



Monthly TPWind Newsletter – May 2009

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Developed by TPWind Secretariat

For any feedback or question on the newsletter, please contact Filippo Gagliardi (filippo.gagliardi@ewea.org, +32 2 546 1982).

Section 1 – News from the Secretariat

TPWind 4th General Assembly

The 4th General Assembly (GA) of TPWind will be held on May 13th and 14th, 2009, in Brussels, at the “Management Centre Europe” (MCE).

This event, which will move the Platform further into its “implementation phase” (which follows phase 1 – dedicated to its setup, and phase 2 – devoted to the drafting of the SRA), is entitled “Building the future of wind energy” and will focus on three main topics:

- The SRA / MDS Implementation Plan and the development of its projects;
- The European Wind Initiative;
- The future of TPWind.

The GA will be divided into two sessions:

- Day one (May 13th) will be dedicated to internal Working Group (WG) meetings, which will be managed by TPWind chairs and vice-chairs. WGs will discuss the following issues:
 - How to create the best possible conditions for transforming the projects included in the “SRA / MDS Implementation Plan” into reality;
 - How to fine-tune the European Wind Initiative (which has been presented to Member States for the first time on March 31st and which will be presented to the High Level Steering Committee of the “Strategic Energy Technology Plan” on May 13th);
 - How to structure the future of TPWind (a first draft of an action plan on the future of the Platform has been developed by the Secretariat and sent to members on April 27th).
- Day two (May 14th) will be devoted to the plenary session, where the Secretariat and EC representatives will update TPWind members on the latest developments of the Platform and of the wind energy sector. Further to that, TPWind chairs will report on the results of day one meetings.

TPWind encourages all its members to take part in this event, where key issues for the development and the future of the Platform will be addressed and discussed.

TPWind 7th Steering Committee Meeting

TPWind 7th Steering Committee will be held in Brussels at the “Renewable Energy House” on May 12th, just before the 4th General Assembly.

Steering Committee members will gather to discuss the following issues:

- The next steps in the development of the European Wind Initiative;
- The implementation of the projects included in the “SRA / MDS Implementation Plan);
- The future developments of TPWind;
- The preparation of the 4th GA.

The outcomes of the meeting will be presented in the next issue of the newsletter.

The EU Economic Recovery Plan

A € 5 bn package, representing the first batch of an EU Economic Recovery Plan to fight the current financial crisis, was proposed by the European Commission on January 28th, 2009. The aim of the package was to support smart investments in the fields of gas and electricity interconnectors, offshore wind power and CCS, so as to support the economy and avoiding the worst effects of recession. The amount originally earmarked for offshore wind was € 500 m.

On March 11th, 2009, following negotiations at Member States level, the amount dedicated to offshore wind was raised to € 565 m and the projects included in the Plan appeared to be the following:

- Baltic I;
- Kriegers Flak I, II and III;
- North Sea Grid;
- Alpha Ventus / Borkum Area – Bard 1;
- Aberdeen offshore wind farm;
- Thornton Bank.

On April 27th the European Council reached a final agreement on the contents of the EU Economic Recovery Plan.

Next week the European Parliament is expected to do the same, which would therefore put the European Commission in the position to finally launch the relevant “call for proposals” for the disbursement of the funds.

Given the latest developments, it is therefore expected that the “calls” will be launched in the coming months and that the first funds will be disbursed towards the end of 2009 / beginning of 2010.

TPWind is not involved in the development of the Plan or in the selection of its projects. However, TPWind priorities were taken onboard by the EC when developing the Plan.

More information are available [here](#).

Feedbacks from EC on TPWind Secretariat (Windsec) activities

TPWind Secretariat is financed through Windsec, a 6th Framework Programme project, which has been launched in March 2007 and will have an overall duration of 3 years.

The European Commission recently performed the project mid-term review (covering the first 18 months of implementation). In its evaluation, it underlined the excellent quality of TPWind and of its management of Windsec, as well as the fact that the Platform has achieved all its objectives so far.

However, it also stressed the fact that TPWind should enhance cooperation with relevant stakeholders (i.e. TSOs, DSOs and other European Technology Platforms) as well as reach to the outside world by improving its dissemination efforts.

For this reason, TPWind is participating to more international events, is developing strategic relationships with ESTEP (the European Steel Technology Platform) and is planning to improve its contacts with key organizations such as the European Investment Bank and the American Wind Energy Association.

Section 2 – News from members

RESPOND Project

The DG TREN IEE (Intelligent Energy Europe) RESPOND project will presents its final conclusions and recommendations for developing a more efficient integration of large shares of variable electricity generation by wind, photovoltaic and CHP in the European electricity supply systems at the EEM09 conference, to be held on May 27 – 29, 2009, in Leuven, Belgium.

The main topics to be addressed are:

- How can we optimally reduce expected system impacts caused by increasingly large shares of variable wind, PV and CHP electricity generation?
- What are the best institutional and technical response options available?
- Which changes in regulation and institutional frameworks are needed in Denmark, the UK, Germany, Spain and The Netherlands?
- What is the optimal transition process (Regulatory roadmaps) of power systems of five EU countries (Denmark, the UK, Germany, Spain and The Netherlands) to absorb 30% or more of variable RES-E in 2020?

RESPOND is concerned with developing technical and institutional solutions as well as regulatory and policy changes for securing more production of electricity from variable renewable energy sources (in particularly wind energy) by 2020.

Solutions and regulation needed in all electricity market segments, i.e. generation; load balancing, trade, network management and consumer demand in five member states (United Kingdom, Denmark, Germany, Spain, and The Netherlands) have been developed.

The RESPOND project is supported by the European Commission through the IEE Programme. Information on its objectives, results and final presentation of results can be found on www.respond-project.eu.

For more information, please contact Mr. Frits van Oostvoorn, Coordinator of RESPOND and member of TPWind Working Group 5
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“European Academy for Wind Energy” 2009 Scientific Award given to TPWind member Rebecca Barthelmie

A TPWind member, Rebecca Barthelmie (currently at Risoe DTU Laboratory for Sustainable Energy, Denmark) received the 2009 Scientific Award from the “European Academy for Wind Energy” during the European Wind Energy Conference (EWEC), organized by the European Wind Energy Association.

The award was given to Rebecca "for her extraordinary efforts and achievements in wind energy research". Rebecca is a well-known figure in the field of wind resource assessment and for her recent work on wind turbine wakes. She is currently a work package leader for “Flow” in the European Union funded UpWind project and principal investigator on related grants from the US National Science Foundation.

The goal of this section of the newsletter is to **host articles developed directly by TPwind members**, so as to provide them with the opportunity to inform the Platform on their most recent achievements, plans, products, studies or R&D efforts.

Every month, 2 to 4 short articles (maximum 250 words) will be selected by the Executive Committee or the Secretariat and will be included in this section of the newsletter, together with the contact details of the person or company publishing the article.

For this reason, **the Secretariat invites all TPWind members who would like to publish an article in this newsletter to contact Filippo Gagliardi and send him their contribution by Friday the 29th of May at the latest** (filippo.gagliardi@ewea.org; +32 2 546 19821).

The selected articles will be published in the next issue of the newsletter, which will be circulated at the beginning of June.

To this purpose, the Secretariat would like to remember all readers that this newsletter is sent to all TPWind members, to those included in the reserve lists of the Platform as well as to selected EC and EWEA representatives (approximately 300 people in total).

Section 3 – Events

May

Windpower 2009

May 4 – 7, 2009 – Chicago, USA

This conference and exhibition, organised by the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA), is the biggest and most relevant wind energy event in the USA.

The European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) will be present with a stand and will deliver presentations.

More information are available [here](#).

EU Research Connection

May 7 and 8, 2009 – Prague, Czech Republic

Targeted at scientists, researchers and industry, this conference will bring attendees into contact with experienced researchers from successful European projects, giving them the opportunity to meet reliable partners for their projects. Three major ongoing research initiatives - FP7, the Structural Funds and the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme - will be presented. In addition, selected EU-funded projects will be exhibited. This will promote the networking and integration of research activities in Europe.

More information are available [here](#).

8th Hamburg Offshore Wind Conference (HOW)

May 12, 2009 – Hamburg, Germany

This conference provides a comprehensive update on the global offshore wind energy industry. The topics to be covered include a wide range of interesting themes - from the German offshore test field to supply chain issues, from energy yield to the impact of the financial crisis on big players and newcomers, whose innovative approaches have recently drawn attention. The conference will start with a reception on May 11th and will continue with on May 12th with an analysis of the following blocks:

- Block 1: Progress of Offshore Wind in Germany;
- Block 2: Progress of Offshore Wind in the UK and other European Countries;
- Block 3: Finance and Cost Modeling of Offshore Wind Farms,
- Block 4: New Technology.

More information are available [here](#).

Wind Energy the Facts – Project Workshop

May 22, 2009 – Riga, Latvia

Wind Energy - The Facts (WindFacts) is a European project financed by the Intelligent Energy - Europe programme, which runs from November 2007 to October 2009.

The project led to the development and distribution of the “Wind Energy – The Facts” book, a publication that is widely considered to be the most important wind energy reference in the world. It presents a detailed overview of the wind energy sector, with the most up-to-date and in-depth information on the essential issues concerning wind power today.

The publication and the project will be presented at the workshop in Riga.

More information are available [here](#).

6th Offshore Wind and Other Marine Renewable Energies in Mediterranean and European Seas (OWEMES)

May 21 – 23, 2009 – Brindisi, Italy

The OWEMES conference will provide the opportunity to meet experts from various fields of the industry. These experts will share their knowledge, unique experiences and vision on alternative energies.

TPWind will participate to the event: Filippo Gagliardi will deliver a presentation on the most recent achievements of the Platform and on its offshore strategy.

More information are available [here](#).

June

Wind Energy the Facts – Project Workshop

June 2, 2009 – Bucharest, Romania

This workshop has the aim of presenting the Wind Energy – The Facts (WindFacts) project and publication.

This event is part of its dissemination strategy (like the May 22nd workshop in Riga, Latvia).

More information are available [here](#).

Mitigating underwater noise emissions from offshore wind farms

June 2 and 3, 2009 – Hamburg, Germany

This international workshop on mitigation of underwater noise emissions from offshore wind farms is organized by TPWind Member States Mirror Group.

During this workshop, Filippo Gagliardi will present the activities of the Platform while Susanna Widstrand (MSMG chairperson) will outline those of the MSMG.

For more information please contact Filippo Gagliardi (filippo.gagliardi@ewea.org).

Wind Energy the Facts – Project Workshop

June 12, 2009 – Budapest, Hungary

This workshop has the aim of presenting the Wind Energy – The Facts (WindFacts) project and publication.

This event is part of its dissemination strategy (like the May 22nd workshop in Riga, Latvia, and the June 2nd meeting in Bucharest, Romania).

More information are available [here](#).

Global Wind Day

June 15, 2009 - Global

The Global Wind Day is an awareness campaign for the promotion of wind energy worldwide. On 15 June 2009, thousands of public events will be organised simultaneously around the world.

More information on the events and the campaign are available [here](#).

Windforce 2009 - Direction Offshore

June 16 – 18, 2009 – Bremerhaven, Germany

The event, which will provide an overview of the most relevant challenges and developments of offshore wind, is organised by WAB, the industrial network for wind energy in the northwest region of Germany.

WAB includes around 185 companies and institutes from all fields of the wind energy sector.

More information are available [here](#).

BWEA Offshore Conference 2009

June 24 and 25, 2009 - Westminster, UK

The Offshore Conference organized by the British Wind Energy Association (BWEA) will be dedicated to the development of offshore wind power in the UK.

Over 500 delegates are expected to join the event, including senior government officials, investors, financiers, manufacturers, developers and all others with an interest in the latest policy and technical developments in offshore wind.

More information are available [here](#).

Annual Conference of the North Sea Region Programme

June 24 – 26, 2009 - Egmond aan Zee/Haarlem, The Netherlands

The conference marks the main annual event of the North Sea Region Programme 2007-2013, which aims to expand the scope of transnational cooperation and facilitate relevant and innovative projects for the North Sea Region.

This year the conference is going to address the issue of sustainable innovation.

More information are available [here](#).

July

5th European-African Conference on Wind Engineering (EACWE)

July 19 – 23, 2009 – Florence, Italy

The EACWE conference will represent an opportunity to exchange experiences and best practices among engineers and scientists in the field of wind engineering.

TPWind will participate to the event: Filippo Gagliardi will deliver a presentation on the most recent achievements of the Platform and on its next steps.

More information are available [here](#).

September

European Offshore Wind Conference and Exhibition 2009

September 14 – 16, 2009 – Stockholm, Sweden

This will be the third edition of the bi-annual offshore conference and exhibition organized by the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA).

The conference will examine how the development of offshore wind energy is progressing and will propose solutions to the many challenges still facing the industry. Further to that, practical steps forward to decision makers at EU and national levels will be presented.

The conference will emphasise the importance of grid integration, industrial development and environmental and administrative considerations.

More information are available [here](#).

Eolica Expo Mediterranean 2009

September 30 – October 2, 2009 – Rome, Italy

This fair on wind power, organized in parallel with the 8th Conference on Wind Energy in the Mediterranean area, will be a unique opportunity to meet the most relevant stakeholders of the sector.

Further to that, the exhibition will take place in the framework of “Zeroemission Rome”, a major event involving many other renewable energy sectors (including PV, solar, biomass and ocean energy).

More information are available [here](#).

November

3rd European Renewable Energy Policy Conference
November 16 and 17, 2009 – Brussels, Belgium

The 3rd European Renewable Energy Policy Conference is organized by EREC (European Renewable Energy Council), umbrella organization which counts as its members EWEA. This flagship policy conference will take place within the framework of the EU Swedish Presidency and will serve as a high-level political platform with highest visibility on the European energy political scene where industry leaders can meet policy-makers and express their future needs.

More information are available [here](#).

Section 4 – Funding opportunities

European Institute of Technology (EIT)

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) is to be a key driver of sustainable European growth and competitiveness. The mission of the EIT is to grow and capitalise on the innovation capacity of actors from higher education, research, business and entrepreneurship through the creation of highly integrated “Knowledge and Innovation Communities” (KICs).

One of the first priorities of the EIT is therefore to select, by December 2009, the first KICs. They will be highly integrated, creative partnerships including education, technology, research, business and entrepreneurship that will produce new innovations and new innovation models and inspire others to emulate them.

The EIT has therefore published, on April 2nd, 2009, a “call for proposals” for selecting and designating the first two or three KICs.

The “call” will close on August 27th, 2009 and the total contribution from the Community budget to the EIT available for funding all KICs activities is expected to be around € 270 m for the period 2010 - 2013.

More information can be found [here](#).

Intelligent Energy Europe (IEE)

IEE is the EU's instrument for improving energy efficiency and supporting the use of renewable energy sources.

It has an overall budget of € 727 m and runs from 2008 to 2013.

The 2009 “call for proposal” has been published on March 31st: its total budget is € 65 m and its deadline will be on June 25th, 2009.

The 2009 call is relevant to wind energy operators because one of its priorities will be to reduce non-technological barriers to offshore power (e.g. by developing better maritime spatial planning tools with an EU approach).

It should be noted to this purpose that the Commission is not looking for projects aiming just to raise awareness on the issue or to provide inputs to EU decision makers.

On the other hand, priority will be given to actions capable of putting in place new administrative procedures, regulations, codes or plans. Participants should therefore make sure that their proposal will be capable of delivering tangible results.

As for the composition consortia, they should involve TSOs, regulators, public administrations, developers, other marine users' interest groups and NGOs.

More information can be found [here](#).

Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP)

The EIP has the aim of promoting all forms of innovation in enterprises (especially in SMEs). It has an overall budget of € 585 m and runs from 2007 to 2013.

The 2009 EIP “call” has been published on April 20th, 2009, has a total budget of € 30 m and will close on September 10th, 2009.

The EIP could be relevant to wind energy operators because one of its priorities is the promotion of eco-innovation, which includes all forms of innovations resulting in significantly improved environmental protection (e.g. new production processes, products, services or business methods which prevent or substantially reduce the risks they pose to the environment).

For this reason, the development of new recycling strategies represents one of the key areas supported by EIP.

More information can be found [here](#).