



# Tethys Blast

July 11, 2014

Welcome to the July edition of the Tethys Blast! A new Tethys Blast will be sent to you every 2-4 weeks, unless you choose to unsubscribe; instructions to unsubscribe are at the bottom of this email.

Tethys Blast will keep you updated with new information available on Tethys, new features on Tethys, and current news articles of international interest on offshore renewable energy. We hope that this becomes a valuable tool to help you stay connected to your colleagues and to introduce you to new research, new contacts, and ongoing milestones in renewable ocean energy development.

## New Articles on Tethys

A total of 46 new documents have been added to Tethys in the last two weeks! These documents have been hand-selected for their relevance to the environmental effects of offshore renewable energy. The listings below are short introductions to several popular documents that can be accessed through the accompanying Tethys links:

### **Impacts of Offshore Wind Farm Construction on Harbour Porpoises: Acoustic Monitoring of Echolocation Activity using Porpoise Detectors (T-Pods) - Carstensen et al.**

Offshore wind farming is a new emerging technology in the field of renewable energies. This study investigates the potential impact of the construction of one of the first major, offshore wind farms (>100 MW) on harbour porpoises *Phocoena phocoena* by means of acoustic porpoise detectors (T-PODs) monitoring porpoise echolocation activity.

<http://tethys.pnnl.gov/publications/impacts-offshore-wind-farm-construction-harbour-porpoises-acoustic-monitoring>

## **Environmental Impact Assessments for Wave Energy Developments – Learning from Existing Activities and Informing Future Research Priorities – Leeney et al.**

Plans for Marine Renewable Energy Installations (MREI) are developing worldwide, yet many questions still remain about the impacts such developments may have on marine ecosystems and on coastal and oceanographic processes. This uncertainty, combined with a lengthy and complex Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) phase prior to consent, has slowed the growth of the marine renewables sector.

<http://tethys.pnnl.gov/publications/environmental-impact-assessments-wave-energy-developments-learning-existing>

## **Mussel and Seaweed Cultivation in Offshore Wind Farms: An Opinion Survey** Michler-Cieluch et al.

German coastal regions and adjacent offshore waters are claimed for a variety of different, and often overlapping, uses. Conflicts of interest are expected to increase due to the planned construction of offshore wind farms. The development of an integrated approach combining different commercial activities, such as open ocean aquaculture and wind farming, could be a possible solution to overcome these conflicts.

<http://tethys.pnnl.gov/publications/mussel-and-seaweed-cultivation-offshore-wind-farms-opinion-survey>

## **Sound of Islay Demonstration Tidal Array, Cable Route Environmental Information –** ScottishPower Renewables UK Ltd.

The proposed Development could be the first tidal array in UK waters and it will deliver power directly into the National Grid. This will assist both the Scottish and UK Governments in meeting their future energy targets and their reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

<http://tethys.pnnl.gov/publications/sound-islay-demonstration-tidal-array-cable-route-environmental-information>

## **Effects of EMF from Transmission Lines on Elasmobranchs and Other Marine Species –** Normandeau Associates et al.

Anthropogenic electromagnetic fields (EMFs) have been introduced into the marine environment around the world and from a wide variety of sources for well over a century. Despite this, little is known about potential ecological impacts from EMFs. For decades, power transmission cables have been installed across bays and river mouths, and connecting near-shore islands to the mainland...

<http://tethys.pnnl.gov/publications/effects-emf-transmission-lines-elasmobranchs-and-other-marine-species>

# Current News

Current news articles of international interest on offshore renewable energy include:

## **Lynmouth Tidal Energy Test Site Go-Ahead**

The Crown Estate, which manages the UK seabed, has granted Wave Hub exclusive rights to develop a scheme off the coast at Lynmouth. Wave Hub, which has a wave energy test site off Hayle in Cornwall, said it would start liaising with developers who want to test their devices.

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-devon-28208278>

## **Offshore Wind Energy Faces Setbacks in Great Lakes Region**

As recently as a couple of months ago, construction of a wind farm in Lake Erie, off the Ohio shoreline near Cleveland, looked promising. But now some are sounding the death knell for any wind development in the Great Lakes.

<http://innovationtrail.org/post/offshore-wind-energy-faces-setbacks-great-lakes-region>

## **First Wave Energy Project Awarded €23m**

Ireland's first wave energy project off the west coast has been awarded € 23 million in funding by the European Commission. ESB WestWave, which will develop the first wave energy project in Ireland by 2018, is the only Irish project to receive funding under the EU New Entrant Reserve (NER300) scheme.

<http://www.irishtimes.com/business/sectors/energy-and-resources/first-wave-energy-project-awarded-23m-1.1859246>

## **Areva, Gamesa Sign Offshore Wind Energy Deals**

Turbine manufacturers Areva and Gamesa have signed binding agreements to create a 50:50 joint venture (JV) to make it a leading player in the offshore wind energy industry. The new company intends to secure 20% share of the European offshore wind market by 2020 and deliver 2.8GW of capacity.

<http://wind.cleantechnology-business-review.com/news/areva-gamesa-sign-offshore-wind-energy-deals-080714-4312246>