ofgem E-Serve

Promoting choice and value for all gas and electricity customers



# Connecting Offshore Wind to the Grid – a New Regulatory Model

4th Annual Smart Grids & Cleanpower 2012 Conference 14 June 2012 Cambridge www.cir-strategy.com/events

Steve Beel, Head of Offshore Regime Implementation, Ofgem

14 June 2012

### What is Ofgem?

### Office of the Gas and Electricity Markets (UK) Aims:

- To protect consumers and secure Britain's energy supplies by promoting competitive gas and electricity markets
- To regulate gas and electricity markets to ensure adequate investment in the networks
- To contribute to the drive to curb climate change and other work aimed at sustainable development



#### **Ofgem E-Serve**

- Responsible for Ofgem's support and delivery functions
- Focuses on administering environmental programmes and the delivery of sustainability projects.
- Offshore Transmission is part of E-Serve



### **UK transmission regime**

#### Onshore Transmission:

- RIIO
- 3 Transmission Owners
- 8-year price controls
- Greater innovation
- Option for more third party delivery

#### Offshore Transmission

- Competitive ownership of transmission assets offshore
- Coordination regime



### **Offshore Transmission: Objectives**

- Facilitate new investment in offshore wind energy
- Ensure electricity links delivering power to shore built on time and provide value for money
- Provide a new regime for competitive tendering to:
  - Lower the cost of building and operating assets
  - Enable new players to bring innovative technical, operational and financial solutions to the connection of offshore wind farms
  - Provide a lighter touch regulatory approach (since there will be no need for regular price control reviews for OFTOs)





### **Offshore Transmission Owner (OFTO)**

Offshore Transmission Owner (OFTO) **Onshore** Generator **Licence Awarded via Competition** TO Connection to onshore network **Onshore** Substation Offshore Substation **Platform** Subsea cable 132 kV 33 kV Inter Array Cables

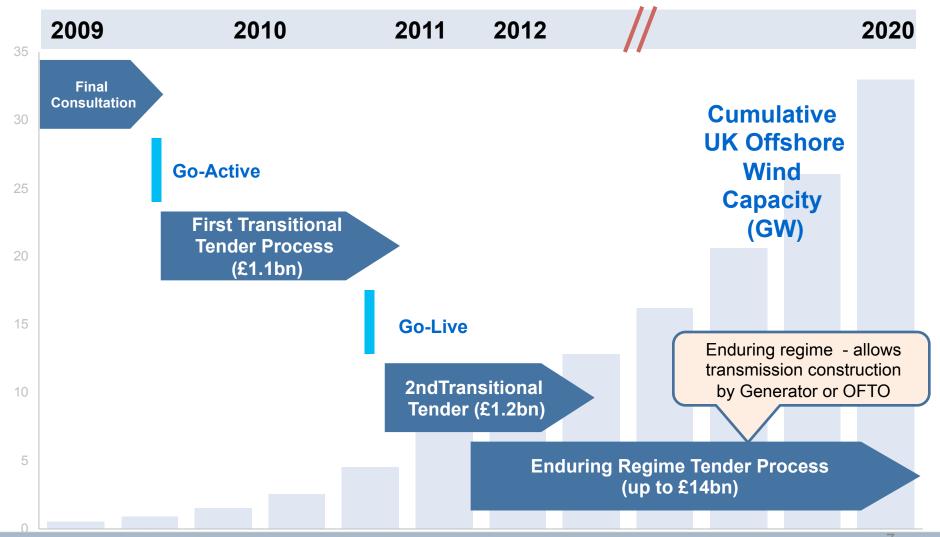
#### **Key aspects of OFTO model**

- Strong regulatory and political support
- OFTOs selected through competitive tender process run by Ofgem
- 20 year revenue stream
- Availability-based regime OFTOs do not have exposure to generation output
- Performance incentives and penalties up to 10% of revenue for below target availability
- Transitional regime deals only with transmission assets already built by generator
- Enduring regime presents option for OFTO Build as well as Generator Build





### **OFTO** regime milestones



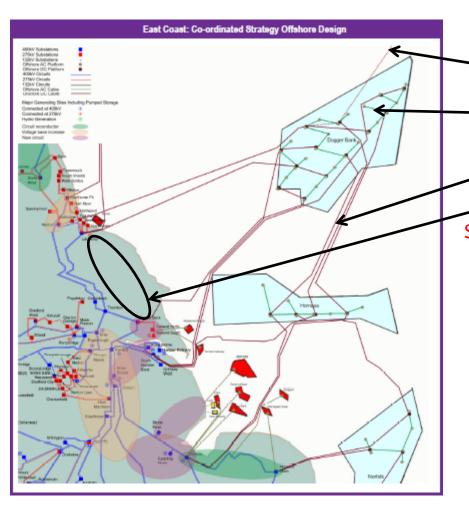
### **Tender round experiences**

- International interest
- Participants thus far include infrastructure funds, niche specialists, transmission operators and strategic players (e.g. Transmission Capital Partners, INPP, Macquarie, Mitsubishi, Balfour Beatty, National Grid, Equitix, Barclays Infrastructure Fund)
- £250m invested thus far in OFTOs allowing developers to recycle money into future windfarm projects
- Commercial lenders, European Investment Bank, pension funds and capital markets have all participated or shown interest
- An effective means of attracting new sources of financing and new participants into UK transmission infrastructure
- Plenty of interest in future design and build opportunities





#### **Coordination of offshore transmission assets**



#### The 4 forms of coordination

International

Intra-zonal

Inter-zonal

Onshore/offshore

Straightforward radial (point-to-point) connection will still be the best solution in some cases.

#### The Crown Estate Leasing Rounds

Round 1:	1GW
Round 2:	7GW
Round 3:	32GW
Round 1 & 2 extensions:	1.5GW
Scottish territorial waters:	4.3GW
Northern Irish waters	0.9 GW

#### **Low Carbon Network Fund**

- Part of the current electricity distribution price control arrangements
  - Established by Ofgem
  - Up to £500m support to projects sponsored by distribution network operators (DNOs)
  - Projects focus on new technology, operating and commercial arrangements
- Objective security of supply at value for money as Great Britain (GB) moves to a low carbon economy





# ofgem E-Serve

Promoting choice and value for all gas and electricity customers

www.ofgem.gov.uk/offshore