

# Analyzing the Global Offshore Wind Power Industry

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## Abstracts

Historically land-based wind energy has been dominant and is likely to remain dominant in the immediate future also. But of late installations at sea are becoming increasingly important. Compared to onshore wind, offshore wind is more complex and costly to install and maintain but they also come with certain advantages. The winds are much stronger and stable at sea, which automatically results in higher production per unit installed. Wide open spaces and no natural barriers makes them highly effective. On the other side of the coin, there are a number of problems that plague the offshore wind energy market, and a prominent issue is the high investment required and the technology involved. An important way of cutting costs is to invest into R&D of technology and installation. Countries like the UK and Germany (governments and market participants) amongst others are already focusing on programs to reduce costs.

A logical evolution of onshore wind energy that has reached all parts of the world with constant growth rates with double-digit percentages, offshore wind energy is for the time being mostly a European application. Main countries for offshore wind energy are United Kingdom, Ireland, Denmark, Sweden, The Netherlands, Germany and Belgium. Other European countries have prepared their own projects (France, Italy).

As of 2008, Europe leads the world in development of offshore wind power, due to strong wind resources and shallow water in the North Sea and the Baltic Sea, and limitations on suitable locations on land due to dense populations and existing developments. Aiding this growth is the ability of offshore wind to significantly contribute to the renewable energy targets of 2020 in Europe, which is spurring governments to support and encourage the sector. Amongst all European countries, the UK has significant potential for the generation of electricity from offshore renewable sources such as wind power, tidal stream and waves. The green light for the 1GW offshore wind farm in the UK, the world's biggest wind farm project, is the beginning of new and important developments of projects in this market. An analyst from Frost & Sullivan's

believes that “after a string of bad news in the industry, this is a significant change that will provide a stimulus to investors in the UK as well as in the rest of Europe. And this is especially important in consideration of the current economic climate.”

According to latest research from Frost & Sullivan, offshore wind is expected to grow from an insignificant part of the pie to a more substantial contributor of electricity generated from wind by 2020. According to Frost & Sullivan estimates, installed capacity of offshore wind is expected to grow from 1,276 MW in 2008 to 18,769 MW by 2015.

The US is also showing interest in this area and President Barrack Obama has set a goal of doubling renewable energy production in the next three years, this is supposed to give a fillip to offshore wind projects.

Aruvian's R'search's report, *Analyzing the Global Offshore Wind Power Industry*, is a complete analysis of the offshore wind energy industry. The report analyzes the present global and regional market scenario, the prevalent offshore wind resources around the world, governmental policies, future projections, detailed analysis of the leading countries and much more.

The report is a highly comprehensive research compilation of the booming offshore wind power industry around the world, and especially in Europe.

The report, *Analyzing the Global Offshore Wind Power Industry*, explores the importance of offshore wind power in today's world. The report further looks at the basics of the wind energy industry, economics, issues and barriers, and other such factors.

## Contents

Executive Summary

### **A. INTRODUCTION TO WIND POWER**

A.1 A Clean Green Energy – Wind Power

A.1.1 What is Wind Power?

A.1.2 How does it Work?

A.2 Brief History of Wind Power

A.3 Electricity from Wind

A.4 How do Wind Turbines Work?

A.5 Wind Power Technology

A.6 Wind Power Markets

A.7 Accommodating the Variable Nature of Wind Power

A.8 Environmental Impact

### **B. GROWTH DRIVERS FOR WIND ENERGY**

B.1 Supply Security

B.2 Environmental Potential

B.3 Climate Change & Wind Power

B.3.1 Clean Development Mechanism

B.3.2 Wind Energy CDM Projects

B.4 Economic Feasibility

B.5 Employment & Development of Rural Areas

B.6 Renewable Quotas

B.7 Technology

### **C. THE GLOBAL WIND MARKET**

C.1 Present-day Market Scenario

C.2 General Situation

C.3 Leading Wind Markets in 2008

C.4 Increasing Growth Rates

C.5 Looking at Continental Distribution

C.6 World Wind Resources

C.7 Looking at Africa

C.8 Looking at Asia

- C.9 Looking at Australia and Oceania
- C.10 Looking at Europe
- C.11 Looking at Latin America
- C.12 Looking at North America
- C.13 The Future Scenario
  - C.13.1 Rising Importance of Wind Energy
  - C.13.2 Global Outlook Scenarios
  - C.13.3 Costs & Benefits
  - C.13.4 Investment
  - C.13.5 Generation Costs
  - C.13.6 Employment
  - C.13.7 Wind Energy Outlook from Energy Watch Group
  - C.13.8 Global Wind Turbine Market

## **D. LOOKING AT GLOBAL POLICIES**

- D.1 Analysis of the Kyoto Protocol & Post 2012 Reductions Framework
- D.2 Changes in Export Credit Agencies, Multi-Lateral Development Banks & International Finance Institutions

## **E. DEVELOPING WIND ENERGY IN TIMES OF RECESSION**

## **F. GLOBAL WIND INDUSTRY & THE FINANCIAL CRISIS**

- F.1 Fall in Demand
- F.2 High Cost of Capital

## **G. LOOKING AT WIND POWER DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES: 2008 TO 2020**

- G.1 Europe
- G.2 United States of America
- G.3 Asia

## **H. ANALYZING THE BASICS OF OFFSHORE WIND**

- H.1 Offshore Global Scenario
- H.2 Offshore Wind Locations
- H.3 Looking at the Role of Utilities in Offshore Wind
- H.4 Supply Challenges

H.5 Worldwide Offshore Wind Projects

H.6 How Offshore Wind Works

## **J. LOOKING AT THE GLOBAL MARKET OF THE OFFSHORE WIND INDUSTRY**

## **K. GLOBAL OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY MARKETS AND STRATEGIES, 2008-2020**

K.1 Market Environment

K.2 Global Offshore Wind Power Markets, 2007-2020

K.3 Competitive Trends in Offshore Wind Development

K.4 Competitive Trends in Offshore Wind Supply

K.5 Environmental Impact of Offshore Wind

## **L. ECONOMICS OF OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY**

## **M. TECHNOLOGY BEHIND OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY**

M.1 Floating Offshore Wind Turbines Technology

M.1.1 First Movers

M.2 Offshore Wind Technology Development

M.2.1 Charting a Path to Deeper Water

M.2.2 Offshore Substructures

M.2.3 Building Shallow Water Foundations

M.2.4 Transitional Technology

M.2.5 Floating Technology

M.2.6 Technology for the Open Ocean

M.3 Offshore Technology Challenges

M.3.1 Establishing a Design Basis for Offshore Turbines

M.3.2 Developing Accurate Offshore Design Codes and Methods

M.3.3 Minimizing Work at Sea

M.3.4 Low Cost Opportunities in terms of Anchors and Moorings

## **N. OFFSHORE ENERGY PREDICTIONS**

## **O. LOOKING AT THE DOWNVIND PROJECT**

## **P. ANALYZING OFFSHORE WIND POWER DEVELOPMENTS IN EUROPE**

P.1 Introduction

- P.2 Historical Background
  - P.2.1 History of European Offshore Endeavors
- P.3 Resource Potential
- P.4 Offshore Wind Power Benefits to Europe
  - P.4.1 Security of Supply
  - P.4.2 Employment
- P.5 Limitations of Offshore Wind Power
- P.6 Technology
  - P.6.1 Wind Turbines
- P.7 Environmental Issues
  - P.7.1 Emission Savings
  - P.7.2 Visual Impact
  - P.7.3 Birds
  - P.7.4 Marine Life
  - P.7.5 Electro-Magnetic Radiation
- P.8 A Brief Summary of Support Mechanisms for Offshore Wind
  - P.8.1 United Kingdom
  - P.8.2 The Netherlands
  - P.8.3 Denmark
  - P.8.4 Germany
  - P.8.5 Swedish
  - P.8.6 Spain
  - P.8.7 France
  - P.8.8 Italy

## **Q. CONCERTED ACTION FOR THE DEPLOYMENT OF OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY (COD)**

- Q.1 Grid Issues under COD Project
  - Q.1.1 Central and Western Europe
  - Q.1.2 The British Isles
  - Q.1.3 Scandinavia

## **R. OFFSHORE WIND IN MAJOR EUROPEAN COUNTRIES**

- R.1 Offshore Wind in Denmark
  - R.1.1 Latest Developments
- R.2 Offshore Wind in Netherlands
- R.3 Offshore Wind in the UK

- R.3.1 Resource Potential
- R.3.2 London Array Project
- R.3.3 Offshore Developments in Scotland
- R.3.4 Offshore Developments in Wales
- R.3.5 Offshore Developments in Northern Ireland
- R.3.6 Governmental Regulation
- R.3.7 Round 3 of Offshore Wind
- R.3.8 The Birth of Offshore Wind in the UK
- R.3.9 The Crown Estate- First Round
- R.3.10 Environmental Assessment in the UK
- R.4 Offshore Wind in Finland
- R.5 Offshore Wind in Italy
- R.6 Offshore Wind in Ireland
- R.7 Offshore Wind in Germany
- R.8 Offshore Wind in France
- R.9 Offshore Wind in Denmark
  - R.9.1 Danish Government Plans
- R.10 Offshore Wind in Norway
- R.11 Offshore Wind in Poland
- R.12 Offshore Wind in Netherlands
- R.13 Offshore Wind in Spain
- R.14 Offshore Wind in Sweden
- R.15 Offshore Wind in Belgium

## **S. EUROPEAN OFFSHORE WIND MARKET 2007-2020**

- S.1 Future Potential
- S.2 Market Outlook by 2010
- S.3 Market Forecast by 2015
- S.4 Market Scenario by 2020
- S.5 EU Target of Renewable Energy
- S.6 European Strategies
- S.7 EU and Offshore Wind Energy
- S.8 Looking at the SuperGrid
- S.9 Latest Developments of the SuperGrid

## **T. LOOKING AT OFFSHORE WIND POWER IN THE USA & CANADA**

- T.1 Offshore Wind Power in the United States

- T.1.1 Introduction
- T.1.2 Resource Potential
- T.1.3 Offshore Wind Resource Assessment
- T.1.4 Challenges Facing the Industry
- T.1.5 Role of the Government
- T.1.6 Tapping Inland Seas
- T.1.7 Status of US Offshore Wind Development Activity by State
- T.2 Offshore Wind Power in Canada

## **U. OFFSHORE WIND POWER IN OTHER REGIONS**

- U.1 Japan
- U.2 China
- U.3 India
- U.4 Latin America
- U.5 Australia
- U.6 Africa

## **V. MANUFACTURERS FOR OFFSHORE WIND TURBINES**

### **W. MAJOR TURBINE MANUFACTURERS**

- W.1 BARD Engineering GmbH
- W.2 Clipper Windpower
- W.3 Enercon
- W.4 GE Wind
- W.5 Multibrid
- W.6 Nordex
- W.7 REpower Systems
- W.8 Siemens

### **X. LEADING INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTORS**

- X.1 Horizon Wind Energy
- X.2 Cielo Wind Power
- X.3 Shell Renewables
- X.4 FPL Energy
- X.5 Renewable Energy Systems
- X.6 Gamesa Eolica



- X.7 GE Energy
- X.8 PPM Energy
- X.9 Suzlon Energy
- X.10 Vestas Wind Systems A/S

## **Y. ANALYZING THE MAJOR OFFSHORE WIND FARMS**

- Y.1 Lynn and Inner Dowsing Wind Farm
- Y.2 Greater Gabbard
- Y.3 Atlantic Array
- Y.4 London Array
- Y.5 Arklow Bank Wind Park
- Y.6 Barrow Offshore Wind
- Y.7 Burbo Bank Offshore Wind Farm
- Y.8 OWEZ
- Y.9 Horns Rev
- Y.10 Kentish Flats Offshore Wind Farm
- Y.11 Lillgrund Wind Farm
- Y.12 Middelgrunden
- Y.13 North Hoyle
- Y.14 Nysted Wind Farm
- Y.15 Princess Amalia Wind Farm
- Y.16 Scroby Sands Wind Farm
- Y.17 Thorntonbank Wind Farm
- Y.18 Baltic 1 Offshore Wind Farm
- Y.19 BARD Offshore 1
- Y.20 Borkum Riffgat
- Y.21 Rhyl Flats
- Y.22 Robin Rigg Wind Farm
- Y.23 Thanet Offshore Wind Project
- Y.24 Bligh Bank Offshore Wind Farm
- Y.25 Cape Wind
- Y.26 Delaware Offshore Wind Project
- Y.27 Gwynt y Mŷr
- Y.28 Innogy Nordsee 1
- Y.29 Neart Na Gaoithe
- Y.30 Oriel Wind Farm
- Y.31 Shell Flat
- Y.32 Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm

Y.33 Trillium Power Wind 1

**Z. APPENDIX**

**AA. GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

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