

Notice to Mariners

DSV CURTIS MARSHALL Tecnoambiente- WesternLink Cable Route Survey

Geophysical Survey Operations

Mariners are advised that a dedicated nearshore geophysical survey vessel will be used along the existing WesternLink cable route.

Please be advised that depending on weather conditions, the DSV Curtis Marshall will commence geophysical survey operations on the week of the 2nd of October 2023.

Project Description

WesternLink is a 390km submarine HVDC link undertaken as a joint venture between National Grid and Scottish Power. The cable route includes two HVDC cables that extends between Hunterston in Ayrshire and The Wirral. The cables have a capacity of 2,200 MW and are buried up to 3m but more generally 2m or less. Water depths along the cable route vary between +7m (at the HDD exit point) and approximately 170m deep. Along the majority of the route (circa 320km), the cables are laid separately, with a typical separation of 30m.

A detailed geophysical inspection survey along the full length of the route is being undertaken. The offshore works, as defined in this Notice to Mariners, will be conducted beginning at approximately the 20m contour with a working area of approximately +/-100m from the published position of the cable.

Geophysical survey operations in the offshore areas will include multibeam echosounder and side scan sonar data acquisition. Marine mammal observations and passive acoustic monitoring will be recorded during operations.



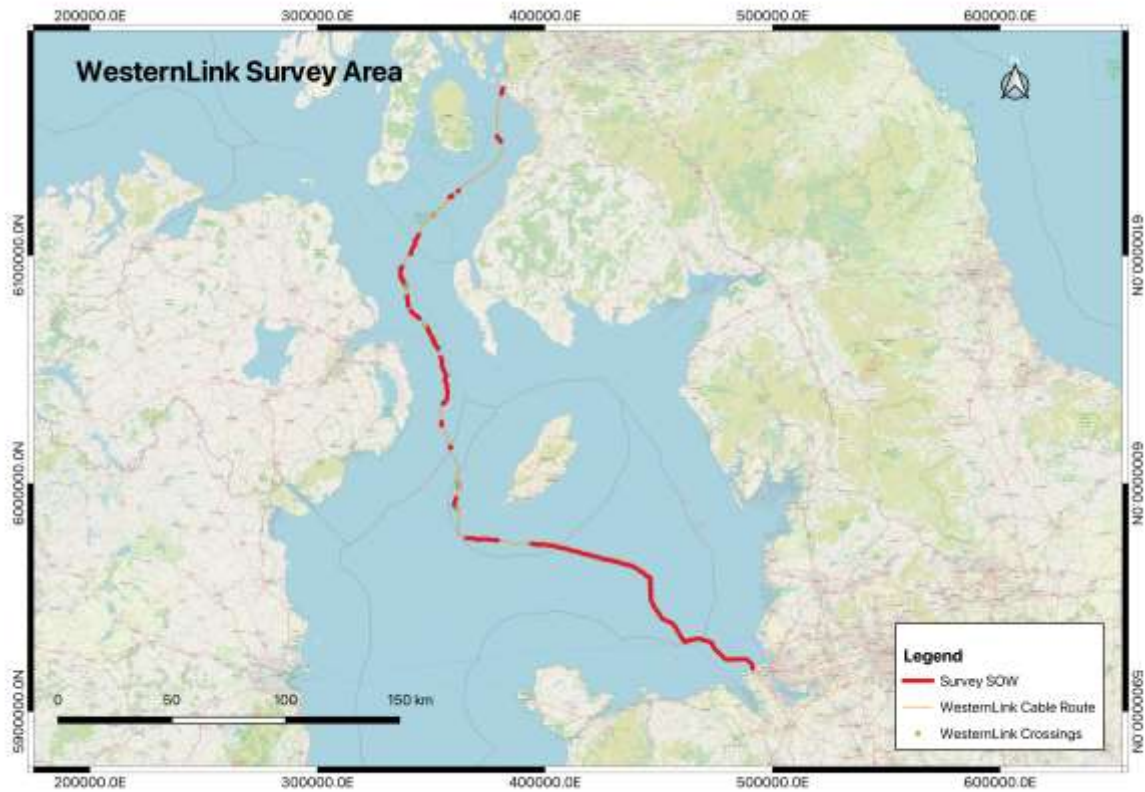
Figure 1: Overview of the WesternLink Cable Route

Work Area

The working area of the Curtis Marshall is the following :

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Vessel: DSV CURTIS MARSHALL



Figure 1: DSV Curtis Marshall. (source: B Marshall Marine)

Table 1: Curtis Marshall specifications.

Owner	B Marshall Marine
Flag	United Kingdom
Length	26 m
Beam	7.7 m
Draught	2.8 m
Accommodation	6 Vessel Crew + 12 Survey Crew
Deck Space	75 m ²
A-Frame	5 ton SWL
Crane	ATLAS EK6500; 12.5T – 4 drop hook; 3T – single drop hook

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Planning

The operations are planned to begin as early as the 2nd of October 2023 and could extend until the 5th of November 2023.

The vessel will be mapping a series of parallel lines along sections of the route. Possible ports of call include Campbeltown, Scotland and Liverpool, England.

Navigational Considerations

The Curtis Marshall will be engaged in geophysical survey activities. This will include towing.

The following considerations should be made regarding operational activities:

- A safe distance of 0.5 nautical miles from the vessel must always be maintained.
- It is also requested to establish contact with the Curtis Marshall (VHF 16) to obtain information on the planning and to allow coactivity in the zone without any conflicts.
- The work area is requested to be kept clear of fishing gear to avoid entanglement.
- The Curtis Marshall will be towing equipment approximately 1000 m behind the stern.
- The vessel will display all applicable lights and shapes.

Communications

To contact the **CURTIS MARSHALL** : VHF channel 16

To contact **TECNOAMBIENTE**:

- **Mike Caraher** (Project Manager)
Tel: + 44 (0) 7775 760 958
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- **James Wells** (Survey Manager)
Tel: +44 (0) 7855 416 318
james.wells@ext.tecnoambiente.com

Maritime Coordination

There is a dedicated Fishing Liaison Officer assigned to the project.

The contact information is as follows:

Jim Andrews

Fishing Liason Officer

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Cell: +44 (0) 7908 225 865

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