

PRESS RELEASE

WISE, GWEC Ink Agreement with GPCL for Offshore Wind Power in Gujarat

26 February 2014, Pune/Gandhinagar – The World Institute of Sustainable Energy (WISE), Pune, and the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC), signed an agreement with Gandhinagar-based Gujarat Power Corporation Limited (GPCL) to facilitate *India's transition towards low carbon development by supporting implementation of national policies and programs for offshore wind power* in the state of Gujarat. The WISE-GWEC-GPCL agreement was signed in Gandhinagar during the one-day International seminar on 'Offshore Wind Power Potential of Gujarat', held at and by the Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University (PDPDU), on 1 February 2014. The agreement is part of a 4-year project called **FOWIND (Facilitating Offshore Wind in INDia)**, launched by GWEC and its consortium partners, WISE; GPCL; Centre for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP); and DNV-GL, in January 2014.

The FOWIND project is supported by a €4 million grant contribution through the European Union's Indo-European Cooperation on Renewable Energy program and **€500 thousand contribution through Gujarat Power Corporation Limited (GPCL)**. The project will be executed in close cooperation with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India; Centre for Wind Energy Technology (CWET), Chennai; the Government of Gujarat; and other relevant offices of the Indian government.

"Having a 1600 km long coastline, adequate port and power evacuation facility, and a strong power grid and power supply position, Gujarat possesses the strategic position for offshore wind in India. Gujarat is always committed to explore innovative sources such as renewable energy for India's long-term, sustainable energy security. FOWIND would definitely become a flagship program in the history of offshore wind in India," said **D J Pandian, IAS, Chairman & Managing Director, Gujarat Power Corporation Limited**.

Globally, offshore wind is still in a relatively early stage of development. Most of the 6.5 GW of capacity installed is in the North Sea, Baltic and Irish Seas. The only other substantial market is in China, although there are exciting developments in Japan, Korea, Taiwan, as well as early movement in the United States. As with all new technologies, the capital costs are high, and there is still a great deal of technical and management learning required to bring costs down to competitive levels. One of the goals of the project will be to learn as much as possible from the European experience to ensure that when India ventures into offshore, it does so in the most effective way possible.

"We look forward to working with our Indian and European partners to help fuel India's development with clean renewable energy. We believe that with careful analysis and thorough preparation drawing on our global network, offshore wind can make a significant contribution to ensuring that clean energy plays the dominant role in supplying India's growing energy needs," said **Steve Sawyer, Secretary General, GWEC**.

The partners bring a wealth of experience to the project: The World Institute of Sustainable Energy (WISE), Pune, will host the project management unit and focus on the state of Gujarat. *"Gujarat is poised to be an economic powerhouse of India. Through this project, we hope to support GPCL, to build the foundations of Gujarat's future energy security by sourcing clean offshore wind power"* said **G M Pillai, Founder Director General, WISE**.

Besides WISE, the Centre for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP), Bangalore, will focus on the State of Tamil Nadu; DNV-GL, the world's largest renewable energy consultancy, will, through its Bangalore-based subsidiary, provide its long expertise in the offshore industry, as well as its experience in technology assessment, project design, due diligence and other areas; and we are pleased to have the support and participation of the Gujarat Power Corporation Limited.

The specific objectives of the project are to create an enabling environment for offshore wind through resource mapping and validation, policy guidance and capacity building measures, and to assess the infrastructure base and identify improvements required. In addition, the project will seek to build partnerships at a technical, policy and research level, both within India and between India and EU companies, research groups and institutions, with a final goal of developing an Offshore Wind Outlook and development pathway for India up to 2032.

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About the project partners:

Global Wind Energy Council is the international trade association for the wind power industry. The members of GWEC represent over 1,500 companies, organisations and institutions in more than 70 countries, including manufacturers, developers, component suppliers, research institutes, national wind and renewables associations, electricity providers, finance and insurance companies. www.gwec.net

Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy is one of the largest think tanks in South-East Asia; its vision is to enrich the nation with technology-enabled policy options for equitable growth. CSTEP is a multi-disciplinary policy research organisation working in the areas of Energy, Infrastructure, Materials, Climate Adaptation and Security Studies. www.cstep.in

DNV GL now forms the world's largest ship and offshore classification society, and a leading expert for the energy value chain including renewables and energy efficiency. It has also taken a position as one of the top three-certification bodies in the world. Operating in more than 100 countries, its 16,000 professionals are dedicated to helping customers make the world safer, smarter and greener. www.dnvgl.com

Gujarat Power Corporation Limited has been playing the role of developer and catalyser in the energy sector in the state of Gujarat. GPCL is increasing its involvement in power projects in renewable sector, as the State of Gujarat is concerned about the issues of pollution and global warming. Gujarat has over 3GW of installed onshore wind capacity currently. www.gpclindia.com

World Institute of Sustainable Energy is a not-for-profit institute located in Pune, India, committed to the cause of promoting sustainable energy and sustainable development, with specific emphasis on issues related to renewable energy, energy security, and climate change. Since its inception in 2004, WISE has pioneered many important initiatives in the above areas. www.wisein.org



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