

Powering full steam ahead

This newsletter presents the results of the POWER project since the start in July 2004. Many of the project activities are making good progress and first results are coming through. POWER has proven to be very successful and the number of participating partners has meanwhile substantially increased, which shows the large interest of external parties in the POWER activities.

New associated partners

Wide recognition of the POWER project is reflected in the widening of the project partnership: Within the first year, 11 additional organisations have been accepted as "associated partners" in the project, increasing the number of partners by about a third. A list of all participating parties is published on the POWER website.

POWER second Transnational Meeting

On 11 and 12 April 2005 the second Transnational Meeting took place in Oostende. The meeting was opened by Mr. Paul Gerard, the managing director of the Port of Oostende. Mr. Filip Vercauteren, POWER project coordinator for the Port of Oostende, provided an introduction about the offshore wind farm of C-Power off the Belgian coast.

All partners of the POWER project presented the first results of their project activities. Detailed information can be found in the supplements of this newsletter.

POWER Agreement signed

An important mile-stone during the second Transnational Meeting was the signing of the formal Partner Agreement for the POWER project by the five Regional Partners.



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Pushing Offshore Wind Energy Regions (POWER)



No. 1: News in June 2005

Upcoming public events

The POWER project will be represented at the following offshore wind energy events:

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| 15-17 June 2005: | Interreg North Sea Programme & North Sea Commission Annual Conference and Exhibition (Vlissingen, The Netherlands) |
| 21 June 2005: | Launch of the East of England POWER Supply Chain Study (Ipswich, UK) |
| 23 June 2005: | Third German POWER meeting at the Forschungs- und Technologiezentrum Westküste, in co-operation with the project Coastal Futures (Büsum, Germany) |
| 14 July 2005: | EEEGr Summer Conference (Norwich, UK) |
| 20-24 September 2005: | HUSUM <i>wind</i> Trade Fair (Husum, Germany) |
| 26-28 October 2005: | Copenhagen Offshore Wind 2005 (Copenhagen, Denmark) |

Further information about these events can be found on the POWER website.

Contact

For more information about these events or the POWER project, contact:

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Update on POWER activities

Quick scan of wind energy projects

During the second transnational POWER meeting a Quick Scan was presented - an inventory of planning procedures, stakeholder groups and state of affairs concerning offshore wind energy projects. The study gives a condensed overview of the planning processes in The United Kingdom, The Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark and Germany and highlights as well as compares bottlenecks in the respective countries.

The Quick Scan shows that offshore wind energy is a major issue throughout national and European policies on planning, energy and economy related discussions. Given the common thoughts on current and future use of energy and its environmental impacts, the description of the 5 countries demonstrates various ways of coping with this change. The shared conviction that offshore wind farms can play a valuable part in this has nevertheless resulted in a diverse range of attempts, successes and failures in the development of offshore wind energy.

Given the international scope of policies and directives, it is expected that international comparison and adjustments will prove to be valuable and efficient methods to cope with impediments and problems occurring both at project and national level. The Quick Scan provides an explorative basis for this. Besides the state of affairs, it has implicitly displayed current opportunities and challenges in the POWER project.

Further, particularly projects of the size of an offshore wind farm whose effects are clearly transnational require cross-border communication and interaction on all levels of administration. Thus the Quick Scan is only a first step in a series of further investigations in the POWER project and serves as base line analysis together with a study about best practice projects for the development of a European planning guidance. More information about this topic is published on the POWER website.

Supply Chain Studies to be launched

As part of the POWER project, regions in Germany, Denmark and the UK commissioned supply chain studies for the offshore wind energy industry in their regions. The studies cover the whole supply chain, i.e. development, construction and operation, and use two scenarios - one for the existing supply chain parameters with turbines up to 3.9 MW turbines in shallower waters, the other reflecting future supply chains with larger turbines in deeper waters. Based on these scenarios, the studies analyse current and future crucial gaps and pinch points in the supply chain.

Following their completion a transnational study will be conducted, giving an overview of the international North Sea supply chain.

The regional studies will be published during June/July (see also the events section on the first page) and will be published on the POWER website.

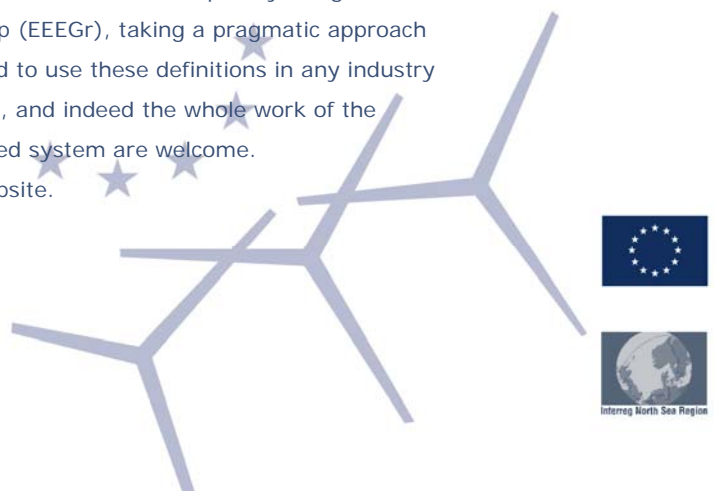
New energy definition and classification system

A new classification and definition system for the energy sector has been developed by Douglas Westwood Ltd. on behalf of the East of England Energy Group (EEEGr), taking a pragmatic approach to categorising the sectors. The POWER partners have agreed to use these definitions in any industry related work in the project, to make the supply chain studies, and indeed the whole work of the POWER project, more comparable. Comments on the proposed system are welcome.

The report and listings can be downloaded at the POWER website.



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Towards education programmes

Education is a crucial part of the Power project in order to embed and to disseminate the true understanding of the new gained knowledge. A qualification requirements study is conducted in order to connect the educational developments to the needs of future participants.

The qualification requirements study for the Offshore Wind Energy is being conducted in Denmark, The Netherlands and The United Kingdom. First results of the study are:

- National standards are not compatible and therefore the professional trainings and certificates are not comparable.
- Additional qualification demands for foreign subcontractors are necessary.
- Traditionally trained engineers (mechanic, electronic and civil engineering) need additional offshore wind specific modules.

The interview process for the study has been led by the Institut Arbeit und Wirtschaft under the responsibility of Dr. Rolf Röhrig. The results of the qualifications requirements study will be presented by the end of June 2005. The first activities of POWER's education work stream linked to the qualifications requirements study will be the development of a database with education programmes for Offshore Wind Energy, a competence matrix and the supply chain description from an education standpoint. After development of basic standards and models, the project will focus on development of new training programs, development of curriculum and execution of Summer School activities.

Extensive exchange at next transnational meeting

The next transnational meeting for all project partners is focussed on the exchange and interaction between the different work streams. This event will use educational approaches as an effective means for knowledge sharing between WP partners. Aims of the Extensive Exchange Program:

- to provide mutual knowledge transfer and build up new knowledge;
- to check the validity of interfaces between the specific work streams;
- to create a shared understanding for OWE processes/supply chain and actors/stakeholders;
- to visualize the process chain.

The didactical approach of this meeting will be assessed by the education work stream for suitability for future summer schools.

A corporate style for the POWER project

During the past months a corporate style for the POWER project has been developed. This is being used not only for the newsletters and website, but also for any other publications and presentations of the POWER project.

The official POWER website has gone live and an update of the results of the POWER project is communicated via newsletters to the stakeholders and the public.

Project Cost Management System

The Project Cost Management System has been fully implemented and is ready for use by all partners.



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