

### Rampion 2 WIND FARM



# Introduction to RWE Rampion 2 Proposal

**Project Liaison Group Briefing** February 2021



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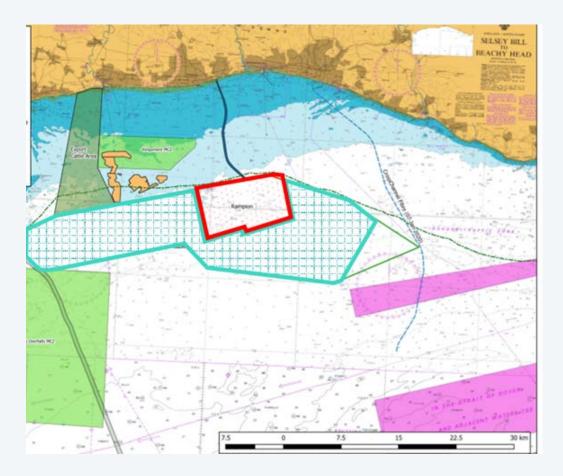
### 1. Quick recap - Why we're considering an expansion

- UK Govt has formally declared a Climate Emergency, set a National Determined Contribution under the Paris Climate Agreement of a 68% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030, compared to 1990 levels, and set a target to quadruple offshore wind capacity to 40 Gigawatts (GW) by 2030.
- Last 5% coal plant being phased out, while hydrogen, heat pumps and EVs all coming in, leading to an increased need for electricity generation from renewable energy sources
- Wind energy currently supplies 20% of electricity in the UK (onshore 10%, offshore 10%) and up to half of our electricity on a good day. 2050 target to make the UK 'Net Zero' carbon emitter.

- Offshore wind is a proven technology, is leading the way for renewables and can be built at scale. Costs halved in 2 3 years as the industry has scaled up. Modern turbine 3 x power of Rampion.
- Currently 40+ offshore wind farms around UK waters Rampion the only project off the south coast of England where much of the electricity demand is. There is scope for the area to make further important contribution to clean sustainable energy supplies
- Public Opinion Survey conducted by polling organisation Populus post-construction showed 85% support for Rampion compared to 80% during early development. Just 4% negative respondents



### **Offshore recap - 'Area of Search'**



- In 2018 The Crown Estate (TCE) which owns seabed in the UK invited developers to indicate their interest in future extension of existing wind farms
- A sizeable area to west of the existing windfarm (previously off limits due to aggregates extraction licenses) had become available
- RWE were awarded rights to this area and also proposed that any further development should also reconsider the unused area of the original Rampion Zone ('Zone 6')
- Hatched area shows this 'Area of Search' has been defined including both of these areas, on which to conduct environmental and technical surveys, engage and consult with authorities, stakeholders and communities
- Gives flexibility to respond to consultation feedback, constraints, objections and to shape a prospective future extension to Rampion



### 2. Offshore development progress

#### Navigational Risk Assessment

- Undertaken vessel surveys during winter and summer
- Entailing vessel surveys of transit though and use of site
- Navigation Risk Workshop due in February

#### Geophysical surveys

 Complete - reviewing results to fully understand detailed water depths and topography of seabed Seascape & Landscape Visual Impact Assessment (SLVIA)

- Agreed 40 viewpoints from the coast and other sensitive locations
- Taken photos for baseline to inform assessment

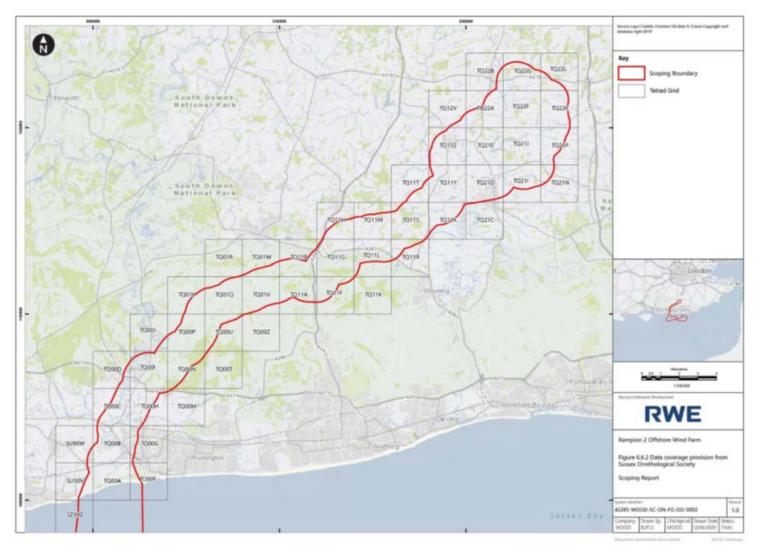
#### Commercial fishermen/women

• 4 x Working Group meetings being held w/c 8<sup>th</sup> Feb

#### Bird and Marine Mammal surveys continuing



### **Onshore recap - Area of Search**



- National Grid confirmed connection agreement at Bolney in 2028/2029
- We've carried out a constraints mapping study to assess various combinations of landfall, cable route and substations
- Climping Beach is first gap in the urban coastal strip for landfall
- We've been evaluating an area of search for the onshore cable route, between Climping & Bolney
- The circuits will be undergrounded for the entire cable route
- We are taking into account environmental designations & sensitivities, and technical constraints, to identify least-impact feasible route
- We're taking into account issues & concerns raised from consultation feedback to help inform cable route refinement & substation site



### **3. Onshore development progress**

### **Climping Beach Flood Risk**

• We have received feedback which we are accounting for in the design of the horizontal directional drill underneath the beach, and we've met with the Environment Agency

### Landscape Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA)

- Agreed viewpoints along cable route and in the vicinity of the substation search areas
- Taken photos for baseline

### Public Rights of Way

• Undertaken surveys of locations where the cable route crosses Public Rights of Way

Archaeological Surveys (site walkover)

Targeted ecological surveys, including:

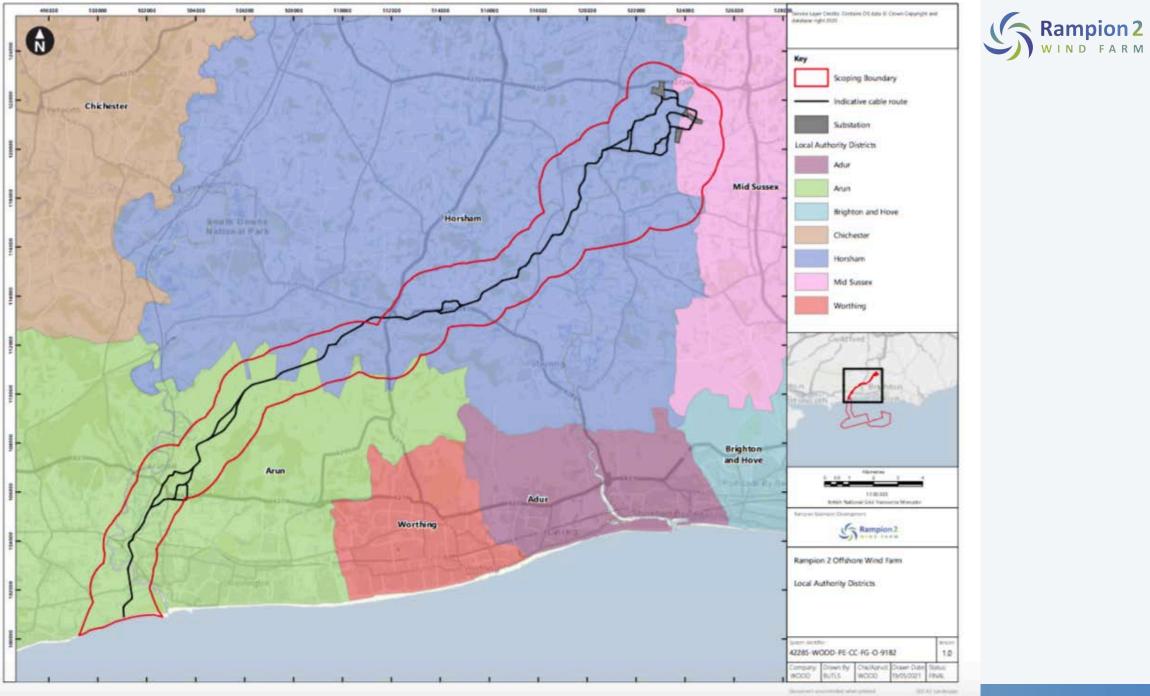
- Wintering birds
- Doormice
- Bat roosts

### Refined indicative cable route

• All the above has led to the development of an indicative cable route with some remaining options for consultation and further investigation

### Landowner engagement

• We have written to all property interest holders who may be directly affected (e.g. the indicative cable route crosses their land) and indirectly affected (homeowners close to the indicative route)





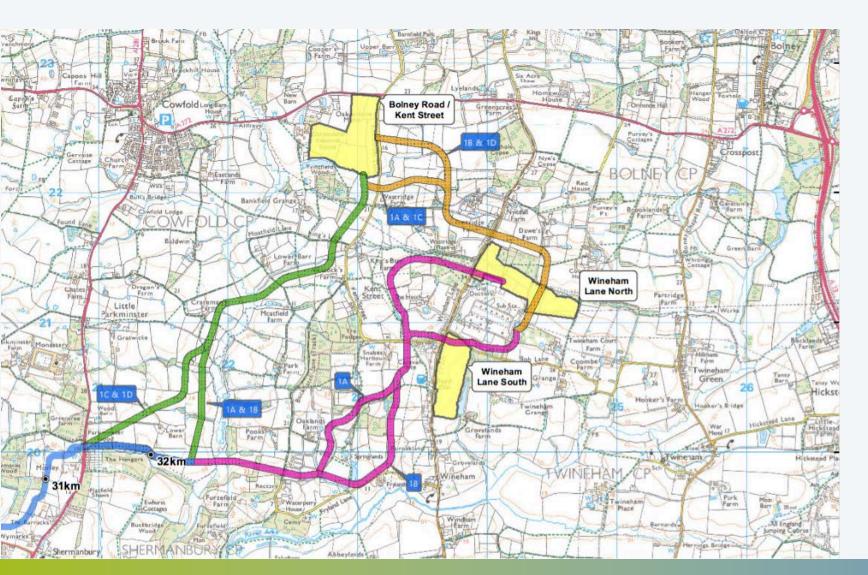
## **Onshore cable route**



# During construction After reinstatement



### **Onshore substation sites and cable route options**



- Shortlist of 3 site substation options we are currently considering, two in the vicinity of existing Bolney Substation, with a third option adjacent to Oakendene industrial estate
- Final decision will need to take into account community feedback, environmental, technical and economic considerations
- Currently engaging with Parish Councils and holding virtual informal consultation Jan/Feb 2021 to help identify issues and constraints to help refine proposals
- Communities will be involved in the final decision on where substation would be sited
- No final decision will be made until after Formal Consultation in the summer



### 4. Stakeholder engagement

- Series of Expert Technical Groups & Project Liaison Groups offering two-way information dissemination and to reach a wide audience - worked well with Rampion
- Early discussions held with Local Planning Authorities, South Downs National Park Authority, Parish Councils, MPs, Marine Management Organisation, Natural England, Historic England and other national bodies



#### Local Stakeholder Meetings held

#### Parish Councils (some with local residents invited)

- Middleton-On-Sea, Kingston, East Preston, Climping, Washington, Bolney, Twineham, Cowfold, Shermanbury, Bognor Regis
- Coming Up Twineham, Storrington & Sullington, Ashurst, Warningcamp, Lyminster & Crossbush, West Grinstead
- Invites extended to other parish councils along indicative route

#### Local Authorities inc elected members

- Horsham, Wealden, Lewes & Eastbourne, East Sussex CC, West Sussex CC, South Downs NPA, Adur & Worthing, Arun
- Coming up Mid Sussex, West Sussex CC

#### MPs

• All MPs with two still trying to find time in busy schedule - all have received meeting invites



### **5. First Consultation (informal)**

- We've launched a Virtual Village Hall to present our initial proposals, offer virtual face-to-face meetings and seek feedback
- Informal consultation with stakeholders and local community is running from 14<sup>th</sup> Jan 11<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021
- We're seeking feedback on issues & constraints within the onshore and offshore areas of search, and will consider feedback post 11
   Feb





### 6. Consultation feedback to date (as of 1<sup>st</sup> Feb)

#### **Feedback in numbers**

RWE

- Over 5,000 visitors to the virtual exhibition
- 126 Feedback Forms received
- 23% of comments (not entire sentiment) received are negative in nature, 34% positive, 43% neutral
- Majority of feedback from coastal locations and those in close proximity to the onshore substation search areas
- Approx. 50 enquiries by phone, email or website

#### Key issues and considerations being raised include:

- Environmental impacts of construction and requests to take opportunity to enhance habitats (tree planting, kelp restoration, flood protection, biodiversity improvements)
- Concerns about the impact of turbines on birds
- Queries on the requirements and assessment that led to the need for a new cable route from Climping to Bolney

#### **Next Steps**

- We will consider feedback alongside technical and environmental survey results to refine our proposals and produce a **PEIR**
- The next stage of engagement will be **Formal Consultation** likely end May-July 2021, but will consider all feedback in the meantime
- We'll be publishing a **Statement of Community Consultation** ('SoCC'), requiring approval of the local planning authorities, to set out exactly how we will formally consult with communities
- Will involve more specific information about the offshore scope, a further defined onshore cable route, substation site options under consideration and construction methodologies & mitigations
- We will invite feedback (in this case on the merits / relative merits of options) to help refine our proposals prior to submission
- A **Consultation Report** is then produced detailing all of the consultation feedback, analysis and how this has been addressed, which forms an integral component of the consent application



### 7. Indicative timeline\*

\*Subject to COVID-19 restrictions and other factors

Milestone	Date
Formal EIA Scoping Opinion	Q2 2020
Stakeholder engagement to help shape proposals	Q3 2020 - Q1 2021
Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)	Q1 2021
Refined proposals, Draft EIA and Formal Consultation	Q2 - Q3 2021
Onshore substation site selection decision	Q3 2021
Indicative timing for formal consent application	Late 2021
Consent Examination Process	2022 - early 2023
Earliest possible investment approval	End 2024
Earliest possible construction work	2025/26

### 8. Q & A



### Vaughan Weighill

Project Manager vaughan.weighill@rwe.com



#### Chris Tomlinson

Stakeholder Manager chris.tomlinson@rampionoffshore.com



#### Eleri Wilce

Consents & Permitting Manager eleri.wilce@rwe.com





Have you visited our Rampion Visitor Centre on Brighton seafront?



### Rampion 2 WIND FARM

www.rampion2.com

