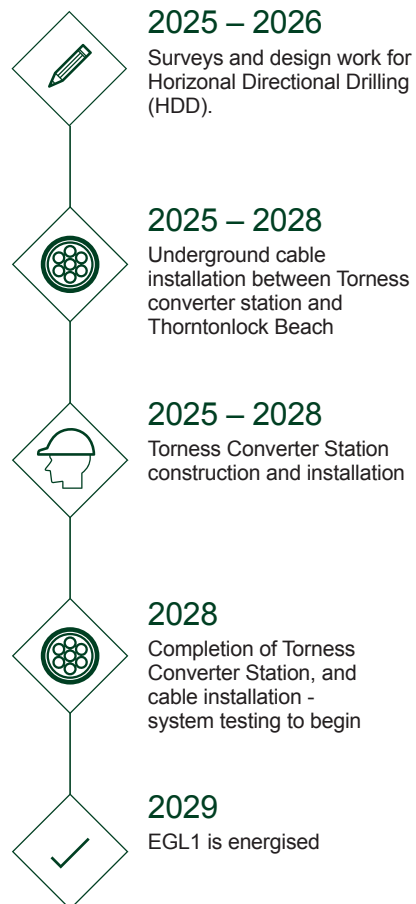
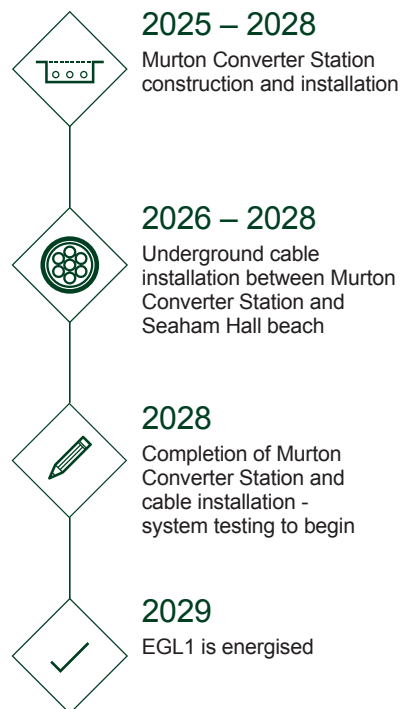




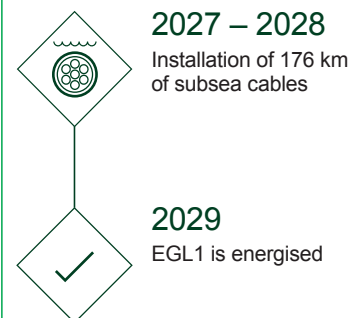
## Scottish onshore works



## English onshore works



## Marine works



### Minimising disruption

We understand that these works may cause some disruption in the local area. While this can't be completely avoided, we're committed to doing everything possible to keep the impact of construction as low as we can. We'll stay in touch with affected communities and share updates as we get closer to starting work in each area.

Find out more about EGL1 by visiting our new website:

[www.easterngreenlink1.co.uk](http://www.easterngreenlink1.co.uk)

Keep updated with our works



### Need to speak to us?

You can call or email us at:  
[contact@easterngreenlink1.co.uk](mailto:contact@easterngreenlink1.co.uk)

**Freephone 0808 196 8405**

Our phoneline is open between 9am and 5pm on weekdays

You can find out more about EGL1 by visiting our website:

[www.easterngreenlink1.co.uk](http://www.easterngreenlink1.co.uk)



## Welcome to the EGL1 project newsletter – January 2026

### Construction of our Torness and Murton converter stations is now underway.

EGL1 is a two-gigawatt high voltage direct current (HVDC) electrical 'superhighway' between the Torness area in East Lothian and Hawthorn Pit in County Durham, via the North Sea. When complete, it will carry enough electricity to power two million homes.

The project will unlock Scotland's vast renewable energy reserves by scaling up the UK's capacity to transport cleaner energy from where it is generated to where it is needed.

Over the coming months, main works will start to ramp up on our substation, converter station, underground cable and subsea cable.

Since our last update in August, our contractors and project colleagues have been out volunteering in the local community. In August, we were pleased to open a new section of bridleway connecting Murton and South Hetton.

More recently, we launched our EGL1 England Local Community Fund. The fund is part of a wider community benefit package of up to £8 million - £4million in East Lothian and £4 million in the County Durham area.

Approved by Ofgem, the funds will support local projects delivering lasting social, environmental and economic benefits for the communities hosting the project. You can read more about this on our project website:



EGL1 Community Benefit fund website page



Matthew Barton,  
Project Director  
for EGL 1

*It's wonderful to witness the progress across the project as construction activity increases.*

*EGL1 is an essential part of the UK's energy transition, helping to unlock home-grown power and deliver secure, affordable and cleaner energy for future generations. The launch of the Local Community Fund marks a significant milestone, enabling us to respond to local needs and deliver lasting benefits for communities across County Durham and the wider region.*



## Project updates

### Hawthorn Pit

**Continuing preparatory works** - Enabling works will continue on the substation platform over the coming months, preparing the site for construction once final planning conditions are met.

**Piling works** - Piling is scheduled to begin in early spring 2026 at Hawthorn Pit. This is a key stage in constructing EGL1, and we are committed to completing it efficiently and safely while minimising disruption. All activities will be carefully managed, with regular noise monitoring to ensure compliance with the limits set out in our planning application.



### EGL1 Bridleway Opening

We celebrated the opening of a relocated bridleway at Hawthorn Pit in August, connecting Murton and South Hetton. The new path, now on higher ground, reduces flood risk and improves safety by separating pedestrians from construction traffic.

More than 50 people joined us for the opening, giving local residents a chance to meet the team and learn about plans for the new converter station and substation. It was a great opportunity to connect with the community as we continue to ramp up works in the area.



### Upcoming works at Murton Converter Station site

Construction works are progressing well at our Murton converter station site. Recent milestones include:

- **Site compound preparation** – Work is ongoing on the permanent compound, which will include welfare facilities, offices and parking. Completion is scheduled for 2026.
- **Material deliveries** – Excess earth is being cleared from site, and stone is being delivered for the converter station foundations. HGV movements will continue to be higher than usual in the early part of the year. Temporary traffic measures will be introduced to ensure vehicle movements are managed safely. Local councils will be notified ahead of work starting.
- **Piling** – Subject to other works progressing as planned, there will be piling activity in early February for around seven weeks. Every effort will be made to keep noise and disturbance to a minimum. Noise levels will be monitored to ensure they remain within permitted limits.



## In the Community

### Ribbon Academy Site Visit

In November, we welcomed pupils from Ribbon Academy in Murton for an interactive site visit at EGL1. The children put on PPE, received a safety briefing, and were given roles to act out. They also enjoyed live demonstrations of heavy machinery, including a 36-tonne excavator, Caterpillar D7 dozer and 20-tonne articulated dump truck, courtesy of Flannigan's Plant Hire.

The visit gave pupils a valuable insight into engineering, environmental considerations, and the exciting career opportunities available within the energy sector.



A student safely engaging with machinery during the site visit



Volunteers from Prysmian and EGL1 at Horden Beach Clean

### Horden and North Berwick Beach Clean

Our contractor Prysmian joined forces with EGL1 and National Grid to take part in the Great British Beach Clean. Volunteers cleaned up beaches in County Durham and North Berwick, partnering with Durham Wildlife Trust and the Scottish Seabird Centre, working together to remove 8 bags of litter in North Berwick and 30 bags in County Durham.

Rubbish was sorted to help track common forms of marine litter, with recyclables disposed of responsibly through local authorities. It's all part of our commitment to protecting coastal ecosystems and marine life.

### Careers and Skills Exposition

Our contractor METLEN Energy & Metals and their earthworks contractor RJ McLeod joined a Careers and Skills Expo hosted by DurhamWorks in Darlington. Students from schools across County Durham attended the event at the Centre for Process Innovation and Business Central.

Companies delivered interactive sessions that helped students to build key skills in a hands-on way. It was a great opportunity to connect with young people and showcase the career opportunities available in the energy sector.



Students were invited to identify potential environmental risks at the converter station site

## EGL1 Local Community Fund

We recognise the role communities are playing in the energy transition and are committed to delivering fair lasting benefits for those hosting new transmission infrastructure.

We are pleased to announce that an £8m fund has been approved by Ofgem to support communities and deliver social, environmental and economic benefits in East Lothian and County Durham.

Applications opened on 5 November. The decision-making panel will meet every quarter with the first meeting taking place at the end of January. The application closing date for the second round of applications will be in April.

### How to apply?

Applicants can check their eligibility using our postcode checker and start their application at: [www.localgiving.org/egl1-localcommunity-fund](http://www.localgiving.org/egl1-localcommunity-fund)



METLEN H&S Culture Advisor Rebecca Wilson and H&S Apprentice Aidan Sayers

### Angel Trust's Annual Toy Appeal

Dozens of Christmas presents were donated to the Angel Trust in support of its fifth annual Toy Appeal.

In total around 85 presents were handed over to the charity at its premises at Bishop Auckland.

Project workers from Metlen and EGL1 were invited to bring a present to the Murton site or make a cash donation which enabled presents to be bought for the appeal.

Their support reflects our ongoing commitment to support local communities in the areas where we work.