



Commercial fishing FAQ

Will fishing be allowed in the wind farm?

Yes, so long as it's safe and practical for fishing to continue. We recognise that some types of fishing would be challenging in an offshore wind farm, depending on the final project size and layout, vessel and fishing gear used. If you fall into this category, please contact our Fishing Liaison Officer to arrange a chat.

Will fishing be allowed during construction?

For everyone's safety, fishing boats would need to keep clear of construction activities and vessels. We'll work with fishers to try and minimise disruption and compensate for any demonstrated loss during this time.

Will you compensate if fishing can't continue?

Yes – if we can't share the waters or find another way to work together, we'll provide fair compensation for fishers who have a genuine claim.

What's a 'genuine claim'?

We'll ask fishers for evidence to back up claims of lost income as a direct result of the construction and/or operation of the wind farm. This would include evidence of licences and catch and effort history.

Our principles

1

Share

First, we'll look for ways to share the waters so fishing can continue.

2

Look at options

If sharing isn't safe or practical, we'll look at other ways to make up for any loss. For example: modifying gear so fishing can continue or providing alternative work on the project during construction to boost income.

3

Compensate

If sharing and looking at other options aren't safe or practical, we'll compensate fishers with a genuine claim.





How many years of catch history will I need to provide?

We understand that each fishery is different and catch and effort can vary from year to year. We'll also need to look at new fisheries that don't have a long history. Our current thinking is 3-5 good years, over the last 10 years, but we're open to feedback.

How will compensation be calculated?

First we need to understand more about the impacts. Then we'll develop a fair and consistent formula for calculating compensation. Once finalised, we'll share the formula and apply it consistently to any claim, while also taking individual circumstances into account.

When will the wind farm be built?

There's still a lot of work to do but we expect work could start around the middle of the decade.

Why are we having this conversation about impacts now?

We want to give peace of mind that an agreed approach and compensation for any loss will be in place, in advance of any construction activities, if it is needed. We also believe it's important to understand your views and get input at an early stage, to see how we can work together and find opportunities for fishers while addressing any anticipated impacts.

I don't think I'll be able to fish in the wind farm – what do I do?

Contact our Fishing Liaison Officer to discuss your operations and how we can work together.

How many turbines will there be?

The number of turbines will depend on the final project size and turbine size. It'll be several years before these details are finalised.

How deep will the cables be buried?

It's typically around 1-2 m, but depending on ground conditions could be anywhere from 0.5 m to 5 m deep. We won't have final details until the cables are in the ground, but geotechnical investigations in 2023 will help us get a clearer picture of what's possible with the local seabed conditions.

Will anchoring be allowed?

Cables would be buried but there's still a risk of snagging anchors. For this reason, anchoring is typically avoided in an offshore wind farm and along cable routes unless needed in an emergency situation.

How will I fish and navigate safely in the wind farm?

It's still early days and we don't have all the details yet, but safety at sea will be our first priority. What do you think is needed to stay safe in an offshore wind farm? It is standard for turbines to be:

- Labelled on charts
- Lit with navigation lights
- Numbered and labelled with reflective paint.

We'd also work with emergency responders on safety protocols and rescue training within the wind farm.

More information

To find out more about the Star of the South project and register for updates:

 starofthesouth.com.au

 1800 340 340

 info@starofthesouth.com.au

 Star of the South

 Star of the South Project

 Interpreter service: 13 14 50

FEBRUARY 2023