

Offshore wind energy – one of the important RES.

– Offshore wind energy (OWE) may be a significant alternative in the discussion of power in Poland. Its development in the Baltic Sea is an opportunity to revitalize the industry and to create 8,000 new jobs – said Deputy Prime Minister Waldemar Pawlak on the opening of the "Prospects for the offshore wind energy development in Poland" seminar. The debate took place on 10 June 2011 at the Ministry of Economy.

According to Deputy Prime Minister Waldemar Pawlak, offshore wind energy industry rapidly became one of the fastest growing energy sectors in the EU. Experts estimate our national market of the offshore wind farms at 0.5-1.5 GW in 2020 and at 5-6 GW in 2030 – *Development of OWF in Poland is a great opportunity to revive the Polish ports, as well as the research and development sector – said Deputy Prime Minister.*



According to the Polish Wind Energy Association (PTEW), the estimated investment cost of the implementation of the offshore wind farms in the South Baltic area will amount to about 3 million euros per 1 MW of installed capacity. The construction cost of 1 MW nuclear power plant investor (PGE) is estimated at 3-3.5 million euros.

Deputy Prime Minister pointed out that the offshore wind energy sector will require big investments, from 2.25 billion euros by 2020 and to 7.5 billion euros by 2030. – *The benefits for Pomerania and for the Polish economy will grow along with the development of current technologies – said Deputy Prime Minister.*

The national potential of the offshore wind energy was pointed out by Mariusz Witoński, Vice President of the Board of the Polish Wind Energy Association (PTEW). According to PTEW, it is possible to locate offshore wind farms within the conflict-free area of at least two thousand km sq. by 2030. – *In our opinion, it is possible to install offshore wind farms with a total capacity of about 5 thousand MW – said Vice President Witoński. – This amount would allow wind turbines to produce more than 22 TWh/year. This is equal to over half of the national demand for electricity from renewable sources to 2020 – he added.*



According to experts, the appropriate laws are necessary in our country in order to develop the use of the offshore wind energy. Deputy Prime Minister said that currently the Ministry of Economy arrive at work on the draft law on energy from renewable energy sources, which will introduce a stable support system for the offshore wind farms. In addition, Parliament passed the amendments to the Act on marine areas, prepared in cooperation with representatives of professional organizations, which introduces new principles for locating offshore wind farms, which are more suitable to investors.

The "Prospects for the offshore wind energy development in Poland" seminar was attended by the representatives of the city offices, universities, institutes, as well as national and foreign companies, including RWE Innogy GmbH, Iberdola Renewable Energies in, generpol Sp. Ltd., ABB Ltd.. Ltd., Power @ Sea NV and CRIST SA.