

Offshore wind – key facts

Capacity and pipeline

- The UK is the world leader in offshore wind with:
 - 3.6 GW capacity installed at the end of 2012, over 3% of UK capacity
 - 1.4 GW capacity under construction
 - 2.5 GW which has gone through planning
 - 11.5 GW in the planning system
 - 23G W in scoping
 - Comparison: next biggest markets are Germany (520 MW of operational capacity) and Denmark (1.2 GW).
- Capacity has increased from 4M W in 2000, and 1.3 GW in 2010, to 3.6 GW now.
- 36% capacity increase in last year (Q£ 2012 Q3 2013)¹.
- 1,075 turbines installed now; could be around 3000 by the end of the decade.
- Over 20 developers in the UK offshore wind market.

Generation

- Offshore wind generation has peaked at over 5% of energy supplied in October 2013 with figures likely to increase.
- Average load factor is 33.1% with a peak in Q4 2011 of almost 50%.
- Supplies enough energy for 2.4 million households now; and potentially
 5.3 7.9 million by 2020.

Industrial opportunity

- Around 6,800² people employed in offshore wind sector.
- As Electricity Market reform provides right incentives for investment, potential to create 35,000² jobs and contribute £7billion to the economy by 2020 – if costs come down and more is deployed.

¹ Source: Energy Trends: December 2013 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/renewables-section-6-energy-trends

² Source: http://www.renewableuk.com/en/publications/index.cfm/working-green-britain
See more at: http://www.renewableuk.com/en/publications/index.cfm/working-green-britain
see more at: http://www.renewableuk.com/en/news/press-releases.cfm/74-increase-in-uk-jobs-in-wind-and-marine-energy#sthash.rKDzOHtX.dpuf

