



The Beatrice Wind Farm is the flagship project for offshore wind energy development in Scotland, the UK and Europe.

Talisman Energy (UK) and Scottish and Southern Energy are seeking consent for a £30 million project to install two demonstrator wind turbines adjacent to the Beatrice oil field in the Moray Firth, 24 km off the east coast of Scotland.

Lasting for approximately five years, the demonstrator project would comprise two wind turbine generating units of about 5MW capacity located on the seabed about 1.6km and 2.3km from the Beatrice Alpha complex, and linked to the Beatrice AP platform by a subsea cable.

The demonstrator project would be used to examine the feasibility and benefits of creating a commercial deepwater wind farm at this site. The primary aims are to:

- Develop the technology: design, construct, install and operate the very first deepwater wind farm
- Test the performance: determine if large scale developments of this type are viable and sustainable
- Explore the issues: review all the economic, social and environmental impacts to ensure maximum regional benefit

Talisman has produced a full Scoping Report which describes the potential environmental, socio-economic, and visual impacts that might be caused by the proposed project. This report is free to download at:

www.beatricewind.co.uk

A message from Paul Blakeley Vice President, Talisman UK Ltd

"There's no doubt that the Beatrice Wind Farm is a challenging but very significant project for everyone involved. We are talking about one of the world's first deepwater wind farms and the technical challenges are considerable. However, the skills already exist within the offshore energy industry to make this work – and that's what makes it so exciting.

Naturally, it will require all our experience to deliver the demonstrator project safely and with minimum environmental impact. However, a successful development, one that is commercially viable and environmentally sound, will represent a major breakthrough opportunity not just for Talisman, but for the energy industry and for Scotland. It would place us at the forefront of deepwater wind farm technology and would potentially be of enormous importance to the

Scottish economy.

We have always consulted widely when developing our offshore operations, and our track record in the Moray Firth underlines this commitment. Our approach will be no different when progressing this project, and we will maintain regular contact with stakeholders to take on board and address any concerns you may have."



EVOLUTION OF THE DOWNVI_nD INITIATIVE

The Beatrice Offshore Wind Farm is part of the EU DOWNVI_nD project. The origins of this project lie back in 2001 when Talisman first considered the concept of a deepwater offshore wind farm distant from the shore.



In 2002, Talisman entered into a partnership with Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) to fund a series of studies into the potential of a deepwater wind farm at Beatrice. In 2003, a pan-European initiative, DOWNVI_nD (Distant Offshore Windfarms with No Visual Impact in Deepwater), led by Talisman, was established as a catalyst for commercialising deepwater wind farm technology.

DOWNVI_nD comprises 14 different participants from six countries and is Europe's largest renewable energy research and technology development programme. The demonstrator project is a key component of DOWNVI_nD. To date, SSE and Talisman have spent more than £2million and anticipate contributing a further £7million each in the coming years.

www.beatricewind.co.uk

All About Beatrice

The Beatrice oil field is located in the Outer Moray Firth approximately 24km from the Scottish coastline. Oil production began in 1981 and Talisman acquired the field in 1996.

The field is currently serviced by four platforms: Beatrice AD which is linked by a bridge to Beatrice AP, and the smaller Beatrice Bravo and Beatrice Charlie platforms. The Beatrice A complex is the centre for gathering and processing oil and is manned by about 40 workers. Beatrice currently produces 5,600 bbls/day. An oil export pipeline connects Beatrice to the onshore oil terminal at Nigg.

The Beatrice field was discovered in 1976 and is named after Beatrice Louise Carr, wife of Texas oilman, T. Boone Pickens, then president of Mesa Petroleum (UK) Ltd.



Research in the Moray Firth

The Beatrice oil field is situated about 24km outside the boundary of the Moray Firth Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

The main qualifying interest of the Moray Firth SAC is the resident population of bottlenose dolphins. In addition to the SAC, the adjacent coasts of Morayshire and Caithness contain numerous sites of ecological or conservation interest, particularly for their nesting seabirds and seals.

As a result of initial consultation, Talisman has identified that noise

effects on marine mammals, and disturbance effects on birds at sea, are some of the potential effects of the demonstrator project.

To provide more detailed information on these issues, Talisman has initiated a series of surveys and research programmes with the University of Aberdeen and other organisations.



BEATRICE AND THE BOTTLENOSE DOLPHINS

The waters of the Moray Firth support the North Sea's only known resident population of bottlenose dolphins, thought to number some 120 to 170 individuals.

Since the late 1990s Talisman has supported studies into the habitat use and behaviour of bottlenose dolphins by researchers based at Aberdeen University's Lighthouse Field Station in Cromarty.

Surveys by the University and the Sea Mammal Research Unit (SMRU) have shown that the bottlenose dolphin population uses a variety of marine habitats in the Moray Firth, with sightings concentrated around the mouths of the Cromarty, Inverness and Beaulieu Firths.



This timeline provides an overview of the steps towards the development of the demonstrator project in 2005 and 2006.

The Journey Ahead

Q4 2004 / Funding

DOWNVIInD project funding secured

Q1 2005 / Scoping

Demonstrator project is fully scoped

Q1-Q4 2005 / Consultation

Local and national consultation period

Q4 2005 / Submission

Environmental statement is submitted

Q1 2006 / Evaluation

Public evaluation of the demonstrator

Q2 2006 / Installation

Installation begins, if project approved

Q2 2006 – ongoing / Dialogue

Continuing dialogue with stakeholders



Assessing the Environmental Impacts **TALK TO US**

In addition to the Beatrice Wind Farm Scoping Report – available from www.beatrice.co.uk – the proposal for the demonstrator project will also be supported by a formal environmental assessment

(EA) prepared under the Offshore Petroleum Production and Pipelines (Assessment of Environmental Effects) Regulations 1999.

The EA will include the results from a comprehensive consultation programme, and will reflect the issues, concerns

and mitigation measures raised by stakeholders. It is planned that the EA will be completed by the end of 2005, and will support the formal application for consent to the DTI.

If the demonstrator project proves successful and the decision is made to proceed with the creation of a commercial wind farm, a second comprehensive EA, including consultation, would be undertaken for that development.

For more information on the Beatrice Wind Farm demonstrator project please send an email to: environment@talisman.co.uk

Or write to:

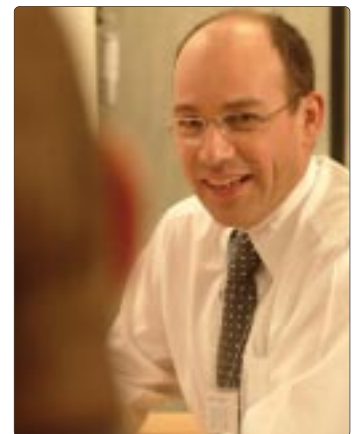
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A commitment to consultation

Talisman will conduct a comprehensive consultation exercise in 2005, during which all interested parties will have an opportunity to learn about the demonstrator project and to voice their concerns and give their comments about the proposed project.

The Scoping Report is designed to inform the consultation exercise and copies can be obtained by writing to The Environment Manager at Talisman Energy (UK) Limited (see the contacts section) or downloaded in PDF format from www.beatricewind.co.uk.

Talisman is working within the Moray Firth Partnership to organise the first event in the consultation process. The issues and concerns raised at this workshop, held in May 2005, and a series of subsequent events, will be addressed in the final Environmental Statement to be completed at the end of 2005.



www.beatricewind.co.uk