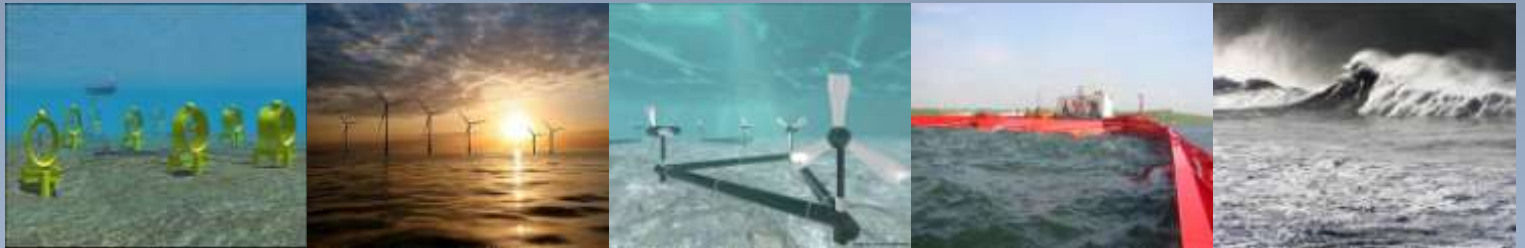


mEP

Marine Energy Pembrokeshire

Marine Energy Pembrokeshire Progress Update

March 2011



www.marineenergypembrokeshire.co.uk

Reporting Period	End March 2011
Work Stream	WSP – SWW – Marine Energy Pembrokeshire MEP
MEP Team	Tonia Forsyth / David Jones
Workstream aim and objectives	To establish Pembrokeshire as a centre of excellence in Wales for the development and exploitation of energy derived from marine renewable sources.

Overall Status Previous Status	Green
Green =	Current progress on target with plan. No major issues or concerns.
Amber =	Progress deviating from plan. Milestones/deliverables still achievable within two months of planned date. Issues encountered but able to handle within the project. Recovery actions being implemented.
Red =	Serious issues impacting progress. Milestones/deliverables not achievable within two months of planned date, or missed and threatening overall success. Support or action required from outside the project.

Provide a brief overview of achievements since last report including an explanation of declared RAG status:	
Overview:	RAG Status for Marine Energy Pembrokeshire is <u>Green</u> .
	<p>Achievements since March 2010</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Expansion of the working group</u> – Initial Working Group membership includes members from Welsh Assembly Government, The Marine Energy Task Group for Wales, Pembrokeshire County Council, Countryside Council for Wales, Milford Haven Port Authority, Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority, Tidal Energy Limited, E-ON, Marine Energy Limited, Wave Dragon, Far Offshore Renewables and the Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum. The group has expanded to include 2 new private sector developers with an interest in deployment off Pembrokeshire. Pembrokeshire College have also now joined the group and are liaising with the industry to identify future skills needs within the marine energy sector. <u>Launch of MEP website</u> – Minister Jane Davidson officially launched www.marineenergypembrokeshire.co.uk after meeting with the MEP working Group. <u>Updating of MEP website</u> – Continuous updating of the MEP website has been carried out including the addition of a supply chain section which should link in with the Building a Knowledge Economy project point of “Energy and Marine Clusters and their supply chains”. The website has been set up to provide information and promote Pembrokeshire as a Hub for Marine Renewables. This website will become a “one stop shop” for developers, investors and the public wanting to know more about the projects, the resource, consenting, funding, research and infrastructure. The members section provides details of working group meetings.

4. Updating of MEP contacts database: MEP has developed a Marine Renewable Energy contact database which provides the working group with details of over 250 interested contacts many within the energy sector. This allows the group to keep relevant information flowing. Since January the database has expanded to include the primary supply chain sector.
5. MEP E-News – Monthly e-news bulletins are sent to all PCF and MEP contacts providing up to date information on marine renewable activities across the UK
6. MEP working group meetings – 6 meetings have taken place within the update period. 1st meeting with the Minister Jane Davidson where the working group discussed their strategic aims. Private sector members also gave an overview of their projects including details of why Pembrokeshire was so attractive as a potential deployment site. Barriers to development were also discussed. The minister welcomed the groups collaborative working and asked for a repeat meeting in the new year. The 2nd meeting involved the usual information exchange of members while Nick Harrington from Wave Hub provided detailed information on developing Wavehub. The working group will be involved in Halcrow's Marine Energy infrastructure study for WAG. The 3rd meeting involved National Grid and Western Power Distribution who were invited and questioned by the working group about grid connections in Pembrokeshire and the potential for MRE devices to be plugged into the infrastructure. The 4th and 5th meetings were used to discuss and finalise arrangements for the MEP seminar in March 2011 and the last meeting of the group took place directly after the Seminar.
7. Forward Work Plan / Priorities for Action – Halcrow Consultants provided input to a forward work plan detailing the flexibility and collaboration of the group as positive. This has been developed further into a MEP Work Plan with specific outputs and priorities for action. Work has now commenced on producing a more detailed 3 year Business Plan for the group
8. Events – MEP attended the Project Start event with HRH Prince Charles showing a great interest in the work of the Group and the Wales Low Carbon Energy Summit. MEP had a display at the Electric Cars event at the Technium to raise awareness of the work of MEP and to ensure its activities are linked into the local low carbon agenda. MEP provided a presentation to the Wildlife Trust on its activities in December 2010 and to the Business Forum on 21st March 2011.
9. MEP Seminar – The main focus of activity from January 2011 has been on organisation of the MEP Seminar which was held at Technium Pembrokeshire on 14th March. Peter Pearson, Director, LCRI chaired the event and speakers included WAG – providing updates on the new DE& T structure for energy & Environment, updates on the MRESF and proposed Halcrow study, METG – overview of the new LCRI funded renewables activities, MHPA – overview of port infrastructure and services and TEL who closed the event with a presentation on what Pembrokeshire has to offer the marine energy industry. The focus for the seminar was on operational activities with Jane Davidson providing the key note address. During her speech the minister announced the launch of the MRESF study as well as the Welsh Assembly Government and The Crown Estates formalising their intention to work together to support Wales' capacity for marine energy manufacturing by jointly signing a letter of intent. This is the first agreement of its kind between The Crown Estate and a Devolved Administration. As part of the event there were three workshops covering infrastructure & supply chain, finance and environment and consenting. The event was enormously successful with over 120 attendees representing developers, supply chain and strategic bodies. All presentations and workshop summaries are available on the MEP website.

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| <p>8. <i>Facilitation</i> of MEP responses to renewables related policy (e.g. SEA, MRESF) Letter of proportionality to Minister after discussions with working group, investigating funding carry over on behalf of developers with WAG. MEP have now also joined the Energy Sector Workforce Development Group representing the renewables sector and ensuring that developers can take advantage of the skills training subsidies available through this EU funded Initiative.</p> <p>9. <i>Funding</i> – PCF have been investigating funding opportunities for continuation of MEP activities from April 2011 through new funding streams to include Countryside Council for Wales and The Crown Estate.</p> |
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Marine Energy in Pembrokeshire could increase and diversify economic activities, raise skill levels, sustain and strengthen local communities and most importantly contribute to the single greatest challenge of our time – **Climate Change**. In addition to the excellent energy resource that Pembrokeshire has to offer, there are a number of other factors that set the area apart from other UK sites and provide an attractive package for potential investors. These include excellent grid connection possibilities, world class research, port facilities and transferable skills, a history of collaborative working in the marine sector and unrivalled data collection.

To drive Pembrokeshire forward as a centre of excellence for Marine Energy a Working Group has been developed and contains members from Welsh Assembly Government, The Marine Energy Task Group for Wales, Pembrokeshire County Council, Countryside Council for Wales, Milford Haven Port Authority, Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority, Tidal Energy Limited, E-ON, Marine Energy Limited, Wave Dragon, Far Offshore Renewables and the Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum.

Members of the Group are self-nominated according to their knowledge, influence, skills and enthusiasm to progress this agenda in Pembrokeshire and their willingness to work together collectively for the benefit of all.

For more information www.marineenergypembrokeshire.co.uk