



Aberdeen : 15.12.10

**EU GRANT CONFIRMATION WELCOMED
BY EUROPEAN OFFSHORE WIND DEPLOYMENT CENTRE PARTNERS**

Vattenfall, Technip and Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group have welcomed confirmation from the European Union that a grant award of up to 40m Euros within the European Economic Recovery Plan has been made to the proposed European Offshore Wind Deployment Centre (EOWDC). This is seen as a major boost for the development of the centre which is planned to be located offshore in Aberdeen Bay.

With provision for up to eleven (11) offshore wind turbines, EOWDC would enable the accelerated development of offshore wind power by proving the next generation of technology in a real time offshore environment. It is hoped that the facility would create jobs and economic benefit by attracting scientists, researchers, engineers, offshore wind supply chain companies and future investment in a fast growing sector.

The support is from the EU Recovery Plan endorsed by the European Council in December 2008 and part of wider proposals to invest in key energy and internet broadband infrastructure projects. The EU Grant will support both development and capital costs associated with the EOWDC. The establishment of both the joint venture partnership and EU grant application was achieved with invaluable support from the Scottish European Green Energy Centre (SEGEC).

David Hodkinson, Director and Head of Development, of Vattenfall Wind Power in the UK said: "We very much welcome the news from the European Union which confirms the considerable financial support being awarded and underlines the strategic importance of the EOWDC and a move towards a vibrant UK offshore wind industry - which will attract jobs and inward investment".



Ron Cookson, Managing Director of Technip UK, said: “We are extremely pleased to be working with Vattenfall and AREG on the EOWDC. This opportunity is the first offshore wind project for Technip in Aberdeen and reflects our intention to become a major player in this sector.”

Morag McCorkindale, Chief Operating Officer at AREG, said: “This official endorsement is very positive news for Aberdeen City and Shire. Not only will the EOWDC supply renewable energy to our region, it will contribute considerably to the local economy through proving the technology and techniques needed to develop the major offshore wind farms planned to be built in the North Sea later this decade.”

In August of this year The Crown Estate awarded the EOWDC an exclusivity agreement as an offshore wind demonstration site. A series of EOWDC public information exhibitions took place across Aberdeen City and Shire venues from 22-26th November. A full application for planning consent to construct the project will be submitted to Marine Scotland in early 2011.

Ends

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NOTES TO EDITOR

About Vattenfall

- Vattenfall's vision is a leading European energy company. It is currently Europe's fifth largest generator of electricity and the continent's largest producer of heat.
- Celebrating its centenary last year, Vattenfall's ambition is to reduce the emissions of carbon dioxide emissions by 30% by 2020 to 65 million tonnes.
- Wind power is a cornerstone of Vattenfall's action on climate change and the UK is a key market for future growth.
- Vattenfall is playing an important role in UK onshore and offshore wind power projects around the UK including developing the substantial East Anglia Offshore Wind Farm, a joint venture with ScottishPower Renewables. Earlier this year the company completed the construction of Thanet Offshore Wind Farm, the world's largest.
- For more information on Vattenfall please go to : <http://www.vattenfall.com>

About Technip

- Technip UK, part of the global Technip Group, is the leading provider of subsea engineering and construction products and services. With its headquarters in Scotland, Technip UK employs over 800 people in Aberdeen and at its spoolbase in Evanton, Ross-shire.
- Technip UK, a well established company with a strong reputation, provides project management expertise and offers a range of products, services and assets to a diverse client base; ranging from large global oil and gas operators to smaller independents. Furthermore, Technip UK was recently announced as the Technip Group's HQ for renewable energy projects.
- For more information on Technip UK and the global Technip organisation, please go to : www.technip.com



About AREG

- AREG, established in 2001, aims to ensure that Aberdeen City and Shire and its businesses play a major role in the renewable energy revolution through initiating and delivering key renewable projects, working with member companies to identify and promote opportunities.
- Since the beginning of 2010, membership has grown to almost 160 members which include a strong cast of oil and gas majors, technology developers, service, engineering, training, accreditation companies, four local authorities, development agencies and trade associations.
- The membership also spans every sector of renewable energy including professional services, oil and gas as well as wind, marine and hydro, bio, solar, geothermal energy and hydrogen fuel cells.
- For more information on AREG please go to : <http://www.aberdeenrenewables.com>



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