

Final kick off for the 300 MW wind farm in front of the Belgian coast

C-Power is the only fully authorised offshore wind farm in front of the Belgian coast. C-Power obtained all permits required for the construction of this wind farm, being the concession permit, the building and environmental permit, the offshore cable permit, the onshore cable permit and the grid connection permit.

The project consists of:

- 60 turbines of 5 MW on the Thornton sandbank
- 28,7 km in front of the Belgian coast.
- water depths are ranging from 12 to 27,5 m

Today, on 23 May 2007 C-Power signed all contracts for the construction and financing of the first phase demonstration project: installing 6 REpower 5M wind turbines and the first 37 km 150 kV sea cable connecting the Thorntonbank project to the shore.



The project timing foresees the immediate start of the directional drilling and dune crossing works for the sea cable routing. The preparatory soil improvement works for the construction of the gravity based foundations at the Halve Maan site in the Port of Ostend have also started. As from April 2008 during the good weather season, these gravity based foundations and the wind turbines will be placed at the Thorntonbank site. In June and July 2008 the offshore cable laying works will take place starting from the shore connection point towards the first offshore wind turbine.

The first energy production will be injected into the grid by the end of September 2008.

This wind farm with a total installed capacity of 300 MW will produce about 1000 GWh/year, sufficient to provide 600.000 inhabitants with renewable energy. This will result in a reduction of CO2 emissions equivalent to 450.000 ton/year.

The first phase investment amount is about 150 Million EUR.

The sponsors have combined their expertise to the benefit of this innovating project: DEME-group as a worldwide operating maritime engineering specialist, ECOTECH FINANCE and SOCOFE as specialists in financing and developing environmental and utility projects, NUHMA as the investment vehicle for the participation in electricity and utility ventures and EDF-EN as the leading European renewable energy investor and developer.

