



ORGANIC POWER LIMITED

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UK Wants Ireland To Build West Coast Wind Farms

“The UK wants Ireland to build wind farms off its west coast with links to the UK to help it meet its clean energy targets “.

There are plans to expand electricity grid connections throughout the whole of the British Isles including links to electricity grids in both Ireland and Britain. These would help to transmit the power generated by coastal wind farms back to Ireland and Britain. The plan called the All Islands electricity plan, aims to open up remote areas has been drawn up by the British government. The idea is that power will be generated by wind-farms, tidal farms and wave plants in order to boost its clean energy targets. It isn't just confined to Ireland but also involves Wales, Northern Ireland, Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man.

The energy minister, Charles Hendry said “The west coast of Ireland has some of the fiercest winds in Europe. They whip in off the Atlantic which makes it is an ideal location for wind-farms. However, the Irish market for electricity is less than a tenth of that of Britain. That means that companies cannot afford to build wind-farms in Ireland because there is no market for their power. We want to put that right”.

The UK has been accused of not doing enough to create new wind farms to cut carbon emissions. It's thought that this idea to import clean renewable energy from Ireland could help with the shortage of green energy in the UK.

A link connecting the grids of Ireland and Britain is currently under construction and will stretch from Rush North Beach, Co Fingal, to Barkby Beach, north Wales. The Irish Sea Inter-Connector will cost £500m and have a capacity of 500 megawatts. However, under the scheme to be discussed tomorrow, other new links would also be built. This would open up a market for electricity for wind-farms on the west coast of Ireland whose power could be transmitted under the Irish Sea.

The construction of windfarms in Ireland that would supply power to neighbouring countries could help to put the UK back on track in its use of clean, renewable energy. Britain has recently been criticised for falling short of its targets for constructing wind power plants and for cutting its carbon emissions. Importing clean power could help to resolve the problem “.

(Source – Guardian Newspaper – 16th June 2011.)



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Organic Power wants to provide the infrastructure

The above is a synopsis from the UK press of the current position with respect to the UK - Irish scenario on Renewable energy and power generation. Organic Power, a Cork based Renewable Energy Company, is at an advanced stage of design to provide the following infrastructure by 2016, which will be key to fulfilling the vision set out above. We call the project MAREX (Model for Atlantic Renewable Energy Export). MAREX is composed of 2 elements and will facilitate a third external element

MAREX

- 1 1500MW HVDC (High Voltage Direct Current) underground twin cable link from proposed Glinsk Energy Hub in Mayo to existing UK-Ireland interconnector terminus at Woodlands, near Dublin
- 2 6 Gigawatt hour/cycle energy storage facility at Glinsk at the western terminus of the HVDC cable
- 3 Connection point for 1500MW already in the pipeline of onshore wind (not Organic Power) with expected wind efficiency of 50% to allow RE transmission to Dublin and UK. (UK and central Ireland wind efficiency 40% or less)

We are in detailed discussion with the owner of a single wayleave across the country from the landfall to the Irish end of the existing East West interconnector across the Irish Sea. The provision of the storage facility at the western end, gives validity to the terminus location at the western end in its own right, as it will regulate the supply of unpredictable wind energy. The provision of the HVDC link across the country, will accelerate by at least 5 years, the construction of 1500MW of wind farms by other companies in Mayo.

The provision of the MAREX package will make the export of renewable energy from a suitable energy source (the wind in western Ireland) to a suitable market (the densely populated and wind-poor southern UK) a tangible reality by 2016.

Although some regulatory hurdles will have to be sorted out, this is an achievable project with immense gains for both Ireland and the UK.