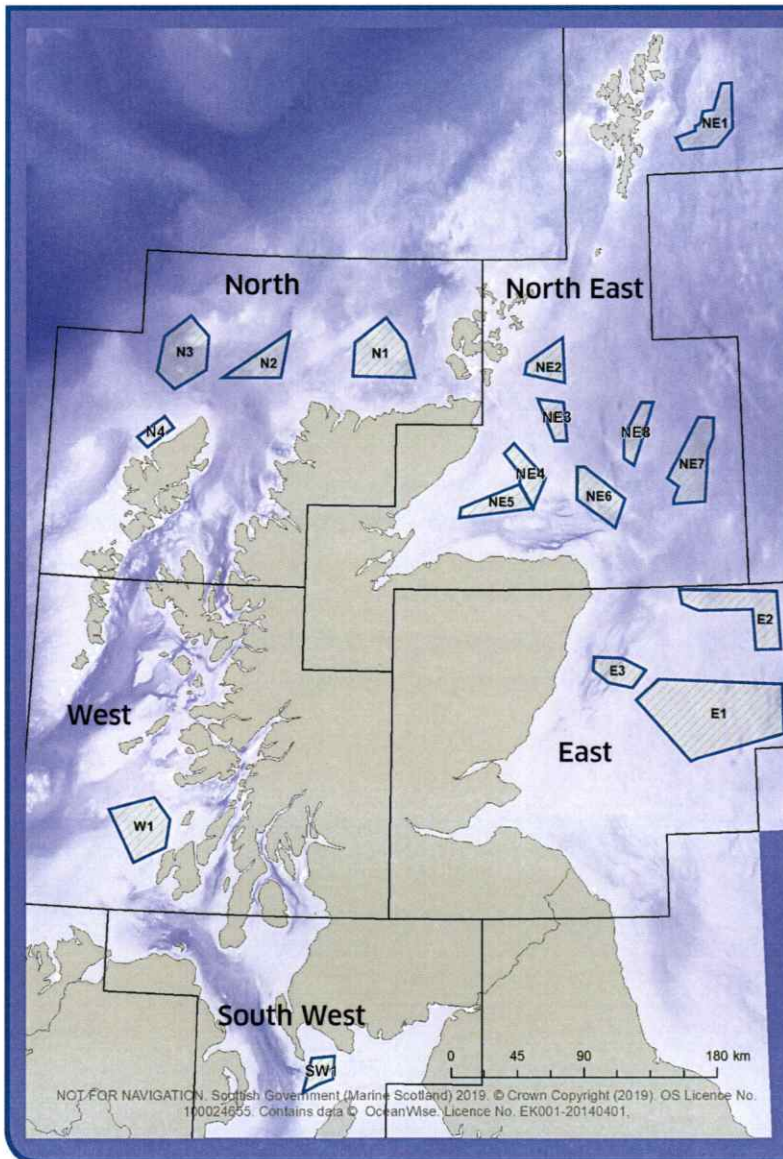


DRAFT SECTORAL MARINE PLAN FOR OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY



Key facts

- 17 Draft Plan Options “(DPOs)” identified across 5 geographic regions (see map below).
- Located in a mix of shallower (<60m) and deeper (>60m) waters suitable for a range of traditional (fixed-bottom) and innovative technologies (such as floating offshore wind).
- It is proposed that no more than 10 GW of generating capacity can be developed nationally under this Plan.

Only a proportion of each DPO will be able to be developed. It is not expected that all of the draft Plan Options will be developed.



DRAFT SECTORAL MARINE PLAN FOR OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY - DRAFT PLAN OPTIONS

Introduction

The Scottish Government has recently launched its consultation on the draft Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind Energy. The draft Plan aims to identify the most sustainable areas for future commercial-scale offshore wind development in Scottish waters out to 2030 and beyond.

The process of developing this draft Plan started in 2018 and seeks to minimise adverse effects on the marine environment and other marine users, whilst maximising the opportunities for the Scottish economy from further offshore wind development in our waters. The Plan will inform the first cycle of seabed leasing by Crown Estate Scotland for offshore wind energy.

This consultation

We are seeking your views on the draft Plan Options and content of the draft Sectoral Marine Plan, as well as the supporting documents. The following documents have been prepared and published for consultation:

- **Draft Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind Energy**
- **Sustainability Appraisal** – summarises the findings of the following reports;
 - **Strategic Environmental Assessment** - identifies and assesses the potential environmental impacts;
 - **Socio-Economic Impact Assessment** - identifies and assesses the potential social and economic impacts; and
 - **Habitats Regulations Appraisal** - identifies and assessing the likely significant effects on protected European sites and European marine sites
 - **Draft Regional Locational Guidance** - to support further spatial planning and inform project-level site selection and assessment.

In addition, draft partial Islands Communities and Equalities Impact Assessments have also been prepared and published for comment.

After the consultation closes the responses will be reviewed and the final Sectoral Marine Plan will be prepared for adoption and publication by the Scottish Ministers. If consultation results in substantial changes to the Sectoral Marine Plan further rounds of assessment and/or consultation may be required. A Post Adoption Statement will be published with the final plan, detailing any changes made to the final version.

How can I get involved?

The consultation will be open until Wednesday 25 March 2020. You can submit your views on the draft Sectoral Marine Plan, Sustainability Appraisal and other supporting documents online at:

 <https://consult.gov.scot/marine-scotland/draft-sectoral-marine-plan-for-offshore-wind/>

You can also submit written responses, following the instructions available online.

We will be holding a series of events across Scotland during February to March 2020 to raise awareness of this consultation and further details about these events, including dates and locations, will be available online here:

 <https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/marineenergy/Planning>

Get in touch

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