



**ALDERNEY
COMMISSION**
FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY

**Guidance on Health & Safety
Requirements for Renewable Energy
Systems**

2019

Alderney Commission for Renewable Energy
PO Box 1084, Alderney, Channel Islands, GY9 3LL
T: 01481 822357 E: info@acre.gg www.acre.gov.gg

Alderney Commission for Renewable Energy

Guidance on Health & Safety Requirements for Renewable Energy Systems in Alderney and its surrounding waters

The Renewable Energy (Alderney) Law, 2007 includes specific requirements regarding health and safety. In particular it provides that the Health and Safety at Work (Alderney) Law, 1997, and any provisions made under it, shall apply to and in relation to persons at work within the territorial waters of Alderney where such work is carried on in connection with:

- (a) the operation, deployment, use or decommissioning of a renewable energy system, or part thereof, or related plant or apparatus
- (b) arranging for the operation, deployment, use or decommissioning of a renewable energy system, or part thereof, or related plant or apparatus, or
- (c) the exercise of functions conferred under this Law or the 1997 Law in relation to the operation, deployment, use or decommissioning of a renewable energy system, or part thereof, or related plant or apparatus or in relation to arranging for the same

Legislation made under the Health and Safety at Work Law includes the Health and Safety at Work (Alderney) Ordinance, 2003 which sets out the general health and safety duties on employers which are very similar to those set out in the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 in the UK. Work subject to the requirements of Alderney Health and Safety legislation is listed in annex 1.

The Commission's Guide to the Consents Process (Marine) includes two requirements regarding health and safety, which should be part of a Consents application. These are:

- The developer's Health and Safety (H&S) Policy and any other relevant certification including quality e.g. accreditation to ISO standards. Please note that the Commission must have particular regard to ensure that the operation of the renewable energy system is not a danger to human life, and must have regard to the need to protect human health. Accordingly applications should include health and safety statements, working methodology, and identify who will be the responsible person for health and safety requirements and how the applicant intends to comply with the Health and Safety at Work (Alderney) Ordinance 2003, both in relation to land based and marine based activities.
- The developer's H&S programme for planning, designing, installing, operating and decommissioning the project ; which also needs submitting to an Inspector appointed under the Health and Safety at Work (Alderney) Ordinance 2003 for their consideration. Inspectors are currently appointed from the Guernsey Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

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A risk based approach to managing health and safety is required. This should include the preparation of:

- A Design Risk Assessment (DRA) which will review the level of mitigation being provided at the design stage,
- A HAZOP to derive suitable and sufficient hazard avoidance and mitigation measures arising from installation, operation and maintenance and decommissioning,
- An Emergency Plan with particular consideration of the risks associated with high energy tidal sites e.g. man in water, diving.

Additional guidance on Health and Safety requirements for marine energy systems is given in the Renewable (UK) report "Wave and Tidal Health and Safety Guide – Principles and Practice" 2014 although readers should bear in mind that Alderney has its own Health and Safety legislation and guidance albeit that the main duties on employers are very similar to those in the Health and Safety at Work Act in the UK.

Annex 1 - work in Alderney Territorial waters covered by Alderney H&S Legislation

- i) any marine survey work including wave energy or tidal current monitoring, bathymetry, water column investigations, surveys of the sea, seabed or subsea surveys, carried out in connection with prospective or actual deployment, operation, use or decommissioning of a renewable energy system, or part thereof, or related plant or apparatus whether or not carried on by or on behalf of an operator or prospective operator of a renewable energy system,
- ii) the construction, reconstruction, assembly, lowering into the sea or on to the seabed, alteration, repair, maintenance, cleaning, operation, deployment, use, lifting up from the sea or the seabed, demolition, dismantling or removal of a renewable energy system, or part thereof, or related plant or apparatus or the preparation for any such activity,
- iii) the transfer of people or goods between a ship or aircraft and a renewable energy system, or part thereof or related plant or apparatus
- iv) the loading, unloading, fuelling or provisioning of a ship or an aircraft used in connection with the operation, deployment, use or decommissioning of a renewable energy system, or part thereof or related plant or apparatus,
- v) diving or other submarine activity carried on with or without underwater breathing apparatus carried out in connection with a renewable energy system, or part thereof, or related plant or apparatus, and
- vi) the operation of related plant or apparatus which transmits electricity or any other type of energy from a renewable energy system to any place.