

# Minutes of meeting

**Date:** 6<sup>th</sup> April 2017      **Location:** KTN Business Development Centre, Upper St, London  
**Project:** Offshore Wind Innovation Hub (“OWIH”)      **Time:** 10:30  
**Subject:** OWIH Technical Advisory Group (“TAG”)

**Attendance:**

- Ray Thompson (RT) – Siemens Wind Power – Co-Chair
- Steve Wyatt (SW) – ORE Catapult – Co-Chair
- Jørn Scharling Holm (JSH) – Dong Energy
- Chris Spruce (CS) – MHI Vestas Offshore Wind
- James Young (JY) – JDR Cables
- Jo Chetwood (JC) – Vattenfall
- Jan Matthiesen (JM) – Carbon Trust / OWA
- Chris Poyner (CP) - ABB
- Bill Leithead (BL) – Strathclyde University / SuperGen Wind Hub
- Howarth Greenoak (HG) – GeoSea / DEME

Apologies:

- Alan Hannah (AH) - Scottish Power Renewables
- Alan MacLeay (AM) - Seaway Heavy Lifting
- Rajnish Sharma (RS) – Statoil
- Ian Taylor (IT) - GeoSea/DEME

Observers

- Ian Ellerington (IE) - BEIS
- David Hýtch (DH) – InnovateUK
- Nee-Joo Teh (NJT) – KTN
- Jonny Flowers (JF) – ORE Catapult
- Andy Lewin (AL) – ORE Catapult
- David Wallace (DW) – ORE Catapult

Item	Notes	Action
<b>1. Introductions, Anti-Trust</b>	The co-chairs welcomed the group and highlighted the importance of Anti-Trust and compliance with Competition Law.	
<b>2. Terms of Reference</b>	The Terms of Reference (“ToR”) for the TAG were presented. These highlighted that the role of the TAG is to be collaborative	

Unrestricted

Prepared by: Jonny Flowers  
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	<p>and representative of the sector and not just the companies present on the TAG.</p> <p>The aims of the Offshore Wind Innovation Hub (“the Hub”) are to look not just at LCOE but also opportunities for UK content and leveraging UK capability.</p>	
<b>3. Overview of the Hub</b>		
<b>a. Hub Overview</b>	<p>The Hub is a partnership between ORE Catapult and KTN, and is funded by BEIS to the end of the current spending review period.</p> <p>Aim is to simplify and coordinate the landscape for innovators in the UK. It will do this by establishing a common set of sector priorities, working with industry and supply chain to broker R&amp;D partnerships, and providing funders with an impartial and evidence-based assessment of the needs of the sector.</p> <p>The TAG will replace the OWPB Technology &amp; Innovation sub-group.</p> <p>The primary beneficiaries of the Hub are envisaged to be to be Tier 2 Suppliers and SMEs/Agile innovators, acknowledging that project developers create market pull and OEMS invest heavily in innovation. The picture is complex but that innovation in Tier 2 suppliers and Agile supply chain companies can bring benefits for project developers.</p> <p>The Hub is funded by BEIS and InnovateUK, but that the Hub will work with the entire UK public sector.</p> <p>An overview of the funding that had been made available to the offshore wind sector over the last 5 years was presented. Further detail was requested on the split between university funding and industry funding, and the associated gearing.</p> <p>OWiX is an early success story for the Hub and works with problem owners to understand challenges and connect them with solution providers from other sectors. OWiX doesn’t provide funding, rather it builds relationships between problem owners and solution providers. Two companies are already involved and workshops have been held to formulate the “challenges” as a pilot of the process.</p>	<b>More granularity on the data to be provided (JF)</b>
<b>b. BEIS Policy Context</b>	<p>The policy landscape in the UK for offshore wind has changed significantly since 2012. In this time the question has gone from “how do we create an industry that will survive” to “how do we make this industry even more competitive?” The emphasis of UK Government intervention is on reducing the cost of the offshore wind projects, increasing the capabilities of the UK, and feeding into the Industrial Strategy. The Industrial Strategy is focused on putting in place the foundations to build industrial sectors and for industries to come together to build on those foundations. BEIS recognises that energy innovation is important to UK industry as a whole. The current context is the best it’s ever been for offshore wind.</p>	

<p><b>c. InnovateUK Innovation Support</b></p>	<p>InnovateUK works to connect companies, and to provide competitive funding. It identifies broad sectors and each sector has two open funding competitions per year. Offshore wind usually falls into the “Infrastructure Systems” sector, however some innovation areas in offshore wind may also be eligible to bid into competitions in the other InnovateUK sectors. If an innovator is seeking to do a project with support from InnovateUK then they should consider which funding call could apply to them, rather than looking for one that specifically mentions offshore wind.</p>	
<p><b>4. Questions</b></p>	<p>“How do you define innovation, is it research, development, and demonstration?”</p> <p>It is the full spectrum of R&amp;D and demonstration and is anything relevant to the identified LCOE and UK content needs. Universities have a role to play throughout the TRL cycle, not just early stage research. It is also important to identify the needs of the sector, and particularly the need to better define the UK content within projects, as currently it is less well defined than other decision factors such as LCOE.</p> <p>“What is the overall long term and mid-term target for offshore wind sector?”</p> <p>Indications from BEIS are that they see offshore wind as a key part of the mix going forward (e.g. CRMF, upcoming CFD auction, emissions forecast shows increase in renewables in future energy mix). The landscape may change but we know that the UK carbon reduction targets are set in UK law through the Climate Change Act. Also highlighted were targets around LCOE and UK content in the offshore wind sector.</p> <p>“How does the Hub fit with the UK Industrial Strategy?”</p> <p>The UK Government has ambition to reduce carbon in the energy mix, but the onus is on the market to demonstrate how this is best achieved commercially.</p> <p>The Offshore Wind Industrial Council is developing a ‘Sector deal’ for the offshore wind sector as part of the Government’s Industrial strategy work, and the advisory group will have a key role feeding into this process.</p> <p>“How is the UK landscape positioned in an international context? Does the Hub want to focus on everything, for example is the integration of storage within the scope of the Hub?”</p> <p>The roadmapping work will inform where there were opportunities for UK competencies to be focused on the areas important to the offshore wind sector.</p> <p>“Are the solutions that are facilitated by OWiX published?”</p> <p>No. Many of the solutions were commercially sensitive and the benefit to the supply chain/SME is that they build a relationship</p>	

	<p>with the operator. The Hub will be well placed to provide the more generic solution information.</p> <p>“If an innovation project looked at an aspect of health, safety or environment that led to improvement but a slightly increased LCOE, would that be outside the scope of the current InnovateUK infrastructure systems funding call?”</p> <p>Yes, but health, safety or environmental projects would not necessarily increase LCOE.</p> <p>“Will the focus of the InnovateUK funding calls shift with time?”</p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>“Does InnovateUK have a focus on the move towards electrification for energy use, such as with heating or transport”</p> <p>There is no set agenda, but a recognition that there will be a change in energy use with time.</p>	
<p><b>5. Innovation Prioritisation Process</b></p>	<p>For the last year workshops have been undertaken to get a view on the innovation priorities of the sector. The Innovation Hub has liaised with OWA and others to build upon these discussions and establish preliminary innovation priorities.</p> <p>The roadmapping will take the initial evidence the Hub has and draw in other sources of information (including input from the TAG) to build this into an innovation roadmap. The Hub is implementing an industry best practice tool to develop this roadmap. The TAG will be asked to sense check the roadmap outputs, as well as bringing experts from TAG members’ own organisations .</p> <p>“How do you identify which areas are the ones where you can have the greatest impact?”</p> <p>Part of the role of the Hub is to track the different innovation paths and therefore identify where the Hub can best focus its efforts. The TAG will be well placed to sense check which would be the areas where it would be sensible to intervene.</p> <p>“How will the roadmapping categorise international innovation vs UK innovation?”</p> <p>This would be identified within the roadmapping. Many programs are by their nature multi-national and there will be a need to understand how the innovations programs going on can apply to the UK.</p> <p>The Hub will track upcoming funding calls and publicise this on the website. It will also convene R&amp;D partnerships, and has already undertaken work in brokering that has led to an increase in the number of consortia applying for funding calls.</p> <p>“Will there still be the opportunity to set up consortia outside of the Hub?”</p>	

	<p>Yes. The Hub will offer brokering to consortia even if there is no enduring role for the Hub, but it is not mandatory.</p> <p>“In the roadmap do you plan to show starting TRL and then, within that strand, where you hope to get to?”</p> <p>Yes.</p>	
<b>6. Next Steps</b>	<p>The proposed dates for future TAG meetings are below. These are proposed to be held in London on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017</li> <li>• Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2017</li> <li>• Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018</li> </ul>	
<b>7. AOB</b>	<p>It was agreed that papers for the next TAG will be sent out two weeks prior to the meeting to allow time for them to be reviewed within Members’ organisations</p> <p>The Hub will provide an evidence base for funders and research organisations and funders.</p> <p>The next TAG meeting will consider the preliminary prioritisation and conclude whether or not the TAG agrees.</p> <p>Additional attendees may be invited to subsequent TAG meetings if their expertise is required for a particular topic.</p>	<b>Papers for next TAG to be sent out two weeks prior to next meeting (JF)</b>
<b>8. Close</b>	<p>The co-chairs gave closing comments, thanked everyone for their involvement, and issued an open request for any feedback on the work of the Hub, the meeting itself, the membership of the group, or the working arrangements moving forward.</p>	