

NI Offshore Renewable Energy Strategic Action Plan 2012-2020

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Progress 2010-2013

- MRIA Conference 2010 – consulting on wide ranging draft Offshore Plan and its Strategic Environmental Assessment.
- MRIA Conference 2011 – Imminent announcement of The Crown Estate Leasing Round process.
- MRIA Conference 2012 – The Crown Estate Leasing Round fully underway.
- MRIA Conference 2013 – Successful tidal developers presenting.



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NI AWARDS MAP

Fair and Torr Head

Larne

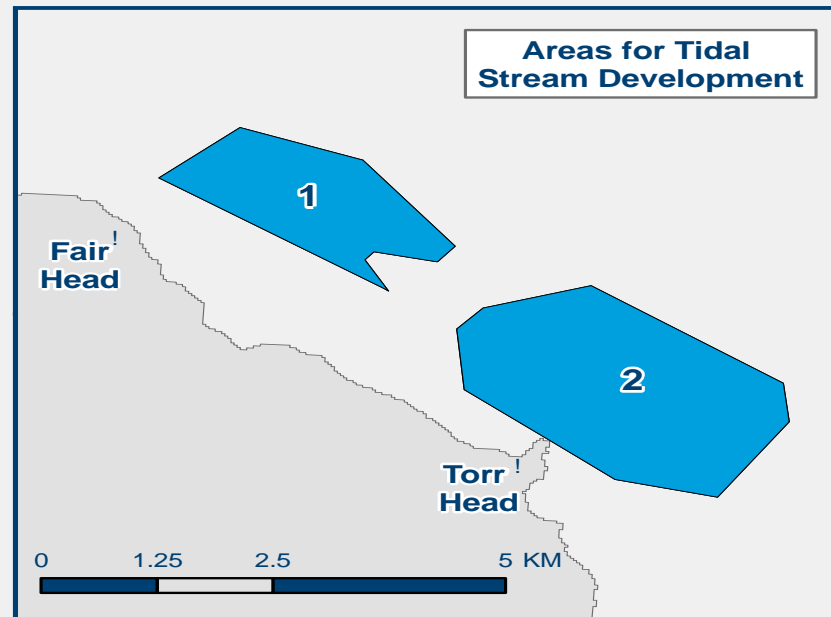
Belfast

Ardglass

Newcastle

3

Area for Offshore
Wind Development



Key -

- 1. DPME/DBE Consortium Development Site
- 2. Tidal Ventures Development Site
- 3. First Flight Wind Exclusivity Area



THE CROWN
ESTATE

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The Crown Estate

- Single body performing property management function across the UK; not part of UK Government but works closely with Government.
- Its annual surplus is passed to the UK Treasury. 50% of this surplus given by Treasury to Big Lottery Fund for Coastal Communities Fund.
- Operates the UK Offshore Renewable Energy Leasing Rounds.
- TCE lead up to announcements; DETI and DOE for the consenting and licensing process thereafter.



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Key points along the way

- Importance of cross departmental support.
- Benefits of the Offshore Renewable Energy Forum with departments and external organisations .
- “Getting out there and talking “–stakeholders, marine users/ politicians / councillors/ companies.
- Taking the time it takes to get the processes right.
- Step back from some areas due to environmental /other marine user issues.
- Benefits of the Regional Locational Guidance in advance of the Leasing Round.



Next steps for projects

- Offshore Renewable Projects need ;
 - Marine Licence from DOE.
 - Electricity generating station construction consent from DETI.
 - Planning permission from DOE (for onshore substation).
 - Licence from the Utility Regulator.
- Spring 2013 Memorandum of Understanding between DOE and DETI re streamlining of processes.
- EIA process from now to 2015/16 – key stakeholder engagement.
- Possible build out starting 2016/17 onwards to contribute to 2020 renewable electricity 40% targets and beyond.



Progress on ORESAP 2012-2020

- ORESAP approved by the Offshore Renewable Energy Forum and the NI Executive and published in March 2012.
- Range of ongoing work to facilitate the development of offshore projects e.g.
 - SEA environmental recommendations,
 - Work with NIE, SONI and the Utility Regulator on NIE grid development plans,
 - Legislative Issues - NI Offshore Energy Bill and DOE's Marine Bill,
 - Invest NI focus on business / supply chain benefits,
 - Ensure appropriate support mechanisms, e.g. EMR.



Offshore Energy Bill

- Offshore Regulatory regime to reflect best practice /that in rest of UK waters.
- Need primary legislation for;
 - Safety zones,
 - Navigation and extinguishing of public rights of navigation,
 - Preparation and implementation of decommissioning programmes.
- Policy Paper Consultation to be issued very shortly. Bill to be enacted early 2014.
- In addition, Utility Regulator to consult very shortly on an NI offshore connection policy.



DOE Environmental activities

- UK wide High Level Marine Objectives – achieving a sustainable marine economy.
- DOE NI Marine Bill – reaching final stages.
 - Sustainability Appraisal being undertaken of the first draft NI Marine Plan over the next two years.
 - Development of Marine Conservation Zones.
 - Implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive.
- Key issues of interactions/ co locations/ pressures on existing marine industries e.g. fishing sector and new sectors e.g renewables.



The year ahead?

- Significant activity and progress over the last four years; challenging work ahead.
- Ongoing implementation of the ORESAP actions and support for emerging projects.
- Working together with the developers;
 - at project and strategic level,
 - EIA issues, local engagement, EMR, grid, supply chain and offshore regulatory regimes.

