

Pentland Firth and Orkney Waters Marine Spatial Plan and Regional Locational Guidance

SRGD/MESMA
Workshop
Inverness February 2011

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Introduction

- Background
- Stage 1 of MSP
- RLG
- Recommendations for stage 2

Background

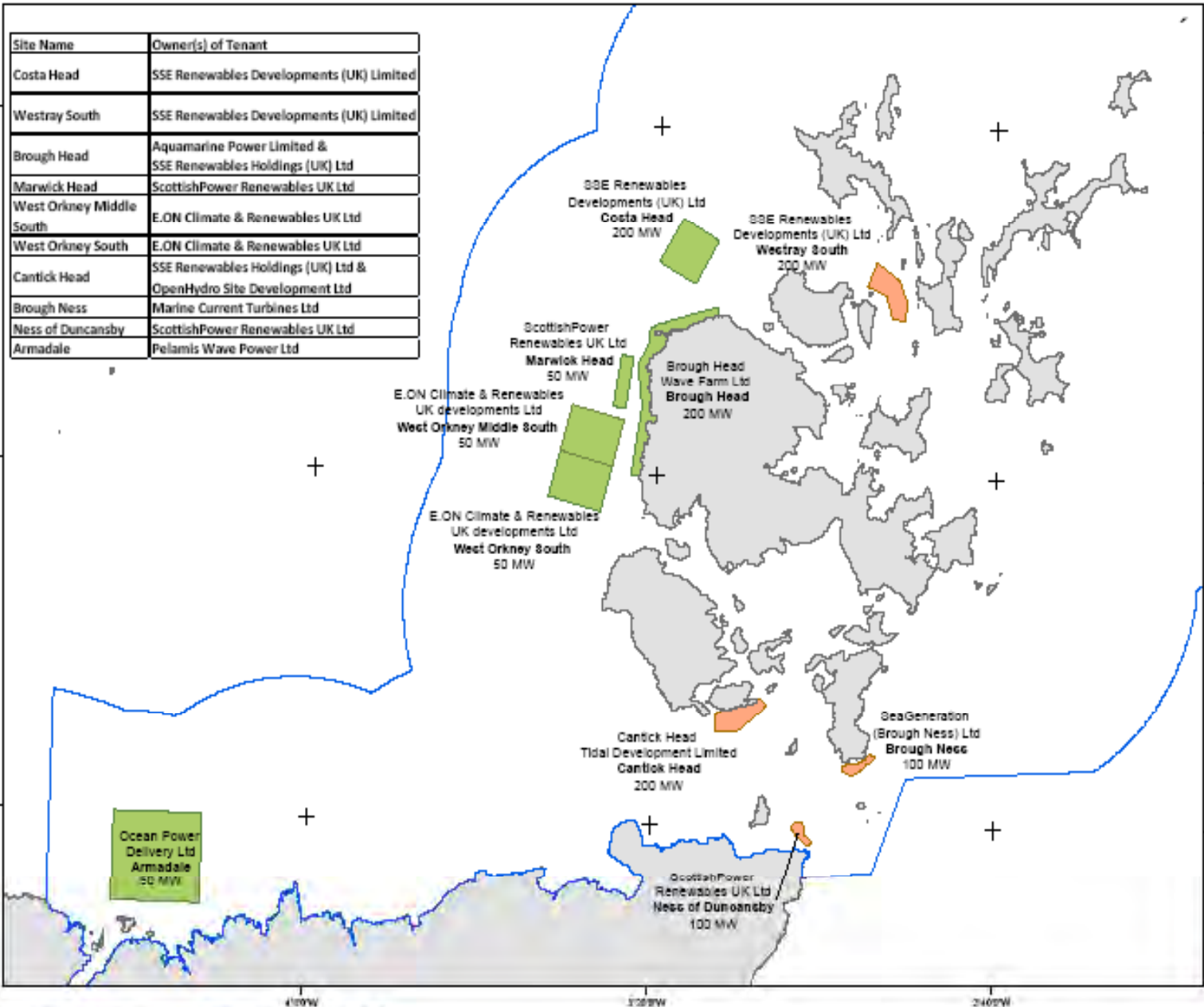
- New legislation – Marine (Scotland) Act 2010.
- Government has powers to prepare regional plans, and these powers can be delegated to marine planning partnerships
- How will regional plans be used?
 - The Act sets up a new marine licensing system. Decisions on licensing must be made in accordance with the plan
 - Other ‘relevant decisions’ – onshore planning - must also be made with regard to the plan

Background

- Why are we doing a pilot?
- Wave and tidal resources in Pentland Firth and Orkney Waters have key national importance
- The Crown Estate have entered into 10 agreements for lease
- But these 10 planned activities are not yet licensed...

Pentland Firth and Orkney Waters Round 1 Development Sites

Site Name	Owner(s) of Tenant
Costa Head	SSE Renewables Developments (UK) Limited
Westray South	SSE Renewables Developments (UK) Limited
Brough Head	Aquamarine Power Limited & SSE Renewables Holdings (UK) Ltd
Marwick Head	ScottishPower Renewables UK Ltd
West Orkney Middle South	E.ON Climate & Renewables UK Ltd
West Orkney South	E.ON Climate & Renewables UK Ltd
Cantick Head	SSE Renewables Holdings (UK) Ltd & OpenHydro Site Development Ltd
Brough Ness	Marine Current Turbines Ltd
Ness of Duncansby	ScottishPower Renewables UK Ltd
Armadale	Pelamis Wave Power Ltd



- Development Sites**
- Tidal
 - Wave
 - Strategic Area
 - United Kingdom
 - Europe

MaRS
Marine Resource System
Round 1 Development Sites
05 March 2010



1:50,000 Author: KR
Size: A4 QA: JM

Positions shown relative to WGS 84
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10 New Burlington Place London W1J 8JF
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Background

- Timing of plans...
 - Draft of national plan by Spring 2011
 - Consultation on regional plan boundaries later this year.
 - Statutory regional plans rolled out after 2012

Background

- 3 stage process for PFOW MSP:
 1. Planning Framework based upon existing available information.
 2. Commission studies to address identified knowledge gaps required to develop a comprehensive MSP.
 3. Fully populated framework including stage 2 studies and policy.

Background

- Key questions still to be decided...
 1. Balance between data and policy in Plan?
 2. How does non-statutory pilot fit in with statutory framework?
- Next steps...
- Marine Scotland, Orkney Islands Council and Highland Council to start work on next stages. Work starts this Autumn.

Background

- Regional locational guidance (identified as a need by SEA)
 - Sector specific - provide guidance on wave and tidal resources in this area as well as physical characteristics (e.g. of the sea bed)
 - Feeds into the Plan
- In the future we will be updating marine renewables SEA and doing an HRA

Recommendations for stage 2

- Suite of studies to fill research gaps
- Environmental studies
- Sector studies
 - Fishing resource assessment
 - Navigation traffic management study
 - Recreation/tourism
- National renewables infrastructure plan
- Grid
- Socio-economic assessment

Recommendations for stage 2

- Environmental studies
 - Diving birds strategic monitoring – baseline survey currently being commissioned by MS and TCE
 - Marine mammals strategic monitoring – been commissioned by SNH and MS
 - Migratory fish – initial assessment of what information is needed
 - EMF influence on species susceptible to EM fields
 - Benthic study required?
 - Further bathymetric study required?