



Minutes from:

- **National Stakeholder Workshop**

Venue: University campus, Klaipeda Science and Technology Park building, V.Berbomo 10, conference room, Klaipeda, Lithuania.

Host: Coastal Research and Planning Institute.

Time of the event: 22 November 2017 | 9:00-13:00

Participants of the National stakeholders meeting:

1. Nerijus Blažauskas, CORPI
2. Vidmantas Macevičius, Ministry of Energy
3. Ramūnas Bikulčius, LitGrid
4. Rosita Milerienė, CORPI
5. Stasys Paulauskas, SSI
6. Andrius Čypas, EastWindbrokers
7. Arvydas Kazlauskas, AKV Energy
8. Aistis Radavičius, LVEA
9. Aleksandras Paulauskas, LWEA
10. Vaclovas Vainutis, VAIGOSTA
11. Darius Panumis, DA Renewable Ltd.

Meeting Agenda:

- Presentation of Baltic InteGrid project, N.Blažauskas, CORPI
- National initiatives and new strategy for OWE development in Lithuania, V. Macevičius, vice Minister of Ministry of Energy
- National Grid developments, current capacity and investments needed, R.Bikulčius, LitGrid
- Round table discussion

Summary of the workshop:

N.Blažauskas welcomed the participants of the National Workshop, introduced the aim of the meeting and the agenda. Participants had a chance to introduce themselves and identify the sector and the institution they represent.

N.Blažauskas gave a short presentation explaining the objectives and main expectations from the Baltic InteGrid project. The idea of Baltic offshore grid development and role of Lithuanian part of the offshore grid planning was explained. The introductory presentation was followed by the summarizing information about investments made to date. This includes key International projects related to the Offshore Wind Energy (OWE) developments (with Lithuanian participation); investments done by private sector (OWE feasibility studies, EIA studies etc.); infrastructure enabling the OWE sector development (research, services and production) developments at Klaipeda University, Western Ship Yard and other.

Vice Minister of the Ministry of Energy provided an insight into the recent changes in the renewable energy sources development strategy, recently adopted law and the initiatives of the Ministry to regulate the OWE developments on a national level. The audience, especially associations representing wind energy developers, had number of objections to the ongoing process, highlighting the risk of extremely long procedures as well as the risk of losing the investments done by the private sector. The Vice Minister explained that Lithuania is aiming at establishing the Danish regulatory framework. To reach this, the Ministry is obliged to do an extensive energy market (demand and capacity) analysis, decide upon the conditions of energy



transfer and purchase etc. Licensing procedures of the potential OWE areas is the next step. Then the conditions for the applicants had to be prepared. Such a procedure was objected by the representatives of OWE developers as being too long and inefficient, stopping the developments and frightening the potential investors. The Vice Minister encouraged to bring forward the proposals of process optimization, take part in the ongoing initiatives, consult and communicate with the Ministry.

LitGrid representative R.Bikulčius gave a presentation on the current status of the national grid, issued permissions for land based wind energy installations and potential possibilities for OWE to be integrated into the national energy supply system.

The given presentations served as good background for the open discussion. Number of questions and proposals for more flexible procedures fostering the OWE developments in the country have been raised:

- The main concern was the duration of the foreseen procedures. If to be followed as presented by the Ministry, the regulations and the licensing procedures would be ready by 2023 the earliest. By then, all valid environmental permissions (EIA based decisions) will be outdated, meaning private sector loses the investments and the time;
- Studies made to date will need to be repeated – additional funding needed, waste of Governmental funds;
- Comment by the audience: Market analysis must be done by the business sector – this would save the money and efforts of the Governmental institutions;
- Energy supply market should be more focused on decentralized solutions;
- Investments needed for the support of OWE grid developments should be based on clear conditions of national network developer (financial and technical)

Final decisions:

The participants of the workshop agreed to form an informal steering group for national developments at Baltic InteGrid project, under request - support and contribute to the overall Baltic grid development concept.

Ministry of Energy and LitGrid encouraged all parties to take active role in the future initiatives related to the regulations for OWE developments in Lithuania, send the constructive proposals. On the other hand, the Ministry has ensured to use existing experience and scientific knowledge in order to foster and facilitate the OWE developments on the national level.

Private sector and the OWE associations were grateful for the opportunity to restart the earlier corrupted dialogue with the Ministry.