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Brussels in brief

European offshore wind power market grew 54% in 2009

EWEA has released its latest statistics for offshore wind energy in 2009, which show that 577 MW of new capacity was added and connected to the grid in Europe last year. This is a 54% increase on the 373 MW added in 2008 and takes the total to 2,056 MW.

2009's 577 MW were installed in eight new offshore wind farms made up of 199 wind turbines.

"This is an incredibly good result considering the continued difficulties of obtaining project finance for large projects", said Christian Kjaer, EWEA Chief Executive.

"Independent project developers, in particular, are still struggling. For the offshore wind power industry to continue its development, it is vital that governments and the European Commission provide policy frameworks that stimulate investor interest and allow project developers to move their plans forward."

The future looks bright

For 2010, the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) expects the completion of 10 additional European offshore wind farms, adding 1,000 MW and equivalent to market growth of 75% compared to 2009.

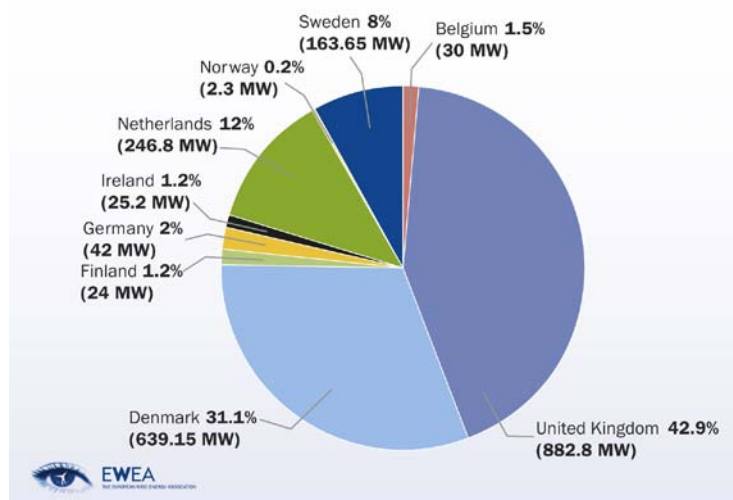
Currently, 17 offshore wind farms are under construction in Europe, totaling more than 3,500 MW, with just under half being constructed in UK waters. In addition, a further 52 offshore wind farms have won full consent in European waters, totaling more than 16,000 MW, with just over half of this capacity planned in Germany.

In fact; more than 100 GW of projects are at currently at various stages of planning and could provide enough power to meet 10% of European electricity demand.

INSTALLED CAPACITY: CUMULATIVE SHARE BY COUNTRY END

2009 IN MW

FIGURE 3.2



Getting the economy back on its feet

In 2009, the turnover of the offshore wind industry was approximately €1.5 billion, and EWEA expects this to double in 2010 to approximately €3 billion.

“The push given by the decision to inject €255 million under the European Union’s European Economic Recovery Plan into the offshore wind sector showed that decision makers understand that offshore wind is key to Europe’s future energy supplies. The European Investment Bank’s (EIB) increased involvement will also be instrumental for the future success of offshore wind’s contribution to European recovery, job creation and technology leadership,” concluded EWEA’s CEO.

World view

Europe is the world leader in offshore wind with 828 wind turbines and a cumulative capacity of 2,056 MW spread across 38 offshore wind farms in nine European countries. The UK and Denmark are the current leaders, with a 44% and 30% share respectively. In 2009, five countries built new offshore wind farms: UK (284 MW), Denmark (230 MW), Sweden (30 MW), Germany (30 MW), Norway (2.3 MW).

In early January, another big step forward was taken in the UK, when the government gave its green light for offshore wind farm development areas with a capacity of 32 GW, fifteen times greater than Europe’s existing European offshore wind energy capacity.

[See all the offshore statistics](#)

New energy and climate action Commissioners face hearings

Günther Oettinger from Germany is likely to be confirmed as the EU’s new Energy Commissioner, and Dane Connie Hedegaard as the Climate Action Commissioner, following their European Parliament hearings in mid-January. Their roles will be confirmed by a European Parliament vote scheduled for 9 February.

Responding to the Parliament’s questions, Oettinger, former head of the regional government of Baden-Württemberg, gave his five work priorities, several of which centred around sustainability and zero-carbon energy development.

These priorities were: using energy to build a low-carbon economy, engaging in a “massive expansion of renewable energy”, ensuring that zero-carbon technologies such as renewables are “at the top of the decarbonisation agenda”, improving energy infrastructure, expanding the internal power market and securing external energy supply.

“The new Energy Commissioner has rightly chosen to focus part of his priorities on renewables”, said Justin Wilkes, EWEA Policy Director. “The importance renewable energy has – and will have over the next few years –for combating climate change, securing Europe’s economic recovery and ensuring a steady power supply cannot be over-estimated. It is essential that renewables are at the heart of European energy policy.”

Oettinger also stressed that the projects he would pursue immediately on taking office include a low-carbon energy system roadmap for 2050, an action plan for energy efficiency, an energy infrastructure package and reporting on the internal market and EU Recovery Plan.

In Hedegaard’s hearing, the former Danish Climate and Energy Minister gave her three main priorities as implementing the COP15 agreement, implementing the “climate-specific instruments” of the climate and energy package, and strengthening competitiveness and creating jobs through low-carbon innovation and technologies. She spoke of the way climate policy can help create new jobs, reduce Europe’s dependency on foreign oil and gas, with their changeable prices, and mentioned the importance of the Emissions Trading System in lowering EU emissions and in showing non-European countries the EU’s commitment to tackling climate change.

Once voted in, the new Commission will be in place until 2014.

Post COP15, the world needs the EU to maintain its global climate leadership

The wind industry greeted the largely disappointing outcome of the Copenhagen climate talks with an encouragement to the EU to keep on leading by example. “The world needs global climate leadership from the EU in 2010 more than ever, now that the other super-powers have shown their lack of ambition”, said Christian Kjaer, EWEA Chief Executive.

The outcome of the talks held in December was an unambitious, non-binding political letter of intent brokered between the world’s two largest emitters of greenhouse gases, the US and China. The agreement was reached after a dramatic negotiation marathon through the final night and well into the Saturday afternoon. It is now left to individual countries to sign up to the accord by the end of January.



“it seems that what appears in the document is the lowest common denominator of the elements to which the new ‘big five powers’ (China, India, US, Brazil and South Africa) could come to agreement on, and the rest of the world (including the EU) was told to ‘take it or leave it,’” commented Steve Sawyer, Secretary General of the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC). “This is a weak agreement, which missed a unique opportunity to make genuine progress towards saving the climate and spurring investment in renewable energy technologies.”

The G2 managed to get India, Brazil and South Africa on board before hastening out of Denmark on the night of Friday 18 December. They left the remaining countries working through to Saturday morning on accepting or rejecting the empty Accord without changes.

The wind industry, represented in Copenhagen by EWEA, GWEC and the Danish Wind Industry Association and many of their corporate member companies, had been calling for stringent legally binding emissions targets to spur continued investment in renewable energy and to establish a solid basis for carbon markets. The voluntary approach taken in this declaration fails to send clear confidence building signals to the market and to investors in clean energy technologies.

While the Summit did nothing to fight global warming, it did establish a new world order. The unilateral approach to climate change of the United States has been replaced by a situation in which China and the United States make bilateral decisions on issues of global interest. And the world's two biggest polluters decided that it is not in their interest to agree internationally on greenhouse gas reductions. The rest of the world, including the EU which had offered to cut carbon by 30% compared to 1990 levels if there was strong global deal, could only take it or leave it.

The wind energy industry stands ready to deliver on its promise to save 10 billion tons of CO2 worldwide by 2020. The boom of wind energy and other renewable energy technologies will continue, driven by national concerns over climate change, and economic and security considerations. However, a clear signal of long-term political commitment into decarbonising our energy system was needed to drive even more private investment to clean technologies.

"The European Wind Energy Association urges world leaders to work tirelessly on reaching a legally binding international treaty as soon as possible next year, to cut greenhouse gas emissions by a minimum of 30% by 2020. The clock is ticking, immediate action is required, and we are running out of time," concluded Kjaer.

In conclusion, the international climate regime survives in some form, weakened and wounded, but some hope remains for a comprehensive agreement and a global price on carbon. As one senior EU negotiator said, "We swallowed a lot of water, but we didn't drown". The international community indeed has a lot of work to do on the road to Mexico.

For more information: www.unfccc.int.

Wind power the most visible solution at COP15

The climate summit in Copenhagen saw the culmination of the global wind industry's Wind Power Works campaign, which aimed at making wind power highly visible to negotiators and media during the 2009 climate year. And despite the overall disappointing result of COP15, the wind industry's efforts have paid off.

More than 350 wind industry participants participated in the COP15 activities, including the CEOs of some of the world's leading wind turbine manufacturers, wind farm operators and developers. "The wind industry has never had the same visibility at international climate negotiations before, and I think it has really had an impact. As a sector, we are finally being heard and getting our message across that wind power can contribute substantial cuts in CO₂ emissions. People hadn't really made that connection between climate and wind before, but now, they are starting to get it. Wind turbines have now become THE symbol for the fight against climate change, and I think that is a huge success," said Steve Sawyer, GWEC's Secretary General.

This was also true for COP15, and delegates were greeted by wind turbine images, models, as well as real machines before they even got close to the conference venue.

This included an operating 850 kW Vestas turbine at the VIP entrance, as well as a 61.5 metre LM Glasfiber blade. Mini turbine models were proving very popular, and thousands of people queuing for many hours in the freezing cold to get into the venue were appreciating a free 'COP of coffee' courtesy of the wind industry every morning.

See here for a [video on 'Wind at COP15'](#).

In the framework of the campaign, GWEC also organised a number of lobbying and media events, including a high-level dinner for wind experts and negotiators. Special guest at this dinner was the new Danish climate minister Lykke Friis, and she was joined by US Under Secretary for Energy, Dr Kristina Johnson, as well as negotiators of key countries and CEOs of the leading international companies.

Other side events, panel discussions and a joint press conference with UNEP also provided good opportunities for getting the wind industry's message across. For the press conference, which was attended by the CEOs of Suzlon (Tulsi Tanti) and Sinovel (Han Junliang), GWEC presented new data on just how much wind energy can contribute to reaching the currently tabled climate pledges – 65% of the current rich country pledges for 2020 can be met by wind alone!

But sometimes, seeing is believing, and what better place is there to show wind power in action than Denmark? Numerous boat trips to the Middelgrunden wind farm just outside Copenhagen were a great vehicle for proving that already today, wind is doing a powerful job.



Special guests at these boat trips included a number of US dignitaries, such as Secretary of the Interior, Ken Salazar, who is currently fighting hard to get the Cape Cod wind farm started, and Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack.

On the Sunday between negotiation weeks, on a crisp sunny day, GWEC took around 50 journalists to see the wind farm and experience wind power in action first hand and interview senior industry experts. You can find a [video of the boat trip here](#).

EU energy policy to focus on environment and economy

Competitiveness, sustainability and security of supply will be key areas of energy policy over the next four years, the Spanish EU Presidency has stressed. A crucial additional area to consider is the economic crisis and the effect it could have on investments.

The Spanish government, which holds the EU Presidency from January to July this year, spelt out the "main topics" for the EU's Energy Action Plan 2010-2014 in a document published for the Informal Energy Council of 15 January.

The document discusses the importance of a well-connected power grid: "Interconnections are critical if the single energy market is to exist in practice and to function properly." Bottlenecks and missing links should be given priority attention, it says.

"The Spanish are right to make the grid a priority", said Justin Wilkes, EWEA Policy Director. "It is crucial that Europe has a power network that links up every part of the continent, including offshore wind farms, to smooth the variability of their output and improve the ability to trade electricity within Europe. This would contribute dramatically to Europe's energy security."

Furthermore, the internal trans-European energy network (TEN-E) needs to be updated and supported at EU level, says the Spanish Presidency, and smart grids should "be established as the infrastructure of the future, contributing as they will to energy efficiency and savings, as well as to the successful incorporation of intermittent sources of electricity such as wind."

The four-year document also stresses the need to maintain EU leadership in the fight against climate change, and to put it in the context of a vision for 2030 and 2050, with the aim of carbon-free electricity by 2050.

Read [the draft 18 month programme](#) of the Council (the future Spanish, Belgian and Hungarian Presidencies)

WTO discusses abolishing trade tariffs on wind turbines

UK Trade and Development Minister Gareth Thomas was the latest to call for tariffs for 'green goods' such as wind turbine components to be scrapped last month. Speaking to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in Geneva, he stressed that removing such tariffs would help promote zero-carbon technologies.

His comment follows a series of propositions the EU and US have made on eliminating barriers to items such as wind turbines and "smart meters" for more efficient electricity grids in recent years.

Negotiations continue as part of the WTO's Doha Round of negotiations on removing tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade in environmental goods and services. Following the Work Programme set out in July 2008, WTO member countries are currently identifying environmental goods of interest to them, that could therefore be subject to liberalisation.

EWEA is liaising with the European Commission's trade policy officials on identifying and quantifying both tariff and non-tariff barriers impacting on European companies. For further information

please contact EWEA's Policy Director, Justin Wilkes on jw@eweaa.org.

See the [WTO website](#)

Commission on right lines for NER300, says renewables industry

The European Commission's draft decision on the 300 million free Emissions Trading System allowances is on the right track, but some modifications are advisable to optimise project funding, said the European Renewable Energy Council (EREC) in a position paper published in December 2009.

The NER300 is a system of 300 million free Emissions Trading System (ETS) allowances, known as a 'New Entrants' Reserve' (NER) that will help finance demonstration projects of innovative renewable energy technology and carbon capture and storage (CCS).

While the Commission proposes limiting the number of projects eligible for funding to two per Member State, EREC stresses that this would create extra work for developers trying to find a project likely to be selected in a particular country, as well as limiting the diversity of the technologies involved. There should be no limits on numbers of projects per country.

Additionally, Member States should not have to co-finance the projects by matching NER300 allowances euro for euro as per the Commission's suggestion. EREC believes this would constrain NER's ability to finance projects.

EREC does however welcome the suggestion that NER300 funds are spent up-front, with the guarantee that the EIB – which provides the NER money - will be refunded via a Risk-Sharing Finance Facility (RSFF) financed by the Commission if a project fails to deliver. NER financing and RSFF support should be offered to developers as a package.

Finally, EREC stresses that the renewable industry will have high-quality, projects ready to submit by the end of 2011 as part of the first call for proposals, and emphasises the need for additional information on CO2 storage for CCS projects.

Read [EREC's position paper](#)

EWEA publishes proposal for harmonisation of grid connection rules for wind power

The EWEA Grid Code working group has finalised the first ever grid code format for wind farms and launched it [here](#).

The format is significant because it will help harmonise grid codes for wind farms, and harmonised codes will lower wind energy production costs, contribute to an efficient management of the system, and lower the cost of the electricity for consumers.

"Wind power currently provides over 4% of the EU's electricity. We expect wind power's share of electricity demand to increase from 4% in 2008 to 16% in 2020. In order to ensure that such future penetration levels are manageable from a technical perspective it is important to develop clear rules across Europe" said Paul Wilczek, EWEA Regulatory Affairs Adviser.

EWEA proposes two different steps for wind grid code harmonisation. Firstly, to establish a template for the code, and once that is done, adapting the existing parameters to the new template.

“In the long term, we would like to see all grid codes for wind farms in Europe following the same template”, explains Wilczek. “EWEA’s generic grid code format is a first, important step”.

EWEA believes that the main challenge is not necessarily to fulfill certain technical requirements at the present moment in time – but to ensure all stakeholders share the same understanding of the requirements.

European grid operators (TSOs), organised now as ENTSO-E, have also identified grid code harmonisation for wind as urgent, and they are currently developing a "Pilot Code" for wind generation connection conditions.

EWEA’s grids conference will be held in November this year in Berlin: www.ewea.org/grids2010.



Blown right off course? CDM Executive Board turns against renewable energy development

In a decision unsupported by evidence and taken behind closed doors, the CDM Executive Board on 4 December rejected 10 proposed Chinese wind energy projects on the grounds of lack of consistency with the CDM additionality criterion.

This decision causes very serious problems for the CDM, for wind, and other renewable energy projects in developing countries. The Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) and the International Emissions Trading Association (IETA) heavily criticised the Board for failing to substantiate the concerns upon which the projects were questioned, ignoring evidence provided by stakeholders, and apparently contradicting its own long-established guidance against the provision of perverse incentives for national low-carbon policies.

The EB’s decision comes after months of debate in closed meetings during which the Chinese government was accused of lowering the subsidised tariff for wind power in order to attract CDM investment. The CDM Executive Board has not publicly provided any information or analysis regarding this claim, nor have GWEC or IETA received a reaction to their submissions attempting to address the questions raised over the past several months.

Steve Sawyer, GWEC’s Secretary General, explained: “This claim has never been substantiated. Since 2006, which marked the beginning of the wind power boom in China, tariffs for wind power have either remained stable or have in fact risen, as has been well documented in studies from GWEC and others submitted to the UNFCCC.”

Despite the fact that wind is heavily subsidised in China, coal plants continue to be developed at an astonishing rate, clearly indicating the need to encourage exactly this type of clean technology. With this decision, the Board sends a negative signal to renewable energy investments in any country that has decided to be forward thinking and pave a clean development pathway for energy growth.

Steve Sawyer added: “Carbon market support of wind power in China, India and a number of other countries has been one of the clear early successes of the CDM. While there are many criticisms to be made of Chinese policy, surely the fact that they are actively making use of the only means open to them to participate in the international climate regime is not one of them?”

Henry Derwent, President and CEO of IETA added, “The CDM has been doing exactly what it was supposed to do: providing an extra push for the deployment of cleaner energy in developing countries and helping to kick start the transformation to a low carbon economy. The project participants did their best to answer the questions asked of them- but how can one answer a concern that is not clearly formulated and based on a rule that does not exist? Project developers could not have possibly foreseen this issue whilst developing these projects.”

Member States forecast their renewable energy growth

As part of their Renewable Energy Directive requirements, Member States are letting the European Commission know whether they are likely to meet, fall short of or exceed their targets up to and including 2020.

The so-called ‘forecast documents’ will show which EU countries are likely to exceed the interim renewable targets. This would enable those countries falling short to improve their performance via the so-called “flexibility mechanisms” (sharing renewable energy projects between different Member States, for example, or statistically transferring excess production in one Member State to another)).

Once received and translated (where necessary) into English, the Commission will publish every document on its transparency platform. To date, a majority of Member States have complied with the requirement.

Maintaining Europe’s wind energy leadership crucial over next decade

Over the next ten years, the European Commission must maintain Europe’s leadership in wind power and other renewable technologies, with the aim of making Europe the leading competitive green economy, said EWEA in its response to the Commission’s consultation on its strategy for a smarter, greener EU in 2020.

“We welcome the European Commission’s commitment to present a proposal for the future EU 2020 Strategy in the beginning of 2010”, said Justin Wilkes, EWEA Policy Director. “The strategy should be seen as key to moving beyond the current economic crisis and developing a renewable energy economy as a key source of sustainable long-term growth, whilst successfully making the EU the most competitive economy, stimulating innovation and technology exports, achieving energy independence and fighting climate change.

According to EWEA, the Commission proposal must outline a strategy for the next ten years on how to maintain and enhance the EU’s first-mover advantage in renewable energy technologies, particularly wind power, with the aim of:

- improving EU competitiveness by developing and deploying wind power to lower electricity prices and reduce exposure to volatile and high fuel and carbon costs;
- creating more and better jobs by fostering industrial development in the wind power sector, to ensure the sector employs 450,000 people in Europe within the next ten years, up from 180,000 today;
- maximising export opportunities of wind power technology and manufacturing output, and ensuring Europe maintains its current market share of 60% of the €35 billion global market for wind turbines;
- developing and deploying wind power as a key solution to climate change, with wind power expected to meet 29% of the EU’s 20% GHG reduction target for 2020; and
- developing and deploying wind power to help achieve energy independence.

A ten year vision-based strategy with the objective of turning the risks of climate change, energy security and international competitiveness into opportunities is imperative. The future EU 2020 Strategy should be designed to fully exploit these opportunities, create a competitive and green economy and boosting new sources of sustainable growth, such as renewable energy technologies, particularly wind power.

Through this contribution, EWEA intends to express its view on the future EU 2020 Strategy and to stress the role of renewable energies, and wind energy in particular, in contributing to European competitiveness, stimulation of technological innovation, export potential and job creation.

In EWEA’s view, four major principles should underpin the future EU 2020 Strategy:

1. A ten year vision-based strategy to make Europe the leading competitive green economy;
2. An ambitious industrial policy harnessing the European research, innovation and export potentials;
3. Up-skilling the European workforce; and
4. Policy coherence and international cooperation.

It is crucial that the 2020 Strategy does not repeat the same mistakes as both the Lisbon Strategy and the recent European Member State stimulus plans which focused on yesterday’s technologies and sectors with limited future global potential. Instead, the 2020 Strategy should focus on today’s and tomorrow’s technologies - notably renewable energies, and in particular wind power, including creating the conditions for their full development and deployment.

The European Commission launched its public consultation on the so-called ‘2020 strategy’ in December. It is to replace the Lisbon Strategy, which ends in 2010, with one that focuses on environmentally conscious and socially inclusive growth to help to

consolidate the EU’s recovery from the financial crisis and avoid a similar situation in future.

Read [the EU2020 consultation](#).

EWEA and events

Wind industry conference devoted to grids - dates confirmed

EWEA’s 2010 conference focusing entirely on grid-related issues will be held this year from 23 to 24 November in Berlin. ‘Grids 2010’ will explore the financial, technical, policy and regulatory issues that will shape the development of a grid that meets Europe’s energy, consumer and climate needs.

The conference is supported by the German Wind Energy Association (BWE), VDMA Power Systems - the German Wind Turbine Manufacturers’ Association, and the European body of transmission system operators (ENTSO-E).

Many different exhibition and sponsorship opportunities are available for Grids 2010 – for more information contact Christi Newman on cn@ewea.org or tel. + 32 2 400 1056.

For more information on the event: www.ewea.org/grids2010.

EWEC 2010 programme is now online

Covering issues from policy and markets to finance and economics, from resource and aerodynamics to grids, the European Wind Energy Conference (EWEC) 2010 programme is now online at www.ewec2010.info.



EWEC will run from 20 to 23 April in Warsaw. In addition to the sessions, it will also include a wind energy finance forum where the latest financing issues will be discussed, and there will be numerous other side events going on non-stop.

On 19 April, the day before the conference begins, a Polish Day will be held in Warsaw’s Hilton Hotel, giving attendees the opportunity to participate in a number of sessions dedicated to the Polish wind energy market.

[Register now](#) for EWEC 2010.

For more on the event: www.ewec2010.info

Majority of 2011 exhibitions sold out

60% of both the EWEC 2011 and Offshore Conference 2011 exhibitions are now sold out. Extra space will soon be added to cater for the high demand for a spot on the exhibition floor next year.

For more information on EWEC2011: www.ewec2011.info.

For more information on Offshore 2011:

www.offshorewind2011.info.

Policy workshop: Integrating wind power in Turkey

EWEA's next policy workshop will take place on Tuesday, 9 February 2010 in Ankara, Turkey.

Panelists representing the Turkish government and energy administration, European and Turkish wind energy authorities, developers and manufacturers will discuss issues such as wind development, Turkey's wind energy development plans, encouraging wind energy development in Turkey, integrating wind energy into the grid, and the latest progress on wind power projects.

The workshop, which is being organised by EWEA in association with the Turkish Wind Energy Association (TWEA/TÜREB), will run from 10:00 to 15:35, and will be followed by a reception.

Venue:
Bilkent Hotel and Conference Centre. Üniversiteler Mah. 1599.Cad.
No: 6, Ankara 06800, Turkey
English/Turkish interpretation will be provided.
Pre-registration required. Attendance free of charge.
To register contact: John McSweeney, Tel: +32 2 400 10 38 or jms@ewea.org.

For more information, [click here](#).

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EWEA's [Facebook page](#) includes opinion, news, photos, videos and events: [become a fan](#).

Join [EWEA's LinkedIn group](#) to network with other group members, take part in discussions and follow our events

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Market and industry updates

China

New HVDC system launched by Siemens and CSPG

Siemens and Chinese utility China Southern Power Grid (CSPG) have got together to bring the first stage of a high-voltage direct current system (HVDC) online. The system will bring power to industrial cities in China's Guangdong province.

The key advantage of HVDC cables is that they avoid too much energy loss during transmission. The Siemens/CSPG system will be able to transport 5 GW of power over more than 1,400 km, at a voltage of 800 kV.

[Read more](#)

Finland

Finnish government in drive to boost local wind power

Finland's coalition government is planning to hold discussions with the country's 348 municipalities to identify which local councils are financially and geographically best equipped to invest in wind power generation.

The government wants councils to support its plans to achieve 2,000 MW of generation from wind power by 2020, up from just 143 MW at the end of 2008. It will focus on Finland's major cities, including Helsinki and Turku.

[Read more](#)

Germany

DONG Energy acquires Borkum Riffgrund 1 & 2 offshore wind turbine projects

DONG Energy is acquiring PNE Wind AG's 50% ownership interest in each of the two German offshore wind turbine projects Borkum Riffgrund 1 & 2. It had already bought Vattenfall's 49% ownership interest in Borkum Riffgrund 1 Holding, which owns 50% of Borkum Riffgrund 1.

The acquisitions will make DONG Energy the sole owner of Borkum Riffgrund 1 & 2 offshore wind parks, which are situated in the German part of the North Sea.

Meanwhile, DONG Energy has sold a 25.1% stake in the 367 MW Walney offshore wind project, situated in the Irish Sea, to Scottish and Southern Energy.

[Read more](#)

Poland

Vestas to deliver turbines to Poland, Bulgaria and Romania this year

Between 2010 and 2012, Vestas will deliver 48 of its V90 2.0 MW wind turbines to German developers Prokon, for different locations in Poland. Vestas will also deliver 75 turbines to Bulgaria and Romania in 2010 alone.

The wind turbine order was placed by Global Wind Power, which has so far implemented four wind power projects in Bulgaria using Vestas machines, making a total capacity of 52 MW in 2008 and 2009.

[Read more](#)

UK

Siemens and Mainstream Renewable Power win UK contract for 4 GW of offshore wind

The SMART Wind consortium, led by Mainstream Renewable Power and Siemens Project Ventures (SPV), has been awarded a contract to develop 4GW of wind farms by 2020 as part of The Crown Estate's Round 3 offshore wind farm programme.

The projects will be situated in the "Hornsea" zone, which is 4,735 km² off the UK's Yorkshire (north-east) coast. Once complete, the zone will provide enough electricity to meet 4% of all electricity demand in the UK and power approximately 3 million homes.

[Read more](#)

Major German steel pipe manufacturer to establish facility in UK

German steel pipe manufacturer EEW Group today will establish a facility in Scotland to meet the demands of the UK's offshore renewables industry. The development will represent an investment worth €20 – 30 million investment for the group and provide 150 new jobs.

The new UK factory will make the steel tubes used in monopile and jacket foundations for offshore turbines. EEW Group already has a dedicated monopile production facility at Rostock on the Baltic Sea with other production facilities in Erndtebruck, Malaysia, Korea and Brazil.

[Read more](#)

Britain generates 39% more electricity from wind turbines

Output from wind turbines increased 38.9% in the third quarter (Q3) of 2009, notes a new report from the British Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC). Overall, the UK generated 5.5 TWh of electricity from renewable energy over the time period - an increase of 25% compared with Q3 2008. In Q3, the total inland consumption of all energy dropped 6.3% from Q3 2008, to 208 million tonnes of oil equivalent.

Consumption of coal dropped 20%, oil fell 6% and gas consumption fell by 6.2%, but the share of renewable energy in total UK energy supply rose 2 percentage points, to account for 7% in Q3 2009, the report notes.

[Read more](#)

Siemens to supply further offshore wind turbines to DONG Energy

Siemens and DONG Energy have expanded their offshore wind turbine supply agreement from March. Siemens will provide 75 of its 3.6 MW offshore wind turbine for DONG Energy's 270 MW Lincs offshore wind farm in the North Sea.

Siemens will also be the contractor for the grid connection including offshore and onshore substations and onshore cabling for the farm.

[Read more](#)



Photos: p.1 – EWEA; p.2 – Reporters; p.3 – DWIA and GWEC; p.5 – Solano; p.6 – EWEA