

PRESS RELEASE

Virtual dialogue on

"Harbour and infrastructure requirements for offshore wind energy development in Vietnam"

The virtual dialogue on “*Harbour and infrastructure requirements for offshore wind energy development in Vietnam*”, took place on June 10th, 2021, had attracted more than 200 participants including state management agencies, international and local organizations, financial institutions, businesses, and researchers.

Ms. Elsbeth Akkerman - Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Vietnam, in her opening remarks stressed that the Netherlands and Vietnam will be affected by sea level rise and climate change, therefore, we cannot ignore what is happening. We have become two of the most active countries in implementing the 2015 Paris agreement. The Netherlands has been following the direction of sustainable green growth with the goal of 100% renewable energy by 2050. In the past 3 years, Vietnam is experiencing a strong shift towards the development of renewable energy, especially solar and wind energy. The Netherlands is proud to partner with Vietnam in promoting a faster and more sustainable transition to renewable energy sources. With suitable natural conditions, Vietnam is expected to become a center for wind power development. To achieve that goal, the country needs to build a legal framework, a chain of supporting services and enable knowledge exchange to develop this field. The targets that Vietnam is aiming for in the field of renewable energy are completely suitable for the future, meeting the development of the economy in general, as well as demonstrating Vietnam's commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and combat climate change.

Agreeing with the Ambassador's view, the Deputy Director of the Electricity and Renewable Energy Authority, Mr. Pham Nguyen Hung shared that: “Transforming the energy structure in the coming period towards prioritizing the use of renewable energy sources in the future will help Vietnam promote multi-faceted socio-economic benefits while mitigating the impact of climate change”. He also affirmed that the target for offshore wind power development by 2030 is from 3,000 - 5,000 MW, about 21,000 MW in 2045, as stated in the draft of Power Development Plan 8. Offshore wind power in particular is one of the world's leading energy industries with important advances in technology, supply chain efficiency and service infrastructure.

In order to effectively optimize this new energy sources, the Ministry of Industry and Trade is currently making efforts and actively coordinating with other ministries and branches to develop a national electricity development plan in association with the marine spatial plan. In order to activate the market, it is necessary to have a system of mechanisms and policies suitable for the conditions of the country and based on the scientific evidence of market analysis. Mr. Pham Nguyen Hung, on behalf of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, highly appreciated the support of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in organizing the study of the report “Habor and Infrastructure Requirements for Offshore Wind Energy Development in Vietnam” which has been implemented by the Dutch Maritime & Transport Business Solutions Company and the Vietnam Initiative for Energy Transition organization. It is very useful to organize the dialogue between policy makers, businesses and researchers to exchange related issues. Through the dialogue, the Ministry of Industry and Trade also received opinions from experts in the field of energy and seaport infrastructure development as well as the analysis and recommendations proposed in the report. The ministry believes that the results of this dialogue will make an important contribution to the integration of national sector planning objectives, and at the same time, get the most appropriate policy suggestions to promote offshore wind energy development in Vietnam as well as the country's long-term marine economic development strategy.

Representing the Vietnam Initiative for Energy Transition (VIETSE), Executive Director Ms. Ngo Thi To Nhien reaffirmed the importance of policy decision-making based on scientific evidence as well as the organization of dialogues among policy makers, businesses and academia, especially with the participation of international companies with many years of experience in developing modern technology and techniques. To be able to establish offshore wind farms, Vietnam should start to develop internal port infrastructure, supply chains and services for the market in the long term to prepare for the trend. The energy transition is only sustainable when all the stakeholders reach an agreement to share economic benefits in a reasonable way. As an independent research organization, VIETSE expects to continue organizing seminars on social and environmental policies, marine leasing policies, optimizing the use of marine resources in the coming time to provide useful multi-dimensional analysis for the development of Vietnam’s marine economy.

The presentations of the speakers and dialogue highlights are available at www.vietse.vn