

Denmark launches its biggest offshore wind farm tender

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The Danish Energy Agency on Monday launched its biggest tender for the construction of offshore wind farms, aimed at producing six gigawatts by 2030—more than double Denmark's current capacity.



Offshore wind is one of the major sources of green energy that Europe is counting on to decarbonize <u>electricity production</u> and reach its 2050 target of net zero carbon production, but it remains far off the pace needed to hit its targets.

Denmark's offshore wind parks currently generate 2.7 gigawatts of electricity, with another one GW due in 2027.

The <u>tender</u> covers six sites in four zones in Danish waters: North Sea I, Kattegat, Kriegers Flak II and Hesselo.

"We are pleased that we can now offer the largest offshore wind tender in Denmark to date. This is a massive <u>investment</u> in the green transition," Kristoffer Bottzauw, head of the Danish Energy Agency, said in a statement.

Investment in offshore wind plummeted in Europe in 2022 due to supply chain problems, high interest rates and a jump in prices of raw materials, before bouncing back in 2023.

A record 4.2 gigawatts were installed in Europe last year, when a record 30 billion euros in new projects were approved, the trade association WindEurope said in January.

It said it was optimistic about the future of offshore wind in Europe, expecting new offshore wind capacity of around five gigawatts per year for the next three years.

However, it noted that that was still far short of what is needed if Europe wants to hit its 2030 target of 111 gigawatts of offshore wind installed capacity, with less than 20 gigawatts installed at the end of 2023.

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