Neart na Gaoithe

Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm

Generating Station Cable Plan

June 2026

Rev 11.0

DOCUMENT REFERENCE: NNG-NNG-ECF-PLN-0007

Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Generating Station

Cable Plan

Pursuant to Section 36 Consent Condition 19 and the Wind Farm Marine Licence Condition 3.2.2.9

For the approval of the Scottish Ministers

SIGN OFF		
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Plan Overview

Purpose and Objectives of the Plan

This Generating Station Cable Plan (CaP) has been prepared to address the specific requirements of the relevant conditions attached to the Section 36 (S36) Consent and Marine Licences (collectively referred to as the Offshore Consents) issued to Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Limited (NnGOWL).

This CaP confirms the location of inter-array and interconnector, and their method of burial and protection. It explains how cable routing has been informed by survey work that has identified constraints within the Project area. This CaP also confirms the technical specification of the cables installed.

All NnGOWL personnel and Contractors involved in the Project must comply with this CaP.

The Offshore Transmission Infrastructure (OfTI), namely the two Offshore Substations Platforms (OSPs) and export cables, will be divested to an Offshore Transmission Operator (OfTO). NnGOWL will remain responsible for the OfTI up to the point of transfer to the OfTO. Upon transfer of ownership, the OfTO will be responsible for updating and implementing the relevant elements of the OfTI CaP.

A separate CaP (NNG-NNG-ECF-PLN-0019) has been prepared for the export cables.

Scope of the Plan

The CaP covers, in line with the requirements of the consents conditions, and in line with industry standards and good practice, the following for the inter-array and interconnector:

- Installation methods;
- Routing;
- Technical specifications and an assessment of the attenuation of electro-magnetic fields;
- A summary of the cable burial risk assessments that have been undertaken to inform burial and protection plans; and
- Methodologies for surveys of the cables through the operational life of the Project.

Structure of the Plan

The CaP is structured as follows:

Sections 1 to 3 sets out the scope and objectives of the CaP, statements of compliance and provide an overview of the Project.

Section 4 confirms cable location and layout.

Section 5 details the technical specification of the cables and associated electromagnetic fields.

Sections 6 and 7 set out intended cable burial and protection, as informed by cable burial risk assessments.

Section 8 identifies cable inspection activities to be undertaken during the operational phase of the Project.

Section 9 confirms compliance with the Application.

Plan Audience

The CaP is intended to be referred to by personnel involved in the construction of the Project, including NnGOWL personnel and Contractors.

Compliance with this CaP will be monitored by the NnGOWL Consents team, NnGOWL's Environmental Clerk of Works (ECoW) and the Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT).

Plan Locations

Copies of this CaP are to be held in the following locations during operation and maintenance:

- NnGOWL Project Office;
- At the premises of any contractors undertaking licensed activities on behalf of NnGOWL;
- NnGOWL Operational Control Centre; and
- With NnGOWL's Offshore Environmental Manager.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

TERM	DESCRIPTION
AC	Alternating Current
AEZ	Archaeological Exclusion Zone
AGDS	Acoustic Ground Discrimination System
AHT	Anchor Handling Tug
AIS	Automatic Information System
CBRA	Cable Burial Risk Assessment
CLV	Cable Lay Vessel
CPS	Cable Protection System
CPT	Cone Penetration Test
CTV	Crew Transfer Vessels
DDM	Degrees Decimal Minutes
DGC	Defence Geographic Centre
DoL	Depth of Lowering
DP	Dynamic Positioning
DSV	Dive Support Vessel
DTS	Distributed Temperature Sensing
ECoW	Environmental Clerk of Works
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMF	Electromagnetic fields
ES	Environmental Statement
FLOWW	Fishing Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group
GPS	Geographical Positioning System
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drilling
HDPE	High-Density Polyethylene

TERM	DESCRIPTION
HVAC	High Voltage Alternating Current
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
KP	Kilometre Point
kV	Kilo Volt
LAT	Lowest Astronomical Tide
MBES	Multi Beam Echosounder
MCA	Maritime and Coastguard Agency
MHWS	Mean High Water Springs
MLWS	Mean Low Water Springs
MMO	Marine Management Organization
MSBL	Mean Seabed Level
MD-LOT	Marine Directorate Licensing Operations Team
NnGOWL	Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Limited
NtM	Notice to Mariners
OfTI	Offshore Transmission Infrastructure
OfTO	Offshore Transmission Operator
OSP	Offshore Substation Platforms
OSV	Offshore Support Vessel
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
PLGR	Pre-Lay Grapnel Run
ROV	Remote Operated Vehicle
SFF	Scottish Fishermen's Federation
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage (now known as Nature Scot)
SSS	Sidescan Sonar

TERM	DESCRIPTION
TAR	Transportation Audit Report
TJB	Transition Joint Bay
UKHO	UK Hydrographic Office
WTW	Walk to Work
XLPE	Cross Linked Polyethylene

Defined Terms

TERM	DESCRIPTION
Addendum	The Addendum of Additional Information submitted to the Scottish Ministers by NnGOWL on 26 July 2018.
Application	The Environmental Impact Assessment Report, Habitats Regulations Appraisal Report and supporting documents submitted to the Scottish Ministers by NnGOWL on 16 March 2018; the Addendum of Additional Information submitted to the Scottish Ministers by NnGOWL on 26 July 2018 and the Section 36 Consent Variation Report dated 08 January 2019.
Company	Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Limited (NnGOWL) (Company Number SC356223). NnGOWL has been established to develop, finance, construct, operate, maintain and decommission the Project.
Consent Conditions	The terms that are imposed on the Company under the Offshore Consents that must be complied with.
Consent Plans	The plans, programmes or strategies required to be approved by the Scottish Ministers (in consultation with appropriate stakeholders) in order to discharge the Consent Conditions.
Contractors	Any Contractor/Supplier (individual or firm) working on the Project, hired by NnGOWL.
EIA Report	The Environmental Impact Assessment Report, dated March 2018, submitted to the Scottish Ministers by NnGOWL as part of the Application.
Inter-array Cables	The offshore cables connecting the wind turbines to one another and to the offshore substation platforms (OSPs).
Interconnector Cables	The offshore cables connecting the OSPs to one another.
Marine Licences	The written consents granted by the Scottish Ministers under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, for construction works and deposits of substances or objects in the Scottish Marine Area in relation to the Wind Farm (Licence Number 06677/19/0) and the OfTW (Licence Number MS-00009831) dated 4 June 2019 and 26 May 2022, respectively.
Offshore Consents	The Section 36 Consent and the Marine Licences.

TERM	DESCRIPTION
Offshore Export Cable Corridor	The area within which the Offshore Export Cables are to be located, including the Extension Area approximately 9 km offshore from the landfall location, and specified within the varied OfTW Marine Licence (Licence Number MS-00009831).
Offshore Export Cable Corridor Extension Area	The area within which short sections of the offshore export cables are to be located (around KP9 of the Offshore Export Cable Corridor) in order to avoid an obstruction within the originally consented corridor that forms part of the OfTW Area. Following issue of the varied marine licence (Licence Number MS-00009831) the Extension Area has been incorporated into the consented Offshore Export Cable Corridor.
Offshore Export Cables	The Offshore Export Cables connecting the OSPs to the landfall site.
OfTW	The Offshore Transmission Works comprising the OSPs, offshore interconnector cables and Offshore Export Cables required to connect the Wind Farm to the Onshore Transmission Works at the landfall.
OfTW Area	The area outlined in red and blue in Figure 1 attached to Part 4 of the OfTW Marine Licence.
OnTW	The onshore transmission works from landfall and above Mean High Water Springs (MHWS), consisting of onshore export cables and the onshore substation.
Project	The Wind Farm and the OfTW.
Section 36 Consent	The written consent granted on 3 December 2018 by the Scottish Ministers under Section 36 of The Electricity Act 1989 to construct and operate the Wind Farm, as varied by the Scottish Ministers under section 36C of the Electricity Act 1989 on 4 June 2019.
Section 36 Consent Variation Report	The Section 36 Consent Variation Report submitted to the Scottish Ministers by NnGOWL as part of the Application as defined above on 08 January 2019.
Subcontractors	Any Contractor/Supplier (individual or firm) providing services to the Project, hired by the Contractors (not NnGOWL).
Wind Farm	The offshore array as assessed in the Application including wind turbines, their foundations and inter-array cabling.
Wind Farm Area	The area outlined in black in Figure 1 attached to the Section 36 Consent Annex 1, and the area outlined in red in Figure 1 attached to Part 4 of the Wind Farm Marine Licence.

Consent Plans

CONSENT PLAN	ABBREVIATION	DOCUMENT REFERENCE NUMBER
Decommissioning Programme	DP	NNG-NNG-ECF-PLN-0016
Construction Programme and Construction Method Statement	CoP & CMS	NNG-NNG-ECF-PLN-0002
Piling Strategy	PS	NNG-NNG-ECF-PLN-0011

CONSENT PLAN	ABBREVIATION	DOCUMENT REFERENCE NUMBER
Development Specification and Layout Plan	DSLP	NNG-NNG-ECF-PLN-0003
Design Statement	DS	NNG-NNG-ECF-PLN-0004
Environmental Management Plan	EMP	NNG-NNG-ECF-PLN-0006
Operation and Maintenance Programme	OMP	NNG-NNG-ECF-PLN-0012
Navigational Safety and Vessel Management Plan	NSVMP	NNG-NNG-ECF-PLN-0010
Emergency Response Cooperation Plan	ERCoP	NNG-NNG-ECF-PLN-0015
Cable Plan	CaP	NNG-NNG-ECF-PLN-0007
Lighting and Marking Plan	LMP	NNG-NNG-ECF-PLN-0009
Project Environmental Monitoring Programme	PEMP	NNG-NNG-ECF-PLN-0013
Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy	FMMS	NNG-NNG-ECF-PLN-0008
Written Scheme of Investigation and Protocol for Archaeological Discoveries	WSI & PAD	NNG-NNG-ECF-PLN-0005
Construction Traffic Management Plan	CTMP	NNG-NNG-ECF-PLN-0014

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

1. The Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm (Revised Design) received consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 from the Scottish Ministers on 03 December 2018 and was granted two Marine Licences by the Scottish Ministers, for the Wind Farm and the associated Offshore Transmission Works (OfTW), on 03 December 2018 (the Marine Licences). The S36 consent and Wind Farm Marine Licence were revised by issue of a variation to the S36 Consent and Marine Licence 06677/19/0 on 4 June 2019 and the OfTW Marine Licence by the issue of Marine Licence 06678/19/1 on the 5 June 2019. The OfTW Marine Licence was varied initially by the issue of Marine Licence MS-00008954 on the 12 October 2020, followed by issue of MS-00009466 on the 15 October 2021, and most recently on the 26 May 2022 by issue of MS-00009831. The revised S36 Consent and associated Marine Licences are collectively referred to as 'the Offshore Consents'.
2. The Project has been developed by Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Limited (NnGOWL) and construction is expected to be completed by March 2026. Upon completion of construction, divestment of transmission assets in accordance with the Ofgem tendering process was commenced in 2024 and is expected to be completed in 2026.

1.2 Objectives of this Document

3. The Offshore Consents contain a variety of conditions that must be discharged through approval by the Scottish Ministers prior to the commencement of any offshore construction works.
4. One such requirement is the approval of a CaP. The relevant conditions setting out the requirement for a CaP for approval, and which are to be discharged by this CaP, are presented in full in Table 1-1.

Table 1-1: CaP consent conditions to be discharged by this Consent Plan

OFFSHORE CONSENTS REFERENCE	CONDITION	WHERE ADDRESSED
Section 36 Consent Condition 19	The Company must, no later than six months prior to the Commencement of the Development, submit a Cable Plan ("CaP"), in writing, to the Scottish Ministers for their written approval.	This document sets out the CaP for approval by the Scottish Ministers
	Such approval may only be granted following consultation by the Scottish Ministers with, [Scottish Natural Heritage] SNH (now known as Nature Scot), [Maritime and Coastguard Agency] MCA, [Scottish Fishermen's Federation] SFF and any such other advisors or organisations as may be required at the discretion of the Scottish Ministers.	Consultation to be undertaken by the Scottish Ministers.
	The CaP must be in accordance with the Application.	Section 9
	The CaP must include, but not be limited to, the following: a. The vessel types, location, duration and cable laying techniques for the inter array cables;	Section 4, 0 and 7
	b. The results of monitoring or data collection work (including geophysical, geotechnical and benthic surveys) which will help inform cable routing;	Section 4.2

OFFSHORE CONSENTS REFERENCE	CONDITION	WHERE ADDRESSED
	c. Technical specification of inter array cables, including a desk based assessment of attenuation of electro-magnetic field strengths and shielding;	Section 0
	d. A burial risk assessment to ascertain burial depths and where necessary alternative protection measures;	Section 6
	e. Methodologies for surveys (e.g. over trawl) of the inter array cables through the operational life of the wind farm where mechanical protection of cables laid on the seabed is deployed; and	Section 8.1
	f. Methodologies for inter array cable inspection with measures to address and report to the Scottish Ministers any exposure of inter array cables.	Section 8.2
	Any consented cable protection works must ensure existing and future safe navigation is not compromised. The Scottish Ministers will accept a maximum of 5% reduction in surrounding depth referenced to Chart Datum. Any greater reduction in depth must be agreed in writing by the Scottish Ministers	Section 6.3
Wind Farm Marine Licence Condition 3.2.2.9	The Licensee must, no later than six months prior to the Commencement of the Works, submit a CaP, in writing, to the Licensing Authority for its written approval.	This document sets out the CaP for approval by the Scottish Ministers
	Such approval may only be granted following consultation by the Licensing Authority with SNH [Nature Scot], MCA, SFF and any such other advisors or organisations as may be required at the discretion of the Licensing Authority. Commencement of the Works may not take place until such approval is granted. The CaP must be in accordance with the Application.	Consultation to be undertaken by the Scottish Ministers.
	The CaP must include, but not be limited to, the following: a. The vessel types, location, duration and cable laying techniques for the interconnector and inter array cables;	Section 4, 0 and 7
	b. The results of monitoring or data collection work (including geophysical, geotechnical and benthic surveys) which will help inform cable routing;	Section 4.2
	c. Technical specification of the interconnector and inter-array cables, including a desk based assessment of attenuation of electro-magnetic field strengths and shielding;	Section 5.1
	d. A burial risk assessment to ascertain burial depths and where necessary alternative protection measures;	Section 6
	e. Methodologies for surveys (e.g. over trawl) of the interconnector and inter array cables through the operational life of the wind farm where mechanical protection of cables laid on the seabed is deployed; and	Section 8.1
	f. Methodologies for interconnector and inter array cable inspection with measures to address and report to the Licensing Authority any exposure of the interconnector or inter array cables.	Section 8.2

OFFSHORE CONSENTS REFERENCE	CONDITION	WHERE ADDRESSED
	Any licensed cable protection must ensure existing and future safe navigation is not compromised. The Licensing Authority will accept a maximum of 5% reduction in surrounding depth referenced to Chart Datum. Any greater reduction in depth must be agreed in writing by the Licensing Authority.	Section 6.3

1.3 Linkages with Other Consent Plans

5. This CaP sets out the inter-array and interconnector cable arrangements and the methods for installation. It forms part of a suite of approved documents that will provide the framework for the construction, operation and maintenance process – namely the other Consent Plans required under the Section 36 Consent and Wind Farm Marine Licence.

6. The consent conditions that require the development of a CaP do not explicitly identify linkages between this and other Consent Plans. However, other conditions require that several other Consent Plans be consistent with the CaP; these plans are identified in Table 1-2.

Table 1-2: CaP linkages with other Consent Plans

OFFSHORE CONSENT REFERENCE	CONSENT PLAN	CONSISTENCY WITH AND LINKAGE TO CAP
Section 36 Consent Condition 10; **Wind Farm Marine Licence Condition 3.2.2.8**	**The Construction Method Statement (CMS)**	The purpose of the approved CMS is to detail the methods that will be implemented during the construction of the Project. The CMS must, so far as is reasonably practicable, be consistent with the CaP.
Section 36 Consent Condition 16	**Operation and Maintenance Programme (OMP)**	The OMP will set out the procedures and good working practices for the operational and maintenance (O&M) phase of the Project. The OMP must be, so far as is reasonably practicable, consistent with the CaP.

1.4 CaP Document Structure

7. In response to the specific requirements of the Section 36 and Wind Farm Marine Licence, this CaP has been structured so as to be clear that each part of the specific requirements have been met and that the relevant information to allow the Scottish Ministers to approve the CaP has been provided. The document structure is set out in Table 1-3.

Table 1-3: CaP document structure

SECTION	TITLE	OVERVIEW
1	Introduction	Background to consent requirements and overview of the CaP scope and structure; and Identifies those other Consent Plans with linkages to the CaP.

SECTION	TITLE	OVERVIEW
2	NnGOWL Statements of Compliance	Sets out the NnGOWL statements of compliance in relation to the CaP.
3	Project Overview	Provides an overview of the Project.
4	Location and Layout of Cables	Provides information on the cable routing and relevant key constraints considered.
5	Technical Specification of Cables	Sets out the technical specification of the cables.
6	Cable Burial	Summarises the Cable Burial Risk Assessments (CBRA) undertaken and confirms proposed burial depth of cables.
7	Cable Installation Method	Describes the method of cable installation.
8	Operation and Maintenance	Sets out the approach to cable inspections following installation.
9	Compliance with the Application	Confirms that the details set out in this CaP are in accordance with those assessed in the Application.

2 NnGOWL Statements of Compliance

8. NnGOWL (including NnGOWL's relevant Contractors/Subcontractors) in undertaking the construction, operation and maintenance of the Project will comply with this CaP as approved by the Scottish Ministers.

9. Where updates or amendments are required to this CaP, NnGOWL will ensure the Scottish Ministers are informed as soon as reasonably practicable and where necessary the CaP will be resubmitted for approval.

10. NnGOWL will comply with the limits defined by the Application and supporting documentation (referred to in Annex 1 of the S36 Consent and Part 2 of the Wind Farm and in so far as they apply to this CaP (unless otherwise approved in advance by the Scottish Ministers)).

3 Project Overview

11. The Wind Farm Area is located to the northeast of the Firth of Forth, 15.5 km directly east of Fife Ness on the east coast of Scotland (See Figure 3-1). The Wind Farm Area covers approximately 105 km^2. Offshore Export Cables will be located within the Offshore Export Cable Corridor which runs in an approximately southwest direction from the Wind Farm Area, making landfall at Thorntonloch beach to the south of Torness Power Station in East Lothian. The Offshore Export Cable Corridor is generally 300 m in width from the Wind Farm Area boundary to the landfall location with a slightly wider area at approximately 9 km offshore from Thorntonloch beach associated with the Extension Area. Figure 3-1 shows the Wind Farm Area and Offshore Export Cable Corridor (including the Extension Area).

12. The Offshore Consents allow for the construction and operation of the following main components, the Generating Station and the OfTI, which together comprise the Project:

13. The Generating Station is comprised of:

- 54 wind turbines generating a maximum total output of around 450 MW;
- 54 jacket substructures installed on pre-piled foundations, to support the wind turbines;
- A network of inter-array subsea cables, buried and/or mechanically protected, to connect strings of turbines together and to connect the turbines to the OSPs;
- One interconnector cable connecting the OSPs to each other;
- Minor ancillary works such as the deployment of metocean buoys and permanent navigational marks.

14. The OfTI is comprised of:

- Two alternating current (AC) substation platforms, referred to as Offshore Substation Platforms (OSPs), to collect the generated electricity and transform the electricity from 66 kV to 220 kV (kilo Volt) for transmission to shore;
- Two jacket substructures installed on piled foundations, to support the OSPs; and
- Two buried and/or mechanically protected subsea export cables to transmit the electricity from the OSPs to the landfall at Thorntonloch and connecting to the onshore buried export cables for transmission to the onshore substation and connection to the National Grid network; and
- Minor ancillary works such as such as J-tubes and access facilities.

15. Offshore construction commenced in August 2020 and was completed in February 2026. Details of the construction programme are provided in the Construction Programme and Construction Method Statement (CoP and CMS).

16. Procedures and good working practices for operation and maintenance are set out in the Operation and Maintenance Programme.

17. The OfTI, namely the two Offshore Substations Platforms (OSPs) and export cables, will be sold to an Offshore Transmission Operator (OfTO). NnGOWL will remain responsible for the O&M of the OfTI up to the point of transfer to the OfTO.

18. Until transfer of ownership, the NnGOWL will be responsible for updating and implementing the relevant elements of this CaP, as well as OfTI assets for which a separate CaP has been prepared.

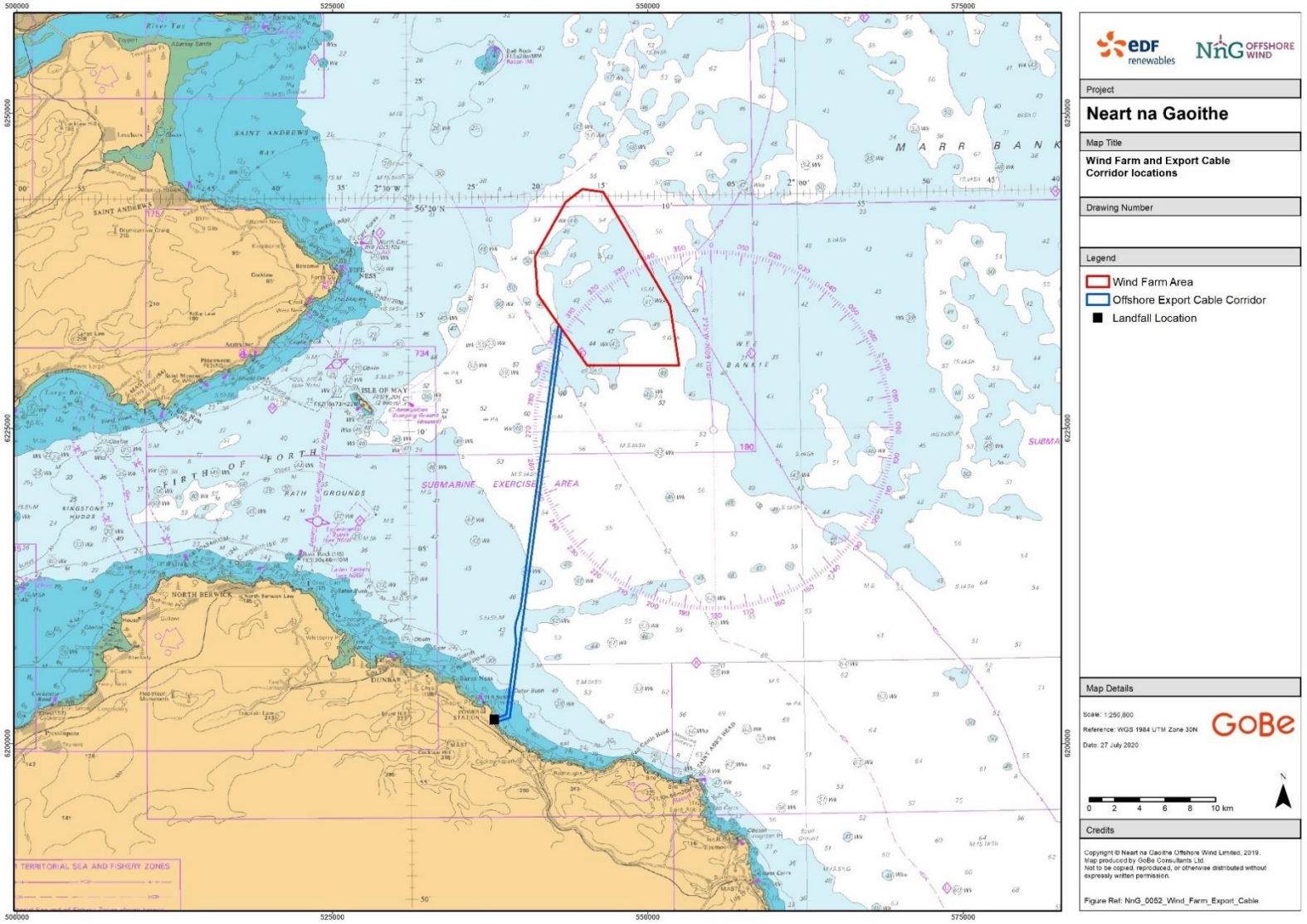


Figure 3-1: Wind Farm Area and Offshore Export Cable Corridor locations

4 Location and Layout of Cables

4.1 Introduction

19. This section describes the layout and location of the inter-array and interconnector cables, and the information that has been used to inform routing. This section includes surveys of the export cable corridor for completeness.

4.2 Site Investigations

20. A series of geotechnical, geophysical and benthic surveys have been commissioned by NnGOWL to understand seabed conditions across the Wind Farm Area. The results of these surveys have been considered in defining the inter-array, interconnector and export cable routing (primarily driven by the array layout and landfall location) and installation methods. A summary of the pre-construction surveys conducted is provided in Table 4-1.

Table 4-1: Surveys relevant to this CaP

DATA SOURCE	COVERAGE	DATA USE	DATE
Geophysical surveys	Within and around the Wind Farm Area and Offshore Export Cable Corridor	Side Scan Sonar (SSS), Acoustic Ground Discrimination System (AGDS) and swath bathymetry used to inform site development (e.g. identification of a likely layout) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).	2009
Geotechnical surveys	Within and around the Wind Farm Area	Cone Penetration Tests (CPTs), vibrocores and borehole sampling. Data used to inform site development and EIA.	2010
Sub-tidal benthic survey	Within and around the Offshore Wind Farm Area and Export Cable Route Corridor	Sub tidal sampling comprising of 0.1 m^2 Hamon grab for quantitative faunal and sediment analysis, seabed digital images collected using drop down video, 2 m epibenthic beam trawls and 0.04 m^2 Shipek grab for contaminant analysis. Data used to inform EIA.	2009
Intertidal biotope mapping survey	500 m cable corridor at the landfall location at Thorntonloch	Intertidal Global Positioning System (GPS) biotope mapping survey, core sampling and dig over survey to identify habitat distribution. Data used to inform EIA.	2009
Habitat mapping	Within and around the Offshore Wind Farm Area, Export Cable Route Corridor and landfall location	Interpretation of sub-tidal and intertidal benthic datasets for biotope classification and mapping. Data used to inform EIA.	2009
Preliminary assessment of coarse sediment benthic habitats	Within and around the Offshore Wind Farm area	Data interpretation to determine potential presence of geogenic stony reef used to inform EIA.	2011
Geotechnical surveys	Offshore Wind Farm Area and Offshore Export Cable Corridor	CPTs within the Wind Farm Area and CPTs and vibrocores along the Offshore Export Cable corridor. Data used to inform site development (e.g. refinement of layout).	2012
Geotechnical Survey	Offshore Wind Farm Area	Boreholes to inform site development and cable installation and protection methods and design.	2014

DATA SOURCE	COVERAGE	DATA USE	DATE
Geophysical Survey	Offshore Wind Farm Area focusing on lines orientated along rows of turbines following a north west to south east orientation	Multibeam echosounder (MBES) and SSS. Data used to inform site development (e.g. refinement of layout), pile installation and design.	2015
Geotechnical Survey	Offshore Wind Farm Area	Boreholes and CPTs. Data used to inform site development (e.g. refinement of layout), pile installation and design.	2018/19
Geophysical Survey	Offshore Wind Farm Area focused on intended works / infrastructure locations, and the Offshore Export Cable Corridor	MBES, SSS, magnetometer and sparker. Data used to inform pile design and installation and identify seabed preparation requirements. Data also analysed to refine Archaeological Exclusion Zones (AEZs).	2019/20
Nearshore Geophysical and Geotechnical Survey	Offshore Export Cable Corridor within the nearshore area from the landfall location to approximately 2 km offshore	MBES, SSS and sub-bottom profilers. Borehole sampling has been completed along a centreline within the Offshore Export Cable Corridor. Data used to inform nearshore and landfall Offshore Export Cable installation methodology. Data also analysed to refine AEZs. Data analysis and reporting concluded in March 2020.	2019/20
Geotechnical Survey	Offshore Wind Farm Area	Boreholes. Data used to inform detailed pile design and installation (e.g. pile drivability assessment). Data analysis and reporting concluded in March 2020.	2020

21. Following a review of all available survey data, a number of constraints were identified that required changes to cable routing and installation. These changes have been taken into account in developing the final cable routing presented within this this CaP.

4.3 Survey Outputs

4.3.1 Geophysical and Geotechnical Surveys

22. Bathymetry across the Wind Farm Area ranges from approximately 43 m to 58 m below Lowest Astronomical Tide (LAT). The shallowest water is located in the southern half of the Area, along a linear ridge orientated northwest to southeast, which rises 2 m above seabed level to 40.5 m. The deepest water, at approximately 58 m, occurs in the west of the Wind Farm Area close to the boundary within a channel orientated northwest-southeast.

23. Initial studies conducted to inform the Original Application for the Project (NnGOWL, 2012) and more recent survey work conducted in 2019 (Fugro, 2019) (See Table 4-1) both report that sediments within the Wind Farm Area mainly comprise muddy sand, fine to very fine sand and gravelly sand. These are underlain by varying depths of clay associated with the Wee Bankie formation and sediments associated with Forth and St Abbs formation. At the thickest point underlying sediment reach up to 73 m thick in two paleochannels that cross the Wind Farm Area. The bedrock beneath this consists of Carboniferous limestones in the east and sandstones in the west.

24. Water depths in the Offshore Export Cable Corridor reach 58 m LAT adjacent to the Wind Farm Area boundary (NnGOWL, 2012). Depths in the nearshore section of the Corridor out to

approximately 2 km from the shoreline are highly variable due to the presence of exposed folded bedrock that comprises the seabed here. Further offshore, out to approximately 7 km, the seabed gradient decreases and is generally flat and featureless, especially where soft sediment makes up the seabed surface. Along the Offshore Export Cable Corridor recent survey work generally corroborates the findings of earlier surveys (Fugro, 2019; 2020). Within the nearshore area the Offshore Export Cable Corridor comprises of bedrock with veneers of sands and gravels, and areas of deeper mixed sediments generally dominated by sand and gravel components (Fugro, 2020). Further offshore the Export Cable Corridor varies between areas of muddy sand with high clay and silt components and areas of coarser sand with gravel (Fugro, 2019). This is interrupted by a series of igneous dykes around 9 km offshore from the landfall.

25. The results of all surveys undertaken to date have been issued to the cable installation Contractor, who has used the data to undertake route engineering and identify the most appropriate cable burial tools and techniques.

4.3.2 Benthic Surveys

26. The dominant sediment type identified within the Wind Farm Area is slightly gravelly muddy sand, although patches of coarser sediment (e.g., sandy gravel and gravelly sand) were also recorded within the Wind Farm Area. Offshore characterisation surveys identified the presence of the biotope complex SS.SMu.CSaMu (circalittoral sandy mud) with epifaunal species present including seapens (e.g., *Virgularia mirabilis*) and brittlestars (e.g., *Amphiura* spp.). Infaunal species include polychaetes (e.g., Spiophanes bombyx) and bivalves (e.g., *Mysella bidentata*, *Abra* spp. and *Nuculoma* spp.) across the Wind Farm Area (NnGOWL, 2018).

27. Video analysis indicated biotopes more typical of soft sediments with polychaete tubes, megafauna burrows, seapens (e.g., *Pennatula phosphoracea* and *V. mirabilis*) and Chaetopterus tubes. These features suggest the presence of the Priority Marine Feature 'burrowed mud' and the component biotope SS.SMu.CFiMu.SpnMeg (Seapens and burrowing megafauna in circalittoral fine mud), covering a proportion of the Wind Farm Area.

28. A series of rocky substrates corresponding to the exposure of the Wee Bankie Formation were also observed during video analysis with areas of a highly variable seabed comprising a mix of substrate habitat types. These included large boulders and cobbles supporting a mosaic of the biotopes CR.MCR.EcCr.FaAlCr.Pom (faunal and algal crusts with *Pomatoceros triqueter* and sparse *Alcyonium digitatum* on exposed to moderately wave-exposed circalittoral rock) and CR.MCR.EcCr.FaAlCr.Adig (*A. digitatum*, *P. triqueter*, algal and bryozoan crusts on wave-exposed circalittoral rock).

29. The Offshore Export Cable Corridor is characterised by deep circalittoral mud and gravelly muddy sand, typical of the outer Firth of Forth. Further inshore, the cable route is characterised by deep circalittoral coarse sediment and low energy rock habitats.

30. The habitat complexes along the Offshore Export Cable Corridor closer to the Wind Farm Area comprised muddy sand biotope complexes. Further inshore, the area is characterised by coarse sediment (e.g. SS.SCS.CCS) comprising cobbles, pebbles, gravel and coarse sand. Conspicuous fauna identified from the video images comprised keel worms *Pomatoceros* spp. and crustaceans such as *Munida rugosa*.

31. Discrete areas of both the Wind Farm Area and the Offshore Export Cable Corridor supported dense areas of the brittlestar *Ophiothrix fragilis* which fitted the biotope SS.SMx.CMx.OphMx.

32. Benthic surveys have not identified any habitats that have influenced cable routing or installation methods. Furthermore, the Project does not overlap with any conservation sites designated for benthic habitat or species.

4.4 Key Constraints

4.4.1 Wind Farm Area

33. The Development Specification and Layout Plan (DSLP) identifies those constraints present within the Wind Farm Area that have influenced the final layout of the Wind Farm array; this layout has driven the layout and location of the inter-array and interconnector cables as shown on Figure 4-1. The inter-array and interconnector cables typically travel in straight lines between structures, though do deviate to avoid AEZs, which are mapped on Figure 4-1 below.

4.5 Location and Layout

4.5.1 Inter-Array Cables and Interconnector Cable

34. The wind turbines are connected by inter-array cabling arranged in circuits ('loops'). There are 6 loops with 8 - 10 turbines on each. The first and last wind turbine in a loop is connected by an inter-array cable to an OSP. The OSPs are connected to one another by a single interconnector cable. The arrangement of the cables is set out in Figure 4-1.

35. The lengths of each of the inter-array and interconnector cables between the bellmouths of the turbines and OSP locations are presented in Table 4-2. The length of the inter-array cabling and interconnector cabling to be installed in contact with the seabed will be approximately 94 km and 4 km.

36. The total amount of cabling required also includes the vertical lengths, which are encased within the J-tubing from the bellmouth up to the full height of the WTG or OSP. This totals 106 km and 4 km for the inter-array cables and interconnector cable, respectively. This additional 10 km of cabling is not in direct contact with the seabed but is included here for completeness.

4.5.1.1 Route Refinement and Micro-siting

No micro-siting of the inter array and interconnector cables was required and the final location and layout of the inter-array cables and the interconnector cable are presented in Figure 4-1 and provided in Table 4-2.

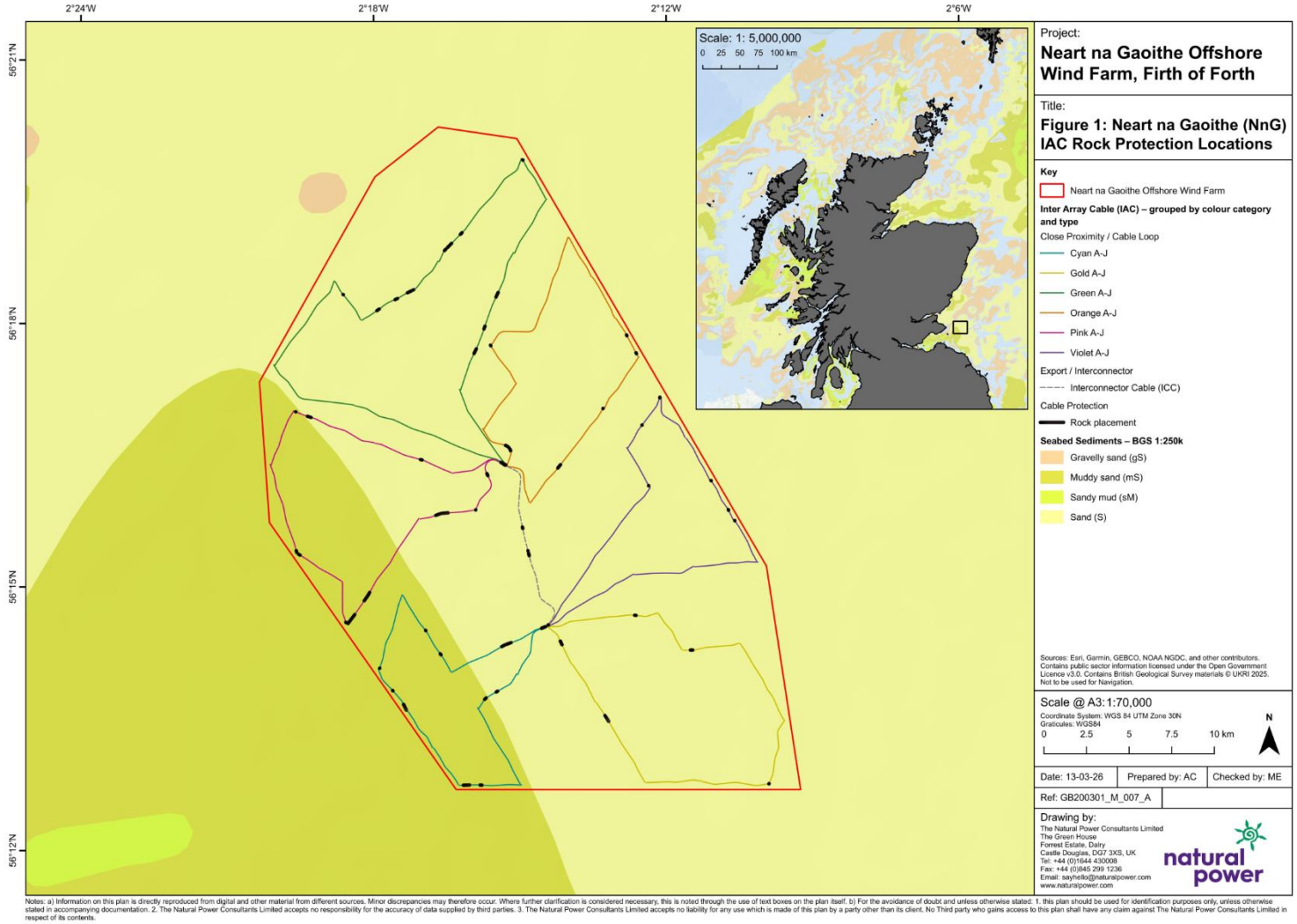


Figure 4-1: Inter-array and interconnector cable configuration, showing 66 kV cable connectivity between turbines and OSPs

Table 4-2: Inter-array and interconnector cable arrangements and cable lengths

ARRAY LAYOUT		START POINT			END POINT			ROUTE LENGTH FROM J TUBE TO J TUBE (M)
START	END	LATITUDE (DDM) WGS84	LONGITUDE (DDM) WGS84	WATER DEPTH (M) LAT	LATITUDE (DDM) WGS84	LONGITUDE (DDM) WGS84	WATER DEPTH (M) LAT	
Inter-array cables								
NNG-OSS-N	NNG-D13	56° 16.446' N	2° 15.193' W	52.0	56° 15.946' N	2° 15.848' W	50.2	1609.8
NNG-D13	NNG-C14	56° 15.946' N	2° 15.848' W	50.2	56° 15.858' N	2° 16.984' W	50.0	1171.8
NNG-C14	NNG-A11	56° 15.858' N	2° 16.984' W	50.0	56° 14.668' N	2° 18.489' W	48.5	2705.9
NNG-A11	NNG-A13	56° 14.668' N	2° 18.489' W	48.5	56° 15.153' N	2° 18.580' W	52.1	899.2
NNG-A13	NNG-A15	56° 15.153' N	2° 18.580' W	52.1	56° 15.474' N	2° 19.485' W	53.2	1082.6
NNG-A15	NNG-A19	56° 15.474' N	2° 19.485' W	53.2	56° 16.490' N	2° 20.015' W	53.2	1969
NNG-A19	NNG-B20	56° 16.490' N	2° 20.015' W	53.2	56° 17.097' N	2° 19.521' W	51.5	1245.6
NNG-B20	NNG-C18	56° 17.097' N	2° 19.521' W	51.5	56° 16.725' N	2° 17.882' W	50.3	1821.2
NNG-C18	NNG-D15	56° 16.725' N	2° 17.882' W	50.3	56° 16.377' N	2° 16.321' W	46.4	1718.9
NNG-D15	NNG-OSS-N	56° 16.377' N	2° 16.321' W	46.4	56° 16.446' N	2° 15.193' W	52.0	1253.1
NNG-OSS-N	NNG-C19	56° 16.446' N	2° 15.193' W	52.0	56° 17.156' N	2° 18.293' W	52.1	3472.4
NNG-C19	NNG-B22	56° 17.156' N	2° 18.293' W	52.1	56° 17.623' N	2° 19.921' W	54.0	2049.4
NNG-B22	NNG-D23	56° 17.623' N	2° 19.921' W	54.0	56° 18.572' N	2° 18.667' W	54.1	2205
NNG-D23	NNG-D22	56° 18.572' N	2° 18.667' W	54.1	56° 18.128' N	2° 18.135' W	51.1	972.5
NNG-D22	NNG-F22	56° 18.128' N	2° 18.135' W	51.1	56° 18.785' N	2° 16.536' W	49.6	2085.4
NNG-F22	NNG-H23	56° 18.785' N	2° 16.536' W	49.6	56° 19.943' N	2° 14.806' W	53.9	2839.1
NNG-H23	NNG-H22	56° 19.943' N	2° 14.806' W	53.9	56° 19.488' N	2° 14.322' W	53.7	962.4
NNG-H22	NNG-G21	56° 19.488' N	2° 14.322' W	53.7	56° 18.873' N	2° 14.988' W	54.2	1340.8
NNG-G21	NNG-E18	56° 18.873' N	2° 14.988' W	54.2	56° 17.324' N	2° 16.122' W	50.8	3127.8
NNG-E18	NNG-OSS-N	56° 17.324' N	2° 16.122' W	50.8	56° 16.446' N	2° 15.193' W	52.0	1902.9
NNG-OSS-N	NNG-E16	56° 16.446' N	2° 15.193' W	52.0	56° 16.874' N	2° 15.658' W	52.3	1128.5

ARRAY LAYOUT		START POINT			END POINT			ROUTE LENGTH FROM J TUBE TO J TUBE (M)
START	END	LATITUDE (DDM) WGS84	LONGITUDE (DDM) WGS84	WATER DEPTH (M) LAT	LATITUDE (DDM) WGS84	LONGITUDE (DDM) WGS84	WATER DEPTH (M) LAT	
NNG-E16	NNG-F17	56° 16.874' N	2° 15.658' W	52.3	56° 17.394' N	2° 14.978' W	51.4	1198.1
NNG-F17	NNG-F19	56° 17.394' N	2° 14.978' W	51.4	56° 17.828' N	2° 15.487' W	47.9	964
NNG-F19	NNG-H21	56° 17.828' N	2° 15.487' W	47.9	56° 19.043' N	2° 13.865' W	51.1	3147.7
NNG-H21	NNG-H19	56° 19.043' N	2° 13.865' W	51.1	56° 18.588' N	2° 13.397' W	50.8	952.1
NNG-H19	NNG-H17	56° 18.588' N	2° 13.397' W	50.8	56° 18.134' N	2° 12.932' W	50.4	949.5
NNG-H17	NNG-H15	56° 18.134' N	2° 12.932' W	50.4	56° 17.677' N	2° 12.466' W	51.1	953.9
NNG-H15	NNG-G14	56° 17.677' N	2° 12.466' W	51.1	56° 17.095' N	2° 13.181' W	51.1	1317.4
NNG-G14	NNG-E12	56° 17.095' N	2° 13.181' W	51.1	56° 16.029' N	2° 14.720' W	50.3	2548
NNG-E12	NNG-OSS-N	56° 16.029' N	2° 14.720' W	50.3	56° 16.446' N	2° 15.193' W	52.0	1021.2
NNG-OSS-S	NNG-G10	56° 14.615' N	2° 14.395' W	48.0	56° 16.197' N	2° 12.270' W	52.0	3697.5
NNG-G10	NNG-G12	56° 16.197' N	2° 12.270' W	52.0	56° 16.640' N	2° 12.715' W	48.9	943.7
NNG-G12	NNG-H13	56° 16.640' N	2° 12.715' W	48.9	56° 17.214' N	2° 11.997' W	53.3	1297.9
NNG-H13	NNG-H11	56° 17.214' N	2° 11.997' W	53.3	56° 16.740' N	2° 11.513' W	49.5	1098.1
NNG-H11	NNG-H09	56° 16.740' N	2° 11.513' W	49.5	56° 16.263' N	2° 11.027' W	51.0	999.5
NNG-H09	NNG-H08	56° 16.263' N	2° 11.027' W	51.0	56° 15.808' N	2° 10.556' W	50.2	957.8
NNG-H08	NNG-H06	56° 15.808' N	2° 10.556' W	50.2	56° 15.324' N	2° 10.079' W	49.7	1005.5
NNG-H06	NNG-G07	56° 15.324' N	2° 10.079' W	49.7	56° 15.279' N	2° 11.379' W	50.1	1348.5
NNG-G07	NNG-F08	56° 15.279' N	2° 11.379' W	50.1	56° 15.198' N	2° 12.603' W	49.7	1284.1
NNG-F08	NNG-OSS-S	56° 15.198' N	2° 12.603' W	49.7	56° 14.615' N	2° 14.395' W	48.0	2148.9
NNG-OSS-S	NNG-F06	56° 14.615' N	2° 14.395' W	48.0	56° 14.751' N	2° 12.129' W	50.5	2369.8
NNG-F06	NNG-F05	56° 14.751' N	2° 12.129' W	50.5	56° 14.330' N	2° 11.632' W	45.6	924.1
NNG-F05	NNG-G04	56° 14.330' N	2° 11.632' W	45.6	56° 14.405' N	2° 10.436' W	49.1	1237.2
NNG-G04	NNG-G02	56° 14.405' N	2° 10.436' W	49.1	56° 13.520' N	2° 9.572' W	53.2	1867.1

ARRAY LAYOUT		START POINT			END POINT			ROUTE LENGTH FROM J TUBE TO J TUBE (M)
START	END	LATITUDE (DDM) WGS84	LONGITUDE (DDM) WGS84	WATER DEPTH (M) LAT	LATITUDE (DDM) WGS84	LONGITUDE (DDM) WGS84	WATER DEPTH (M) LAT	
NNG-G02	NNG-F01	56° 13.520' N	2° 9.572' W	53.2	56° 12.790' N	2° 9.915' W	50.5	1437.9
NNG-F01	NNG-E02	56° 12.790' N	2° 9.915' W	50.5	56° 12.829' N	2° 11.251' W	49.9	1386.8
NNG-E02	NNG-D03	56° 12.829' N	2° 11.251' W	49.9	56° 12.828' N	2° 12.421' W	50.8	1205.9
NNG-D03	NNG-D05	56° 12.828' N	2° 12.421' W	50.8	56° 13.744' N	2° 13.417' W	49.6	1974.5
NNG-D05	NNG-D06	56° 13.744' N	2° 13.417' W	49.6	56° 14.179' N	2° 13.894' W	49.2	930.1
NNG-D06	NNG-OSS-S	56° 14.179' N	2° 13.894' W	49.2	56° 14.615' N	2° 14.395' W	48.0	957.2
NNG-OSS-S	NNG-C07	56° 14.615' N	2° 14.395' W	48.0	56° 14.076' N	2° 15.018' W	47.9	1278.3
NNG-C07	NNG-B07	56° 14.076' N	2° 15.018' W	47.9	56° 13.695' N	2° 15.822' W	45.1	1125.6
NNG-B07	NNG-B04	56° 13.695' N	2° 15.822' W	45.1	56° 12.818' N	2° 14.965' W	49.8	1867.2
NNG-B04	NNG-A05	56° 12.818' N	2° 14.965' W	49.8	56° 12.822' N	2° 16.231' W	45.4	1321.7
NNG-A05	NNG-A06	56° 12.822' N	2° 16.231' W	45.4	56° 13.249' N	2° 16.755' W	50.4	942.3
NNG-A06	NNG-A08	56° 13.249' N	2° 16.755' W	50.4	56° 13.665' N	2° 17.267' W	46.6	923.9
NNG-A08	NNG-A09	56° 13.665' N	2° 17.267' W	46.6	56° 14.153' N	2° 17.845' W	47.9	1099.8
NNG-A09	NNG-B11	56° 14.153' N	2° 17.845' W	47.9	56° 14.989' N	2° 17.341' W	49.6	1662.4
NNG-B11	NNG-B08	56° 14.989' N	2° 17.341' W	49.6	56° 14.109' N	2° 16.365' W	48.5	1908.8
NNG-B08	NNG-OSS-S	56° 14.109' N	2° 16.365' W	48.5	56° 14.615' N	2° 14.395' W	48.0	2255.6
Interconnector Cable								
NNG-OSS-N	NNG-OSS-S	56° 16.446' N	2° 15.193' W	52.0	56° 14.615' N	2° 14.395' W	48.0	3,820.50

5 Technical Specification of Cables

5.1 Inter-Array Cables and Interconnector Cable

37. The inter-array cables and the interconnector cable comprise 3 core 66 kV armoured submarine power cables of a type typically used to support medium voltage connections between offshore installations.

5.1.1 Cable Components

38. The main components of the inter-array cables are shown in Figure 5-1 and are described briefly below. The interconnector cable follows a similar design but utilises copper conductors instead of aluminium. The inter-array and interconnector cables are designed in accordance with industry standards as set out in the relevant International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and DNV-GL guidance.

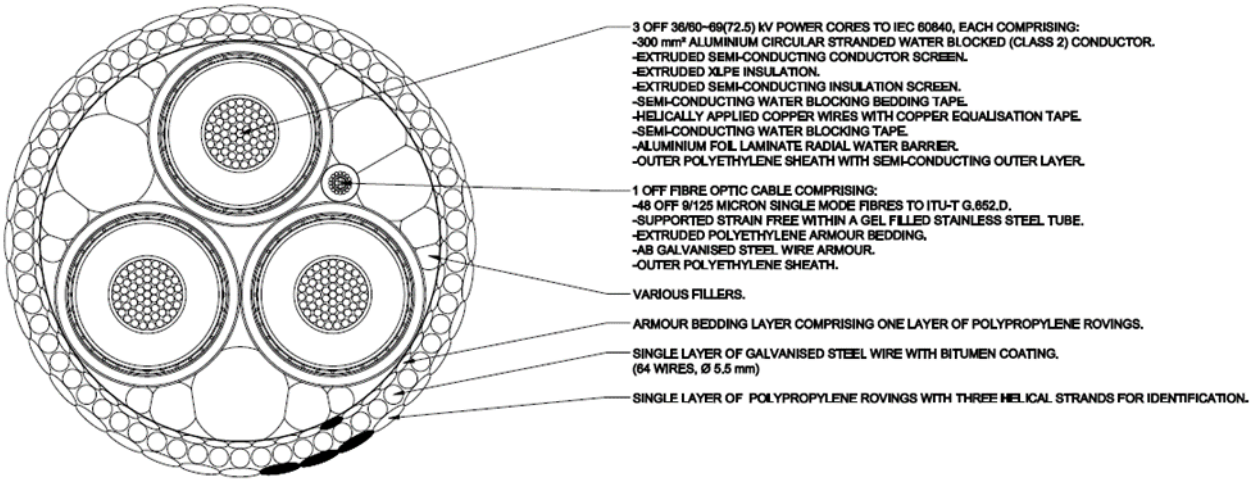


Figure 5-1: Inter-array and interconnector cable design

5.1.1.1 Power Cores

39. The cables are comprised of three aluminium power cores each with a cross-sectional area of approximately 300 mm^2. The aluminium power cores are of flexible design and suitable for installation and use in a sub-sea environment. The cores are insulated with either stainless steel or cross-linked polyethylene (XLPE). For waterproofing each core is surrounded with a semi conducting water blocking tape suitable for subsea use.

5.1.1.2 Integrated Data Cable

40. The inter-array and interconnector cable are bundled with a fibre optic sub-cable which provides the necessary functionality for turbine control and instrumentation systems and also provides internet connectivity and communications on each turbine and OSP. The cables are supported in a water repellent gel within a stainless steel tube, protected by inner polyethylene sheath, galvanised steel wire armour and an outer polyethylene sheath.

5.1.1.3 Cable Armouring

41. Appropriate filler materials (e.g. ropes or extruded polymeric profiles) are included within the cable interstices.

42. The inter-array and interconnector cables were then be protected by one layer of galvanised steel wire.

43. Bitumen and polypropylene rovings (bundles of fibre wrapped around the cable) were applied over the armour wires for outer protection of the cable.

5.1.2 Electromagnetic Fields

44. This section summarises the results of a desk-based assessment carried out by the cable manufacturer on behalf of NnGOWL on the attenuation of electromagnetic fields associated with the inter-array cables and interconnector cable.

45. The study calculated the magnetic field magnitudes at a given distance from the inter-array and interconnector cable at a burial depth of 1.0 m. The magnitudes were calculated using the Finite Element Method with the analysis software package Comsol. The study confirmed that the electromagnetic field (EMF) generated by the cables decreases rapidly with distance from them.

46. The modelling outputs predict that the EMF generated by the inter-array cables and interconnector cable will reduce to zero within 0.25 m of the cable when it is carrying the maximum current of 459 Amp (A) and 923 A respectively. The maximum generated EMF identified is 1.3 millitesla (mT) and 2.1 mT at the surface of the inter-array cable and interconnector cable respectively. In both cases the EMF reduces down to 0 mT before it reaches the seabed surface. Therefore, the predicted maximum magnetic field strength of the inter-array cables and interconnector cable at the seabed is expected to be lower than the earth's magnetic field (~0.05 mT).

47. NnGOWL will seek to engage with any future EMF studies in the area, in consultation with NatureScot.

6 Cable Burial

6.1 Introduction

48. Section 6.2 below provides a summary of the CBRAs undertaken to identify potential threats to the cables and proposes burial depths to minimize risk from these threats to protect the integrity of the installed subsea cables. Section 6.3 then sets out proposed cable burial and protection, which has been informed by the CBRA findings.

6.2 Cable Burial Risk Assessment

49. CBRA is a risk-based assessment undertaken to help determine an optimized Depth of Lowering (DoL) for subsea cables, such that threats to the cable and to other marine users (e.g. interactions between anchors or fishing gear with cables) can be avoided.

50. For the purpose of this CaP, cable burial depth will be described as the DoL. The DoL is the depth measured from the top of the cable to the surrounding mean seabed level (Figure 6-1).

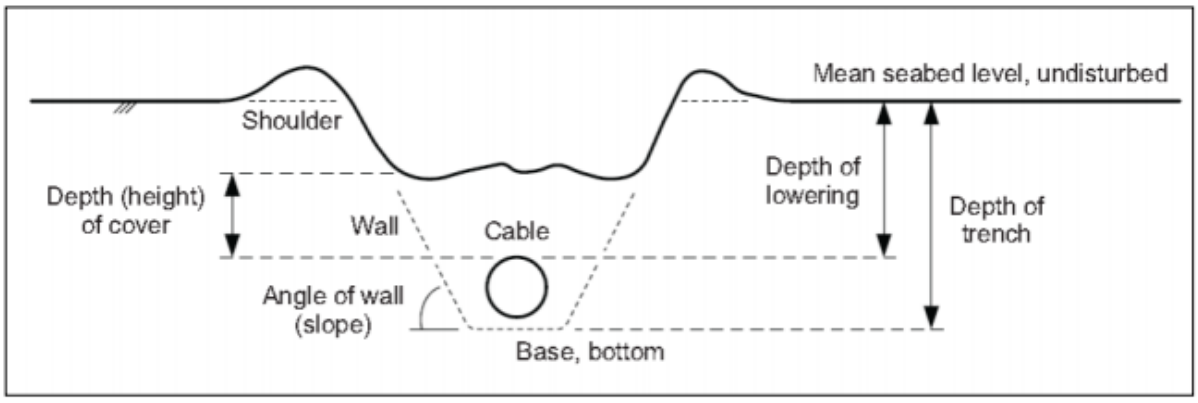


Figure 6-1: Cable DoL relative to Mean Seabed Level (MSBL)

51. CBRAs have been undertaken by external technical consultants Cathie in accordance with the following industry guidance documents:

- Carbon Trust (2015) Cable Burial Risk Assessment Methodology, Guidance for the Preparation of Cable Burial Depth of Lowering Specification, CTC835, February 2015;
- Carbon Trust (2015) Application Guide for the Specification of the Depth of Lowering using the Cable Burial Risk Assessment (CBRA) methodology, Dec 2015; and

52. DNV-GL (2016) Subsea Power Cables in Shallow Water, DNV-GL-RP-0360, 2016.The CBRA method reviews threats based on their anticipated frequency (e.g. how often anchor strike can be expected to occur in the area) and consequence (e.g. to what depth anchors may penetrate the seabed). Once the frequency and consequence of the identified threats is understood, the CBRA investigates how the risk associated with that threat can be mitigated to an acceptable level (as determined by DNV-GL standards) by cable burial, based on known ground conditions (as informed by site survey data; see Sections 4.3.1 and 6.2.1) and prevailing hydrodynamic conditions (i.e. sediment mobility).

53. The CBRAs considered the following main threats:

- Anchor strike: Vessel data was analysed to understand vessel activity in the Project area based on site-specific AIS and radar data and coastal AIS data, and the anchor types and sizes associated with this activity were identified, allowing an understanding of likely depths of anchor penetration.
- Fishing gear interactions: Fisheries data was analysed to understand fishing activity in the Project area, the types of gear in use and the likely depths of gear penetration based on the most recent data collated by the Marine Management Organization (MMO) and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES). See Section 6.2.3 for more detail.
- Sediment mobility (considered a secondary threat): Existing seabed data were analysed to understand the potential for mobile bedforms and their thickness. The results of assessment remain indicative pending the analysis of recently gathered additional seabed survey data. The potential for mobile bedforms of 0.2 – 0.3 m thickness in some locations was identified.

54. The most recent CBRA was conducted by Cathies in 2025 to reassess the depth of lowering criteria above which the cables will require additional protection to reduce the scope of work, minimise construction impact and seabed deposits in field. The Cable Burial Risk Assessment Table was updated based upon the 2021 Cable Burial Risk Assessment but with the as-built depth of lowering along each string also incorporated.

6.2.1 Ground Conditions

55. Geotechnical and geophysical site investigations have identified several 'soil' types present across the Wind Farm Area, as summarized in Section 4.3.1. These include sand (with varying silt and gravel content), clay (of various strengths) and rock (dolomite, sandstone and siltstone, close to/at the seabed surface in places). Sands are widespread across the Wind Farm Area; low strength to medium strength clays are also relatively widespread; medium to high strength clays are found on seabed mounds; and rock is encountered at/near the seabed surface in some locations.

56. Soil conditions encountered along the Offshore Export Cable Corridor comprise loose to medium dense mud / sand overlying glaciomarine clays and bedrock. The sand cover is generally limited in thickness (< 1 m thick) and almost absent in some areas nearshore, where the underlying bedrock is sub/outcropping. Older muddy / clayey layers are dominant in the central stretch of the Corridor, where the bedrock deepens before re-emerging in close proximity to the Wind Farm boundary. Soils in the intertidal zone comprise sand with gravel and cobbles (indicated as 'firm sand') over stiff to very stiff, locally firm, silt and bedrock. The beach is widely covered by shingle, boulders and rocks.

6.2.2 Anchor Strike

57. A risk assessment of anchor strike was undertaken using Project-specific marine traffic survey data gathered during both winter and summer months across several years. Data included marine traffic information gathered using Automatic Information System (AIS) and radar during offshore survey work and shore-based AIS information on marine traffic. The maximum anchor penetration depth based on the vessel types present within the Wind Farm Area and the seabed conditions was considered to be 2.44 m. This is considered to be a conservative worst-case scenario as much of the Wind Farm Area is comprised of stiffer sands and gravels and areas of rock.

58. Assuming unburied (surface-laid) cables, the risk return period from emergency anchoring to a single array cable is over 100,000 years, with the cumulative risk of anchoring to all 61 infield cables being once every 9,725 years.

59. In the 2025 CBRA the annual probability of emergency anchor strike return period has been recalculated to demonstrate that DNV Category 1 risk has been achieved across the site and that no further protection will be required to protect against the impact of dropped anchors from commercial fishing activity.

6.2.3 Fishing Gear Interaction

60. A risk assessment of fishing gear interaction was undertaken based on MMO fisheries data and other data sets and the outcomes of consultation as detailed within the Application (NnGOWL, 2018).

61. These data sets include a detailed profile of the vessels operating from key fishing ports for vessels operating within the local and regional study areas, including number of vessels, length and age profiles, as well as descriptions of the fishing methods deployed. In addition, consultation with Scottish and Anglo-Scottish inshore and offshore fisheries stakeholders was undertaken to both ground-truth data and to understand temporal and spatial patterns of fishing activity (NnGOWL, 2018). Furthermore, these data sets were updated specifically for the CBRA, to ensure a recent overview of the baseline.

62. The probability of fishing gear and cables interacting is dependent upon gear type and dimensions; for the purposes of the precautionary assessment, trawling using otter boards was assumed as this is considered the worst case.

63. Fishing activity was reassessed by Cathies in 2025. In 2019 and 2020 Otter Trawls remained active typically to the west of the windfarm, though less frequent. These Trawls have observed max penetration 2-8 cm in sand and up to 30 cm in soft clays. To the east of the windfarm scallop dredging was noted where dredge teeth typically penetrate 2-6 cm.

64. To mitigate the risk of interactions with fishing gear and based on a probabilistic assessment considering the type and frequency of fishing activity a recommended DoL of 0.2 m was determined in areas of sand, with 0.3 m DoL determined in areas of soft clay.

6.2.4 Sediment Mobility

65. The CBRAs undertaken for both the export cable and inter-array and interconnector cables also consider secondary hazards that may result in cable fatigue or abrasion. For example, surface laid cables would be subject to loading from waves and currents and this could result in cable migration across the seabed. Excessive movement on the seabed could cause abrasion and/or fatigue issues. Buried cables may be subject to exposure where there is a high degree of seabed mobility.

66. An assessment of bathymetry data and physical processes in the Wind Farm Area have not identified large mobile bedforms. Analysis of seabed conditions and local hydrodynamics indicate a maximum thickness of potentially mobile bedforms within the Wind Farm Area of up to 0.2 to 0.3 m. Within the Wind Farm Area effects of local tides and currents and sediment processes are not anticipated to be significant due to the depth and relatively low current speeds recorded.

67. The NNG-ZET-SIV-REP-0001 Hydro Sedimentary Study conducted by Zetica in 2019 concludes that the NNG site is in a low energy depositional environment that has low sedimentation, erosion rate and negligible sediment transport. Its states that calculated accretion is likely artefact from the survey data acquisition and processing. Noting this NNG contracted Cathies to review high density multibeam echo sounder surveys from the construction phase to perform a bathymetric comparison exercise to refine the seabed mobility allowance. Most of the changes observed were depositional, commonly minimal change of less than 0.1m, greater changes are very possibly the result of trenching operations and natural backfill where boulder fields were removed.

6.2.5 CBRA Findings

68. Table 6-1 below summarises the findings of the most recent CBRA.

Table 6-1: CBRA findings summary

THREAT	DOL AT WHICH RISK IS DEEMED ACCEPTABLE IN LINE WITH DNV-GL STANDARDS
Inter-array and interconnector cables	
Commercial shipping	DNV Category 1 achieved by trenching campaign
Commercial fisheries	0.2 m in areas of sand / harder ground 0.3 m in areas of soft clay
Final recommended DoL (taking account of above threats and seabed mobility)	0.3m in sand and harder ground 0.3m in soft clay

6.2.5.1 CBRA Summary

69. Previous CBRAs identify that the best means of mitigating against any potential threats to cables is cable burial, noting that routing cannot avoid the widespread nature of the threats considered.

70. Previously the Application assumed a target burial depth of 1.0 m along the inter-array cable and interconnector cables. Previous CBRAs demonstrated that this DoL is sufficient to adequately mitigate the risk of cable strikes from anchors or fishing gear.

71. However, based on the information provided in assessment NNG-TDW-IAC-TCN-0047 NnGOWL installed additional rock protection in locations where the cables are buried less than 30cm, noting that any mobile bedforms will occur in sand not clay.

6.3 Cable Burial and Protection

72. The CBRAs identified the DoL at which threats to the cables are mitigated to an acceptable risk level. The results of the CBRAs have been used to inform intended cable burial and protection, as set out below.

- It is anticipated that burial of cables to a target DoL of 0.3 m will be achieved along the majority of cable routes. In locations where DoL is either anticipated to be unfeasible during detailed design, or is not achieved during installation, there will be a potential requirement for localised additional protection along sections of cables. It should be noted that the requirement for additional cable protection is within the consented limits, as follows; up to 20% of the total consented length of inter-array and interconnector cables (24 km).

73. NnGOWL will ensure that any consented cable protection works will not compromise safe navigation and, as such, do not currently exceed a maximum of 5% reduction in surrounding water depth. Any greater reduction in depth, relative to chart datum, would be discussed with the MCA and agreed in writing by the Scottish Ministers.

6.3.1 Inter-array and Interconnector Cables

74. All inter-array and inter-connector cables will be buried beneath the seabed to a minimum target DoL of 0.3 m wherever possible and installation methods and tools have been selected to maximise the

likelihood achieving DoL. If the DoL cannot be achieved during installation, means of additional protection, such as rock placement or concrete mattressing, will be employed to safeguard the cables from threats.

75. Exposed cables adjacent to the turbines and OSPs (where cables emerge from burial beneath the seabed to connect with turbines or OSPs) will be protected using a Cable Protection System (CPS).

76. If areas requiring rock placement are identified prior to commencement of cable installation these will be notified to MD-LOT in advance. The final achieved (i.e. as-built) burial profile for inter-array and interconnector cables will be provided by the cable installation Contractor once cable installation and the post-lay survey has been completed.

7 Cable Installation Method

7.1 Inter-Array and Interconnector Cables

7.1.1 Installation Vessels

78. Table 7-1 details the main construction vessel types and their role in the inter-array and interconnector cable installation campaign.

Table 7-1: Main inter-array and interconnector cable installation vessels

VESSEL TYPE	ROLE
Anchor Handling Tug (AHT)	Pre-lay Grapnel Run (PLGR)
Dynamic Positioning (DP) 3 Cable Installation Vessel (CLV)	Cable delivery from port of manufacture; Cable laying; and Cable trenching and burial.
Offshore Support Vessel (OSV)*	Pre- and Post- lay surveys;
Crew Transfer Vessel (CTV)	Transfer of personnel to and from turbine and OSP structures to assist with site preparations, cable pull-in, cable termination and testing.
Walk to Work (WTW) Vessel	Transfer of personnel to turbine and OSP structure for site preparations, pull-in operations as well as termination and testing. May be used as an alternative or in addition to CTVs.
Fall Pipe Vessel	Will be used as required to deploy rock placement around J-tubes and or where burial depth is insufficient for cable protection.

*Two OSV support vessels may be used to support the CLV.

7.1.2 Method and Process of Installation

79. The installation process for the inter-array cable and interconnector cables is presented in Figure 7-1 below. Greater detail on each of the stages in the installation process (IAC-1 – IAC4) is then provided in the subsequent sections.

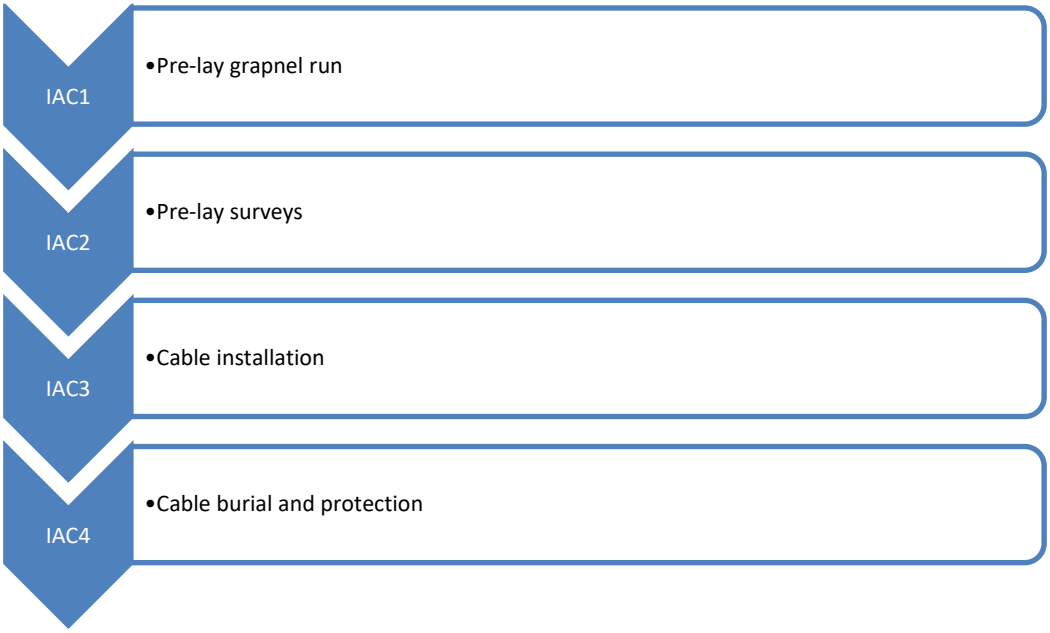


Figure 7-1: Inter-array and interconnector cable installation sequence

7.1.2.1 Inter-Array and Interconnector Cable Installation Stage IAC1 – Pre-lay grapnel run

80. Seabed debris or features (for example scrap trawler warps or ships' crane wires that may have been jettisoned by vessels onto the seabed) can be detrimental to the trenching or burial tool. Therefore, after boulder clearance and before the start of cable laying operations the cable route was cleared of any remaining obstructions by undertaking a PLGR.

81. An anchor handling tug will be mobilised with a towed grapnel rig. All intended cable routes will be subject to PLGR.

82. Any debris recovered to the deck will be retained on board the vessel for disposal onshore.

7.1.2.2 Inter-Array and Interconnector Cable Installation Stage IAC2 – Pre-lay Surveys

83. An OSV performed a pre-lay survey as part of the cable installations, this was done after the vessel was loaded and arrived at site to ensure no changes that will affect the cable installation have occurred since the previous surveys. The vessel used geophysical survey equipment (MBES) to carry out the pre-lay survey.

7.1.2.3 Inter-Array and Interconnector Cable Installation Stage IAC3 – Cable Installation

84. Cable installation was undertaken by the CLV which has been pre-loaded with the subsea cable lengths stored on cable carousels. The cables are installed between the turbines and between the turbines and OSPs to form the 'strings' of turbines. The installation methodology from OSP to turbine is very similar to that of the turbine to turbine.

85. Prior to first end pull-in operations preparation teams were deployed to rig the turbine jackets and/or OSP jackets with all the required pull-in equipment and material. Preparation teams were transferred using the walk to work vessel and/or by CTV. Sets of pull-in equipment were available to allow the preparation teams to prepare sufficient pull-in locations simultaneously.

86. The following steps describe the key stages in the first end cable pull-in process:

- The pull-in hoisting equipment were lifted onto and set up on the turbine or OSP foundation.

- The assembled CPS will be arranged on the deck of the CLV and the sealed end of the cable will be pulled from the carousel and through the CPS on the back deck of the CLV.
- The messenger wire is pre-installed in the foundation J Tubes prior to load out. It was recovered from the foundation J-tube to the CLV by means of an ROV. It was then connected to the front of the cable on the CLV.
- The cable was pulled off the CLV and into the J tube by the messenger wire. This was controlled by a team on the foundation controller a winch and a team monitoring the cable on the CLV. An ROV also monitored entry of the cable into the J Tube.
- The cable was secured in the foundation by means of a hang off clamp to ensure it did not slip back down the J Tube.

87. A typical cable 1st End Pull-in operation is illustrated Figure 7-2 and described below.

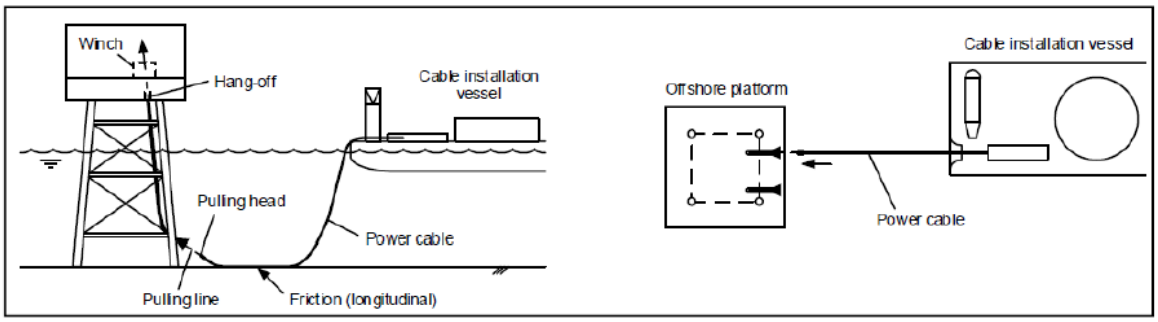


Figure 7-2 Typical 1st end pull-in operation

88. Following 1st end pull-in of the cable the CLV commenced laying along the planned cable route towards the second turbine or OSP pull-in location.

89. Personnel undertook preparatory work on the turbine or OSP foundation prior to arrival of the CLV as detailed prior to first end cable pull-in.

90. The CPS was prepared on the deck of the CLV during transit towards the turbine or OSP. The CLV stopped cable laying at a pre-determined distance from the second end pull in location and cut and seal the inter-array cable. The cut and sealed end of the cable was then routed round a cable quadrant and through the CPS.

91. The messenger wire was again recovered onto the CLV and attached to the cable. The quadrant was then moved towards the stern of the CLV and lifted by the vessel winch located on an A-frame. The quadrant was then lowered to the seabed as the second end of the cable was pulled in through the J-tube of the turbine or OSP foundation and terminated in the same way as first end pull in operations.

92. A typical 2nd end pull-in operation is illustrated in Figure 7-3.

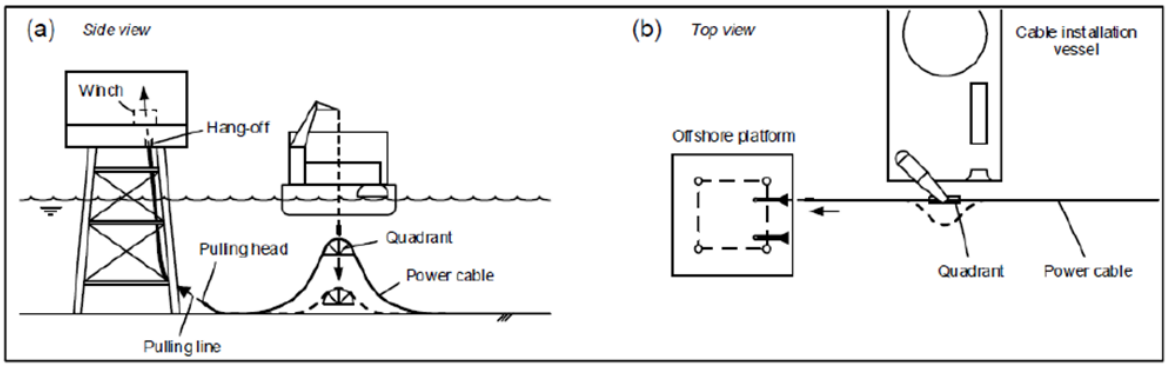


Figure 7-3: Typical 2nd end pull-in operations

93. When the quadrant reached the seabed, it was then tripped to offload the cable.

94. Following installation testing and termination of the cables was conducted by personnel transferred onto the jackets from the walk to work vessel or CTVs.

7.1.2.4 Inter-Array and Interconnector Cable Installation Stage IAC4 – Cable burial and protection

95. There may be a need for close-fitting cable protection at the cables ends between the J- or I-tubes and where the cables are buried. Rock placement or graded rock may also be required to support any free span sections of cables in these locations.

96. Once cables were installed on the seabed, cable burial was conducted by a hybrid trenching tool that can be set to use water jetting and/or mechanical cutting to achieve required burial depths (Figure 7-4). The trenching tool can use jetting or mechanical cutting modes simultaneously to account for highly variable seabed conditions.



Figure 7-4: Deployment of a hybrid cable trenching tool

97. The trencher was equipped with a variety of survey and positioning equipment which were used for trencher positioning and monitoring of the cable along the route during the trenching operations. This equipment allowed an assessment of DoL to determine whether a second pass of the trenching tool is required.

98. The trencher was deployed from the CLV and using cameras was lowered over the surface laid cable. The trenching tool then moved along the seabed to the required starting location. The

cable was then positioned between jetting arms or loaded into a cable trough for mechanical cutting depending on the seabed conditions. The cable trenching tool followed the path of the cable lowering the cable into the seabed using the jetting arm, cutting swords or a combination of both. If required a second pass of the trenching tool was be completed.

99. The trenching tool was selected taking into account seabed conditions to maximise success in reaching target DoL. It was anticipated that minimal additional cable protection would be required across the inter-array cable routes. Analysis of post-installation geophysical survey data was used to review this position.

100. Following cable burial, a post-lay survey of the cables was completed to determine the DoL. Where DoL has not been achieved alternative burial tools were considered. If practicable in certain sections, to minimise cable protection, use of an alternative mass flow / jetting / plough tool deployed from an OSV or CLV may be used. Where an alternative burial tool could not reach the target DoL additional cable protection measures were considered. The following list details additional cable protection measures that were considered where adequate DoL was not achieved:

- Durable crushed or original rock of defined size range;
- Concrete 'mattresses'; and
- Bags (high strength nylon fibre) of gravel, hardened sand-cement grout, or concrete (grout / concrete pre-filled and hardened onshore). The bag option may include a technique where the grout is introduced to the nylon fibre bag offshore through proprietary pipes (the bags being permeable to water but not to grout).

101. NnGOWL may consider alternative cable protection systems. Where an alternative cable protection solution is used that is not covered by the licensed deposits on the Generating Station Marine Licence these will be subject to approval of an additional marine licence or variation to the existing Offshore Consents.

102. Ongoing engagement with fisheries organisations has, and will continue to be, undertaken in accordance with the Fisheries Liaison Strategy, outlined within Section 5 of the Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy (FMMS), in accordance with FLOWW (Fishing Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group) (2014) Best Practice Guidance. NnGOWL confirm that where it is identified that rock placement is required, NnGOWL will issue a Notice to Mariners (NtM) containing the justification of the requirement for cable protection in that location. A clear chart and coordinates illustrating the location of the cable protection would be included within the Notice.

103. Within the Application (NnGOWL, 2018), NnGOWL committed to undertake over trawls on export, inter-array and interconnector cables in locations where protection has been installed, in order to ensure that the protection scheme has been successful. Where it was confirmed that cable burial to DoL has been achieved by post-lay survey, NnGOWL has not undertaken over trawl investigations. Where target DoL was not achieved and additional cable protection was deployed, through agreement with SFF, over trawl investigations have been undertaken by NnGOWL in areas of the IACs where prior demersal bottom trawl activity was undertaken (based on historical fishing data) – this was completed in March 2026. Following completion of the overtrawl survey, the SFF confirmed no issues were experienced during the operations and at the time of the trials the swept areas were found to be safe for normal fishing operations.

104. The methodology for the overtrawl investigations was agreed with MD-LOT and in consultation with the SFF, in accordance with the Fisheries Liaison Strategy outlined within Section 5 of the FMMS, taking account of:

- The extent and location of the cable protection material;
- The design of the cable protection material (noting that these can be designed to minimise effects on towed fishing gear); and
- The amount and type of fishing activity observed along the cable routes.

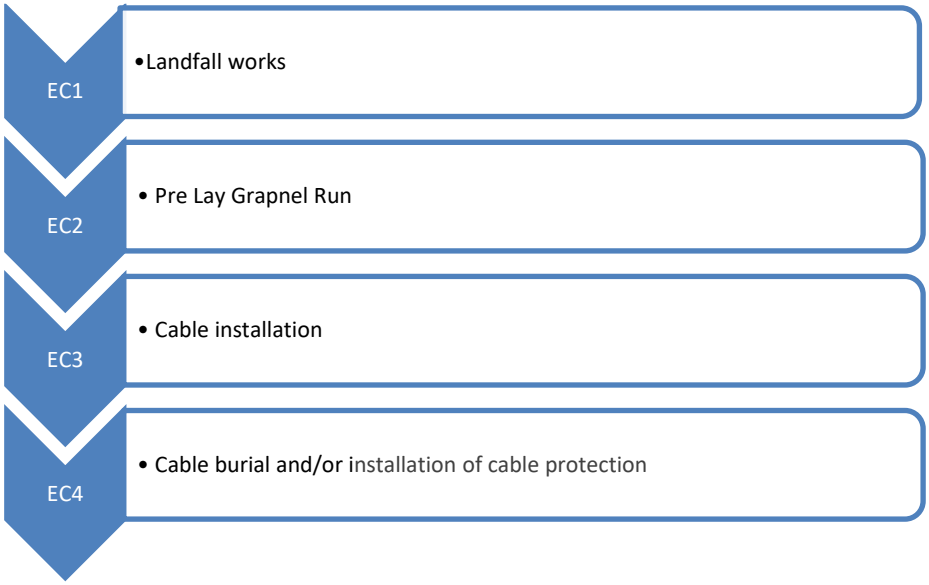


Figure 7-5: Export Cable installation sequence

7.2 Seabed Deposits

105. Seabed deposits have been recorded and reported to MD-LOT via Transportation Audit Reports (TARs) submitted monthly throughout construction in accordance with Condition 3.2.3.1 of the Wind Farm Marine Licence. Within one month of completion of construction a final audit report was issued to MD-LOT detailing the full deposits deployed as required by Condition 3.2.4.2 of the Wind Farm Marine Licence.

106. Within one month of completion of Construction NnGOWL will provided the "as-built" positions of all structures and any sub-sea infrastructure associated with the Project to MD-LOT. This information was also forwarded to the UK Hydrographic Office (UKHO) and Defence Geographic Centre (DGC) for aviation and nautical charting purposes as required by Condition 3.2.4.4 of the Wind Farm Marine Licence.

8 Operation and Maintenance

8.1 Introduction

107. This section sets out the anticipated O&M activities associated with the inter-array cables and interconnector cables. NnGOWL is required to sell and subsequently transfer ownership of the Transmission Assets (comprising the offshore export cables, and the OSPs[1]) to an Offshore Transmission Operator (OFTO). After the transfer of ownership, the OFTO will take on responsibility for the O&M measures associated with the Transmission Assets.

108. This section sets out indicative O&M procedures, which will be fully described in the Operation and Maintenance Programme (OMP).

8.2 Ongoing cable inspections

109. During the operational phase of the Project, further cable or seabed surveys will be undertaken to confirm that cables remain buried.

110. A survey will be undertaken approximately 1-year post-installation to confirm the cables remain buried. The frequency and scope of further monitoring will be proportionate to the risk of future cable exposure and determined based on comparisons with the initial post-installation survey results. The following surveys or inspections may be considered as part of ongoing O&M activities:

- Geophysical surveys along all routes or those routes which are considered at risk of exposure based on initial post-installation survey findings;
- Surveys at approaches to structure J-tubes where there may be greater risk of scour / erosion; and
- A Distributed Temperature Sensing (DTS) system or similar will be installed to remotely and continuously monitor cable health from the O&M base.

8.3 Cable exposure

111. In the event of cable exposure, cable sections will be inspected to determine the full extent of exposure. An assessment will be undertaken to determine the risk posed by the exposed cables to other sea users and to the Project. Where the risk is unacceptable, remedial action will be undertaken to ensure the cable is adequately protected. The following measures will be considered:

- Reasonable endeavours will be made to re-bury the cable to a safe DoL taking into account the risk of exposure re-occurring;
- Placement of rock bags or rock armour or suitable alternatives such as frond mats, tyre mats etc[2]., at the cable ends to mitigate cable movement / migration; or
- Placement of additional rock armouring along the length of exposed cable. This approach is considered a last resort and would be agreed in advance of deployment with MD-LOT.

[1] Some elements of the OSPs will be retained as part of the Wind Farm Assets.
[2] Alternative cable protection solutions not covered by the licensed deposits on the Wind Farm or OfTW Marine Licence will be subject to approval of an additional marine licence or variation to the existing Offshore Consents.

8.4 Cable failure

112. The following sections outline procedures to repair or replace damaged or faulty subsea cables.

113. Repairs will be conducted by a CLV or suitable alternative vessel such as a jack-up vessel. Depending on the location of the fault the following cable repair options will be considered. The following lists set out indicative procedures associated with potential cable repair scenarios.

8.4.1 Replacement of a full inter-array cable length

114. The following steps provide an indicative overview of the procedure to replace a full length of a single inter-array cable (i.e. a length between two structures):

i. The repair vessel will de-bury the damaged section. It is likely that the cable will be exposed using a jetting tool and/or mass flow excavation;

ii. The cable will be cut at the damage location subsea using an ROV and the first end of the cable disconnected at the turbine or OSP;

iii. The first end of the cable and the CPS will be recovered to the repair vessel;

iv. The second end of the cable will then be disconnected from the turbine or OSP;

v. The second end cable and CPS will be recovered to the repair vessel;

vi. A new section of cable will be installed following the procedures detailed under 7.1.2.3;

vii. The cable will then be protected using the most appropriate burial tool or protection options, following the same procedure detailed under 7.1.2.4.

8.4.2 Replacement of a section of subsea cable

115. The following steps provide an indicative overview of the procedure to cut out a section of cable in the middle of a length and insert a new piece of cable using two cable joints:

i. The repair vessel will de-bury the damaged section. It is likely that the cable will be exposed using a jetting tool and/or mass flow excavation;

ii. The cable will be cut either side of the damaged location subsea using an ROV;

iii. The cable repair vessel will then recover the first end of the inter-array cable to be repaired;

iv. A cable joint will be used to connect a repair section of cable to the cut end of the recovered cable;

v. The second end of the cable to be repaired will then be recovered. This end of the cable will be connected to the other side of the cable repair section using a second cable joint;

vi. The repaired cable will then be lowered to the seabed. The cable repair section will result in a bight (loop) at the repair location;

vii. The cable will then be re-buried using the most appropriate burial tool or protected using rock protection or following the same procedure detailed under Section 7.1.2.4.

8.4.3 Replacement of a section of cable adjacent to a turbine or OSP

116. The following steps provide an indicative overview of the procedure to replace a section of cable close to a structure:

i. The repair vessel will de-bury the damaged section. It is likely that the cable will be exposed using a jetting tool and/or mass flow excavation;

ii. Once the location of the damage is identified the cable end closest to a structure will be identified for recovery;

iii. The cable will be cut at the location of the damage either subsea using an ROV or recovered and cut on the deck of the CLV;

iv. The cable end identified for recovery will then be disconnected from the turbine or OSP and recovered to the CLV;

v. The CPS will be recovered to the cable repair vessel;

vi. The CLV will then return to the location of the cut cable and recover the second end of the cable;

vii. A cable joint will be used to connect a repair section of cable to the cut end of cable still connected to the turbine or OSP;

viii. The cable will then be returned to the seabed and cable lay will commence towards the disconnected turbine or OSP. Once at the turbine or OSP location second end-pull-in will be completed. It is anticipated that cable lay, and second pull-in will be completed using the same procedure detailed under Section 7.1.2.3;

ix. The cable will then be re-buried using the most appropriate burial tool following the same procedure detailed under Section 7.1.2.4.

9 Compliance with the Application

9.1 Introduction

117. Sections 9.2 and 9.3 sets out information from the Application with regard to:

- Compliance with the cable installation details as assessed in the Application; and
- Cable installation-related mitigation measures detailed in the Application.

9.2 Compliance with Installation Details Assessed in the Application

118. The EIA Report described a range of specification and layout options that could be applied during the construction of the Project.

119. Since the Offshore Consents were awarded, the design of the Project and approach to installation has been refined to that described in this CaP (and in other relevant Consent Plans). In order to demonstrate compliance of this refined design, the installation methods and cable specifications described in the EIA Report are compared to the installation methods and specifications detailed within this CaP.

9.2.1 Inter-Array Cable Installation

120. Figure 9-1 summarises the inter-array cable options and assumed installation methods presented within the Application. It also summarises the selected options and confirmed installation methods described in this CaP.

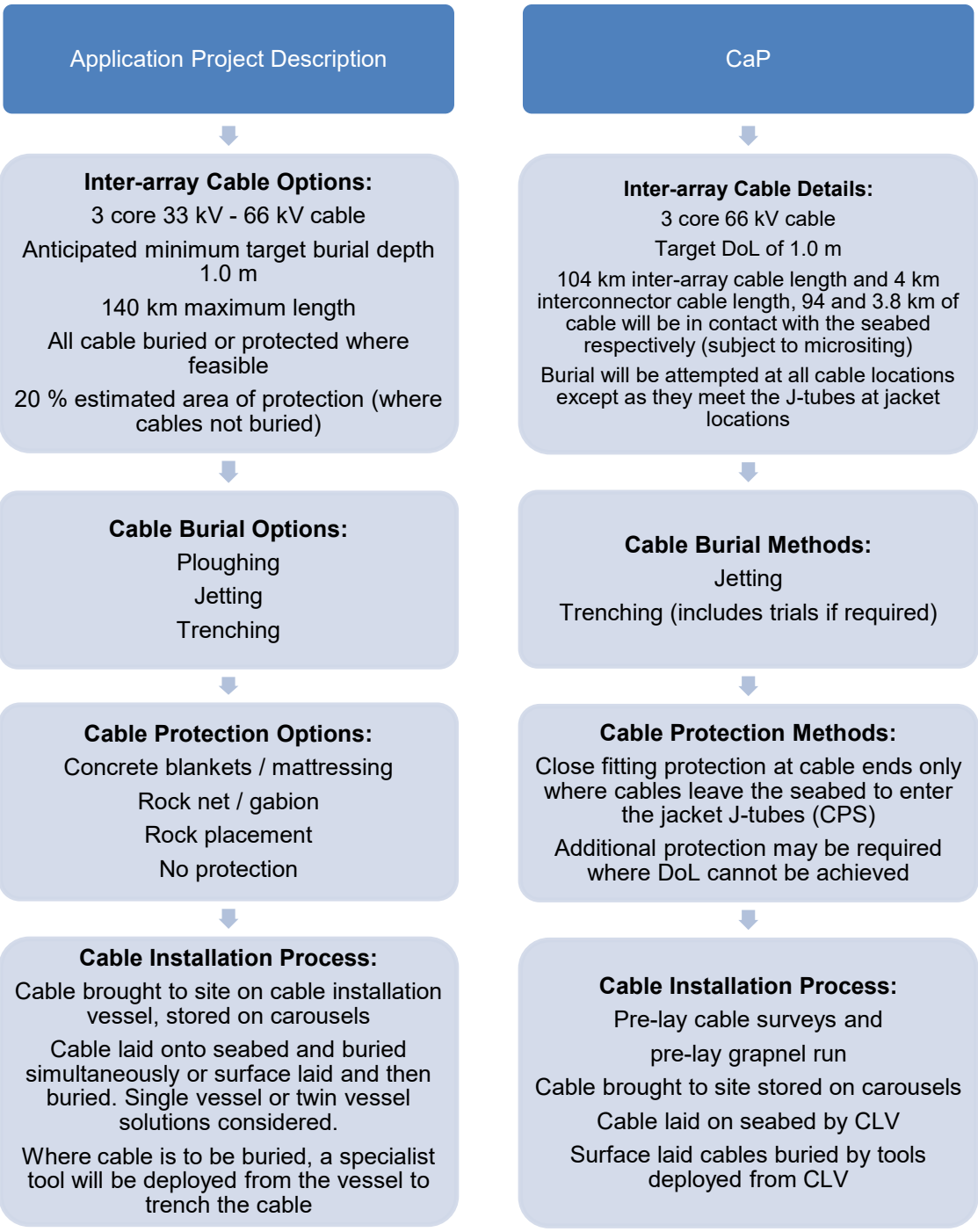


Figure 9-1: Comparison of inter-array and interconnector cable installation methods described in the Application and CaP

9.3 Delivery of Mitigation Proposed in the Application

121. The EIA Report detailed mitigation measures of relevance to the inter-array and interconnector. The relevant mitigation measures are detailed in Table 9-1, which identifies where each commitment has been addressed within this CaP or within other NnGOWL Consent Plans where appropriate.

Table 9-1: Construction related mitigation measures relevant to the CaP

CONSTRUCTION PROCESS	MITIGATION MEASURE	WHERE ADDRESSED
Cable Installation		
Cable protection	Cable will be buried where possible to mitigate impacts on physical processes, benthic habitats and other sea users. Cables, where techniques allow, should be back filled to increase recovery rates.	Described in Section 7. Where ground conditions permit jetting, sediment will settle back into the cable trench.
Cable Specifications	Cable specifications will be compliant with industry standards and best practice such as the relevant IEC specifications to minimise risk of effects resulting from EMF to benthic and fish communities.	See Section 0
Pre-construction cable route survey	Conduct a pre-construction cable route survey to identify any sensitive seabed habitats. Should such habitats be recorded, the Offshore Export Cable Corridor will be micro-sited, in consultation with Nature Scot (formerly SNH) and other stakeholders via submission, for approval, to MD-LOT of a CaP.	See Section 9.3.1

9.3.1 Pre-Construction Cable Route Surveys

122. Previous baseline habitat surveys conducted to inform the Original Environmental Statement (ES) did not identify any areas of habitat with a high conservation value, such as reef or shellfish beds, within the Offshore Export Cable Corridor. The ES prepared in support of the Originally Consented Project (NnGOWL, 2012) concluded that there would be no significant impacts on benthic communities. These conclusions were validated in the Scoping Report (NnGOWL, 2017) for the Project and subsequently scoped out of further assessment in the Application (NnGOWL, 2018).

123. Recent high-resolution geophysical surveys have been completed along the length of the offshore Export Cable Corridor (See Section 4.2 for details). The aim of the survey work was to confirm seabed conditions to inform cable routing and installation methods. The Offshore Export Cable Corridor is 300 m wide along the majority of its length, which constrains micro-siting options. Given the low risk to benthic communities, the limited spatial extent of any impact and the limited scope for micro-siting within the Offshore Export Cable Corridor, NnGOWL do not see the value in undertaking further benthic habitat surveys and do not plan to undertake further benthic habitat surveys along cable routes prior to cable installation.

10 References

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