

INTOG – Public summary

Crown Estate Scotland leases Scotland's seabed for the development of offshore renewable energy. This includes the development of offshore wind, which forms a key part of Scotland's transition to a low carbon economy and offers the country a way of taking major strides towards getting to net zero by 2045.

The Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas (INTOG) leasing round is a process by which developers will be able to apply for the rights to build offshore wind farms specifically for the purpose of providing low carbon electricity to power oil and gas installations and help to decarbonise the sector. It also provides an opportunity to enable small scale (less than 100MW) innovation projects, including alternative outputs such as hydrogen.

Projects must be situated within one of the sites identified by Marine Scotland as being suitable for this development through their sectoral planning process. The consultation ([link](#)) for the first stage of this process is now open, giving stakeholders the opportunity to contribute their views.

This first stage will see Marine Scotland finalise the Areas of Search- providing the Initial Plan Framework for development. At the next stage, Crown Estate Scotland will open our leasing process to applications for what will be a competitive leasing round based on the parameters set by the Initial Plan Framework.

Following that, Crown Estate Scotland will award exclusivity agreements to successful projects. These projects will then be assessed by Marine Scotland through their sectoral planning process. Only projects included in the final plan can be awarded Option Agreements.

The planning process will provide a clear basis for the scale and nature of the leasing requirements to meet objectives relating to smaller scale innovation and to enable decarbonisation solutions for the North Sea energy sector. Full technical details on the leasing will be made available in due course, but will be based on the following principles:

Innovation:

- To enable projects which support cost reduction in support of commercial deployment of offshore wind including alternative outputs such as Hydrogen.
- To further develop Scotland as a destination for innovation and technical development which will lead to risk reductions and supply chain opportunity.

Targeted Oil and Gas:

- To maximise the role of offshore wind to reduce emissions from oil and gas production.
- To achieve target installed capacity in a way that delivers best value for Scotland, creating supply chain opportunity in alignment with Just Transition principles.

This is entirely separate and distinct to the ScotWind Leasing process which is currently live, and which focuses on the development of commercial scale offshore wind projects.