The New Portuguese Pilot-Zone

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Present status

• Legislation creating and regulating the Pilot-Zone approved by the Council of Ministers and sent to the Parliament for approval.

• By-laws of the company managing the Pilot-Zone approved by the Council of Ministers.
Rationale

• Wave energy impacts expected to be small in particular in the initial phase where only a small number of devices will be deployed.

• Impacts unknown and so difficult to develop consistent EIA => need to monitor + learn from experience + integrate knowledge in regulations

• Simplified environment licensing procedures in low environmental sensitivity area.
Rationale

• Concentrate activities in a single zone to facilitate baseline studies, monitoring activities and building of infra-structures

• Simplify licensing and permitting procedures by concentrating these in a Managing Body (one stop shop).

• Provide connection point to the electrical grid, environmental data and support infra-structures under the responsibility of the Managing Body
Objectives

• To attract demonstration and industrial development to Portugal

• To create a competitive national cluster focused in exportation supported by R&D and Innovation activities.

• To increase the renewable energy production.
The Pilot Zone - I

Area: over 320 km²

Connection power:
• 1st phase: 80 MW
• 2nd phase: + 250 MW

Ocean bottom: sandy
Coastline: sandy beaches and dunes

Also includes cable corridors (up to 2) and onshore infra-structures
The Pilot Zone - II

• Activities
  – Demonstration (fixed tariff, < 4 MW, < 5 years)
  – Pre-commercial (tariff dependent on the project, < 20 MW, < 25 years)
  – Commercial (bidding process – tariff and socio-economic development – no power limit, < 25 years)
Management body

- Public or private company with majority of board members appointed by the Government.
- Has the concession to manage the Pilot Zone for 75 years.
- Concedes the licenses for deployment and energy production to project developers upon positive reaction from the relevant public bodies.
- Promotes the infrastructure, baseline environmental data measurement and public access, monitoring, safety, etc.
Management body

- Costs incurred by the management body are eventually paid by project developers (through a rent and or a fee).
- Costs with the electrical substations are paid by the electrical system.
- Electrical cabling from the devices to the offshore connection point or to shore are paid by project developers.
- Proposes the energy tariff to the Minister of Economy for the projects to be developed in the Pilot Zone.
Access requirements

• Company with Technical, Economic and Financial capacity to develop the project;

• Project needs to be safe and consistent and with potential to attain an industrial phase and to be economically competitive;

• Project environmental impacts cannot be mitigated through additional measures (environmental statement);

• Projects may be refused if not compliant with the above or if not enough space or connection power is available.