

# Rampion Offshore Wind Farm

## Information sheet – September 2011



Robin Rigg Offshore Wind Farm, Solway Firth. For illustrative purposes only.

## An introduction to our proposals for the Rampion Offshore Wind Farm

### About us

E.ON Climate & Renewables is a global business responsible for the operation and future development of all renewable energy activities within the E.ON Group.

We're one of the UK's leading renewable energy companies, with a portfolio of 18 onshore and 3 offshore wind farms, as well as our dedicated biomass renewable energy plant, near Lockerbie.

We're committed to offshore wind technology and have already invested around €1 billion into offshore activities in Europe.

### Our offshore experience in the UK

As early pioneers in the UK offshore wind industry, we own and operate the country's first offshore wind farm at Blyth, Northumberland. We also constructed one of the first commercial scale projects – Scroby Sands, a 60 megawatt (MW) wind farm off the coast of Great Yarmouth.

Robin Rigg (180MW) is our third offshore wind farm located in the Solway Firth and offshore consent was granted for Humber Gateway Offshore Wind Farm (230MW) in February 2011. In spring 2011, we also started offshore construction on Phase One (630MW) of the 1 gigawatt (GW) London Array, with our partners DONG Energy and Masdar.

### The development

In the Round 3 UK Offshore Wind Programme, The Crown Estate awarded us the exclusive right to seek consent to build a large-scale offshore wind farm off the Sussex coast.

We involved local schools in selecting a name for the wind farm and a public vote resulted in the choice of 'Rampion'. Rampion is the county flower of Sussex, also known as the 'Pride of Sussex'.

As part of the wind farm development, we start by carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies to fully understand the area and its surroundings. We'll look at any potential effects on the physical, biological and human environment, and use these studies to produce an Environmental Statement (ES). This will support our Development Consent Order (planning) application for consent in 2012.

### Stakeholder engagement

Engagement and consultation with local, regional and national stakeholders who have an interest in our project, is an integral part of our development process and a key element under the new planning act requirements.

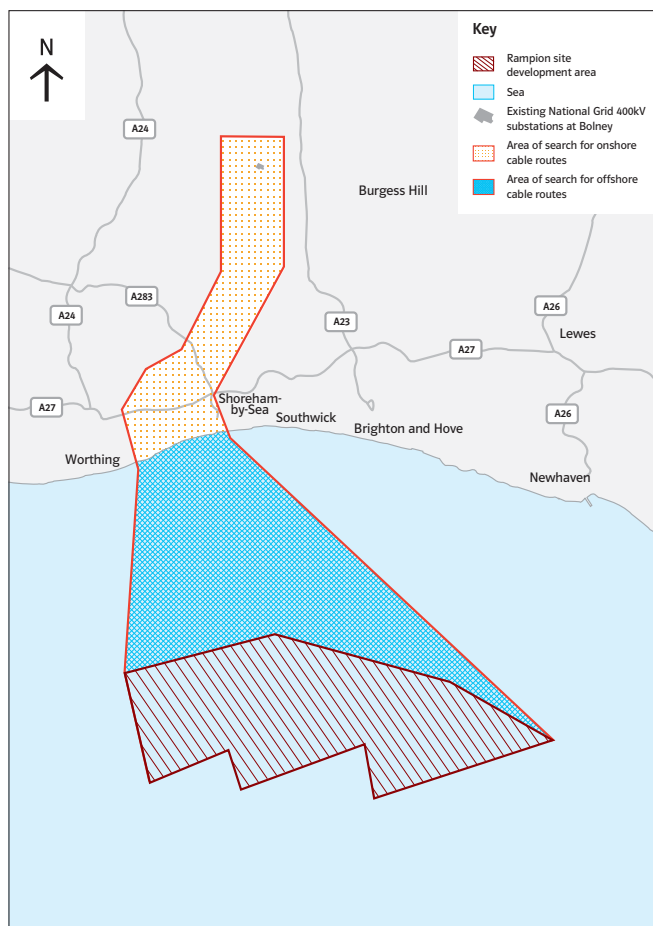
We inform, engage and consult throughout the process to build awareness, understand, listen and capture views of stakeholders to help shape the development. Our aim is to build relationships and forge strong community ties from an early stage. We've opened an office in Brighton and employed a member of staff dedicated to stakeholder engagement in the region. We also have a project web page to provide updates and invite comments.

## Rampion Offshore Wind Farm site statistics

Location:	13-23km off the Sussex coast
Site area:	167km <sup>2</sup>
Water depth:	19-50 metres
Target capacity:	665MW
Onshore works:	Proposed 30km underground cable from the coast to Bolney 400kV substation (owned by National Grid).
Power output:	The Rampion Offshore Wind Farm could supply enough electricity for the annual needs of around 430,000* homes. This is the equivalent of almost two thirds of all resident households in East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton & Hove.†

## Site location

The dark red area on the map below is the Rampion project site area and the red outline depicts the indicative area of search for the onshore and offshore cable routes.



Map not to scale, provides an indicative view only.

\*Based on an average annual household electricity consumption of 4,700kWh (Source: DECC).

†Office of National Statistics 2001 census data.

## Challenges and opportunities

The site area varies between 19 and 50 metres in water depth so seabed conditions are variable and, in some places, complex. This presents engineering challenges for design and build, eg choice of foundations.

We need to secure all the relevant planning consents, and consult and engage with a wide range of statutory stakeholders and the local community, to ensure we design the scheme appropriately. The south coast is a well populated coastline, with a high level of marine activity from commercial and recreational users.

The onshore connection to the National Grid is a key element of the project and studies have shown a cable route around 30km in length is needed, which we intend to bury underground. This requires consultation and engagement with communities and stakeholders along the onshore cable area of search.

## Indicative project timetable

- 2010: We were awarded an exclusive licence by The Crown Estate, to seek consent to build a large-scale wind farm off the Sussex coast.
- 2010-11: Site surveys, scoping opinion and stakeholder engagement to inform project design.
- 2012: Formal consultation and public exhibitions on the development proposal.
- 2012: Submit Development Consent Order (planning) application and supporting EIA.
- 2013: Decision on Development Consent Order (planning) application.
- 2014-15: Start of construction (subject to consent).

## → Contact us

If you'd like any further information or would like to give us your feedback, you can call or write to us using the following details:

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Updates on the proposal are also available on our web page at: [eon-uk.com/rampion](http://eon-uk.com/rampion)

