



For Immediate Release

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**THE CROWN ESTATE TO PURCHASE THE WORLD'S LARGEST OFFSHORE WIND TURBINE FROM CLIPPER WINDPOWER FOR DEPLOYMENT IN UK WATERS**

LONDON – April 17, 2008 – Clipper Windpower Plc (“Clipper”) and The Crown Estate are pleased to announce that The Crown Estate has signed an agreement to purchase Clipper’s prototype of the world’s largest offshore wind turbine, Clipper’s 7.5MW MBE turbine, also referred to as the Britannia project.

This investment will allow The Crown Estate to gain firsthand knowledge of the challenges facing the development of wind turbines specialised for deep water marine deployment as the process of engaging industry to develop the next phase of offshore wind farms begins. If the industry is to reach the current delivery target of a total capacity of up to 33GW by 2020, this kind of support and research will be invaluable.

In addition to a unique and diverse property portfolio, encompassing urban and rural estates, the marine interests of The Crown Estate include almost the entire UK territorial seabed out to 12 nautical miles and around 55 per cent of the UK’s coastal foreshore. In addition, The Crown Estate has the rights to lease seabed for the generation of renewable energy on the continental shelf within the Renewable Energy Zone which extends out to approximately 200 nautical miles.

Speaking in London, Rob Hastings, Director of the Marine Estates at The Crown Estate, said: “It is widely recognised that offshore wind energy will provide the majority of the required contribution needed to ensure that the UK meets its demanding renewable energy target to supply 15 per cent of our consumed energy from renewable sources by 2020.

“We believe that our support to the Britannia project through the acquisition of this purposely designed new generation offshore turbine will drive forward the development of turbine technology designed for the challenges of the offshore environment. This is an important step in the future of offshore wind and a great opportunity to help establish a new industrial base of activity to advance the UK’s leadership in renewable energy.”

Wind turbines, such as the Clipper 7.5MW MBE offshore turbine, will advance industry technology in line with the forecasted upsurge in European offshore wind development in 2011 – 2012. The MBE prototype turbine will be assembled and tested at Clipper’s Centre of Excellence for Offshore Wind in Blyth in the North East of England, strategically located to serve the offshore turbine development zones and their related load centres.

“We are very pleased to be working with The Crown Estate to realise this exciting project,” said James Dehlsen, Chairman and CEO of Clipper Windpower.

“Clipper’s current Liberty 2.5 MW turbine is the fourth successful generation of turbine technology our team has created, and it provides a technology platform which scales advantageously to meet the turbine size needed to help make offshore wind economically viable. This platform enables us to accelerate the development of this vital turbine technology at a time when the urgencies of energy security and global warming are driving the transformation of energy priorities and resource use.”

The Britannia project has recently received the support of One NorthEast, the Regional Development Agency for the North East of England.

Clipper Windpower is working closely with One NorthEast’s Blyth-based New and Renewable Energy Centre (NaREC), which will provide the project with engineering and test facilities for blades, generators and drive-trains. Funding provided by One NorthEast also will support the development of Clipper’s turbine supply chain and related manufacturing facilities.

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### **About The Crown Estate**

The Crown Estate is an estate valued at more than £7 billion, including substantial blocks of urban property, over 120,000 hectares (300,000 acres) of agricultural land in England, Scotland and Wales, and around half the foreshore, together with the seabed out to the 12 mile territorial limit.

Every year it pays its entire revenue surplus to the Treasury for the benefit of all UK taxpayers. In 2006/07 this amounted to over£200 million.

As owners, managers and guardians of one of the world's most important and diverse urban, rural and marine property portfolios The Crown Estate is underpinned by three core values of commercialism, integrity and stewardship.

The Crown Estate's marine properties include more than half of the UK's foreshore (17,000 km), 55 per cent of the beds of tidal rivers and estuaries and almost the entire seabed out to the 12 nautical mile territorial limit around the UK. It also includes the rights to the natural resources in the UK Continental Shelf, with the exception of oil, coal and gas.

The Crown Estate manages its assets on a commercial basis, guided by the principles of sustainable development and social responsibility. We are committed to sustainable and long-term management of these unique assets.

In 1999 The Crown Estate established its programme of Marine Stewardship to provide funding to support practical projects, relevant research, and other initiatives that improve the status and management of the marine estate.

### **About One NorthEast**

One NorthEast is the Regional Development Agency for the North East of England and is responsible to Central Government for the sustainable economic development and growth of the region as well as the development and implementation of the region's economic strategy. Set up in April 1999 to help the people of the North East create and sustain jobs, prosperity and a higher quality of life, the Agency is responsible to the people of the North East and to the Government.

### **About NaREC**

The New and Renewable Energy Centre (NaREC) was established in 2002 as a Centre for Excellence for new and renewable energy technologies. The company was incorporated in February 2003 as a knowledge-based services organisation. Based in Blyth, Northumberland, NaREC is working to enable the move towards a low carbon economy on a National and International scale by assisting the development and market growth of new energy technologies. NaREC is one of the five centres of excellence set up by the North East's regional development agency, One NorthEast.

NaREC encompasses a range of research, testing and development facilities across the spectrum of energy industries. A specialised team of technical and engineering consultants with a wide range of practical experience work to support the development and testing facilities at NaREC, helping to bridge the gap between innovation and realisation. NaREC's unique world-class facilities offer testing and development of large wind turbine blades, marine renewables, offshore and subsea equipment, micro-renewables and high voltage electrical equipment. NaREC also has facilities and consultancy expertise for the development and integration of large and small-scale renewables into the energy mix including assistance with small scale embedded generation and power systems analysis.

### **About Clipper Windpower**

Clipper Windpower, [www.clipperwind.com](http://www.clipperwind.com), is a rapidly growing company engaged in wind energy technology, turbine manufacturing, and wind project development. With offices in the USA (California, Colorado, Iowa and Maryland), Mexico, Denmark and the United Kingdom, and a ISO9001:2000 QMS Certified 330,000 square

foot manufacturing and assembly facility located in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, the company designs advanced wind turbines, manufactures its 2.5-MW Liberty wind turbine and actively develops wind power generating projects in the Americas and Europe. Clipper is a public company listed on the London Stock Exchange's Alternative Investment Market (AIM). Clipper's ticker symbol is CWP.

The ordinary shares of Clipper Windpower Plc are traded on the Alternative Investment Market of the London Stock Exchange and are not registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended. Such shares may not be offered or sold to residents of the United States or to persons acting on their behalf, or to other persons who are "United States Persons" within the meaning of Regulation S as promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933, unless such shares have been registered under the Securities Act or there is an available exemption from registration.

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