

National Grid ESO welcomes opportunity to engage with the new Off Shore Electricity Grid Task Force

Press release

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National Grid ESO already works closely with the members of the new OffSET group, and we welcome the opportunity to continue to do so.

We are a project partner of the Offshore Transmission Network Review, founded by BEIS, and the ESO is delivering a plan that will take a holistic view across offshore and onshore networks that helps meet the government target of 40GW of offshore wind by 2030.

The priorities of the OffSET group resonate with the view we set out through our Offshore Coordination Project – namely that we must move away from point-to-point connection and towards an integrated and coordinated offshore network.

In December last year, we published Phase 1 of the Offshore Coordination Project setting out the benefits this approach would bring to coastal communities and consumers across GB.

Jake Rigg, Director of Corporate Affairs at the ESO said “we look forward to listening to the views that the MPs have, building on the constructive conversations we have had so far on this really important issue for local communities. We have written to the OffSET group today to offer further meetings exploring the Holistic Network Design we are currently developing in consultation with industry, communities, and MPs.”

Notes to editors

- Phase 1 of our Offshore Coordination Project identified £3 – £6 billion of consumer benefit from a more coordinated approach
- It also identified the opportunity to reduce the infrastructure associated with connecting offshore wind farms by up to 50%
- Our Holistic Network Design, to be delivered in early 2022, will set out a blue print for connecting offshore wind to the onshore network
- The OTNR is also exploring Pathfinder Projects to deliver coordination for projects that are further through the planning cycle and therefore out of scope of the Holistic Network Design