infrastructure.

## Onshore Converter Station

The Onshore Converter Station is a critical piece of the onshore infrastructure for Hornsea 3. Underground cables will transfer the electricity generated from the Hornsea 3 offshore wind farm to the onshore converter station at Swardeston, just south of Norwich. Then the power will again be converted to the correct voltage and fed into the UK’s National Grid.

The Onshore Converter Station site is located south of the A47 on the B1113 and north of Swardeston. It will house the converter station infrastructure, temporary welfare facilities, offices, and a car park. Additionally, the station will be co-located with what will be one of the largest battery energy storage systems in Europe upon completion.

The 600 MWh Battery Energy Storage System will store excess wind power to help balance the UK’s National Grid and reduce price volatility for consumers. We are making significant progress on the development of the Onshore Converter Station, including the installation of steel structures to house elements of the electrical infrastructure, excavating pits for cabling, and the completion of the site’s welfare facilities and car park in June 2024.

We produce a quarterly progress report to keep stakeholders updated on the installation of the Onshore Converter Station. To sign up to receive these reports, you can email us at [Community@hornsea3.co.uk](mailto:Community@hornsea3.co.uk).



# Abnormal load movements

As part of our work to prepare for the installation of the Hornsea 3 onshore cable, we are required to transport equipment and materials to and from our compound in Oulton. Due to the nature of our works, some of these deliveries require larger, specialised vehicles called abnormal loads.

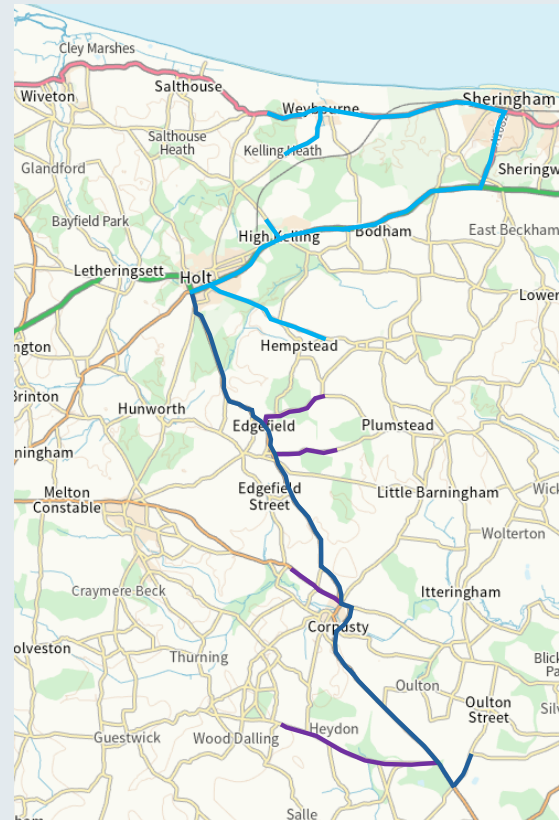
The first of these movements, from the Port of Boston in Lincolnshire to our compound in Oulton, began in February. They are due to be completed by late 2024.

In July, the next phase of abnormal load movements began between our compound in Oulton and points along the cable route north of Heydon. We expect these movements to also finish in late 2024.

There will be approximately four abnormal loads over two days each week (between Monday and Friday). However, the number of deliveries each day may vary. The routes have been carefully identified and will avoid weak bridges and comply with height and other restrictions. Key organisations such as local councils, the police, and highway authorities have agreed the routes are suitable.

We have been working alongside our hauliers and Norfolk Police to minimise disruption to local communities, and these abnormal loads will therefore travel escorted up to two at a time. Although it is difficult to know exactly what time the abnormal loads will travel through certain places, we intend to avoid rush hour and school drop-off and pick-up times.

The final phase of abnormal load movements will take place between our compound in Oulton and points along the cable route south of Heydon, but these are not due to take place until 2025. We will update stakeholders and local communities on these routes in due course.



- Road to be used for abnormal load movements from July – late 2024
- Road to be used less frequently from July – late 2024
- Road expected to be used between July and August 2024 only

# Observing local nature

Since the start of construction in March 2023, the Ørsted team has come across a diverse range of wildlife, including several protected species. Our Ecological Clerk of Works is dedicated to monitoring and safeguarding these animals and their habitats as outlined in the Hornsea 3 environmental management plan. Below are some of the wildlife species we have encountered so far.

Some of the birdlife seen on-site includes barn owls, red kites, and little ringed plovers, all of which are nesting and are protected. Other protected birds observed include the marsh harrier, hobby, and kingfisher. Additionally, we have encountered various nesting birds near to where we are working such as blue tits, skylarks, and oystercatchers.



Oystercatcher and chick



Roe deer fawn

Other animal species we have spotted include otters, water voles, slow worms, grass snakes, white-clawed crayfish, great crested newts, common lizards, and several bat species. Additionally, numerous badger setts have been found and are safeguarded under the Protection of Badgers Act.

We have also documented species of principal importance under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act, including common toads, harvest mice, and brown hares. Furthermore, the site is home to both muntjac and roe deer.

While preserving the natural habitat of these protected species, we are also managing invasive species that pose a threat to the ecosystem. Signal crayfish, giant hogweed, and Himalayan balsam require careful management to prevent disruption to the local environment.



## Day in the life – Jason Ledden, Senior Project Director

At Ørsted, we are on a journey to create a world that runs entirely on green energy. Every one of our employees plays a vital role in working towards this vision.

We want to highlight some of the people carrying out key roles within our organisation so that you can get to know members of the project team helping to deliver Hornsea 3. In this edition, our new Senior Project Director, Jason Ledden, tells us about his role and what he gets up to in his spare time.

My name is Jason Ledden and I am the Senior Project Director for Hornsea 3 offshore wind farm. I have been with Ørsted for 20 years, working on several of our other offshore wind projects here on the East coast including Hornsea 2, Race Bank and Westernmost Rough.

My main responsibility as the Project Director is supporting the several project managers responsible for the construction of the wind farm. This includes the onshore cable route and Horizontal Directional Drilling we are undertaking here in Norfolk as part of the Hornsea 3 project, but also extends to the offshore phase of the wind farm.

An average day for me can regularly require extensive travel to meet with suppliers and contract partners who are helping Ørsted deliver this project. Nothing gives me greater pleasure than visiting our sites, like the ones here in Norfolk, and engaging with our teams who are constructing the Hornsea 3 Project. Each time seeing the progress that has been achieved and the immense amount of pride you feel from everyone involved is amazing!

In my spare time I volunteer at a local non-league football club (Cleethorpes Town FC), through which we also support 60+ junior, women and girls teams - it's a real community club. In the summer holidays you will find me travelling around Europe in my camper van looking for new places to experience and enjoy. In the winter I love to ski and try and get out on the snow as much as possible.



## Giving back to the community

In June, the Ørsted team ran a series of volunteering days in the village of Cawston, near the Hornsea 3 Oulton compound. We have worked closely with Cawston Village Hall for a number of years and learned from the chairperson that they wanted to repaint the hall.

Over two days the team picked up their brushes, put on their overalls and helped to transform the space with a fresh coat of paint. We hope that this renovation enhances the community's use of the hall and we look forward to using the space ourselves for stakeholder meetings and activities in the future.



Hard at work! The Hornsea 3 team was very excited to be involved in the painting of Cawston Village Hall.

### Royal Norfolk Show

On June 26 and 27 we attended the Royal Norfolk Show, one of the UK's largest agricultural events with over 85,000 attendees. Positioned in the Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (STEMM) Village, the team engaged with over 300 stakeholders, including landowners, local residents and students interested in the project.

In partnership with EastWind (a cluster of offshore wind farm projects in the Eastern region), our stand sat alongside other major renewable energy providers and contractors like RWE, Equinor, and Murphys. We ran quizzes and interactive sessions for over 100 students, with our Hornsea 3 quiz being a keen favourite. We also connected with teachers and parents to discuss future educational opportunities, such as a potential STEMM-focused day at Sheringham Primary School.

Additionally, we spoke with many interested local residents and landowners, addressing their concerns and reinforcing our commitment to community engagement and our dedication to collaboration.

### Out and about in the community

We were pleased to host two pop-up stands in July: one at Sheringham Market and the other at the Bakers and Larners store in Holt. Both stands allowed people to discuss Hornsea 3 directly with project team members, with the Sheringham stand also focusing on abnormal load movements. We are very grateful to both venues for their support in hosting us and for the people who took the time to talk to us about the project.

We are arranging more pop-up stands in the coming months. If you would like to know more, please contact us through the contact details at the end of this newsletter. We look forward to meeting more members of the community and discussing the project and our works.

### Quarterly Newsletters

If you would like to get our quarterly newsletters delivered straight to your inbox, please sign up by emailing: [community@hornsea3.co.uk](mailto:community@hornsea3.co.uk)

## Contact us

If you'd like to get in touch or follow the latest updates regarding Hornsea 3 and the wider Ørsted UK team, please visit our website or follow us on social media.



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