



National wind energy associations strongly back governments in renewed North Seas wind collaboration

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When Energy ministers on 6 June 2016 kick off a revamped regional cooperation on offshore wind in the North Seas it will be against a backdrop of vivid support from the wind industry associations in the countries in the region.

The wind industry associations welcome the initiative taken by the ministers from the North Seas countries and stand ready to contribute to regional cooperation. By taking a step-by-step approach, based on the actual challenges experienced by the wind industry, substantial gains can be made. Success can be ensured by close collaboration between the government authorities and the industry stakeholders including the national associations in the governance of the renewed regional cooperation in the North Seas. Furthermore, they would welcome in the not so distant future a similar development in the Mediterranean.

The wind industry is looking at massive investments in development of offshore wind in the North Seas region. More aligned technical requirements and coordinated political processes in the Member States surrounding the North Seas will reduce costs and increase framework stability – which in turn will lead to increased appetite for investments.

The North Seas hold great potential for development of offshore wind. The European Commission estimates that offshore wind from the North Seas can cover up to 12 percent of EU's power demand. Regional cooperation can help reap this resource more efficiently to the benefit of the green transition of Europe's energy system and the European energy consumers.

Signed by

Danish Wind Industry Association, Hellenic Wind Energy Association, Irish Wind Energy Association, Netherlands Wind Energy Association, Norwegian Wind Energy Association, NOW Ireland, RenewableUK, Stiftung OFFSHORE-WINDENERGI.

