

# Our offshore wind portfolio

**Working with UK suppliers** 

## Collaborating with suppliers for sector growth

RWE has been creating successful supplier partnerships in the UK offshore wind sector for more than 20 years. The map highlights a small selection of the very many companies RWE has worked with on our most recent construction projects.



#### **Growing the UK pipeline**

RWE has been pioneering offshore wind in the UK for more than two decades. Blyth, our first venture into offshore wind, was commissioned in 2000. Since then, both our technical expertise and offshore portfolio have grown substantially. Currently in the UK, we have 10 operational wind farms, have one under construction and a further six in development making us one of the largest developers in the UK.

We recognise suppliers as the backbone of our success. Throughout our journey, we have sought to maximise UK supplier opportunities, working in partnership with our skilled and diverse supplier network. Together we have been at the forefront of innovation and driven both regional and industry-wide successes in terms of local regeneration, job creation, Gross Value Add (GVA), infrastructure opportunities and enhanced supplier capabilities. All of which contribute to the success of the UK market globally.



#### Championing supplier development

RWE works closely with UK Government, other developers and suppliers to facilitate supply chain growth. Via the Offshore Wind Industry Council (OWIC), we are helping to shape the policies that will realise the UK Government's ambition of 50GW by 2030.

At a regional level, we recognise the importance of creating opportunities to deliver new supplier networks and regional growth by fostering local businesses, skills and innovation activities, via industry clusters including the Offshore Energy Alliance which we established in 2019.

8 North Falls

9 Galloper

17 Sofia



## £9.8 billion+

RWE Investment in new operational & construction projects since 2017



#### Supporting supplier innovation

RWE has been driving UK innovation as a leader or active participant in many UK research programmes. Examples of collaboration include those with key parties such as the Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult (OREC) and The Carbon Trust. We recognise innovation as a crucial component to supplier growth and overall UK market success and are committed to ongoing collaborative efforts to engage In this way.

We also collaborate at a local project basis with a range of universities and R&D institutes, to drive knowledge creation in the offshore sector. For example, RWE's Sofia construction project has been actively involved in OREC's Launch Academy. Through this, small innovative companies are able to address project-specific and wider industry challenges, as identified by RWE.



### Continuously advancing the supplier network

We understand our role in advancing UK supplier capability and consider this across our project, company and industry level engagements. Through the development of tailored Supply Chain Plans our projects are delivering on commitments across green business growth, infrastructure investments, innovation and skills to aid the development of our future workforce and industry.

We work via Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) and other initiatives to explore valuable relationships with prospective supplier partners, funding studies and working in partnership where we see potential. At an industry level, we work with our counterparts to identify challenges and pose solutions that enable vital growth and success.



#### **RWE**

## Supplier Transparency & Engagement Programme (STEP)

RWE has worked successfully with offshore wind suppliers both in the UK and internationally for over two decades. However, we recognise the opportunities and challenges that a rapidly growing market brings, requiring developers and higher tier suppliers to work ever closer with the broader supplier network.

Over time, our approach to supplier engagement has become more holistic as we strive to maximise the opportunities from our projects progressing through development. To that end, we have created the Supplier Transparency and Engagement Programme (STEP) a more proactive approach to supplier engagement.

STEP is our commitment to continuously improve supplier engagement. Following a review of our existing processes, we have introduced new practices, which include increased opportunities for dialogue with our supplier network. We promise to strive to continuously 'step up' our efforts regarding our supplier engagement activities.

Under the STEP initiative, we have developed four initial steps aimed at improving transparency, engagement and information exchange regarding our UK projects progressing through development and construction:

- Dedicated project websites that provide up to date and relevant information for suppliers regarding project timescales and other key aspects
- 2. The rollout of new and easy to register/use Supplier Engagement Platforms with 'open search' functionality
- 3. Regular themed Supplier Engagement Days to raise awareness of supplier capabilities and solutions with a view to solving industry challenges
- 4. A new Supplier Engagement Booking Tool that enables managed but regular calls with relevant RWE teams and team members



For more information on RWE Offshore Supply Chain

