

WESTERN HIGH VOLTAGE DC LINK

Project Update – June 2012

This is a brief update on progress with the Western High Voltage DC Undersea Cable that will provide a link between Hunterston on the Clyde and Leasowe on the Wirral.

Consents

We have now received statutory consents required for this project from the Scottish, Northern Irish, Isle of Man, Welsh and UK Governments. We are awaiting consent from the Marine Management Organisation and expect this by the end of June. We can now start to make detailed plans for installing and operating the cable.

Survey work

We are due to be carrying out some more survey work along the route during the summer of 2012. This work will involve the use of sonar equipment and ROVs in the North Channel and to the south of the Isle of Man. We will also be carrying out some survey work with divers in the vicinity of Ardnail Bay in the Clyde.

All along the cable route, at 3km intervals, we will also be taking small samples of the seabed [using a vibrocore] as part of a geotechnical survey.

We will issue Notices to Mariners in advance of these operations.

Sea trials

During the spring of 2013 we are planning to carry out some trials of the burial methods that we plan to use for the cable. These trials will allow us to check that we use the best method to ensure efficient burial and minimal disruption to the seabed. The exact location of these trials will be determined after we have examined the results of the survey work that is scheduled for the summer of 2012.

We will ensure that Notices to Mariners are issued in advance of all Sea Trials.

Information Updates

We will make information about work on the WHVDC project available via all of the formal routes (such as Kingfisher KISCA updates, and Notices to Mariners). Information is also published on the WHVDC website [here](#).

As part of our commitment to effective fisheries liaison, you can get automatic updates about this project sent directly to your e-mail Inbox. You can register for these updates and find out more about this project [here](#).

Please contact Jim Andrews, Fishery Liaison Officer (+44(0)7908-225865) if you have any queries or concerns about these activities.