



BlueFloat Energy acknowledges the Awabakal and Worimi people as the Traditional Owners of the area in which our Project will be located. We respect their deep and enduring connection to the land, water, air and sky.

JULY 2023



BlueFloat Energy is developing the Eastern Rise Offshore Wind Project, off the Hunter-Port Stephens coast, between Newcastle and Nelson Bay.



The Project has capacity to generate 1.7 gigawatts, which is enough to power around 825,000 homes with green energy.



We're considering connecting the Project to the energy grid via the Tomago switchyard. Our preference to use shared transmission lines where possible.



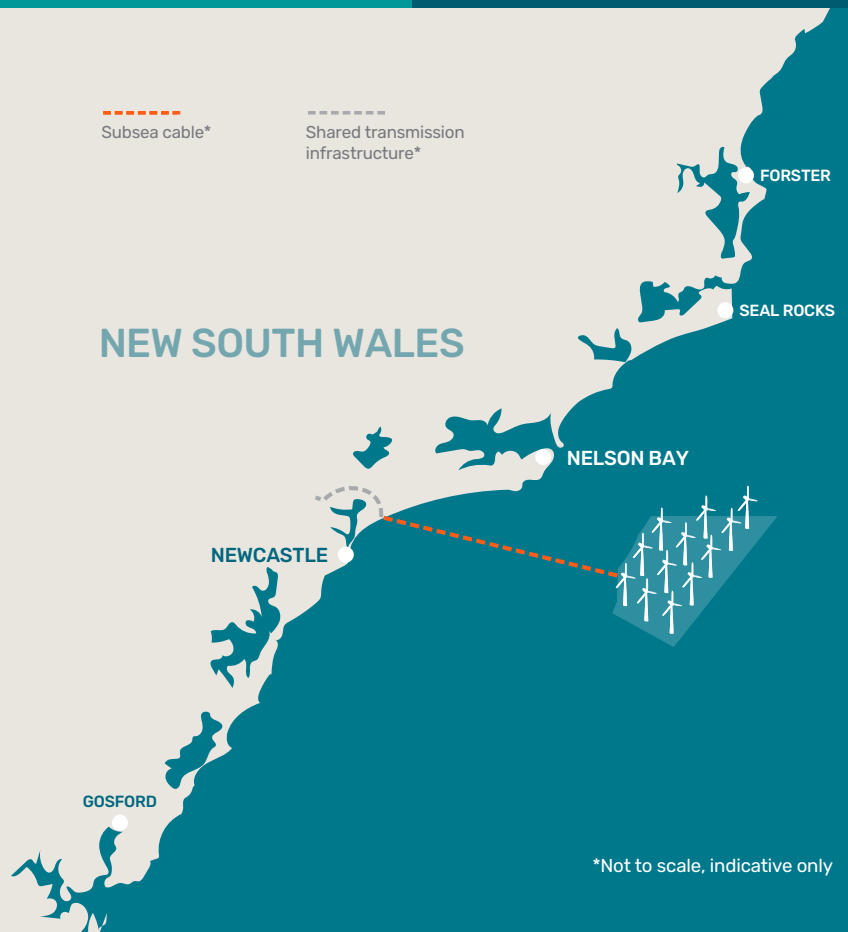
The Project is located approximately 25-45 km off the coast and is made up of 115 floating turbines, three offshore substations.

BlueFloat Energy welcomes Hunter offshore wind zone declaration

Federal Minister for Climate Change and Energy Chris Bowen has declared the Pacific Ocean off the Hunter region as Australia's second offshore wind zone. Our Project is located in this area.

We intend to apply for a Feasibility Licence which will enable environmental and technical studies to be carried out to test the suitability of the site. These studies will inform project design and the environmental impact assessment.

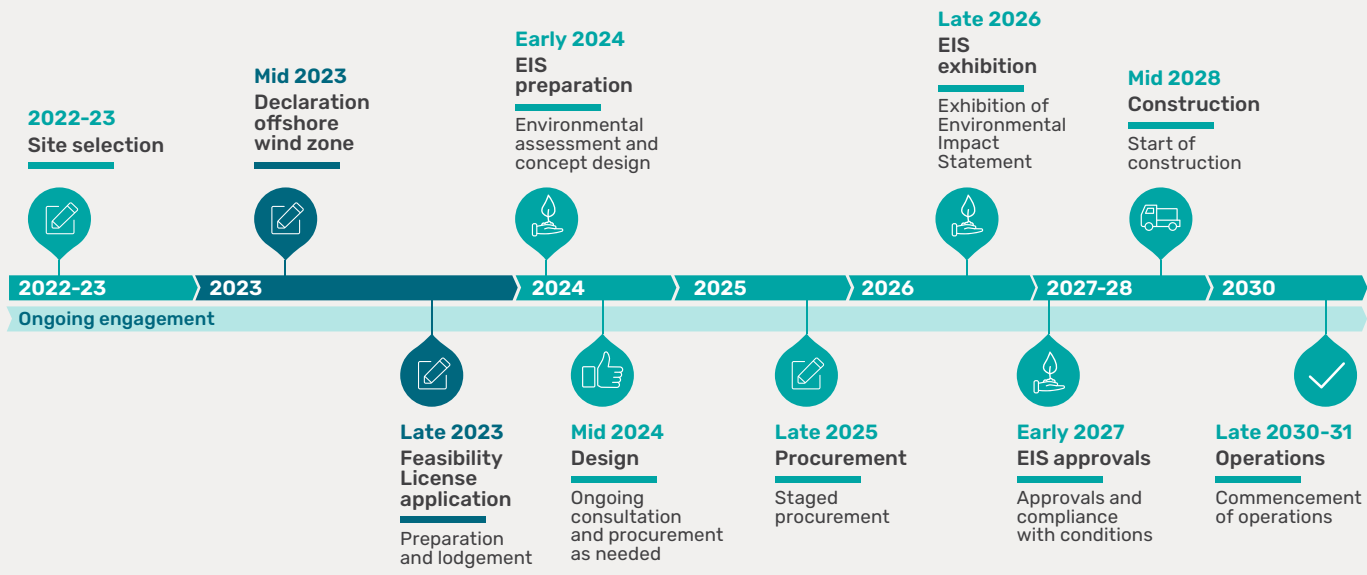
The period for developers to submit feasibility licence applications for proposed offshore wind projects in the Hunter area will open on 8 August 2023 and close on 14 November 2023.



*Not to scale, indicative only



Project timeline



What's needed for the Project to proceed?

Before we can build our Project, we require several approvals. These include:

Commonwealth Offshore Electricity Infrastructure Act 2021 (OEI Act)

This provides the framework for the development, construction, operation and decommissioning of offshore renewable energy projects in Australia.

The first step for any offshore wind project is to obtain a Feasibility Licence and then a Commercial Licence. The Feasibility Licence enables developers to have exclusive access to an area of the seabed for environmental surveys and technical studies. The data collected, combined with community feedback, helps in the planning and development stages.

The Commercial Licence lasts for 40 years and allows offshore wind projects to be built, operated and decommissioned.

Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)

This is the Commonwealth's main environmental legislation and protects matters of national environmental significance (MNES).

Based on a preliminary assessment, we believe that the Project has the potential to impact on the following MNES:

- listed threatened species and ecological communities
- listed migratory species (protected under international agreements)
- Commonwealth marine areas.

All projects with potential to impact on MNES must be referred under this Act.

We have made two referrals under this Act, which are currently being considered by DCCEEW.

There is a 10 day public consultation period where DCCEEW will seek feedback on the referrals.

We are expecting further state government approvals will be needed.



More information about the approvals needed for offshore wind can be found on the DCCEEW website at www.dcceew.gov.au

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