

NOTICE TO MARINERS

Issue Date: 19th Jan, 2016

Western Link Project

Out Of Service Cables – ROUTE CLEARANCE

Mariners are advised that as part of the Western Link Project and in preparation for the future deep water installation campaigns of the Western Link HVDC cable, Route Clearance operations are going to start in the Irish Sea and the North Channel and expected to be completed at the beginning of February 2016.

Route Clearance operations will involve locating and cutting through the Out of Service (OOS) cables that cross the Western Link HVDC cable route. The severed sections of cable will be recovered and removed from the area. The remaining OOS cable will remain on the seabed. Further details of these operations are provided below. The route clearance work is being carried out by **Deep Ocean 1 UK** using **Go Pegasus** (IMO 9495210, Call Sign V7CE4) vessel.

During such times the vessel will have restricted ability to manoeuvre and other vessels are requested to pass at a safe speed and distance.

The vessel will monitor VHF Channel 16 at all times.



Go Pegasus

Route Clearance

The purpose of the OOS cable route clearance operation is to remove obstacles to the safe burial of the Western Link HVDC cable. The work will commence with dragging a de-trenching grapnel along specified locations of the Western Link HVDC cable route (see Table 1) in multiple passes to locate the OOS cables that may be crossing the route.

Any OOS cable that is located will have the section crossing the Western Link HVDC cable corridor cut away at the seabed by a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV). The severed section will be removed to allow safe installation of the Western Link HVDC cable.

A final General Visual Inspection (GVI) survey will then be conducted along the route of the cut away section of OOS cable and its cut ends to confirm that the area is left in a safe condition for other marine users.

ID	Out of Service Cable	Cable Location as per Route Position List Center Line (Western Link RPL 1HVB1000-SD-008 Issue8)					Depth [LAT]
		Easting	Northing	Latitude	Longitude	KP	
I	Port Kale-Whitehead Telegraph Cable OOS	343954,1	6073180,9	54° 46.892'N	005° 25.590'W	123,495	135
II	Donaghadee-Port Kale No3 Telegraph Cable OOS	347610,2	6069375,8	54° 44.909'N	005° 22.062'W	128,864	157
III	Cable debris found during MMT 2014 survey	347982	6068878	54° 44.648'N	005° 21.700'W	129,500	157
IV	Cable debris	349128	6066265	54° 43.261'N	005° 20.552'W	132,200	160
V	Cable debris	351206	6062527	54° 41.284'N	005° 18.503'W	135,600	162
VI	Donaghadee-Port Kale No2 Telegraph Cable OOS	351247,6	6062181,6	54° 41.099'N	005° 18.454'W	137,063	163
VII	Ballyhornan-Port Erin No3 Coax Cable OOS	362096,6	5998454,2	54° 06.943'N	005° 06.588'W	205,294	104

Table 1 – Table with Out of Service Cable and debris to be cleared along the route

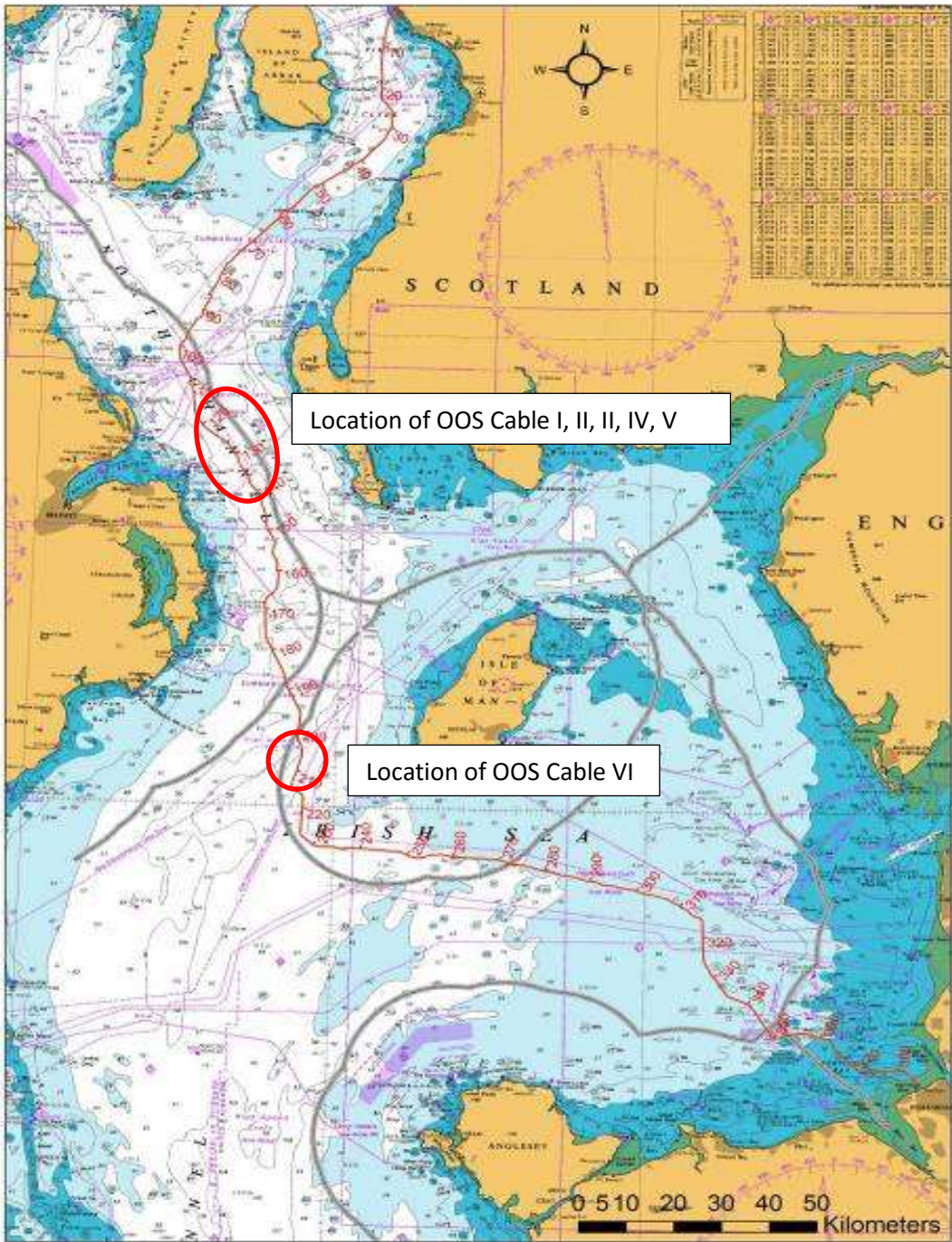


Figure 1 – Western Link cable route and OOS cables location

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