



## **THANET OFFSHORE WIND FARM**

### **SLP ENERGY CHOSEN AS PREFERRED FOUNDATION SUPPLIER**

Thanet Offshore Wind Limited (TOW), a subsidiary of Warwick Energy Limited, has chosen SLP Energy as the preferred supplier of foundations for the 300MW Thanet project. SLP Energy will supply 100 monopiles and transition pieces to support the Vestas V90 turbines selected for the project.

SLP Energy will commence supplying the foundations in mid 2007 to enable foundation installation to take place during 2007 and early 2008. SLP Energy and TOW will now be working together over the next few months on detailed designs and programme for the project.

The award to SLP Energy is subject to the finalisation and agreement on the detailed terms and conditions. Full contract signature will depend, amongst other things, on receipt of development consents and overall project viability. Applications for consent for the project were submitted in November 2005 and are still under consideration.

Vestas were chosen as the preferred Turbine supplier in July 2006. Tenders for the remaining major contracts, chiefly for the electrical works, are still being considered and further contractor selections are expected in October 2006.

SLP's Chief Executive David Edwards stated:

We are delighted that TOW, a new customer to SLP, have awarded us this contract and wish to thank them for giving us this opportunity to further develop our capability and designs for offshore wind farm contracting

We look forward to creating a successful project together with TOW and the project contractors.

SLP Energy, based in Lowestoft, Suffolk, have a long and successful track record in delivering energy infrastructure in the marine environment and have been involved in the offshore wind industry since 2001.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

**Warwick Energy Limited**

1. In January 2004, Warwick Energy announced plans to develop an offshore wind farm more than 11 km to the North East of the Thanet coast in East Kent. The company received exclusive rights to the site under an agreement with The Crown Estate. The project would include up to 100 wind turbine generators producing on average enough electricity to supply 240,000 homes with green electricity.
2. During 2004 and 2005 TOW conducted a large number of surveys and studies on the site, consistent with the Scoping Report submitted in July 2004. The results of these studies formed the basis for the Environmental Statement (ES) that accompanied the application for consents.
3. The public exhibitions, conducted in June 2005, were attended by 731 people of whom 400 (55%) returned a questionnaire, either at the exhibitions or afterwards by post, which provided feedback to the scheme as shown below. Of the responses received, 43% were strongly supportive of the proposed scheme, 30% supportive, 20% undecided, 2% against and 5% strongly against. Analysis of the reasons given for being against the project reveals that most were based on the potential navigational risks, visual impact of the wind turbines from the shore or the potential impact on the local bird population. The ES demonstrated that any impact in these areas, as a consequence of the development, would be negligible.
4. It is expected that electricity generation from offshore wind farms, such as this one at Thanet, will make a significant contribution towards the UK's target of producing 15% of its energy needs from renewable sources by 2015. The project will avoid CO2 emissions of between 0.6 and 1 million tonnes per year, depending on whether the electricity produced displaces gas or coal fired generation.
5. Warwick Energy's wind farm project at Thanet is one of 15 projects announced by the Crown Estate in January 2004 as a second national Round of offshore wind projects. Other 'Round 2' projects being proposed by other companies in the Thames area are those called London Array and Greater Gabbard. The Kentish Flats wind farm off Whitstable, commissioned in 2005, was part of the first Round of demonstrator wind farm projects launched by the Crown Estate in early 2001.

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## **SLP Energy**

SLP Energy is the trading name for Sea & Land Power and Energy Limited.

SLP Energy based in Lowestoft, Suffolk was specifically established to provide dedicated services for the renewable energy industry. As a wholly owned subsidiary of SLP Engineering Limited, SLP Energy can draw upon nearly 40 years experience in design, engineering, fabrication, construction and installation to provide optimised solutions for renewable energy developments.

SLP Engineering Ltd. based in Lowestoft, Suffolk are one of the leading main contractors to the offshore energy industry. The company has undertaken many major projects incorporating a wide variety of innovative engineering solutions internationally.

The company considers itself one of the “elite” as its management systems are certified to the highest industry standards including ISO 9001 (quality), ISO 14001 (environmental) and OHSAS 18001 (occupational health and safety)

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