

Notice to Mariners

MV IVERO

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 MV Ivero will commence geophysical survey operations on the 15th of April 2024.

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 extend between Hunterston in Ayrshire and The Wirral. The cables have a capacity of 2,200 MW and are buried up to 3m but generally 2m or less. Water depths along the cable route vary between +7m (at the HDD exit point) and approximately 170m deep. Along most of the route (circa 320km), the cables are laid separately, with a typical separation of 30m.

A detailed geophysical inspection survey along the entire 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 multi-aperture sonar data acquisition. Marine mammal observations and passive acoustic monitoring will be recorded during operations.



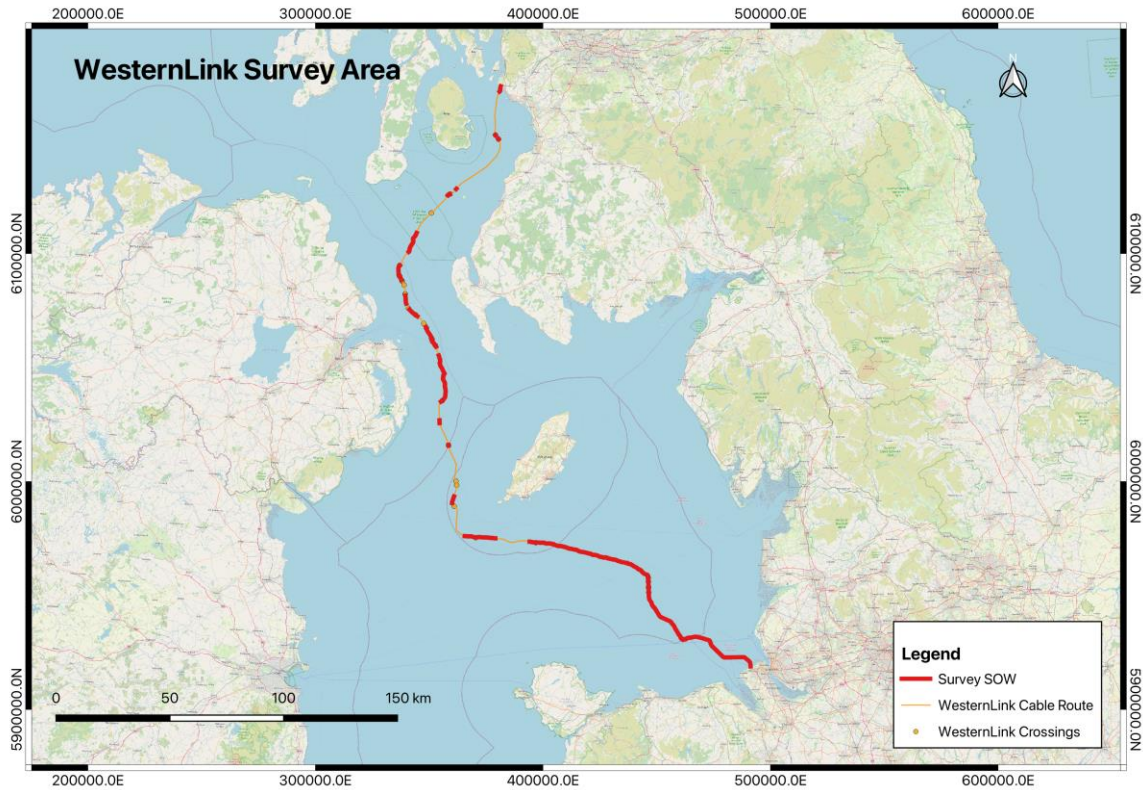
Figure 1: Overview of the WesternLink Cable Route

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Work Area

The working area of the Ivero is the following :



Vessel: MV IVERO



Figure 1: MV Ivero

Table 1: Ivero specifications.

Owner	Seagard
Flag	United Kingdom
Length	34 m
Beam	9 m
Draught	3.2 m
Accommodation	18 berths
Deck Space	142 m ²
A-Frame	8 t SWL
Crane	18 t/m

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Planning

The operations are planned to begin as early as the 15th of April and could extend until the 15th of May 2024.

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

Navigational Considerations

The Ivero 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 that contact be established with the Ivero (VHF 16) to obtain information on the planning and to allow coactivity in the zone without any conflicts.
- The work area must be kept clear of fishing gear to avoid entanglement.
- The Ivero will be towing equipment approximately 1000 m behind the stern.
- The vessel will display all applicable lights and shapes.

Communications

To contact the **IVERO**: VHF channel 16

To contact **TECNOAMBIENTE**:

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

Maritime Coordination

A dedicated Fishing Liaison Officer has been assigned to the project.

The contact information is as follows:

Jim Andrews

Fishing Liason Officer

Office: +44 (0) 8458 802 540

Cell: +44 (0) 7908 225 865

jim@awjmarine.co.uk

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AWJ Marine Ltd.
58 Park Road
Windermere Cumbria
LA23 2DJ