



LIMERICK CLARE
energy agency

University of Limerick,
Plassey,
Limerick,



"OREDP Mid-term Review"
Electricity Policy Division
Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment,
29-31 Adelaide Road,
Dublin,
DO2 X285

19/12/2017

**RE: Mid-term Review of the Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan (OREDP)
Review Report**

A Chara, thank you for this opportunity to make a submission to the Mid-term review of the
Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan

Please see comments below.

Yours Sincerely



Manager



Please see the comments of the energy agency to the various questions raised. I regret that the answers are not as comprehensive as I would have liked because I didn't know about the Mid-term review or the any of the consultation until yesterday afternoon.

Q. 1. Do you have any suggestions or additional measures to support and enhance the governance structures of the OREDP?

A. OREDP - Governance.

The Shannon Integrated Framework Plan was established by all of key stakeholders in the Shannon Estuary area. I believe that a representation from the SIFP would be a significant omission to the work of the OREDP and OREDP Steering Group. The SIFP is a regional structure, the only one of its kind in Ireland, that has identified suitable strategic areas for offshore renewable energy development, and has ongoing environmental and economic modelling in progress. Please see the link to the SIFP below:-

<http://www.shannonestuarysifp.ie/>

Q.4. Do you think sufficient progress has been made on the development of the Atlantic Marine Energy Test Site in County Mayo?

A. AMETS.

The development of the Atlantic Marine Energy Test Site in Mayo should not be confused or co-joined with proposals for development in any other area on the west coast of Ireland. A number of offshore renewable energy developers in the areas of wave, tidal and off shore wind have identified an interest in the Limerick, Shannon Estuary and Clare coast areas. It is essential for the strategic and organic development of this industry that those developers willing to invest, are not discouraged from investigating areas where they believe the best return on investment is possible.

An independent wave energy test site is required where all types of technologies are tested. The AMETS should be supported to realise its original aims at the earliest opportunity.

However this is not the same as the pre-commercial or indeed commercial projects that may seek approval to develop in the near future of the coast of all counties inn the Atlantic area.

Tidal Energy / Shannon Estuary

I note with regret that the potential of the Shannon Estuary for the generation of tidal energy and as a tidal energy test site has not been mentioned. I believe that this is a significant over-sight and that the potential of the Shannon Estuary for renewable energy development should be recognised in the OREDP. The role of the Shannon Integrated Framework plan should also be recognised, including



the strategic recognition of the potential for Offshore renewable energy in the Shannon Integrated Framework Plan.

Key Stakeholders

I am very disappointed to note that the list of "key stakeholders" does not include:-

- Limerick City & County Council
- Shannon Foynes Port Company
- Clare County Council
- Kerry County Council
- University of Limerick
- Limerick Clare Energy Agency
- Shannon Integrated Framework Plan - Steering Group / Secretariat.

I would ask that the mid-term review should conduct a new review that is more inclusive in terms of key stakeholders and also includes tidal energy in the Shannon Estuary.

Thank you for this opportunity to contribute to your consultation process.