

Press release

DBS offshore wind farms take seabed site investigations to the next level

- **Fugro appointed to deliver a detailed geotechnical seabed survey in DBS array area.**
- **Survey to help characterise ground conditions at turbine and platform locations and inter-array cable routes, to aid design of foundations and array cables.**
- **DBS could supply green electricity for around three million typical UK homes.**

Swindon, 25 April 2024

RWE and Masdar are taking the development of the Dogger Bank South (DBS) offshore wind projects to the next level. The companies have awarded Fugro, global leading geo-data specialist, a contract to undertake detailed geotechnical surveys on the site of the DBS (Dogger Bank South) West offshore wind farm.

DBS comprises two separate sites, DBS East and DBS West located on Dogger Bank, a shallow area of the North Sea over 100km off the North East coast of England. Both DBS project developments are being led by RWE who will deliver project development, construction, and operations on behalf of the partners RWE (51% share) and Masdar (49% share).

Three vessels, Fugro Quest, Fugro Voyager and Normand Mermaid, will survey the ground conditions below seabed from May to October 2024 at the location of each proposed turbine and platform foundation, and associated seabed infrastructure. The ground investigation will use a combination of Cone Penetration Tests (CPT) and sampling boreholes and will be an extensive geotechnical campaign for one of the world's largest offshore wind projects.

Colin McAllister, Development Project Manager, DBS offshore wind farms said: “The geotechnical data from these site investigations will give our engineers a detailed and accurate picture of the individual ground conditions at sites of the foundations and associated offshore infrastructure. We already have high-level data about the seabed conditions from reconnaissance surveys conducted in 2022. With the level of detail captured from the new surveys, however, we can design the most effective foundations for each turbine and platform in the project. We expect similar detailed surveys to take place at DBS East in the future.”

John ten Hoop, Fugro's Regional Director Marine Site Characterisation said: "We are excited to continue working with RWE on this prestigious project. Our successful combination of innovation technology and expert project teams will safely deliver timely high-quality data and insights crucial to optimising the design of DBS West offshore wind farm. The fieldwork, which comprises seabed cone penetration tests, and vibrocores from the Normand Mermaid and geotechnical boreholes from the Fugro Quest and Fugro Voyager, will start in May 2024. The subsequent extensive laboratory testing will take place in Fugro's laboratories in the UK."

RWE entered into Agreements for Lease for the two DBS projects with The Crown Estate in January 2023. The projects will make an important economic contribution to the region, a major contribution to the delivery of net zero in the UK, and the UK's broader economic growth and energy security. Based on an estimated capacity of 3 gigawatts (GW), once fully operational, the DBS projects could be capable of generating enough electricity to meet the average annual domestic energy needs of around three million typical UK homes*.

The next development milestone for the projects will be the submission of applications for Development Consent Orders, expected to be during the second quarter of 2024. If successful, the next steps would be to secure Contracts for Difference (CfD), followed by financing, construction and finally commissioning by 2031.

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Editors' Notes

** Number of households supplied: Calculation based on 2021 generation, and assuming average (mean) annual household consumption of 3,509 kWh, based on latest statistics from Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (Subnational Electricity and Gas Consumption Statistics Regional and Local Authority, Great Britain, 2021, Mean domestic electricity consumption (kWh per meter) by country/region, Great Britain, 2021.*

DBS

DBS refers to RWE Renewables Dogger Bank South (East) Offshore Wind Limited and RWE Renewables Dogger Bank South (West) Offshore Wind Limited. DBS offshore wind farms are being jointly developed by RWE and Masdar. RWE is one of the leading companies in the field of renewable energy and holds a 51% stake in the projects and Masdar, the UAE's clean energy powerhouse, holds a 49% stake in the projects.

RWE

RWE is leading the way to a green energy world. With its investment and growth strategy Growing Green, RWE is contributing significantly to the success of the energy transition and the decarbonisation of the energy system. Around 20,000 employees work for the company in almost 30 countries worldwide. RWE is already one of the leading companies in the field of renewable energy. Between 2024 and 2030, RWE will invest 55 billion euros worldwide in offshore and onshore wind, solar energy, batteries, flexible generation, and hydrogen projects. By the end of the decade, the company's green portfolio will grow to more than 65 gigawatts of generation capacity, which will be perfectly complemented by global energy trading. RWE is decarbonising its business in line with the 1.5-degree reduction pathway and will phase out coal by 2030. RWE will be net-zero by 2040. Fully in line with the company's purpose - Our energy for a sustainable life.



Masdar

Masdar (Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company) is one of the world's fastest-growing renewable energy companies. As a global clean energy pioneer, Masdar is advancing the development and deployment of solar, wind, geothermal, battery storage and green hydrogen technologies to accelerate the energy transition and help the world meet its net-zero ambitions. Established in 2006, Masdar has developed and invested in projects in over 40 countries with a combined capacity of over 20 gigawatts (GW), providing affordable clean energy access to those who need it most and helping to power a more sustainable future. Masdar is jointly owned by TAQA, ADNOC, and Mubadala, and is targeting a renewable energy portfolio capacity of 100GW by 2030 while aiming to be a leading producer of green hydrogen by the same year.

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