



Ministry of Infrastructure and the  
Environment



# Work Programme Maritime Spatial Planning

Leo de Vrees  
co-chair

# VISION IABR: NORTH SEA 2050?





## Priority topics within Support Group 1

- Coordinating the planning and development of offshore wind and grid projects beyond national borders including area mapping;
- Developing a common environmental assessment framework;
- Increasing the availability and interoperability of marine data for planning, impact assessment, licensing and operations;

Later phase:

- Exchanging best practices on site preparation and the handling of unexploded ordnance;
- Exchanging best practices on permitting procedures and work on the modalities of a coordinated permitting process for concrete regional or sub-regional joint offshore projects.





## Objective 1 Outline of a coherent wind energy plan

- What are possible areas of the North Sea (both national and international) which could be developed for wind energy?
- How would these be integrated into existing or future maritime spatial plans?
- What time horizon is logically connected to these areas, based on the demand for offshore renewables?
- Can these potential areas be developed according to different scenarios?
- What is the relation to other uses in these areas?
- How can these relations reduce macroeconomic and societal costs?
- What could be limiting or critical factors which hamper the development of these areas?
- Which stakeholders need to be involved? And how will they be involved at which stage?



## Objective 2 Common environmental assessment framework

- What are the common ambitions of parties that will work on a common method
- What methods of environmental assessment are available in the participating countries and what are the common elements?
- Which method can be applied when accumulating environmental impacts?
- What type of data, information and knowledge is (more) required?
- What research is further needed?
- Can there be a synchronisation/coordination between the national SEA procedures when establishing/changing the plans?
- What are the industry requirements (good practice of procedures, list differences and list the order of importance for harmonization)?
- Which stakeholders need to be involved? And how will they be involved at which stage?



## Objective 3 Marine data

- What further data and information are required?
- How can data portals be linked to EMODnet?
- What standards best support harmonisation of additional marine data not covered by EMODnet across national boundaries, are these currently supported, and how do we ensure data cohesion?
- What are the regulatory needs?
- What are the industry needs? What do they have, want and need (to reduce costs)?



## Existing initiatives and projects

- Intergovernmental Offshore Wind Forum
- EC Expert group on MSP and informal North Sea group
- INTERREG project NorthSEE
- EMODNET Data ingestion project
- OSPAR
- ICES Working group on Marine Renewable Energy
- International Hydrographic Organisation's Baltic and North Sea Regional Hydrographic Commissions' sub-group on marine spatial data infrastructure
- International Energy Agency WREN
- WindSpeed (2008-2011)
- BEAGINS

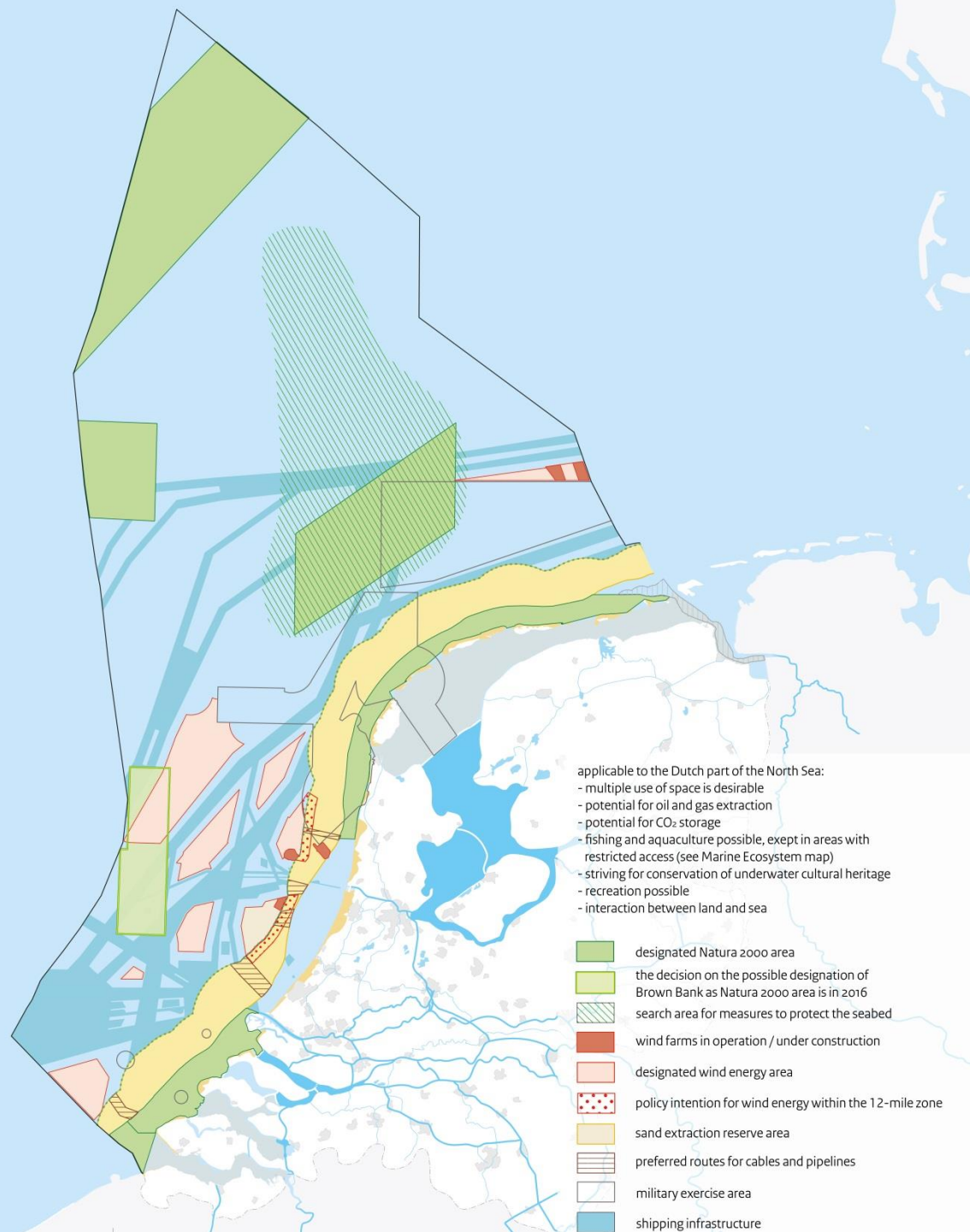


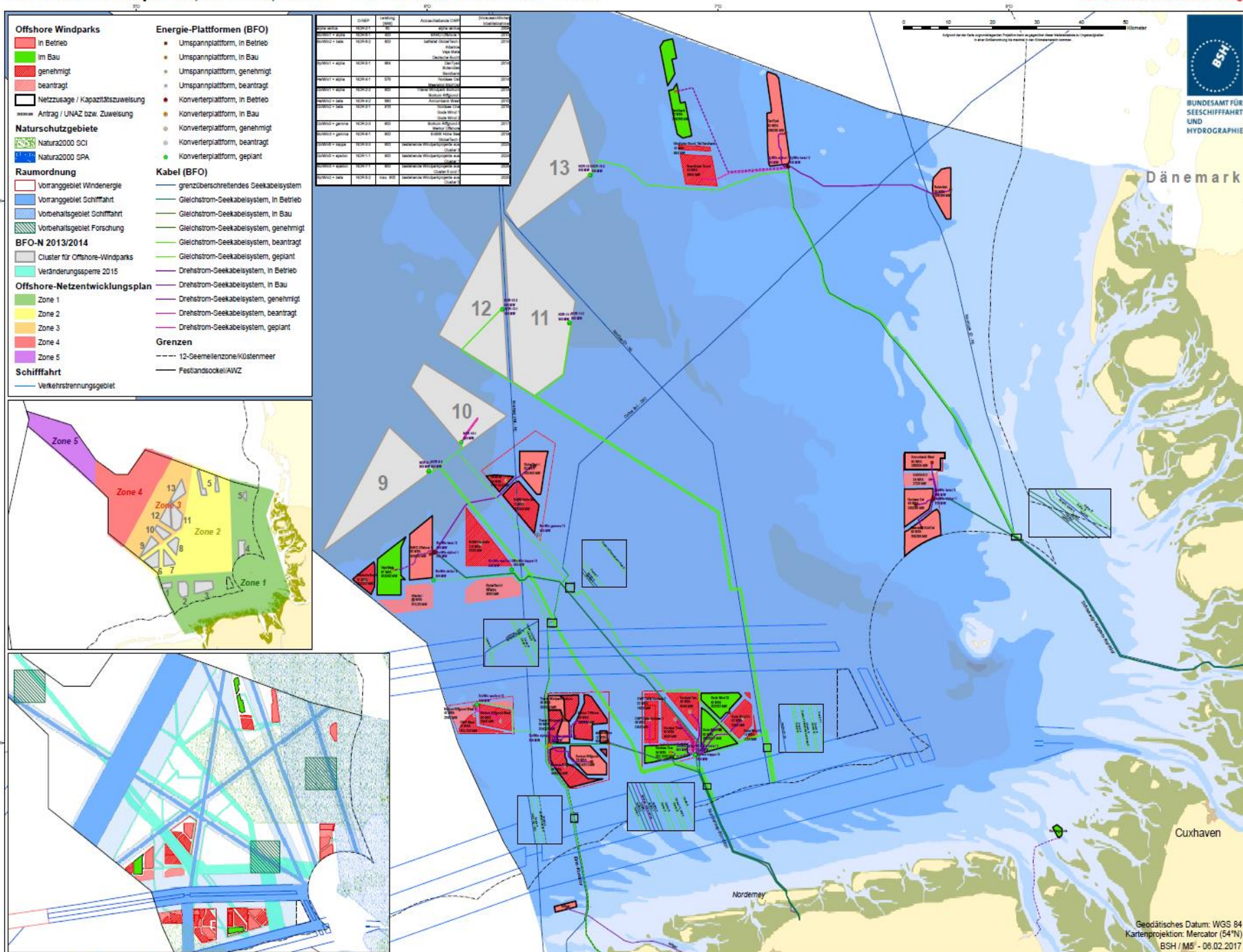
## Links with other Support Groups

- Plans and ambitions of wind projects/scenario's to be used
- Time horizon(s): 2023 – 2030 - 2050
- Grid connections
- Technical innovations
- Involvement of stakeholders

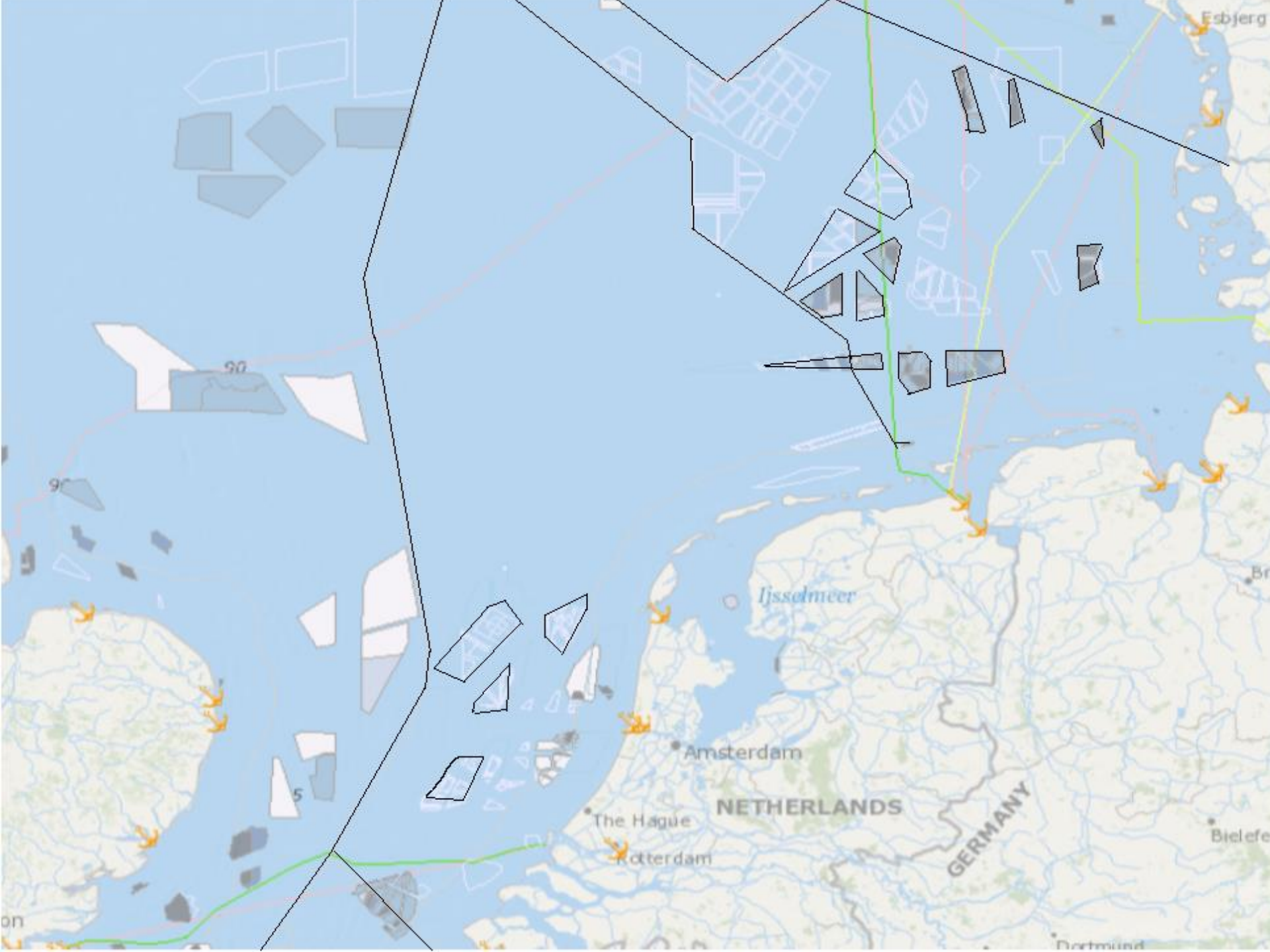


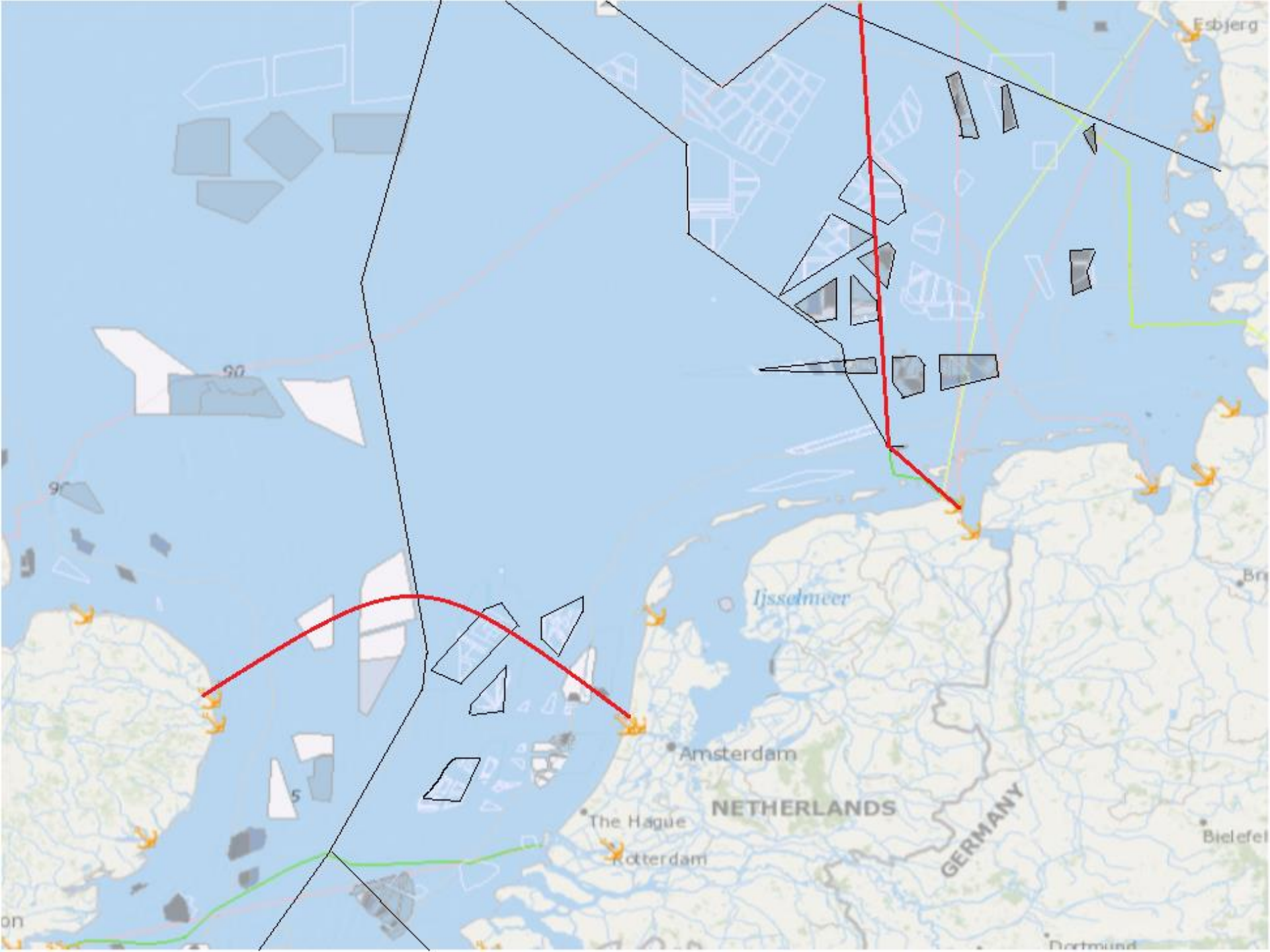
# Maritime Spatial Plan as part of the North Sea Policy 2016- 2021



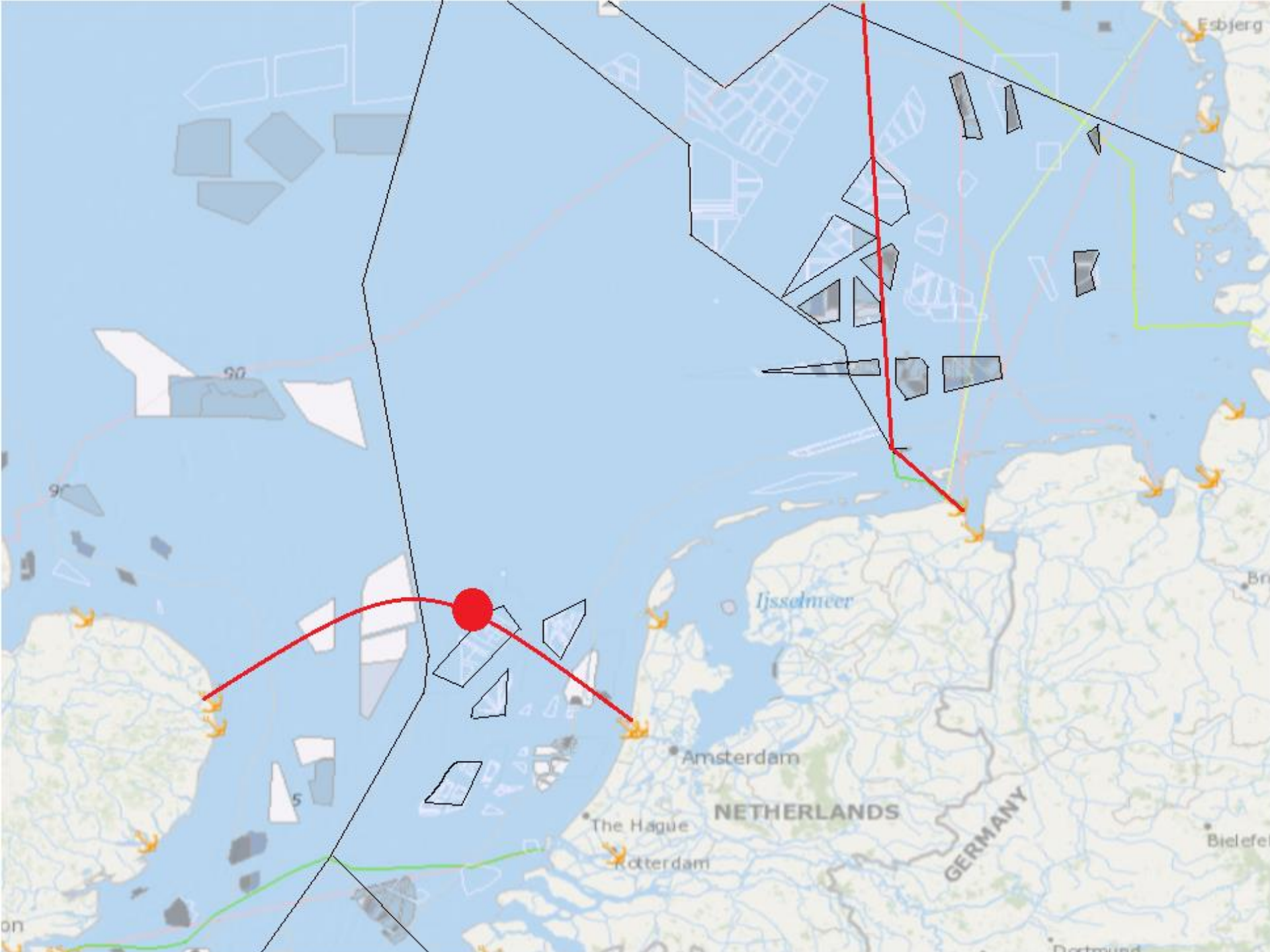


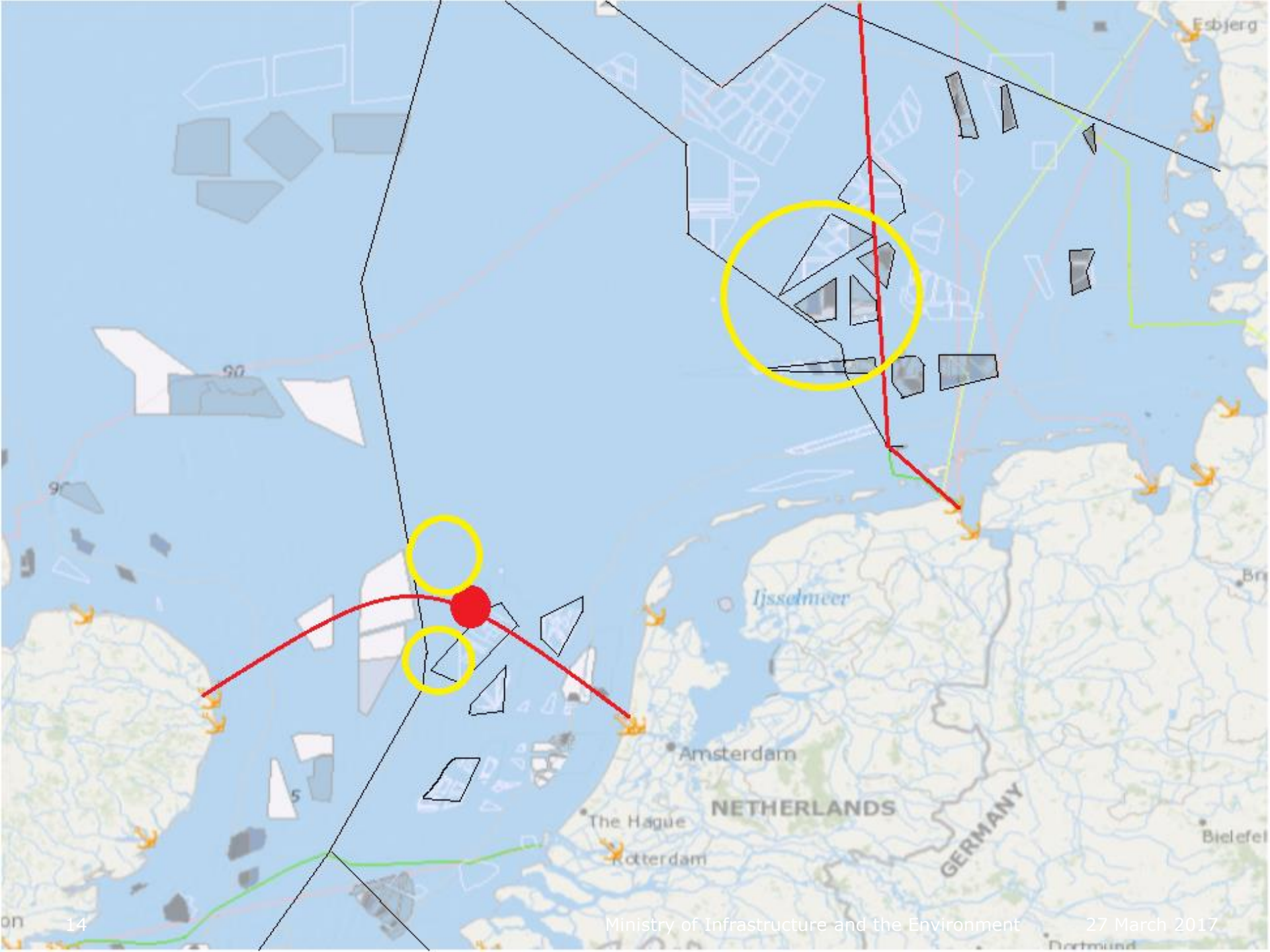




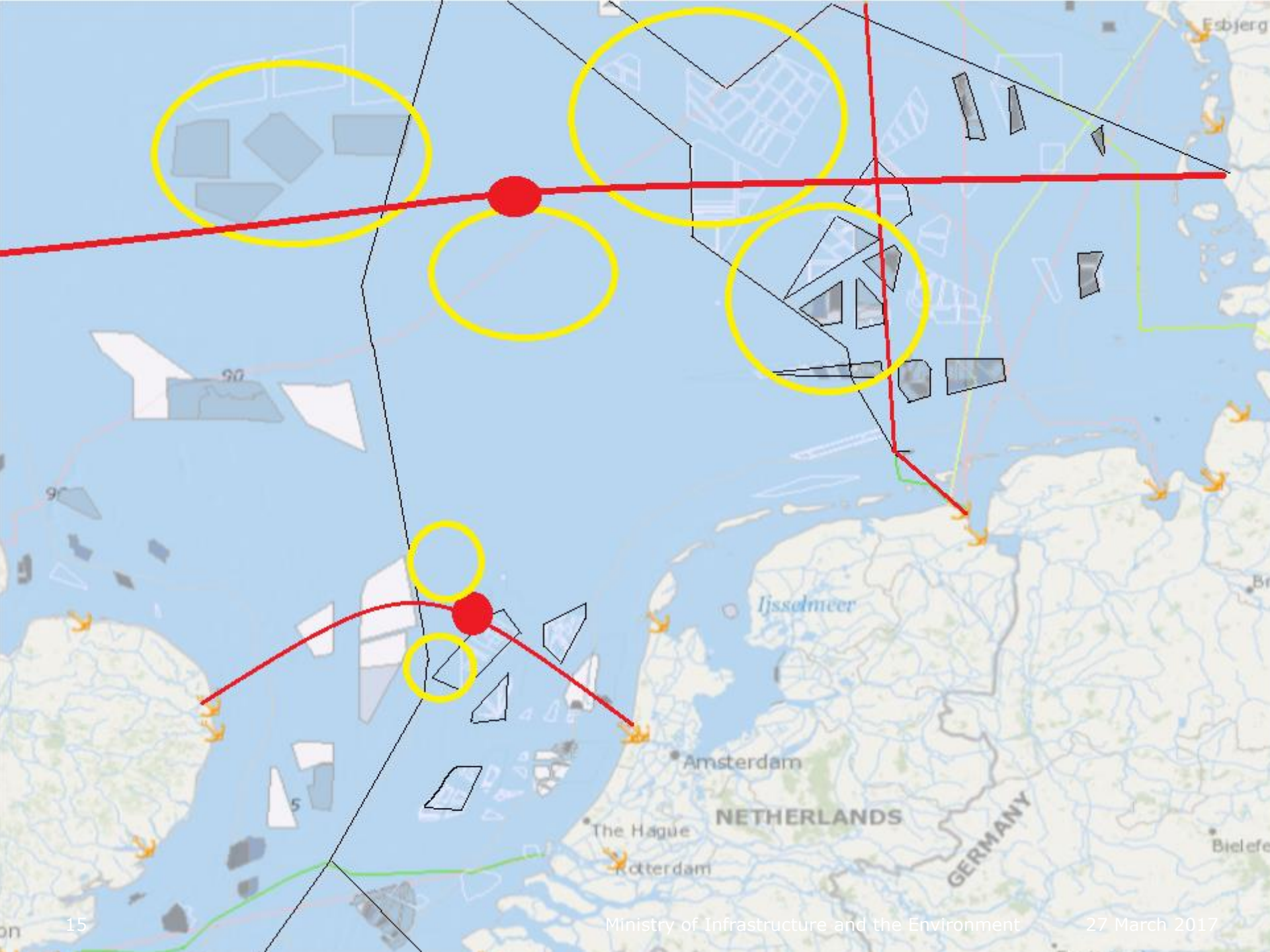






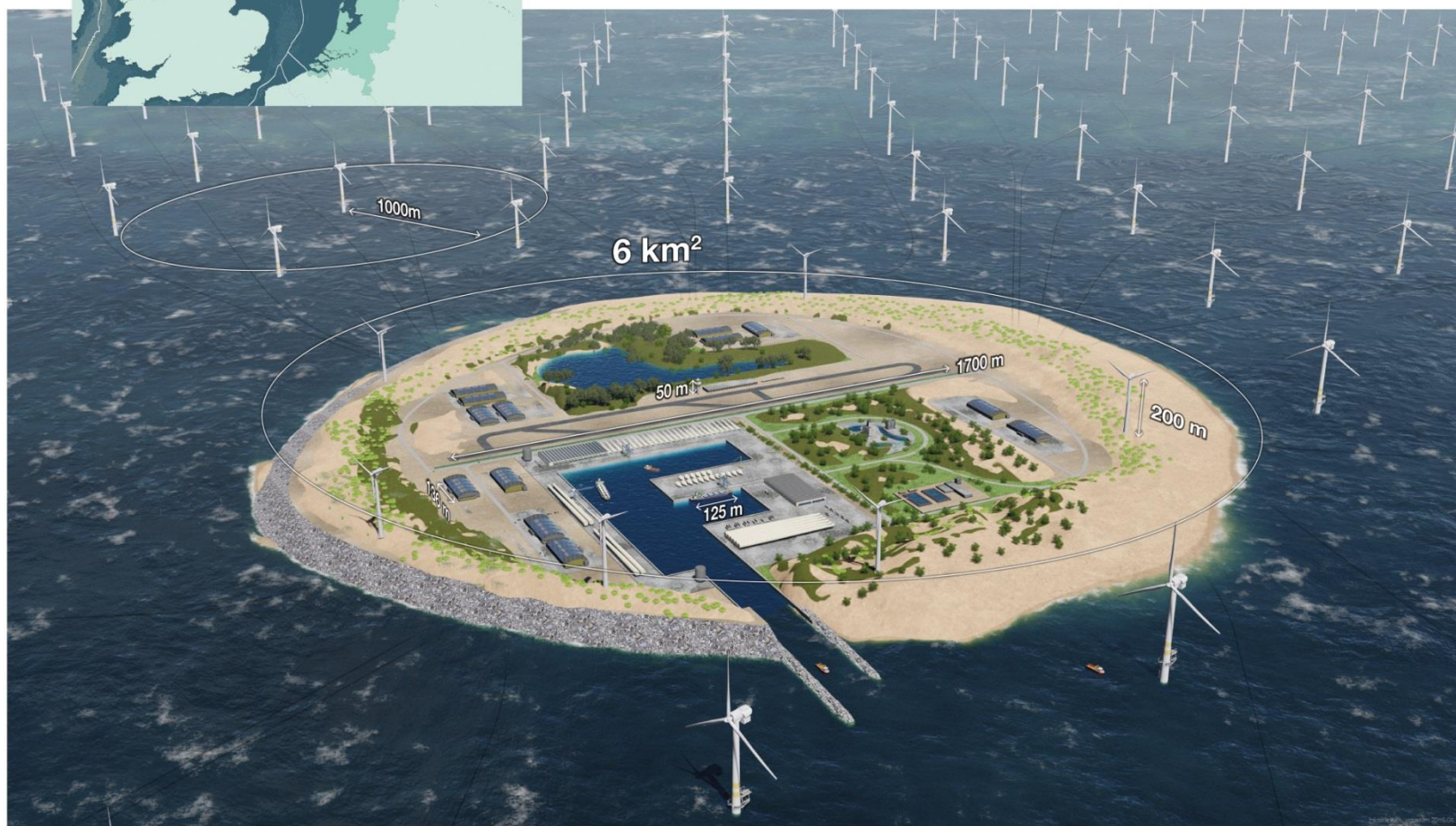




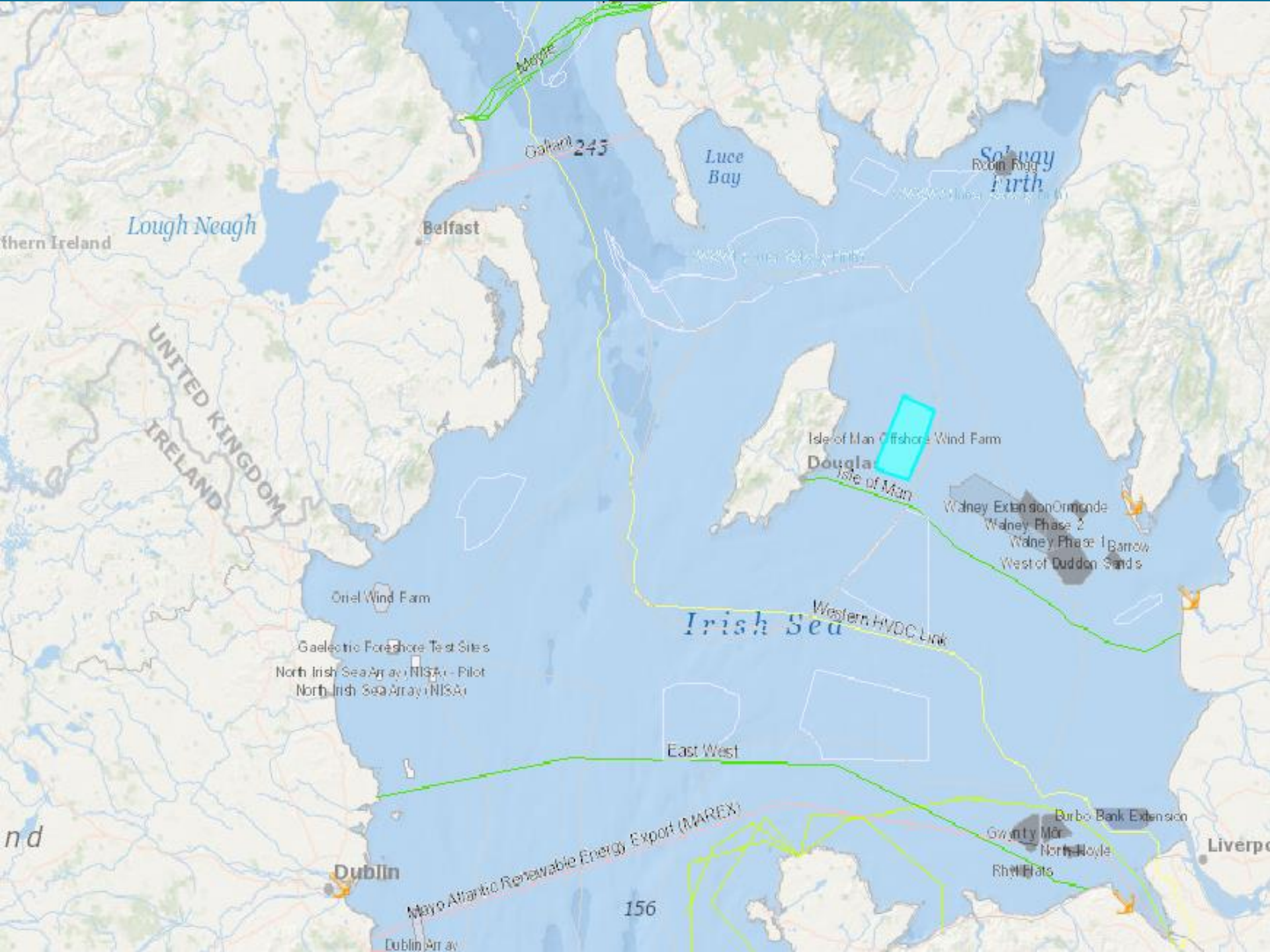




## Dogger Island









## Further questions to be solved by SG 1

- What is the relation to other uses in these areas?
  - Shipping (incl. ferries), Fishing, Mining, Military, Recreation
    - Design criteria
  - Distance between and capacities of cables/convertor/transformer
  - Density (MW/km<sup>2</sup>)
- What could be limiting or critical factors which hamper the development of these areas?
  - Cumulative impact on the ecosystem/species
    - Assessment framework
- What further data and information are required?
  - Regulatory and industry needs



# Questions?

## Useful link

<https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/topics/infrastructure/north-seas-energy-cooperation>

