Appendix A

Materials and Media

Torness Eastern Link Consultation

Residents Letter



Date: 28/01/2022

Email: info@tornesseasternlink.com
Your ref: Eastern Link Consultation

Dear Resident,

Eastern Link Consultation - We want your views: Converter Station and Cables

We are undergoing unprecedented change to the way electricity is generated and used and as the distribution and transmission operator, we're committed to delivering a cleaner, greener future.

To help deliver this greener energy to homes and businesses across the UK, we need to increase flexibility of our network between Scotland, with its renewable energy capacity, and England.

We are hoping to achieve this with the Eastern Link project, and we will be undertaking a public consultation from 31st January to 28th February 2022. We would like your views on our proposals, and we have enclosed a leaflet which provides further information regarding our plans and how you can share your views with us.

We are currently in the planning phase of the project and will be seeking planning consent from East Lothian Council before we proceed. A key part of our process is engaging with the local community on our proposals, so it is important you give us your feedback.

We have also taken into consideration the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic and as a result we will be holding our consultation online with appointments for one to one online or telephone meetings also available and an exhibition will be in place at Innerwick Village Hall.

More information can be found in the leaflet and online.

We look forward to hearing from you.

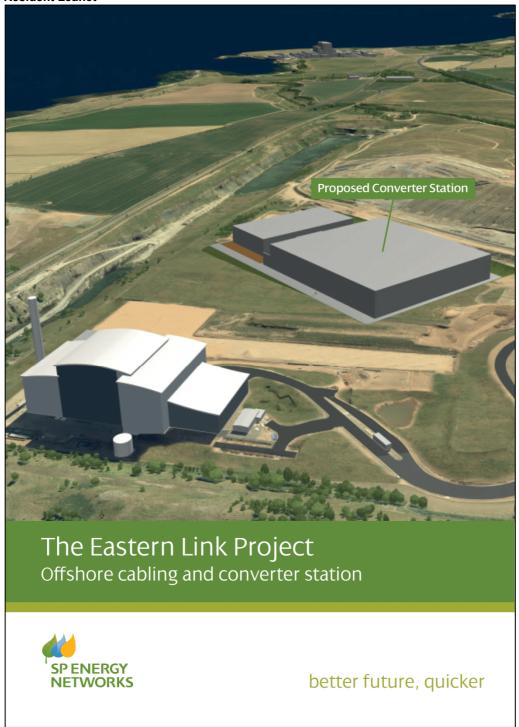
Yours Sincerely

Barry Hughes Eastern Link Development lead info@tornesseasternlink.com

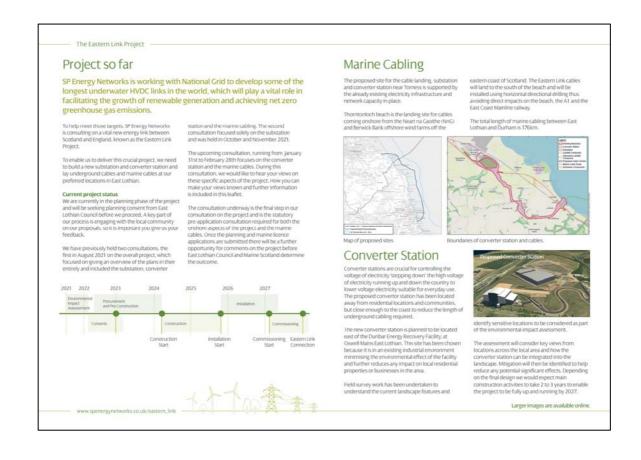
Registered Office: 1 Atlantic Quay, Glasgow G2 8SP. Registered in Scotland No. 215841. VAT No. GB 659 3720 08

Internal Use

Resident Leaflet



Pre-Application Consultation Report



How you can get involved

We will be holding an online virtual public consultation via our dedicated website: https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/eastern_link_introduction.aspx

You will be able to book a one to one meeting with the project team so that you can ask any questions you may have. You can also view physical consultation materials at Innerwick Library, EH42 1SE between the 31st January and 28th February.



We will also be handing out information at the Asda supermarket in Dunbar, EH42 $\,$ 1LE, on the 15th and 23rd of February between 10am and 2pm.

You can also share your views by phone on 0800 093 1664, or email us at: info@tornesseasternlink.com

We Want Your Feedback

Your feedback is important to us and your local knowledge will help us better understand the local area and any potential impact the project may have on the community.

We will listen to everyone's views and, where practical, aim to resolve any concerns or consider mitigation measures if required. We have also engaged with subject matter experts' and targeted groups relating to the environmental landscape, land, marine welfare and others to understand any potential issues or constraints in advance of any work taking place.

We will continue to have these conversations and liaise with you throughout the lifecycle of the project.

Due to the ongoing restrictions surrounding Covid-19, our public consultation will be online and can be accessed at: https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/eastern_link_introduction.aspx





better future, quicker

Feedback Form

	Consultation feedback form	
Share your Feed	Iback	
About you		
First name:		
Surname:	el.	
Organisation (if relevant Address:	3:	
Postcode:		
Email:		
Tel number:		
Are you a landowner wh	no may be directly affected by this proposal?	No
Are you a maritime orga	anisation or work in fisheries who is directly affected by this proposal? Yes	No
	he Eastern Link Proposals	
	Onshore converter station	No.
	posals for the converter station? Yes bout the proposed converter station:	No
ren as your enoughts ab	out the proposed converter station.	
Do you have any comme	ents about the proposed location of the converter station?	
Do you have any comme	ents about the proposed location of the converter station?	
Do you have any comme	ents about the proposed location of the converter station?	
Do you have any comme	ents about the proposed location of the converter station?	
Do you have any comme	ents about the proposed location of the converter station?	

The Eastern Link Project Thinking about the proposals, are there any additional considerations or feedback you would like to share: About our proposal: Marine cable route Do you support the proposals for the offshore marine cable route? Tell us your thoughts about the offshore marine cable route proposal: Thinking about the proposals for the offshore marine cable, are there any additional considerations or feedback you would like to share: About our proposal: Onshore cable route No Do you support the proposals for the onshore cable route? Yes Tell us your thoughts about the onshore cable proposal: Thinking about the proposal for the onshore cable route, are there any additional considerations or feedback you would like to share: About the consultation Tell us how you found out about this consultation Online Exhibition Newspaper Letter Word of mouth Social media Poster Other How would you like to be kept informed about his proposal? Phone Email Post Submit your feedback You can also share your views by phone on 0800 093 1664, or email info@tornesseasternlink.com Please send your completed feedback form to: Freepost SP Energy Networks. c/o Grayling, 33 Castle Street, Edinburgh, EH2 3DN SP ENERGY NETWORKS

Converter Station and Cables Exhibition Boards

The Eastern Link Project

Eastern Link - Converter Station

At SP Energy Networks we keep electricity flowing to homes and businesses throughout Central and Southern Scotland, North Wales, Merseyside, Cheshire, and North Shropshire. We do this through the network of substations, overhead lines, and underground cables, which we own, operate and maintain.

We are undergoing unprecedented change to the way electricity is generated and used and as the distribution and transmission operator, we're committed to delivering a cleaner, greener future.

To help deliver this greener energy to homes and businesses across the UK, we need to increase the flexibity of our network between Scotland, with its renewable energy capacity, and England.

By 2030, the Government's target is for 40GW of offshore wind generation to be connected to the network - enough to power every home in the UK.

To meet our target, we need to increase the capacity of the electricity network between Scotland with the rest of the UK and Europe whilst ensuring Scotland remains supported by a secure and stable supply of energy.

Scotland is committed to becoming net zero in all greenhouse gases by 2045, with England and Wales committed to net zero by 2050 and this will only be achieved by significant new investment and infrastructure in the electricity network.



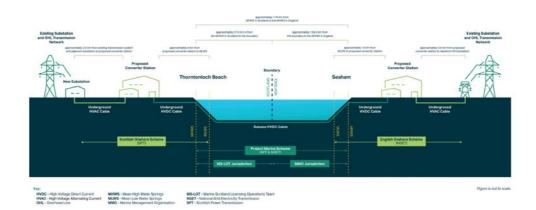
Eastern Link - Project Overview

The Eastern Link Project is a £1.3bn project that is being jointly developed by SP Energy Networks (SPEN) and National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET). The project will facilitate the unlocking of rich renewable energy capacity around Scotland and support our drive toward our Net Zero targets in Scotland and across the rest of the UK.

The availability and source of renewable energy generated is constantly changing, therefore our network needs to be able to balance this through increased interconnection. This increased interconnection will guarantee Scotland's security of energy supply and making the transition to net zero by 2050 is expected to generate 60,000 jobs across the energy sector. To enable us to deliver this project, we need to build a new substation, converter station and lay underground and marine cables.



The Eastern Link project runs from the Torness area in East Lothian, Scotland to Hawthorn Pit, County Durham, England.





Eastern Link - Project Overview cont.

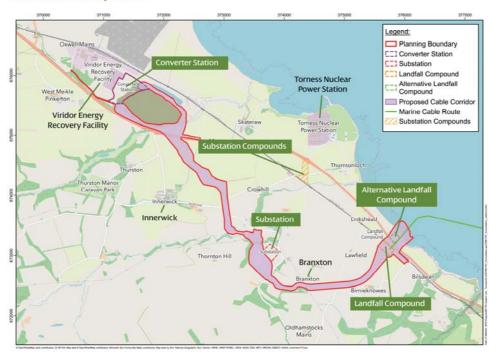
The UK electricity system is mainly AC (alternating current), which is ideally suited to local transmission and distribution of electricity as it is easily transformed in stages from high voltages required for longer routes to the voltages used in businesses and homes. However, where large electricity capacity is needed to be transmitted over long lengths of cable or overhead lines, the use of DC (direct Current) significantly increases both the efficiency and the stability of the wider network.

On the Eastern Link project, we will be using DC marine cables for the 176km of cabling between Torness and Hawthorn Pit. This will require converter stations to be built onshore at each end to allow the energy to be converted back into AC before it is transmitted through the network.

To enable and support the construction of the converter station in East Lothian there will be:

- Temporary landfall site compound where the marine cables will come onshore
- Approximately 6km of underground DC cables that will run from the landfall compound to the converter station at Oxwell Mains
- New converter station buildings and associated works (landscaping, access roads) at Oxwell Mains
- Approximately 3.5km of underground AC cables that will run from the converter station to the proposed Branxton 400kV substation.

Extent of Development





Eastern Link - Project Overview cont.

Landscaping

Field work has been undertaken to understand the current landscape features and identify sensitive locations to be considered as part of the assessment. The assessment will consider key views from locations across the local area and how the converter station can be integrated into the landscape. Mitigation will then be identified to help reduce any potential significant effects.

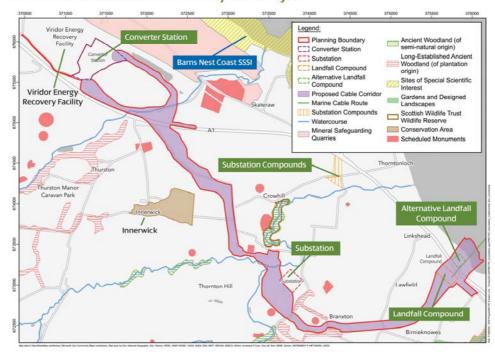
Location

During the process, we have considered access and residential areas, existing and planned energy developments, environmentally protected areas, sites of important historic and archaeological interest, fishing and wider marine requirements. From our initial analysis, we have then further

refined our assessment, taking account of technical constraints and engineering considerations. The site is adjacent to the existing Viridor Dunbar Energy Recovery Facility at Oxwell Mains. Our preferred option seeks to balance our technical requirements, cost of the work, the impact on the environment and the people who live, work and enjoy spending their spare time in the area.

The underground cable routes have been identified to avoid key environmental constraints such as protected archaeological sites, nature reserves and ancient woodlands. The underground cable routes will include excavated trenches for the cable installation, a temporary haul road to enable vehicles to move along the corridor, drainage and storage areas for the excavated material. The corridor will be reinstated following installation of the cables.

Environmental Constraints in Proximity to the Project





Next steps

Pre-Application Consultation Report

SP Energy Networks will be submitting a planning application to East Lothian Council for the converter station and underground cables. A marine licence application to Marine Scotland will be required for the marine cables.

The consultation underway is the final step in our consultation on the project and is the statutory preapplication consultation required for both the onshore aspects of the project and the marine cables. Once the planning and marine licence applications are submitted there will be a further opportunity for comments on the project before East Lothian Council and Marine Scotland determine the outcome.



How to respond

We would welcome your feedback about our proposals, and you can give us your feedback by filling in a form on our consultation page:

https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/eastern_link_introduction.aspx The closing date for you to submit your feedback form is Monday 28th February 2022.

You will also be able to book a 1-1 meeting with the team and ask any questions you may have. You can book your 1-1 online at:

https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/eastern_link_introduction.aspx

You can also view physical consultation materials at Innerwick Library, EH42 1SE between the 31st January and 28th February.

We will also be handing out information at the **Asda supermarket in Dunbar**, **EH42 1LE**, **on the 15th and 23rdof February between 10am and 2pm**.

If you would like a hard copy version of these boards, you can contact us using the details below. Our materials can also be made available in large print format.

You can contact us at: info@tornesseasternlink.com





Marine Cable Exhibition Boards

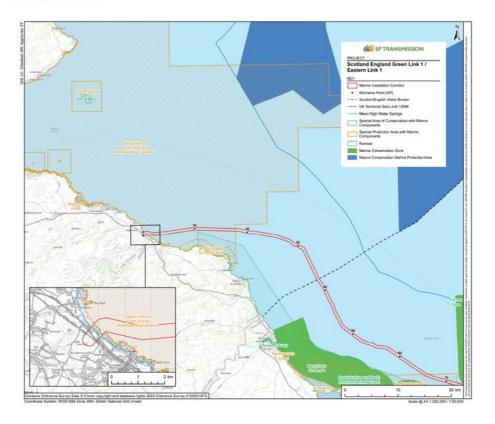
The Eastern Link Project

Marine Cable Route & Installation

In addition to the onshore converter station, the marine cable route and installation is a vital part of the overall Eastern Link project and will allow for the transfer of electricity between each onshore site. The marine cables will be able to provide 2 Giga Watts (GW) of transmission capacity for transmission of electricity between Scotland and England.

The cable route comprises over 176 km of subsea HVDC cable systems, installed within a 500m installation corridor extending from the Scottish landfall site on Thorntonloch Beach, crossing through the Scottish and English territorial seas to the English landfall at Seaham.

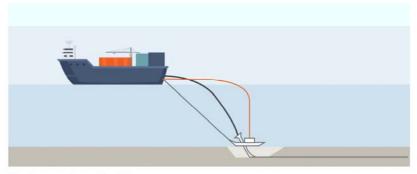
Approximately 37.5km of the cable corridor falls within Scottish waters, with the remainder within English waters. The entirety of the project is located within the 12 Nautical Mile (NM) territorial waters.





Cable Route and Landfalls

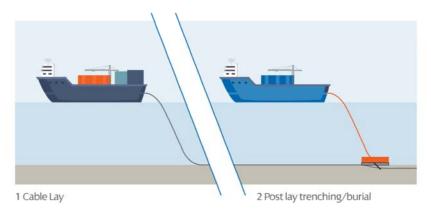
An iterative routeing process over several years has identified the route and cable landfalls. There will be two cables, plus a fibre optic cable, which will be installed in up to two trenches, each to a target burial depth of 1.5 m and minimum burial depth of 0.8m.



Simultaneous lay and burial

A 500m exclusion zone will be established around the cable lay vessel during installation to ensure safety for both the vessel and others operating in the area. In areas of high-density vessel traffic, a guard vessel will accompany the cable lay vessel to maintain the exclusion zone and provide additional support. Where it is not possible to achieve the minimum cable burial depth, material will be placed over the cable for protection.

To limit impact on the intertidal zone at landfalls, the cables will be installed using Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD), via drilled conduits (tunnels) drilled under the seabed and intertidal zone to the landfall. This approach limits impacts in the intertidal zone to both environmental receptors protected species and habitats (i.e. birds, benthic communities' fish etc.) and socio-economic receptors such as recreational users (i.e. bathers, surfers etc.).





Environment & Installation

The marine cables will encounter a number of marine receptors and assets, including five inservice cables and ecological designations: Farnes East Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ), Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex Special Protected Area (SPA), and Northumberland Marine SPA, commercial fisheries, existing extraction grounds, harbour limits, and known wrecks.

Installation activities may have a number of interactions with the marine environment, including direct disturbance, underwater noise, suspended sediment etc. and these will be managed to remove, limit or mitigate potential impacts. This will be considered and assessed within an Environmental Appraisal report, which is currently being prepared.

A suite of surveys has been undertaken to inform route refinement and the environmental assessments presented in the Environmental Appraisal Report (EAR).

These include:

- Geophysical and geotechnical surveys to look at subsurface bathymetry, geology, seabed quality, and to support the identification of archaeological features and other marine cables.
- Environmental surveys, including grab samplings and camera transects, to look at quantity and quality of fauna and flora species.

Fisheries

The principal fishing activities undertaken in areas relevant to the Scottish section of the marine installation corridor include:

- Creeling
- Demersal trawling; and
- Scallop dredging.

Creeling: Vessels engaged in this fishery are generally under 10 m in length and target lobster and crabs using creels. Their activity takes place predominantly within the 6 NM limit although some vessels target grounds further offshore. Some level of creeling activity is anticipated to occur along much of the Scottish section of the marine cable installation corridor.

Demersal trawling: Nephrops is the main species targeted by demersal trawlers active in areas of relevance to the Scottish section of the marine cable installation corridor, although some vessels also target squid on a seasonal basis. These vessels typically range in length between 10 and 18 m. Their activity is for the most part undertaken around the Firth of Forth and in areas off Dunbar, although some vessels also target the Farn Deeps grounds in English waters.

Scallop dredging: Scallop dredging by local vessels takes place at relatively low levels within the Scottish section of the marine cable installation corridor where it is predominantly limited to nearshore areas.

Electromagnetic Fields

The potential for electro-magnetic fields (EMF) and heat generated by the marine cables to affect marine species, including commercial finfish and shellfish species is being assessed within the environmental appraisal, which will be provided alongside a marine licence application to Marine Scotland.

The cables installed will be armoured, trenched or buried to a minimum depth of 0.8 m, and where reasonably practicable, a target depth of 1.4m. Burial of the cables reduces the potential for EMF and thermal impacts on marine species.



How to respond

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Exhibition Boards Location Photographs







Asda Dunbar Session Photographs

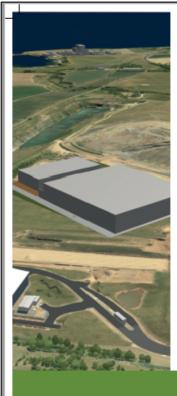








Poster Exhibited in Public Venues in East Lothian, including ASDA Dunbar and Dunbar Library



SP ENERGY NETWORKS HOLDINGS LTD EASTERN LINK PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION) (SCOTLAND)



Notice is hereby given that SP Energy Networks Holdings Ltd, (company registration number SC389555, with its Registered Office at 320 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, Scotland, G2 SAD) plans to carry out pre-application consultation regarding proposed converter station and underground cables between Thorntonloch beach and Oxwell Mains, Dunbar, East Lothiau.

We would like to hear local people's views on the preferred options to help us develop our plans ahead of submitting our planning applications to East Lothian Council.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions we are unable to hold public exhibitions of our plans, but we will be holding a series of online events to explain our proposals and answer any questions.

Further information can be found here: https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/ eastern_link_introduction.aspx Due to the steep rise in Omicron cases and the new measures put in place by the Scottish Government before Christmas the proposed events will now be online. The times and dates remain the same:

Date	Event	Time
03/02/2022	Online or telephone meeting	10.00-14.00
10/02/2022	Online or telephone meeting	10.00-13.00
10/02/2022	Online or telephone meeting	14.00-17.00
15/02/2022	Online or telephone meeting	15.00-19.00
17/02/2022	Online or telephone meeting	16.00-21.00
24/02/2022	Online or telephone meeting	16.00-21.00

Appointments for one to one online or telephone meetings will be available and advertised via our webpage closer to the consultation start date.

Representatives will be available at the Asda at Dunbar on two occasions to distribute consultation material. These dates are:

Date	Location	Venue	1111190
15/02/22	Dunbar	Asda Dunbar, Spott Road, EH42 1LE	10.00-14.00
23/02/22	Dunbar	Asda Dunbar, Spott Road, EH42 1LE	10.00-14.00

Exhibition material will be in place at Innerwick Village Hall, Dunbar EH42 1SE from 31st January 2022 to 28th February 2022.

To register for an appointment please use the following details: info@tornesseasternlink.com – 0800 093 1664 or register via thewebsite: https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/eastern_link_introduction.aspx.

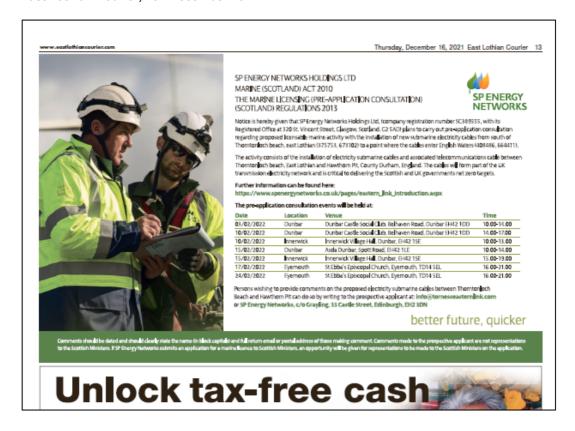
You can also share your views via email or inwriting to: Info@tormesseasternlink.com FreePost, SP Energy Networks, c/o Grayling, 33 Castle Street, Edinburgh, EH2 3DN

Adverts

Marine Licensing Advert for Publication w/c 13th December 2021 in The East Lothian Courier and Southern Reporter



East Lothian Courier, 16th December 2021



Southern Reporter 16th December 2021



Converter Station and Cables Advert for Publication w/c 24th January 2022 in The East Lothian Courier and Southern Reporter



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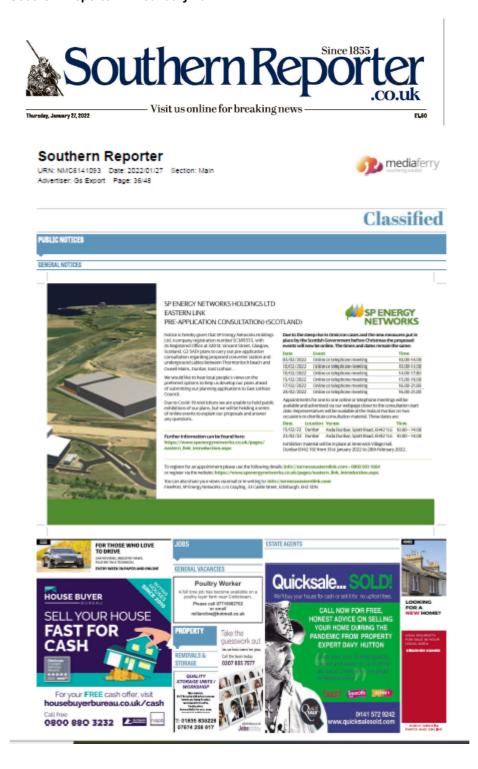
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East Lothian Courier 27th January 2022

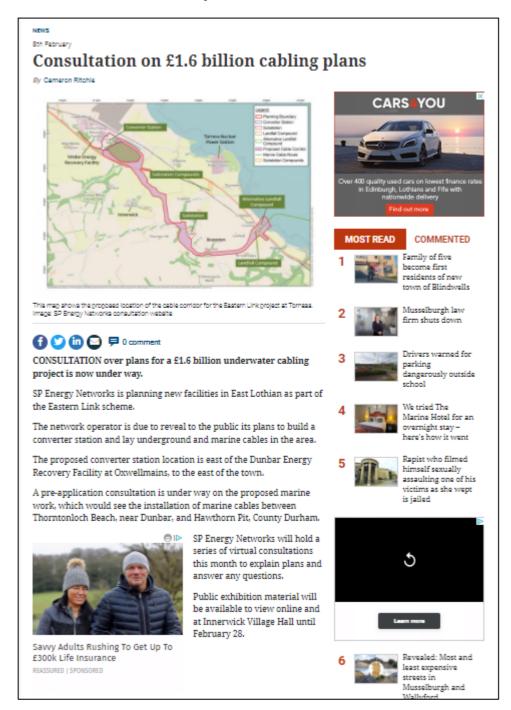


Southern Reporter 27th January 2022

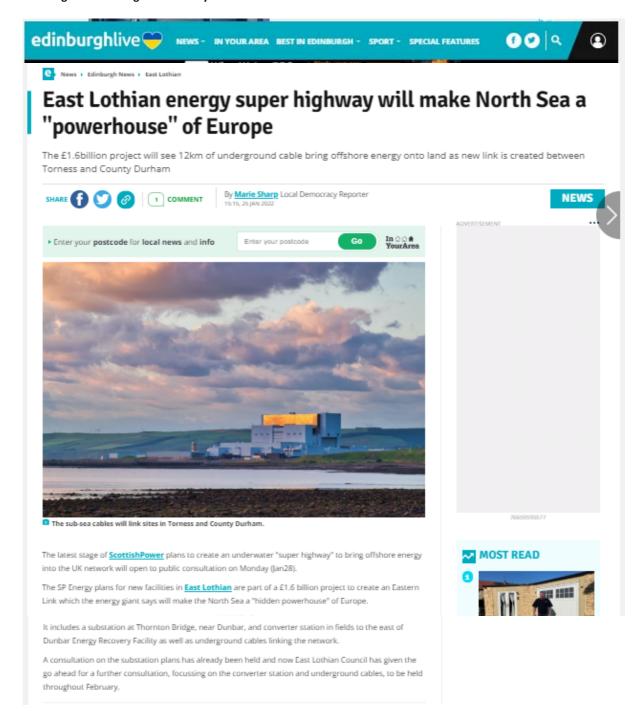


Media Coverage

East Lothian Courier, 8th February 2022



Edinburgh Live Coverage 25th January 2022



Pre-Application Consultation Report

The Eastern Link project aims to create a connection between Torness and County Durham by 2027.

It estimates around 12km of underground cables will be required to link the new substation, converter station and landfall sites in East Lothian with 176km sub-sea cables linking Torness and County Durham sites.

Announcing plans for the new Eastern Link last year SP Energy said it would deliver "an underwater superhighway that would see the North Sea become the hidden power house of Europe".



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It hopes work on the link could begin next year with it operational from 2027.

The company says the work is vital in meeting net zero greenhouse gas emissions in the future as it works with the National Grid to develop some of the longest underwater high-voltage, direct current (HVDC)inks in the world.



It said: "To help meet those targets, SP Energy Networks is consulting on a vital new energy link between Scotland and England, known as the Eastern Link Project.

ADVERTISEMENT

"To enable us to deliver this crucial project, we need to build a new substation and converter station and lay underground cables and marine cables at our preferred locations in East Lothian."

SP Energy plans to hold online consultations as well as offering one-to-one chats with people and organising leaflet drops and community council briefings over the next month.

More information on the upcoming consultation and substation consultation can be found at the energy firm's website at https://bit.ly/3nTmapC

New Civil Engineer Article 26th January 2022



LATEST

£1.3bn 'energy super highway' between England and Scotland opening consultation next week

26 JAN, 2022 BY ROB HAKIMIAN

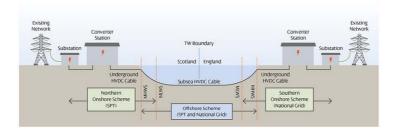
SP Energy Networks will open a consultation on its plans for a new converter station in East Lothian next week which is a crucial part of its £1.3bn Eastern Link electricity interconnector project.

A collaboration with National Grid, the Eastern Link will create an "energy super highway" formed by a sub-sea interconnector that links England and Scotland. It will see the creation of one of the longest high voltage, direct current (HVDC) interconnectors in the world.

The Eastern Link would increase the UK's capacity for renewable power. Its 2GW capacity being enough to power around 2M homes.

The link will be created between Torness in East Lothian and Hawthorn Pit in County Durham. It will comprise 176km of subsea cable, 6km of onshore underground DC cable from landfall near

Thorntonloch to a new converter station near Dunbar Energy Recovery Facility and, on the English side, 10km of onshore underground DC cable from landfall near Seaham to new converter station at Hawthorn Pit.



This means the creation of new converter stations in East Lothian and Country Durham, as well as new 400kV substations at Torness and Hawthorn Pit. Amendments will be made to the overhead line connections and cable configurations in these areas, as well as amendments to the underground cable connections at Branxton and Thornton.

The consultation for the new converter station at East Lothian and the underground cables will begin next week. Views are currently being taken on the project as a whole on the SP Energy Networks website.

Following the rejection of the proposed £1.2bn interconnector between France and England, SP Energy Networks will be sure to take extra care when considering all options before submitting planning permission in the coming months.

SP Energy Networks is looking to begin construction in 2023 and to deliver the project in 2027.

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Related articles