

## The first offshore windfarm in Italy



It was approved the project of the Sky Saver, which includes 24 wind turbines in the waters of the Straits of Otranto 20 km off Tricase, which produce about 90 MW of electrical power.

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The Regional Committee for Environmental Impact Assessment has approved the first offshore wind farm (those systems installed off the sea or lakes, a few kilometers from the coast) off the waters of Tricase (Lecce), and the President of the Region, Nichi Vendola expressed his delight and satisfaction during the transmission of deepening "Eight and a half, live on La7, saying that with this project Puglia once again says no to nuclear power.

The park will be built in the canal of Otranto 20 km off Tricase (Lecce) and the environmental impact is considered minimal for a considerable distance from the coast and also because it is characterized by floating platforms you can use a clean energy source without intervening and alter the seabed. In fact the Office of Environmental Impact Assessment clarify that "the wind farm does not ruin the landscape of Tricase. At that

distance the turbines are practically invisible to the naked eye. Even the backdrop will be protected from this type of system. Offshore, turbines cannot be anchored to the ground but suspended on huge floating platforms". And finally "given the considerable distance from the coast can be said that the turbines do not interfere with the migratory routes of birds." With these statements the Office Via responds to all the doubts raised in recent years from environmentalists Salento, which still remain on alert for the proper management and protection of territory against any unlawful authorization.

It is the first offshore wind farm at the regional level and represents an innovative technology project consists of 24 blades that will produce about 90 megawatts (MW) of power. It is the first project approved by the Board of Environmental Impact Assessment which was presented by Sky Saver, a company created in Santeramo in Colle (Bari), the multinational owned by Blue H and Dufenergy, power company in Luxembourg.

As recognized by both the project technical report (Environmental Impact Study) "the realization of offshore wind Tricase the first example of application of the offshore wind technology in deep water, will begin with the installation of a floating platform to buoyancy locked, topped by a wind turbine from 2.5 MW. The program realization of the plants forming the offshore park, designed in a modular fashion, will, as a first step, the installation of a platform surmounted by a 2.5 MW turbine, and an anchoring system to a base foundation consists of a steel structure. The development of the Park will continue with the installation of 5 additional platforms to complete the front row on which it is made for the installation of wind turbines from 2.5 to 3.5 MW wind turbine units such technology is patented. Subsequent wind unit, completed in the Park will be even greater in size, made pursuant to a technology that, while retaining the heart of one of the first unit, also introduces important innovations patented.

For the construction of production units were considered different parameters specific result of a special study conducted by meteo-marine Rina Industry, for the time span 10-25-100 years.

Another feature that was considered is the rotor speed will vary so that we achieve the desired speed and power failed to achieve higher returns. That will be a system of monitoring environmental parameters also located near the site.

The data collected will be analyzed by an appropriate simulation model of the dynamics of the sea where it is added on site and compared with data from satellite weather forecasting models, this will serve to detect any disturbance in the immediate arrival on the wind waves.

With this information, a special software will allow, in the case of excessive disruptions of engine shutdown or reduce the power with the result not to unduly stress the unity and basically not to penalize the production.

Investing in clean energy is a new innovative way of doing business and in respect of land and environment, a choice made by other European countries like Britain, Holland, Denmark, Germany, Scotland, Norway (where Havsui is rising to the offshore wind farm in the world's largest, with 1.5 GW of

electric power) and Spain who are already investing a lot in order to achieve medium and large wind farms offshore. In Italy a first concrete step towards environmental protection and renewable energy has just done six other offshore installations off the coast of Taranto, Manfredonia, Brindisi and Tremiti Islands are awaiting assessment ...