STRICT EMBARGO: 9.00 A.M. 5 APRIL 2001

DATE: 5 April 2001

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POTENTIAL OFFSHORE WIND FARM SITES ANNOUNCED BY THE CROWN ESTATE

The Crown Estate has announced today, Thursday 5 April, the names of the **eighteen wind** farm developers who have successfully pre-qualified to obtain a lease of seabed for development of offshore windfarms, together with details of their chosen sites (see table on page 2 for details).

The Crown Estate, in its role of landowner of the UK Territorial Seabed, has completed the processing of lease applications for sites a month ahead of schedule. Developers can now begin their preparations for seeking the statutory consents required for offshore wind farm developments and in particular, begin their public consultations.

Frank Parrish, Crown Estate Head of Marine Estates said: "Our role at the Crown Estate has been a small but significant part of getting this important new industry on its feet. We have worked closely with DTI and the members of the British Wind Energy Association to get to this stage. The successful applicants can now begin wide consultation on their proposals and undertake the necessary technical and environmental studies.

"This is a terrific start. If all of these sites were to go ahead, the power generated would be between 1000 and 1500 MW, enough to power over one million households."

Developers were invited to apply to the Crown Estate to pre-qualify for an option on 10 km² of seabed, to accommodate a maximum of thirty turbines, by 9 February this year. The round was structured to establish the financial and technical credentials of the applicant companies and to ensure that their proposed sites, as far as possible, do not conflict with other uses.

Under the terms of an agreement for lease, successful companies must gain all necessary statutory consents within three years. The Crown Estate has no regulatory responsibility and developers will be applying through DTI, DETR and MAFF, as appropriate, to gain the consents necessary before work on the new sites begins. .../more

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Successful developers and locations of the sites are as follows:

Map ref.	Company	Contact name and phone number	Site Name	Location	Likely nearest turbine to shore
1	Solway Offshore Ltd and Offshore Energy Resources Ltd (OERL)	Christian Judge - 01473 553403	Solway Firth	Off Maryport and off Rock Cliffe	9.5 km (Eng); 8.5 km (Scot)
2	Warwick Energy Ltd	Mark Petterson - 07710 471138	Barrow	Off Walney Island	10 km
3	Shell WindEnergy Aegir Ltd Elsam A/S CeltPower Ltd	Cerris Tavinor - 020 7934 3045 Hans Buus - +45 76 22 24 10 Gordon Laidlaw - 0141 248 8200	Shell Flat Shell Flat Shell Flat	Off Cleveleys Off Cleveleys Off Cleveleys	7 km 7 km 7 km
4	EnergieKontor UK Offshore Ltd	Mike Tough - 01423 799040	Southport	Off Birkdale	10 km
5	SeaScape Energy Ltd	Colin Palmer - 0117 925 7798	Burbo	Off Crosby	5.2 km
6	NWP Offshore Ltd Celtic Offshore Wind Ltd (COWL)	David Bean - 01628 532300 Geraint Jewson - 01352 757604	North Hoyle Rhyl Flats	Off Prestatyn Off Abergele, North Wales	6 km 8 km
7	Hyder Industrial Ltd	Sue Wright - 01925 233135	Scarweather Sands	Off Porthcawl	9.5 km
8	NEG Micon	Peter C Hunter - 01983 824690	Kentish Flats	Off Whitstable / Herne Bay	8 km
9	Enron Wind Gunfleet Ltd	Andrew Morrison - 020 7783 4817	Gunfleet Sands	SE off Clacton-on-Sea	7 km
10	Powergen Renewables Offshore Wind Ltd	Anne-Marie Coyle - 024 7642 4937	Scroby Sands	Off Caister	2.3 km
11	Beaufort Consortium, led by London Electricity and Enertrag	Derek Salter - 020 7331 3844	Cromer	Off Mundesley (Foulness)	6.5 km
12	AMEC Offshore Wind Power Ltd Offshore Wind Power (Site No.1) Ltd	Sandra Painter - 01434 611300 Anna Stanford - 01795 536667	Lynn Inner Dowsing	Off Skegness Off Ingoldmells	5.2 km 5.2 km
13	Northern Offshore Wind Ltd	Tony Scorer - 0191 210 2827	Teesside	Off NE Teesmouth and Redcar	1.5 km
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Notes to editors

- 1. An indicative map showing the approximate locations of sites is attached.
- 2. To discuss the details of any specific site, please contact the developers direct see table on page 2 for named contacts and telephone numbers.
- 3. Industry comment can be obtained from the British Wind Energy Association. Please contact Alison Hill on Tel: 020 7402 7122.
- 4. The Crown Estate's marine holdings include of 2,735 kilometres (1,700 miles) of foreshore, 55 per cent of the beds of tidal rivers and estuaries and almost all of the seabed out to the 12 nautical mile territorial limit around the United Kingdom. They also include the rights to explore and exploit the natural resource of the UK Continental Shelf, with the exception of oil, coal and gas. In addition, the Crown Estate owns substantial blocks of urban property, primarily in London, and over 120,000 hectares (300,000 acres) of agricultural land in England, Scotland and Wales.

The Crown Estate is part of the hereditary possessions of the Sovereign "in the right of the Crown", managed under the provisions of the Crown Estate Act 1961 by the Crown Estate Commissioners who have a duty to maintain and enhance the capital value of the Crown Estate and the income obtained from it. The net surplus is paid to the Exchequer and amounted to £132.9 million for the year ending 31 March 2000.

More information on offshore wind farms is available at: www.crownestate.co.uk/marine or www.offshorewindfarms.co.uk

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