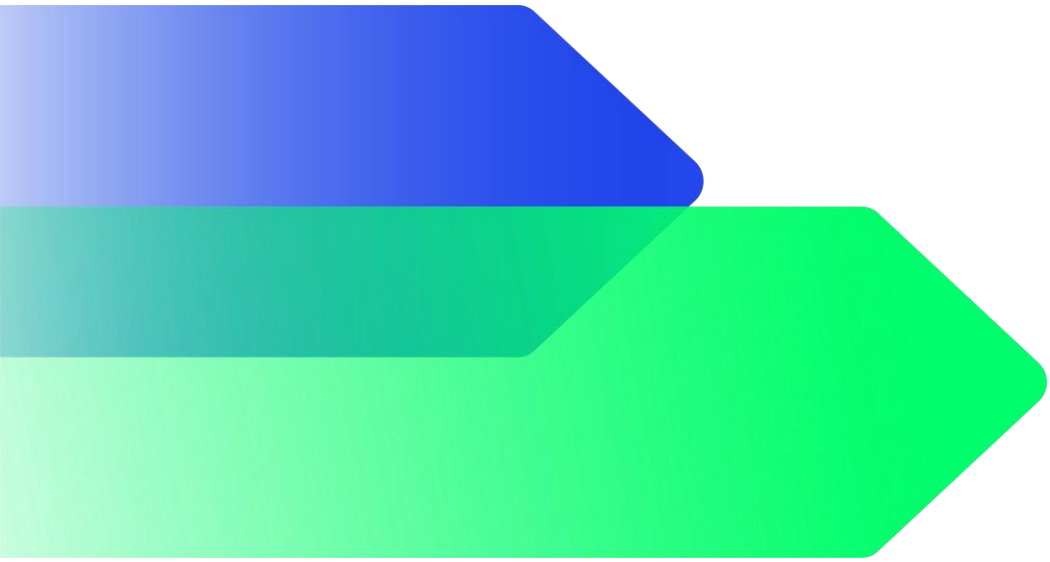
OFFSHORE WIND ACCELERATOR S4Y6

Clarification Question Responses

TWG-C – Is 90°C Still the Magic Number?

01.08.2025



#	Type	Question	Response
1	Project timeline	How rigid is the 6-month timeline for the work, as there is stakeholder engagement required timing and depend on their availability, so we wanted to check if there is any flexibility with the duration estimate?	We can be flexible with the timeline, especially if there is a good reason. Stakeholder engagement can take longer than anticipated and depends on when it is conducted.
2	Project timeline	Do you have an estimate of how long programme partners take to complete WP2? Just so we can track it for the Gantt chart accordingly.	This activity should not take more than a month.
3	Scope	Does the project intend to solely focus on HVAC applications at current stage? The behaviours of properties of XLPE under AC and DC stresses are different and maybe require different qualification methods. HVDC cable may need to be treated as a separate investigation from HVAC applications.	The scope focuses on AC cables at export voltages. However, there is interest to learn more about HVDC behaviour as well. A discussion on how HVDC would or could differ would be welcome. Notably, it would be good to understand if work is currently being done around DC temperature limits and what that work has shown.
4	Project timeline	The estimated project timeline is 6 months, which seems to be pretty tight based on the amount of engagement activities expected to be conducted. Does the 6 months include the time required to conduct WP2 (conveyed by TWG-C)? If so, would Carbon Trust be able to share some rough estimation on how long WP2 activities will last?	See question 2. The 6-month timeframe is ambitious and can be extended if needed. A realistic proposal from the bidders would be appreciated.
5	Stakeholder engagement	In WP3, the contractor is expected to engage with cable OEMs, qualification bodies and OFTOs to get their feedback on the 'qualifiable rule' agreed in WP2. Does the engagement scope cover any feedback collection on WP3 findings (tests and standards)? We think it could be useful to engage with	This can be discussed during the project. The Offshore Wind Accelerator (OWA) Steering Committee would have to approve anything which will be shared publicly. However, we have done this before in situations where there is a clear benefit to share findings.

		stakeholders on testing and qualification of XLPE cable beyond 90°C. Would the contractor be allowed to share the WP3 analysis findings with stakeholders through discussion meetings or workshops?	
6	Stakeholder engagement	In WP3, it says “Stakeholder feedback should be incorporated into a new revised rule”, is this a task for contractor to complete?	Yes. The contractor will receive the ‘qualifiable rule’ to be modified in the subsequent work packages. The rule is a starting point based on benefit to developers. We expect it to be updated to align with the realities of the material and the supply chain.
7	Stakeholder engagement	To what extent should stakeholder engagement activities (e.g., with OEMs, OFTOs, qualification bodies) be designed to generate new insights versus consolidating existing knowledge already known to the TWG-C or OWA partners?	The stakeholder engagement will naturally consolidate existing knowledge where there is agreement and standardisation and generate new insights where there are gaps in agreement or standardisation. In the case of this project, stakeholder engagement should focus on understanding XLPE insulation behaviour above 90°C. It is important to understand material properties, feasibility, as well as supply chain perspectives, challenges and general willingness.
8	Data sharing	Are there any known limitations on sharing historical test data or proprietary standards information from OWA partners during stakeholder engagement or literature review?	The contractor should not expect to receive any proprietary information from OWA partners. The partners will provide the ‘qualifiable rule’ in WP2 and a presentation where this rule can be discussed with the partners. The contractor is expected to show a level of practical understanding of offshore wind subsea cable systems.
9	Scope	Is there a working definition or assumed operational profile for ‘normal operation’ beyond 90C (e.g., % of lifetime, seasonal use,	This is something that needs to be developed. While the partners have thoughts about what that definition could be, it would be beneficial for a contractor to independently come to a conclusion.

		or load profile) that should guide assumptions made in WP3 and WP4?	The developer partners will determine the minimum useful input to have a benefit.
10	Scope	Does the increase in temperature apply to existing cable systems already installed and in operation, or only to new systems to be developed, or both.	The contractor should aim to apply the findings to both existing cable systems and new systems to be developed. I.e.: is it possible to increase temperatures in currently operational systems, or is it required to change something about the current system for it to work?
11	Scope	Does this apply to dynamic cables (e.g., export cables for floating wind parks)?	The scope should focus on static cables. A discussion on how the learnings and principles can be extended and applied to dynamic cables would be welcome.

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Published in the UK: 2023