



Welcome to the third EGL2 project newsletter

EGL2 is a 505 km electricity superhighway which will enable the transfer of power from Scotland to England (and vice versa) via a subsea cable. This two-gigawatt high voltage direct current (HVDC) cable will connect Peterhead in Aberdeenshire and Drax in North Yorkshire. Once operational, it will carry enough electricity to power two million homes.

Since our previous newsletter in October ([which can be viewed online](#)), we have reached a number of significant milestones having begun construction at both of our converter station sites and started undertaking surveys along the English onshore cable route and marine route.



Ricky Saez, Project Director for EGL2:

“As we continue through 2025, we’re turning our purpose into a process of delivery. The rest of the year will continue to be critical in keeping the project on track to be delivered in a safe, sustainable and environmentally conscious way. We will be fully establishing our presence in Peterhead and Yorkshire, working with local residents, completing platforms at both ends of the link, officially launching our visitor hubs, boosting local communities with community benefit funding and much, much more.”



Ricky Saez,
Project Director



Neil Lyons,
Project Director

Update on our new converter stations

Over the winter our main works contractors, Hitachi Energy and BAM have been undertaking construction works to construct our new converter station sites at Peterhead, Aberdeenshire and Drax, North Yorkshire.

BAM has recently been awarded an “Excellent” rating at both converter station sites under the Considerate Constructors Scheme, demonstrating a strong commitment to local communities and the environment. See more on page three.

Peterhead Converter Station

In February, we made significant progress on excavation and earthworks. A total of 19,000 m³ of topsoil was removed, with an additional 19,000 m³ of fill material and a further 16,000 m³ stone imported for the construction of the converter station platform. The attenuation ponds, which are designed to help prevent flooding on site, are now fully completed and operational.



December 2024



April 2025

February also saw the successful delivery of our construction partners' welfare and office block, with the internal fitting now underway. In addition, cladding work has commenced for our EGL2 Visitor Hub on site.

Utility works on the A90 have also been completed. As part of this, we have carried out a road cleaning operation along the A90 adjacent to the site using a road sweeper. Further improvement works are also planned for the U66/A90 junction.

Since March, diversion works have been underway to relocate two 132 kV overhead line circuits and one existing 132 kV underground cable around the boundary of the converter site. These works are expected to be complete by the end of May 2025.

Wren Hall Converter Station

Construction for the Wren Hall Converter Station began in September 2024. This included setting up a construction compound, establishing a site office, a welfare area, canteen, car park, and various construction storage areas.

Work is now underway for the delivery of the platform for the converter station. This included the removal of 21,000 m³ of topsoil, which was completed in early March. To prepare for the next stage of construction, 25,000 m³ of starter layer (a base that provides support, alignment, and stability for everything built on top of it) and 30,000 m³ tonnes of fill material have been delivered to site. We have installed equipment in boreholes around the converter station platform to monitor ground movement and keep the construction site safe and stable.

Over the next few months, local works will be undertaken to connect the site to key utilities such as mains water, telecommunications, and the local electricity network. Other works, including piling activities and the completion of our construction compound, are also set to take place as we see the start of our main construction programme begin later on in 2025.



November 2024



March 2025

English onshore cable route

Work has also begun along the English cable route which includes a variety of trial holes (to check the location of other utility pipes/cables), and vegetation clearance.

Later this year we will begin the construction of our haul road and bellmouths. This temporary road will service the installation of cables along the cable route and enable the delivery of resources and personnel throughout the build. Once completed, the land will be returned to its pre-construction state.

Marine cable route

Offshore surveys are currently underway with our main works contractor, Prysmian, ahead of wider marine route preparation works, scheduled to take place in 2027.

Project news

New EGL2 project website launched

We have launched a major update to our project website, to include additional information on our construction activities and timeline, ongoing works within communities and a new interactive map for the English project area. To find out more, please visit easterngreenlink2.co.uk or scan the QR code.



Local firm awarded new contract as part of the UK's largest ever electricity transmission project

A local firm in the north-east of Scotland has been awarded a multi-million-pound contract to help deliver one of the new HVDC converter stations required as part of EGL2.

David Smith Contractors Ltd will carry out civil engineering works at the site near Boddam, Peterhead, as part of the delivery of the converter station that will help connect the 436 km subsea HVDC cable system to existing transmission network infrastructure.

EGL2 sites recognised for excellence

Our contractor BAM has recently received excellent ratings from the Considerate Constructors Scheme at both of our converter station sites, reflecting high standards in community engagement, environmental care, and workforce wellbeing.

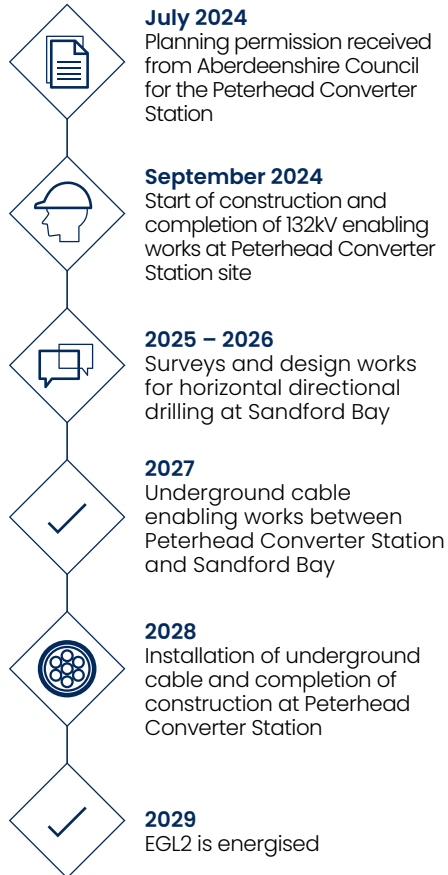
Both sites prioritise clear communication with local communities, with regular local updates as well as plans for visitor centres. Environmental efforts include biodiversity enhancements at Peterhead and water protection measures at Wren Hall to stop dirty water from reaching local streams.

Workers' health and safety are also a priority, with mental health support and health checks available for all those on site.

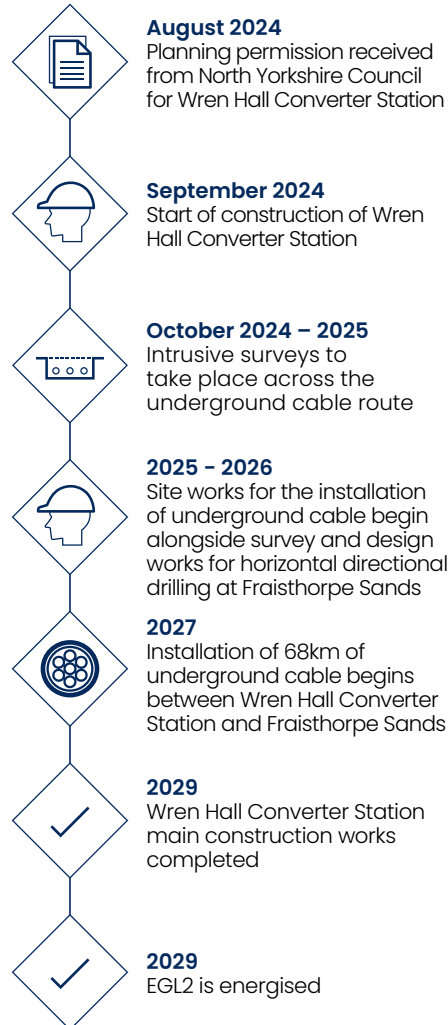


Project timeline

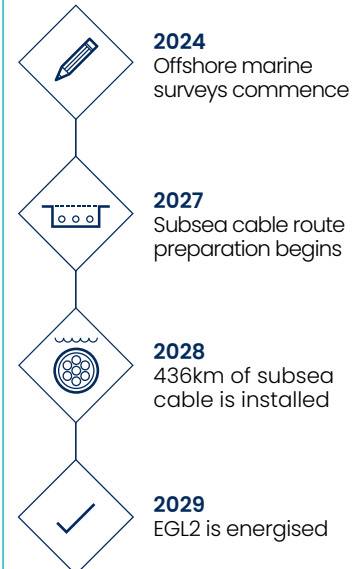
Scottish onshore works



English onshore works



Marine works



Minimising disruption

Due to the nature of these works, some disruption to local communities is unavoidable. However, we will do everything possible to minimise the impact of our construction works.

We will be getting in touch with impacted communities again, closer to when work is happening in local areas.

EGL2 general enquiries

EGL2 Community Relations Team

Email: contact@easterngreenlink2.co.uk

Freephone: **0808 196 8407**

Post: **Freepost EASTERN GREEN LINK 2**
(no further address details or stamp required)

For further information on the EGL2 project, please visit our website:

www.easterngreenlink2.co.uk

EGL2 enquiries in Scotland

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