

20 September 2019

innogy's Sofia successful in UK renewables auction

innogy's 1.4 gigawatt (GW) Sofia Offshore Wind Farm has won a Contract for Difference (CfD) in the UK Government's latest auction, announced today.

This means that the project, which brings with it significant economic benefits as well as low cost, clean green electricity for UK consumers, can now progress towards the final investment decision and into construction.

With a price of £39.65 per megawatt hour (MWh), this third allocation round has seen the lowest ever price for offshore wind in the UK.

Hans Bünting, COO Renewables, innogy SE said: "We are delighted to have won a CfD for Sofia, the largest project in our offshore wind portfolio.

"I want to congratulate the whole Sofia team for working tirelessly to achieve a price that reflects the offshore wind sector's enormous cost reduction efforts over the past few years and its focus on ensuring the maximum benefit for UK consumers.

"The sector has targeted innovation, competition and skills to bring costs down, and at the same time the UK Government's supportive frameworks and instruments have boosted investor confidence and given both scale and certainty to the UK supply chain."

Sofia Offshore Wind Farm covers a site of almost 600 square kilometres and is located 195 km off the UK coast on Dogger Bank in the North Sea. Once operational, the total amount of power Sofia could generate would be enough to provide almost 1.2 million average UK homes with their annual electricity needs.

Director of Offshore Wind, innogy SE Paul Cowling said: "The auction result confirms the offshore wind sector's pivotal role in meeting the UK's net zero 2050 commitment and tackling the climate emergency while ensuring the lowest cost to consumers.

"The sector's foresight has enabled the UK to take the lead globally in the deployment of offshore wind, with this auction confirming that costs are now down to a level well below that of fossil fuel generated electricity," he said. "The Offshore Wind Sector Deal, agreed by industry and Government in March, will further strengthen the position and encourage export of the UK's expertise and knowhow.

"innogy is at the forefront of the sector as one of the world's most experienced developers and operators of offshore wind and we look forward to utilising our industry leading experience to ensuring the successful delivery of Sofia."

Sofia Project Director David Few, who led the project through the auction, said: "It has been a huge team effort with many complexities and I congratulate everyone who has worked so diligently to ensure Sofia's success as they have all played a role in today's fantastic achievement.

“Now we have won a CfD we intend to progress the project through the latter stages of development and design, working closely with our major suppliers, wide cross section of stakeholders and the local Teesside community.”

Construction of the wind farm is currently due to start in 2021, subject to design refinement and all the associated financial decisions, including a final investment decision.

Sofia Offshore Wind Farm is 100% owned by innogy SE. For more information:
www.innogy.com/renewablesuk/sofia

End

Photos: Headshots of 1. Hans Bunting, 2. Paul Cowling and 3. David Few

Map: Sofia Offshore Wind Farm

For further information:

Sue Vincent, Communication, Sofia Offshore Wind Farm, Innogy Renewables UK Limited

M: +44 7768508742 E: sue.vincent@innogy.com

Stephen Thomas, Head of Communications UK and Ireland, Innogy Renewables UK Limited

M: +44 7795355319 E: Stephen.thomas@innogy.com

Legal disclaimer

This document contains forward-looking statements. These statements are based on the current views, expectations, assumptions and information of the management, and are based on information currently available to the management. Forward-looking statements shall not be construed as a promise for the materialisation of future results and developments and involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties. Actual results, performance or events may differ materially from those described in such statements due to, among other things, changes in the general economic and competitive environment, risks associated with capital markets, currency exchange rate fluctuations, changes in international and national laws and regulations, in particular with respect to tax laws and regulations, affecting the Company, and other factors. Neither the Company nor any of its affiliates assumes any obligations to update any forward-looking statements.

GDPR UK

Following the introduction of the GDPR, Innogy Renewables UK Limited would like to continue to contact you electronically to inform you via press releases about the latest developments at the company. We have updated our data protection policies and you can find out more at <https://www.innogy.com/dataprotection>. If you are not interested in receiving further press releases, please let us know by emailing sue.vincent@innogy.com. Your data will then be removed from our system and we will not send you any further press releases.

