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The fisheries fund will support opportunities for both inshore and offshore fishing by fishers associated with Codling Wind Park. (Courtesy: EDF Renewables)

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Codling Wind Park sets up fund to benefit local fisheries

Codling Wind Park is establishing a dedicated 500,000 euros Fisheries Fund to benefit the fishing industry operating within and around the Codling Bank area of the Irish Sea. The fund will have a 100,000 euro annual budget to support different initiatives for the next five years.

The fund will support opportunities for both inshore and offshore fishing by fishers associated with Codling Wind Park. Fishers are being asked to bring forward their own ideas about how the fund should be used. The project's fishing engagement manager meets regularly with local fishers and will discuss the terms of reference and progress proposals for the fund directly with them.

Codling Wind Park also confirmed it will consider other ideas to support fishers, including helping establish a lobster hatchery. The lobster hatchery would involve raising and releasing young lobsters back into the Irish Sea to increase fishing opportunities in the area. The project is engaging with fishers on this proposal that would significantly support a sustainable and productive fishery in the area.

Codling Wind Park has also published a fisheries charter or code of practice, which will guide its engagement with fishers and its care of marine life on the Codling Bank. The Fisheries Charter, which will be the first code of its type between an offshore wind developer and fishers in Ireland, commits Codling Wind Park to a range of sustainable development practices and responsible stewardship of the waters and seabed on the Codling Bank.

"The purpose of this fund is to support initiatives that could be of benefit to fishing communities, rather than benefiting one individual fisher over another," said Scott Sutherland, co-project director of Codling Wind Park. "For example, adding value to a fishery, improving port infrastructure, improving safety, or exploring innovation and fishery diversification."



US Wind and Haizea Wind Group are partnering on the Sparrows Point Steel factory. (Courtesy: US Wind)

"We want to hear from the fishers about what they think this fund should be used for," he said.

"We are making a commitment to the fishers who use Codling Bank that we want to help them build a sustainable future," said Thomas Gilbert, co-project director. "We have been engaging with fishers for a long time now on a wide variety of issues. One of the key benefits of this engagement is that we have been able to share with each other our different perspectives and see how the development can and will co-exist with the fishery. We are also very proud to be the first developer in Ireland to publish a fisheries charter, which commits the project to engaging fairly with fishers, to boosting marine biodiversity and to developing sustainable fishing practices."

Codling Wind Park, which is a 50/50 joint venture between Fred. Olsen Seawind and EDF Renewables will be approximately 13 to 22 kilometers off the Co. Wicklow coast between Greystones and Wicklow Town. When operational, it will generate up to 1,450 MW, enough electricity to power up to 1.2 million homes and support Ireland's 2030 offshore wind targets.

MORE INFO codlingwindpark.ie

US Wind praises Maryland's POWER Act

The Maryland General Assembly passed the Promoting Offshore Wind Energy Resources (POWER) Act, paving the way for a new clean-energy future for the state. Baltimore-based US Wind Inc. applauded the bill's sponsors Delegate Lorig Charkoudian and Sen. Katie Fry Hester, committee chairs Brian Feldman and CT Wilson, and House and Senate leadership for passing the landmark legislation. Gov. Wes Moore's desk was expected to sign the legislation into law.

"The POWER Act is a real game changer for Maryland," said Jeff Grybowski, US Wind CEO. "It sets a path for the people of Maryland to reap the benefits of huge amounts of clean energy in the coming years. It also tells the entire offshore wind industry globally that Maryland is back big time as a major player. Companies looking to invest in offshore wind have to seriously consider Maryland."

The legislation would quadruple Maryland's offshore wind generation goals from about 2 GW to 8.5 GW by 2031, improve its transmission infra-



structure, and provide a pathway to future procurement of offshore wind energy in the state. The 8.5 GW of offshore wind energy targeted in the POWER Act is enough to supply clean energy to more than 2 million homes in Maryland while creating tens of thousands of family-sustaining American jobs, as the bill ensures offshore wind projects provide equitable opportunities for local unions and minority, women, service-disabled, and veteran-owned businesses to join in Maryland's clean energy future.

US Wind also announced its partnership with Haizea Wind Group to manage and operate Sparrows Point Steel, Maryland's first permanent offshore wind factory in Baltimore County, Maryland. The facility will manufacture steel components for the U.S. offshore wind industry, including monopiles and towers, while creating hundreds of jobs for local unions and minority businesses.

MORE INFO uswindinc.com

ArcVera Renewables hires business development manager

ArcVera Renewables, a provider of consulting and technical services for wind, solar, and energy storage projects, recently announced the expansion of its business development team with the appointment of industry veteran Adam Smith. Smith brings a mix of technical and commercial expertise, which will strengthen ArcVera's efforts to grow its customer base across all technologies and geographies.

Starting in the wind industry in 1994, Smith has built a solid track record as a technical consultant and developer for wind and solar projects throughout the United States and Mexico.

"I am very happy to welcome Adam at ArcVera at a time when the IRA has such a major positive impact on the renewables industry," said David Simkins, director of Business Development – Global at ArcVera Renewables. t is generating abundant opportunities for us to support greenfield projects in need of prospecting and early development technical support. Adam's knowledge, expertise, and experience dating back to the early days of the renewable energy industry will make him a very valuable asset to our team's efforts to bring new business home."

ArcVera Renewables has experienced strong growth over the last few years. The company aims to take advantage of the renewable energy policy environment developing in the U.S. but also in its established global markets of India, South Africa, and Latin America.

"It's an incredible opportunity to work alongside a talented team of professionals who are passionate about driving the renewable energy industry



New ArcVera Renewables' business development manager Adam Smith. (Courtesy: ArcVera Renewables)

forward," Smith said. "ArcVera's total dedication to providing trustworthy, insightful, and accuracy-driven project services to clients makes it a really exciting company to work for. I am proud to be part of this amazing team."

MORE INFO www.ArcVera.com

North Star announces Bradford as chief technology officer

North Star, a leading offshore infrastructure support vessel operator in the U.K., recently appointed James Bradford as its chief technology officer (CTO) as the organization scales up its onshore operations for further growth in the offshore wind sector across Europe.

In the newly created role, Bradford will accelerate the company's ESG and decarbonization strategies by delivering a technological roadmap to drive performance and innovation investments as the firm progresses towards its fleet decarbonization target of 2040.

Bradford has more than 30 years' strategic and operational experience in the maritime sector. He joins from ship management specialist V. Group, where he was global head of technical. There, he played a key role in the company's innovation agenda that redefined the industry's fleet cell model for technical management. Bradford has significant seagoing experience. As a chief engineer in his early career, he achieved Class I Unlimited certification, and project managed the ship construction team on a 16 vessel build over a two-year period.

His other significant tenures include almost five years at Gulf Marine Services where he was general manager for northwest Europe before being promoted to chief operating officer in the United Arab Emirates. Prior to this, Bradford was GM for operations at marine transportation company GulfMark for eight years, and at James Fisher also for eight years, where he climbed the ranks to technical director responsible for its tanker, offshore, and nuclear fuel fleets.

"It's a very exciting time to be joining the business as CTO," Bradford said. "North Star is an immensely well-respected, steadfast vessel operator with an enduring reputation in the North Sea. Since securing four long-term charters for its new hybrid propulsion



New North Star CTO James Bradford has 30 years' strategic and operational experience. (Courtesy: North Star)

service operations vessel design, its prominence has rippled across the offshore wind market, opening up multiple new opportunities for the business and its next fleet." "Ensuring the business continues to invest in the best innovations to hasten its sustainability goals across its existing ships and implemented into new forthcoming SOV designs, is a very exciting time to join as CTO," he said. "I'm looking forward to helping to shape the future of its fleet and leading its technical digitization strategy."

"James has an exceptional track record for delivering results across all aspects of new fleet constructions for on-time delivery," said North Star Chief Executive Matthew Gordon. "He is also verv tuned in to the latest technical developments, which will help guide our executive team to identify and leverage new opportunities to maximize future investment and deliver value to our shareholders. His strong leadership and managerial skills will also add another layer of expertise as we expand our team and makes him the perfect fit for our organization. We look forward to working together."

MORE INFO www.northstarshipping.co.uk

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