



WARWICK ENERGY PLAN OFFSHORE WINDFARM NEAR BARROW

Warwick Energy Limited, a British independent energy producer, is planning to develop an offshore windfarm 8 miles to the Southwest of Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria. The company has applied for this site to be allocated to it as part of the current joint initiative from the DTI and The Crown Estate to boost electricity production from renewable energy sources.

The planning for this project is still in its early stages and full consultation with interested parties in the Barrow area will take place when initial engineering studies are completed later this year. The potential site is about 10km from the Isle of Walney, the nearest point of land to the proposed project.

This windfarm is expected to eventually involve up to 30 wind turbines in a 10 square kilometre area and will generate up to 60MW of power. The total cost for the project is anticipated to be around £50m and it is hoped that electricity generation from the site may begin by mid 2004.

It is expected that power generation from offshore windfarms, such as this one at Barrow, will make a significant contribution towards the UK's target of producing 10% of its energy needs from renewable sources by 2010.

Maf Smith, Project Manager of local energy agency Furness Energy Partnership said 'Local development of offshore wind is good news for Furness. It will help us make a contribution to tackling the problems of climate change and bring skilled employment to the area. Offshore wind is a whole new industry and the local economy could benefit substantially from this'.

Another 17 similar schemes are being proposed around the Country by other developers in this first phase of what could turn into a major industry for the UK. These other schemes are also being announced today by the The Crown Estate who own the rights to use of the seabed out to 12 miles from shore.

Warwick Energy, based in Wellesbourne, Warwick, is involved in a number of power generation projects in the UK, mainly in the Midlands, Yorkshire and Lancashire. Warwick Energy will manage this project through its subsidiary Warwick Offshore Wind Limited and hopes to develop further offshore wind schemes in due course.

Contacts: Mark Petterson Director, Warwick Energy 01789 471091

Nick Goodall
Maf Smith

British Wind Energy Assoc 020 7402 7102
Furness Energy Partnership 01229 894959