



TWO NEW OFFSHORE WIND FARM SITES AWARDED

Warwick Energy Limited has been offered two new offshore wind farm projects under the latest initiative to boost the UK's renewable energy industry. The sites have been awarded by the Crown Estate, as part of their continuing joint initiative with the DTI, to help increase electricity production from renewable energy sources towards a target of meeting 15% of the UK's needs by 2015.

The new Warwick sites are in the outer Thames estuary, 10km East of Margate, Kent (the Thanet Project) and in the Southern North Sea, 30 km North of Cromer, Norfolk (the Dudgeon Project).

These awards are part of the second round of competitive site awards, which were initiated in March 2003 and completed this month after detailed scrutiny of developers' plans and abilities.

Warwick successfully developed the 90 MW Barrow Offshore Wind Project from the first such licensing round. This site, awarded in 2001, will be constructed in 2005 following the recently announced deal with a consortium of major energy companies.

Warwick Energy has conducted internal screening studies on each of the new sites. It now intends to carry out detailed studies and surveys on the sites, to confirm whether the schemes are environmentally, technically and commercially viable, before conducting extensive public consultation on the projects.

Each project could produce up to 300 MW from up to 60 turbines. Subject to the necessary approvals, construction work might begin as early as 2007 and each project would be expected to cost around £300m.

Formed in late 2000, Warwick Energy has established itself as a leading developer and operator of energy production projects in the UK. It operates four gas-fired power plants, a gas storage project and has a number of gas production licences, including blocks in the vicinity of the new Dudgeon offshore wind project. The company hopes to capitalise on synergies between these two developments in the Dudgeon area.

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