

# Gunfleet Sands 2 – Project Briefing Note Number 1

Date: 18th June 2006

Subject: **Consent application submitted for Gunfleet Sands 2 Offshore Wind Farm**

DONG Energy is delighted to announce that it has now submitted its consent application and Environmental Statement to the Department of Trade & Industry to build and operate the Gunfleet Sands 2 Offshore Wind Farm, 7km off the Essex coast in the Northern Thames Estuary

Frits Kristoffersen, Project Manager for the Gunfleet Sands project, said, "We are delighted to announce the submission of the extension of the Gunfleet Sands Offshore Wind Farm, the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of this project has already received consent, this new phase will have up to 22 offshore wind turbines generating up to 64MW of clean energy and preventing the release of thousands of tonnes of polluting carbon dioxide gas."

Both phases of Gunfleet Sands project – would generate 164MW of clean energy, enough renewable energy for approximately 120,000 households or approximately 20% of the households in Essex, whilst preventing the annual release of around 380,000 tons of carbon dioxide gas. The project will make a considerable contribution to the domestic UK target of reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 20% below 1990 levels by 2010.

Following the submission there will be 3 days of public exhibitions hosted locally by DONG Energy where the results of the recent Environmental Statement will be presented. A team of experts and senior members from the project will be on hand to answer questions.

The exhibitions will take place at the following venues, and will be open from 12 noon to 5pm on each respective day.

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June – Essex Hall, Clacton Town Hall, Clacton-on-Sea.

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June – The Frinton Community Centre, Frinton-on Sea.

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June – Jaywick Methodist Church Hall, Crossways, Jaywick.

DONG Energy have been consulting with local people and their representatives prior to the submission of the Gunfleet Sands 2 offshore wind farm, and will continue to communicate with communities in the local Essex area following submission of the consent application.

- **Jesper Krarup Holst, Consents Manager, Gunfleet Sands project is available for media interview, please contact Peter Sills in the first instance on 07976 437467**
- **For further project information and high resolution photographs and maps, please contact [peter@sillson.com](mailto:peter@sillson.com) for ftp server access details (24hr download available)**

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Additional information:

## **Who is DONG Energy?**

DONG Energy is one of the leading energy groups in the Nordic region. Our headquarters are in Denmark. Our business is based on procuring, producing, distributing, trading and selling energy and related products in Northern Europe. We employ approx. 4,500 people and generate DKK 36 billion in revenue.

## **Renewable Energy**

Renewable energy is an integral part of the UK Government's aim of reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 60% by 2050. To help combat climate change, the Government has set a target of 15% of electricity supply from renewable energy by 2015. In March 2007 the 27 nations of the European Union agreed to a legally binding target of 20% of all energy to be supplied from renewable sources by 2020. Increasing the amount of energy generated from renewable sources also increases the diversity and hence the security of supply.

## **The Gunfleet Sands project**

The proposed Gunfleet Sands 2 development has no landward infrastructure associated with it. The development will utilise the power export cable and land-based substation works that are already consented as part of the Gunfleet Sands 1 project.

The total area of the phase 1 development is 10km<sup>2</sup> and 7.5km<sup>2</sup> for phase 2. The turbines will be positioned with the same spacing and orientation as phase 1, i.e. 435m x 890m

The turbines will be mounted on top of a monopile foundation. The monopiles will be in the region of 5m diameter, with an overall length of up to 75m and a seabed penetration of up to 50m. The use of rock for Scour protection is being considered. The expected rotor diameter of the turbines is 107m, with a height of 129m from blade tip to sea level.

If both phases of the project are constructed as planned, approximately 120,000 homes (75,000 from phase 1 and 45,000 from phase 2) or more than 20% of the households in Essex can be provided with clean electricity in the years to come. When compared with electricity produced from coal fired power stations the annual CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction is estimated to be 300,000 tons and 180,000 tons for Gunfleet Sands 1 and 2, respectively. The project makes a considerable contribution to the domestic UK target of reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 20% below 1990 levels by 2010.

A copy of the Environmental Statement explaining the Company's proposals in more detail and presenting an assessment of the environmental impacts, with a Non-Technical Summary, are available for inspection during normal working hours at from 18<sup>th</sup> June to 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2007:

**Clacton Reference Library**, Station Road, Clacton on Sea, Essex

**Frinton Library**, Old Road, Frinton on Sea, Essex

**Colchester Reference Library**, Trinity Square Colchester, Essex.

**Tendering District Council**, Planning Department, Thorpe Road, Weeley, Essex.

**Essex County Council**, Planning Department, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex.