

Fugro Begins Extensive Site Characterization for ScottishPower Renewables'™ East Anglia Hub



Fugro has begun the geophysical survey phase of a large multidisciplinary site investigation contract worth around GBP55 million for ScottishPower Renewables' (SPR's) East Anglia Hub project.

The phased site investigations are scheduled to finish at the end of 2021 and support the development of wind farms in the UK southern North Sea over an area of more than 800 square kilometres. The results from Fugro's site characterization will feed into SPR's ground models for the [East Anglia Hub](#) and support seabed mobility assessment, foundation design and cable-route engineering.

Operating from dedicated geophysical survey vessels, the [Fugro](#) team began the UXO surveys in July; full coverage bathymetric surveys and sub-bottom profiler surveys across the site and export cable routes will follow. Data processing and reporting will be completed in Fugro's UK and Netherlands offices.

Ultra-deep seabed cone penetration tests

Geotechnical investigation of the wind turbine locations will start later this summer and will comprise ultra-deep seabed cone penetration tests (CPTs) using Fugro's innovative SEACALF Mk V DeepDrive CPT system, downhole and seismic CPTs, geotechnical sampling, and geophysical borehole logging. Shallow geotechnical testing and sampling will be performed along the export cable routes, while standard and advanced soil testing will take place at Fugro's soil laboratory testing facility in Wallingford, UK.

Richard Hill, Fugro's proposal manager for the project, said: "This is a significant and exciting project for Fugro that will see us deploying multiple geophysical and geotechnical vessels from our fleet to the East Anglia Hub for the next 2 years. Fugro's innovative technologies, experienced geophysical and geotechnical survey teams, and large capacity for advanced soil testing laboratory in the UK will be crucial in helping SPR to meet their project timescales."

SPR's East Anglia Hub will eventually consist of 263 wind turbine generators capable of delivering a total installed capacity of up to 3.1GW, enough to power up to 2.7 million homes.