

Control of Offshore Wind Turbines Bill

CONTENTS

- 1 Location and height of wind turbines
- 2 Operation of wind turbines
- 3 Length, location and environmental impact of connecting cables
- 4 Subsidies
- 5 Short title, commencement and extent

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TO

Restrict the height, number, location and operation of wind turbines situated offshore within twenty miles of the coast; to restrict subsidies available for such turbines; and to make provision regulating the length, location and environmental impact of cables connecting such turbines to the National Grid; and for connected purposes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Location and height of wind turbines

- (1) No wind turbine shall be constructed or erected within fifteen miles of the coast of England and Wales from the date of commencement of this Act.
- (2) No wind turbine shall be constructed or erected within twenty miles of the coast of England and Wales to a height exceeding 100m as measured by the highest point of the turbine blade above sea level from the date of commencement of this Act. 5
- (3) No wind turbine shall be constructed or erected off shore if it would form part of a group of wind turbines which totals more than one hundred and no group of wind turbines shall be constructed or erected off shore within fifteen miles of any other such group. 10
- (4) No wind turbine shall be constructed or erected offshore within twenty miles of any World Heritage site.
- (5) For the purposes of this Act any distance between a wind turbine and the coast shall be measured by a direct line between the wind turbine and the closest point on the mainland. 15

2 Operation of wind turbines

No wind turbine situated in or within five miles of an established area used by migrating birds shall be operated during the season for bird migration.

3 Length, location and environmental impact of connecting cables

- (1) This section applies to any wind turbine constructed or erected off the coast of England and Wales which is to be connected by cable to the National Grid.
- (2) No cable connection to the National Grid shall extend inland from the shore by more than a maximum of two miles. 5
- (3) No cable connection to the National Grid shall be constructed in a National Park or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or in any location subject to protection under the Habitats Directive.
- (4) Any onshore cable connection to the National Grid shall be placed in a tunnel under the ground. 10

4 Subsidies

No tax-payer funded payments in excess of the prevailing wholesale price of electricity shall be made in respect of electricity generated from wind turbines offshore from England and Wales constructed or erected after the date of commencement of this Act. 15

5 Short title, commencement and extent

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Control of Offshore Wind Turbines Act 2015.
- (2) This Act shall come into force at Royal Assent.
- (3) The provisions of this Act shall apply to England and Wales.

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To restrict the height, number, location and operation of wind turbines situated offshore within twenty miles of the coast; to restrict subsidies available for such turbines; and to make provision regulating the length, location and environmental impact of cables connecting such turbines to the National Grid; and for connected purposes.

*Presented by Mr Christopher Chope,
supported by
Conor Burns, Richard Drax, Mr Tobias Ellwood,
Dr Julian Lewis, Mr Robert Syms, Mr Peter Bone,
Sir Greg Knight and Mr Nigel Evans.*

*Ordered, by The House of Commons,
to be Printed, 2 July 2014.*

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