



Department  
of Energy &  
Climate Change

# Offshore Wind Structural Lifecycle Industry Collaboration (SLIC) JIP

**State aid reference no: XXXX/XXXX**

## 1. Member State

United Kingdom

## 2. Region

England

## 3. Title of Aid Scheme

Offshore Wind Structural Lifecycle Industry Collaboration (SLIC) Joint Industry Project

## 4. UK legal basis

Section 5(1) of the Science and Technology Act 1965:  
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1965/4>

## 5. EC legal basis

All aid provided under this Scheme will be within the limits set out in Article 24 (Aid for environmental studies) of Commission Regulation (EC) 800/2008 (General Block Exemption Regulation)<sup>1</sup>

Summary information relating to the Scheme has been registered with the Commission under reference **XXXX/XXXX**

## 6. Definitions

In this Scheme, the following expressions have the meanings assigned below:

“**SME**” means an enterprise that falls within the criteria and parameters of the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises contained in the Commission Recommendation of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (2003/361/EC), which took effect on 1 January 2005<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:214:0003:0047:EN:PDF>

<sup>2</sup> [http://europa.eu/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2003/l\\_124/l\\_12420030520en00360041.pdf](http://europa.eu/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2003/l_124/l_12420030520en00360041.pdf)

See also the New SME Definition User Guide and Model Declaration

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/enterprise\\_policy/sme\\_definition/sme\\_user\\_guide.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/enterprise_policy/sme_definition/sme_user_guide.pdf)

“**Large enterprise**” means any enterprise that is not an SME

“**Eligible costs**” in relation to **Article 24** of the General Block Exemption Regulation shall be the costs of the study.

## **7. Objective of the Scheme**

Offshore Wind Structural Lifecycle Industry Collaboration (SLIC) Joint Industry Project will design and implement a phased testing programme to undertake research into the specific behaviour of wind turbine structures in the offshore environment. This improved knowledge will contribute to a better understanding of the response and life expectancy of these assets, helping to improve future designs and optimise O&M requirements for existing fleet. Ultimately this has the potential to make a significant contribution driving down the levelised cost of energy of Offshore Wind.

## **8. Government body authorised to implement the Scheme**

Department of Energy and Climate Change

## **9. Duration of the Scheme**

The General Block Exemption Regulation funded budget over the period 22/03/2013 to 30/03/2015 is £792,000. This funding is made under Article 24 of the General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER); Aid for studies directly linked to investments for the promotion of energy from renewable energy sources under the conditions set out in Article 23. The aid intensity shall not exceed 50% of the eligible costs. The remaining eligible costs will be met by the joint industry project partners from their own budget and not from any other state sources.

## **10. Form of aid**

All aid awarded under the Scheme will be transparent and in line with criteria set out in Articles 24 of the General Block Exemption Regulation.

## **11. Eligible costs**

Under the award made under Article 24 of the General Block Exemption Regulation, the eligible costs shall be the costs of the study.

## **12. Aid intensities**

The aid intensity of funding awarded under Article 24 shall not exceed 50% of eligible costs.

## **13. Incentive effect**

Aid recipients must demonstrate that the aid is required for projects to proceed. Funding will not be awarded where the activity has already started before an application for support is made.

## **14. Cumulation**

Aid provided under this Scheme will not be cumulated with other forms of aid nor with aid classed as de minimis aid<sup>3</sup> in regard to the same eligible costs if the result would breach the aid intensities set out above.

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<sup>3</sup> Aid fulfilling the conditions laid down in Commission Regulation (EC) No 1998/2006 on the application

## **15. Budget**

The total expenditure on the project will be £792,000 between 22/03/2013 to 31/03/2015. Of this overall sum the Department of Energy and Climate Change will contribute under GBER Articles 24.

## **16. Monitoring and reporting requirements**

All recipients of aid under the Scheme will be informed that aid has been provided under the Scheme, registered under **XXX/XXXX**, pursuant to Articles 24 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 800/2008 (General Block Exemption Regulation).

Records will be kept for 10 years from the date of the last award of aid under the Scheme. Records will be sufficiently detailed to establish that the conditions of the Scheme are met.

Contact information:

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