

Abstract for the Review and the Proceedings

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Topic:	Offshore Technology For Wind Energy Application
Sub-Topic:	Installation – Concepts and Risks
Title of Paper:	Experiences on UK Offshore Windfarms
Date:	Thursday 27 October 2005 – 11.00 am to 12.30 pm
Keywords:	Subsea Cable Export and Infield Cable Installation North Hoyle Windfarm Project Scroby Sands Windfarm Project Burial Technology
Summary:	<p>Subocean Group personnel has previously been involved in the first two UK windfarms.</p> <p>With actual operational experience in offshore cable installation, Subocean Group personnel has identified several problem areas that cause risk and cost impacts to these projects and will cause similar challenges in future windfarm developments as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shallow water required suitable installation assets to be put in place • Currents of 4 knots affected air diving, cable lay and burial equipment operations • Windfarms were obviously in high wind areas where there was downtime due to the weather • Soils were harder than expected and made the planned 1.5 m burial operations slower to achieve • Shore end working impacted on the environment and had to be discussed with local communities and local councils • Bank holiday and weekend working have to be planned and accepted



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cables crossed live gas pipelines• Too many companies were involved in the contracting chain• Operational design of J-Tubes meant that considerable air diving was required• Sand waves, in the Scroby Sands Windfarm Project, meant that water depths changed over a period of days, and working at shallow (down to zero) with unpredictable water depths was required <p>Subocean Group would like to bring their experience and proven solutions to the market sector to reduce future risk and cost factors for developers.</p> <p>However, the main way Subocean Group would like to propose doing this is to carry out offshore windfarm projects like offshore marine constructions projects and not like civil engineering projects. Offshore windfarm projects could then be split into EPIC contracts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Turbine Supply• Pile Installation• Turbine Installation• Cable Procurement with Installation• Burial and Commissioning
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