

NI Offshore Renewable Energy Strategic Action Plan 2012-2020

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Progress 2010-2014

- 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 – Leasing Round underway and publication of the ORESAP.
- MRIA Conference 2013 – Successful tidal developers presenting.
- MRIA Conference 2014 – Ongoing progress towards commercial deployment.



Marine developments and facilities in NI waters

- SeaGen 1.2MW at Strangford Lough
- Minesto – secured lease for 3kW Deep Green Ocean Kite at Strangford Lough
- QUB tidal test site at Strangford Lough
- QUB Wave tank at Portaferry
- Tidal Ventures Ltd and Fairhead Tidal Ltd – secured development rights for 100MW each at Torr Head and Fair Head.



ORESAP 2012-2020

- Optimise amount of offshore renewable electricity sustainably generated
 - to enhance diversity/ security of supply ;
 - reduce carbon emissions ;
 - contribute to the 40% renewable electricity target by 2020 and
 - beyond and develop business and employment opportunities for NI companies.
- Published in 2012 and first Annual Report published October 2013.



Progress on ORESAP

- First ORESAP Annual Report published October 2013
- Range of ongoing work to facilitate the development of offshore projects e.g.
 - Ongoing work with The Crown Estate on its UK wide leasing activities and the developers.
 - SEA environmental recommendations – report due shortly on key data and knowledge gaps and the development by DOE of a Marine Science Strategy.



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Progress on ORESAP

- Work with NIE, SONI and the Utility Regulator -funding for grid strengthening and Regulator's offshore connection policy proposals.
- Legislative Issues – consultation on draft NI Offshore Energy Bill policy proposals for safety zones, navigational and decommissioning provisions.
- Invest NI focus on business / supply chain benefits – significant level of activity.
- Environmental developments – NI Marine Act 2013; preparations for an NI Marine Plan and Marine Conservation Zones.
- Ensure appropriate support mechanisms, e.g. NIRO and EMR.



The year ahead?

- Significant activity and progress over the last few years.
- Challenging work ahead but opportunities at both strategic and operational level to raise the profile of marine renewables e.g. BIC and at EU .
- Ongoing implementation of the ORESAP actions and support for emerging projects.
- Working together with the developers and stakeholders -EIA issues, local engagement, EMR, grid, supply chain and offshore regulatory regimes.

