

POBAC-OW-WNF-STK-EN-00001

# Stakeholder engagement plan for the BC-Wind offshore wind farm construction process







NOTE: This stakeholder engagement plan has been prepared for the purpose of making information available to stakeholders in the project financing process.



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# 1. INTRODUCTION

Ocean Winds (OW) is an international offshore wind energy company formed as a joint venture of EDP Renewables and ENGIE. We believe that offshore wind energy is an essential part of the global energy transition, which is why we develop, finance, build, and operate offshore wind projects around the world.

When EDPR and ENGIE merged their offshore energy facilities and their work program in 2019 to create Ocean Winds, the company then had a total of 1.5 GW of capacity under construction and a further 4.0 GW under development. OW is expanding its portfolio at a rapid pace and is currently pursuing a target of 5–7 GW of capacity by 2025, including projects already in operation and in the pipeline, as well as 5–10 GW of projects in advanced development. Currently, the gross energy capacity of OW, including facilities already in operation, under construction, and at the advanced development stage, has reached more than 18.8 GW. Read more: www.oceanwinds.com.



Source: https://www.bc-wind.pl/en/about-the-project/

The BC-Wind project will bring several benefits to the local community, the economy, and the environment. Increasing the availability of green energy, generating jobs, developing local infrastructure, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions are key aspects aligned with the concept of sustainable development. At the core, Ocean Winds is built on the values of sustainability, creativity, flexibility, and people. They reflect the company's approach and help build valuable relationships with all stakeholders.

Ocean Winds respects and appreciates the values represented by all project stakeholders. Establishing and maintaining dialog is essential to building confidence in the company and the employees who represent it. The process of planning dialog with the key groups began with the development of a strategy for cooperation with stakeholders and communication of the OW brand in Poland (Q4 2021), which is a separate document.



Several stakeholder communication tools were launched to implement the strategy, including the following:

- a dedicated person responsible for stakeholder relations (Stakeholder Manager) was appointed at the company;
- a BC-Wind project website was created, with communications dedicated to these groups (supply chain partners, local community, suppliers, media, etc.);
- a number of events, meetings, and projects were carried out to implement the adopted strategy.

This document describes in detail how the stakeholder engagement strategy was implemented.

# 1.1 SCOPE, PURPOSE, AND OBJECTIVE OF THE STAKEHOLDER COOPERATION PLAN

The purpose of this paper is to present completed and planned activities related to social dialog connected with the implementation of the BC-Wind offshore wind farm.

The document is informative, its purpose is to map stakeholders and provide an overview of the communication strategy, as well as the activities undertaken by the Company to reach the stakeholders.

The plan and details of cooperation with the stakeholders complement and support the process of securing the financing and the process of project implementation.

The plan is updated once every six months.

# 2. SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT AND STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION

BC-Wind is an offshore wind farm project located about 23 kilometers north of the coast, near the Krokowa and Choczewo municipalities in Pomorskie Voivodship. The project aims to achieve a capacity up to 500 MW, with a total farm area of 90.94 km².





Source: https://www.bc-wind.pl/en/about-the-project/

BC-Wind is in the so-called development phase, which involves the preparation of the project for the issue of the building permit. The project has already acquired the right to financing as part of Phase I of offshore wind farm development in Poland under a contract for difference (CfD).

In Ocean Winds, the development phases of offshore wind farms are defined as follows:

## 1. Early Development Phase

- obtaining the relevant permits;
- conducting all necessary surveys, including the wind measurement campaign, environmental surveys, geotechnical survey campaign, and geological surveys of the seabed;
- obtaining the right to a contract for difference;
- developing the technical concept of project implementation;
- commencement of the placement of orders for the main packages.

# 2. Advanced Development Phase

- project financing;
- finalizing major contracts;
- obtaining the final investment decision.

# 3. Construction Phase

- installation of the foundations;
- installation of an offshore substation and wind turbine generator;
- BOP (Balance of Plant);
- managing OH&S challenges.

# 4. Operational Phase

- effective maintenance of offshore wind farm operations;
- preventive maintenance;



- monitoring the impact of the wind farm on the marine environment and adapting the operations as necessary;
- regular communication with stakeholders regarding wind farm operations.

# 5. <u>Decommissioning Phase</u>

- preparing plans and procedures for dismantling wind turbines and other infrastructure at the end of their life cycle;
- submitting the documentation required for the approval of dismantling operations;
- cleaning up the site after dismantling;
- final report and finalization of administrative processes.

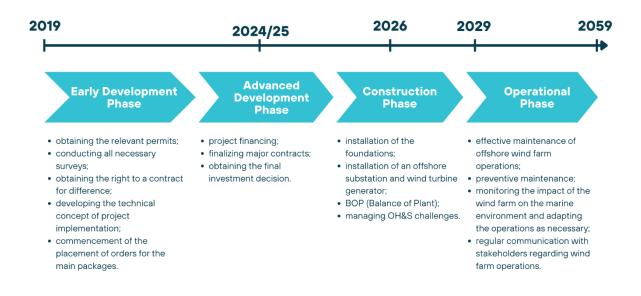


Fig. Development phase of the BC-Wind OWF – own materials.

# History of offshore wind farm preparations, completed design work:

# 2024

- Completing offshore geophysical and geotechnical campaigns.
- Receiving the location decision for the export cable offshore part.
- Receiving the last remaining location decision for the onshore part of the export cable and the onshore substation.
- Signing the contract for the certification of the BC-Wind offshore wind farm.
- Environmental decision issued for the transmission infrastructure by the Regional Director of Environmental Protection in Gdańsk.
- Preparing the documentation for the issue of the environmental decision for the O&M base.



# 2023

- Contract for the preparation of the design documentation and obtaining the building permit for offshore export cables of the BC-Wind offshore wind farm.
- Launching a survey of the Baltic seabed for the BC-Wind offshore wind farm in Poland.

# 2022

- Signing a preliminary lease agreement for the service port in Władysławowo.
- Obtaining the environmental decision for a part of the offshore wind farm.

## 2021

- Submitting the report and application for the decision on environmental conditions.
- Obtaining the permit for laying and maintenance of submarine cables for the grid connection infrastructure.
- Completing a two-year wind measurement campaign.
- Obtaining the right to a contract for difference (CfD).
- Signing the agreement on connection to the National Power System.

### 2020

- Completing the preliminary geological survey of the seabed.
- Conditions for connection to the grid issued by Polskie Sieci Elektroenergetyczne S.A. (Polish Power Grid Company).

### 2019

- Launching environmental studies (to assess the environmental impact of the project).
- Launching the wind measurement campaign at the BC-Wind site.
- Launching the operational activities of Ocean Winds in Poland.
- Establishing Ocean Winds as a 50/50 joint venture by separating offshore wind farm projects from the portfolio of ENGIE SA and EDP Renewables SA.

# 2013/2012

• Issuing the location permits for C-Wind and B-Wind (so-called artificial island erection permits).

The construction of the BC-Wind offshore farm proceeds on schedule. After obtaining the location permits, signing the grid connection agreement, obtaining the right to cover the negative balance and the environmental decision, and selecting Władysławowo as the offshore maintenance base, Ocean Winds is now focusing on further technical elements of the project and on developing the local supply chain and working with direct and indirect subcontractors responsible for the key elements of the project.



# Tasks to be accomplished in 2025

- Selecting the turbine supplier.
- Closing the tender procedures and finalizing contracts with the consultants engaged to help with obtaining the building permits.
- Completing work on the layout of the Offshore Wind Farm.
- Obtaining the FID (Final Investment Decision).
- Obtaining the individual notification of the contract for difference.
- Approval of all required expert reports critical to the issue of the building permit.

Another important aspect is the continuation of dialog with the community of Choczewo Municipality, where the infrastructure used for power output from the BC-Wind farm will be located. Ocean Winds in Poland participates in a series of informational meetings with local authorities and residents of Choczewo Municipality and supports local educational and infrastructural projects. In addition, together with other investors in offshore wind farms, OW is implementing the program "Choczewo. A Wind-Powered Municipality", referred to in point 4.3 of this document. The program is designed to support projects that are intended to benefit the community of Choczewo and are developed together with the members of the community.

We are also focusing on the recruitment and development of the OW team in Poland and the continuation of educational activities concerning offshore wind farms. We run large-scale programs aimed at students, undergraduates, and graduates of all ages. We are steadily increasing the scale of our activities; more information about this can be found below, in point 4.7.

A detailed non-technical description of the project can be found in the Supply Chain Plan for the BC-Wind Farm, available at: <a href="https://www.bc-wind.pl/o-projekcie/">https://www.bc-wind.pl/o-projekcie/</a> (Downloadable Documents).

# 2.1 BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE INVESTOR

Ocean Winds (OW) is an international offshore wind energy company formed in 2019 as a 50/50 joint venture by global energy industry leaders: EDP Renewables S.A. (EDPR S.A.) and ENGIE Group Participations (EGP). In line with the belief that offshore wind energy is an essential part of the global energy transition, Ocean Winds develops, finances, builds and operates offshore wind projects around the world. When EDPR and ENGIE combined their offshore wind projects and assets to create OW, the company had a total of 1.5 GW under construction and 4 GW in development. OW is rapidly expanding its project portfolio and is on track to reach its 2025 target of 5 to 7 GW of operational projects or projects under construction and 5 to 10 GW of projects in the advanced development phase. The current gross capacity of OW offshore wind energy projects is 18.8 GW. Headquartered in Madrid, Ocean Winds has a presence in eight countries, primarily targeting markets in Europe, the United States, select parts of Asia and Brazil, and Australia.



Read more: https://www.oceanwinds.com



Read more: https://www.edpr.com/



Read more: https://www.engie.com/en





Source: Graphic materials provided by Ocean Winds - own materials.

# 2.2 DEVELOPMENT OF OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY IN POLAND

In 2003, Poland introduced regulations concerning offshore wind energy by means of the Act of March 27 on spatial planning and development. Focusing on spatial planning aspects, this Act was the first step in establishing a framework for the location and development of offshore areas for potential wind farms. <sup>1</sup>

Since 2009, essential documents have been adopted to define the spatial policy of Poland and the region. The permit listed below and the findings of the planning documents provide for the implementation of offshore wind energy as part of the National Power System:

- **November 10, 2009** "Energy Policy of Poland until 2030", adopted by Resolution No. 201/2009 of the Council of Ministers.
- **September 14, 2009** "Maritime Policy of the Republic of Poland until 2020 (with a 2030 horizon)" (Ministry of Infrastructure, Warsaw, 2015) developed by the Inter-Ministerial Team for the Maritime Policy of the Republic of Poland on the basis of the document "Assumptions for the Maritime Policy of the Republic of Poland until 2020".
- November 15, 2013 the Director of the Maritime Office in Gdynia, the Director of the Maritime Office in Słupsk, and the Director of the Maritime Office in Szczecin publicly announced the commencement of the planning process aimed at drafting the "Spatial Development Plan for the Polish Maritime Areas". The planning process includes the development of the "Study of Conditions for the Plan" and the "Spatial Development Plan for the Polish Maritime Areas"; in 2015, the "Study of Conditions and Directions of Spatial Development Development Plan for the Polish Maritime Areas"; in 2015, the "Study of Conditions and Directions of Spatial Development Development Plan for the Polish Maritime Areas"; in 2015, the "Study of Conditions and Directions of Spatial Development Plan for the Polish Maritime Areas"; in 2015, the "Study of Conditions and Directions of Spatial Development Plan for the Polish Maritime Areas"; in 2015, the "Study of Conditions and Directions of Spatial Development Plan for the Polish Maritime Areas"; in 2015, the "Study of Conditions and Directions of Spatial Development Plan for the Polish Maritime Areas"; in 2015, the "Study of Conditions and Directions of Spatial Development Plan for the Plan"

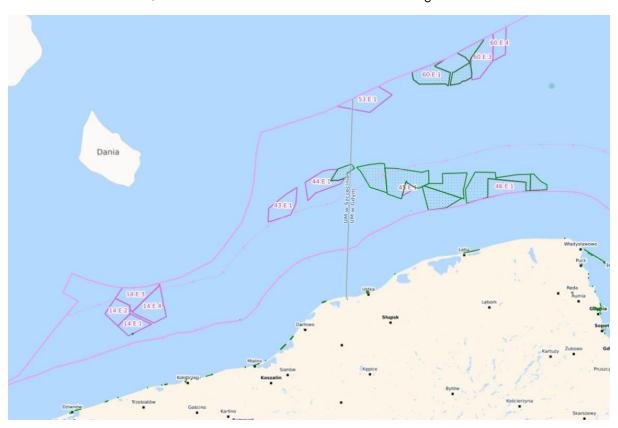
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://isap.sejm.gov.pl/isap.nsf/DocDetails.xsp?id=wdu20030800717



- velopment of Polish Maritime Areas including Spatial Analyzes" was completed. **The draft plan was prepared in 2019 and implemented in 2021.**
- **September 24, 2012** "Pomorskie Voivodship Development Strategy 2020" adopted by Resolution No. 458/XXII/12 of the Pomorskie Voivodship Assembly.
- August 8, 2013 "Regional Strategic Program for Energy and Environment. Eco-efficient Pomerania" adopted by Resolution No. 931/274/13 of the Pomorskie Voivodship Executive Board.
- **December 29, 2016** "Pomorskie Voivodship Spatial Development Plan 2030" adopted by Resolution No. 318/XXX/16 of the Pomorskie Voivodship Assembly on the adoption of the new Pomorskie Voivodship Spatial Development Plan and, as a part of the plan for the voivodship, the Tri-City Metropolitan Area Spatial Development Plan.
- **April 14, 2021** Spatial Development Plan for Internal Sea Waters, the Territorial Sea, and the Exclusive Economic Zone at a scale of 1:200,000 adopted by a regulation of the Council of Ministers (Journal of Laws of 2021, item 935).

The Act on promoting electricity generation from offshore wind farms, adopted on December 17, 2020, is a key step in the development of the offshore wind energy sector in Poland. It aims to efficiently utilize the wind potential of the exclusive economic zone, support local suppliers of components, and create a solid foundation for related businesses. Among other things, the Act introduces a new support system, promotes the development of local supply chains, and emphasizes the significance of the rapid integration of offshore wind farms into the National Power System. In addition, the regulations account for the specific features of the projects, promote local involvement, and define uniform technical standards for grid infrastructure.<sup>2</sup>



Source: <a href="www.sipam.gov.pl/geoportal">www.sipam.gov.pl/geoportal</a> – [accessed on December 15, 2023]

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Source: https://isap.sejm.gov.pl/isap.nsf/DocDetails.xsp?id=WDU20210000234



The year 2022 was one of the most difficult years in the history of the Polish energy industry. There have been the largest price increases ever for coal, natural gas, and electricity, leading to the need to import fuel, which caused enormous financial transfers from Poland.

In 2022, Poland spent a record-high amount of PLN 193 billion on this. In the previous year, 2021, it had spent PLN 102 billion. In 2022, coal-fired power generation decreased by 6% compared to 2021, while gas-fired generation decreased by 1/4. The level of reserves is also falling – in 2022, it was the lowest in seven years at 1.4 GW (about 6%). There was, however, a significant increase (4 TWh; +102% y/y) in the number of photovoltaic installations, as well as an increase of 3 TWh (+19% y/y) in onshore wind farm generation. However, the government is at an impasse regarding wind energy and has still not amended the "Distance Law," which stipulates that wind farms can be built 700 meters from residential buildings.<sup>3</sup>

The document that regulates and sets the framework for Poland's energy transition is the "Polish Energy Policy 2040" (PEP2040)<sup>4</sup> adopted on February 2, 2021, which describes the situation and conditions of the energy sector. In order to enhance energy security, measures will be accelerated to make the domestic economy less dependent on imported fossil fuels and derivatives from the Russian Federation and other sanctioned countries. The document identifies three pillars – just transition, zero-carbon energy system, and good air quality – and eight specific goals based on the pillars. One of the goals is the development of renewable energy sources through the implementation of offshore wind energy.

Polish Energy Policy 2040 provides for the achievement of 5.9 GW of installed offshore wind energy capacities by 2030 (phase I) and 8–11 GW by 2040 (phase II), with a budget of EUR 22.5 billion to be spent on the future development of the offshore wind energy sector. Based on the current number of projects, developers' targets and planned grid connections, it is estimated that there will be 8.4 GW under construction by 2030 and 11 GW by 2035.

According to the latest estimates presented by the Polish Wind Energy Association, Poland has an offshore wind energy potential of 33 GW. The PWEA report identifies 20 new areas in the Polish part of the Baltic Sea – 18 located in the exclusive economic zone and 2 in the territorial sea. If the total potential is realized, offshore wind energy could satisfy as much as 57% of the Polish demand for electricity. Moreover, it is estimated that the level of local content in the projects could reach 65%, which would significantly boost the development of the Polish economy.<sup>5</sup>

In order to meet these goals, rights to a contract for difference (CfD) were awarded in 2021 to projects with a total capacity of 5.9 GW (including the BC-Wind offshore wind farm). Competitive auctions are planned for further projects in 2025 and 2027. The right to cover the negative balance will be granted to installations with a total capacity not exceeding 5 GW.6

Additionally, on September 15, 2021, upon the initiative of the Ministry of Climate and Environment, a sectoral agreement for the development of offshore wind energy in Poland was signed, creating a platform for cooperation between government administration, local government units, and all other stakeholders, including developers and financial institutions. The agreement obliges the signatories to develop the local supply chain, technology transfer, education, and port infrastructure. Poland aims to maximize local production, development, and installation activities. The current ambitions allow for a 20%–25% share of Polish suppliers in the first round of projects, with ambitions for a 45%–50% share within five to seven years of develop-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Energy transition in Poland. Edition 2023, Energy Forum, April 2023, p. 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Source: https://www.gov.pl/web/ia/polityka-energetyczna-polski-do-2040-r-pep2040

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Source: https://www.psew.pl/nowy-potencjal-baltyku-33-gw-mocy-i-20-nowych-obszarow-pod-mfw-raport/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Source: <u>https://www.gov.pl/web/morska-energetyka-wiatrowa/system-wsparcia</u>



ment.<sup>7</sup> Ocean Winds was a signatory to the agreement as one of the representatives of the investors

On March 29, 2022, the Council of Ministers adopted the assumptions to update "Polish Energy Policy 2040". The updated PEP2040 is also expected to include a fourth pillar – energy sovereignty, which provides for the diversification of supply, expansion of capacity based on domestic sources, further development of renewable energy sources, implementation of nuclear power, investment in generation capacity, line infrastructure and storage, and alternative fuels. In the 2040 time frame, the goal will be to generate 50% of electricity from RES. The document provides for developing wind and solar power and using hydraulic power, biomass, biogas, or ground heat. Important priorities include using RES in energy clusters and energy cooperatives and as part of hybrid installations. There will be increased financial support in the form of instruments that support the energy self-sufficiency of households. By 2040, the total installed capacity in the system is expected to double to about 130 GW, 74% of which will consist of RES. Offshore wind energy is expected to supply 5.9 GW by 2030 (confirmed phase-I projects) and 18 GW by 2040 (phase-II projects). Onshore wind farms, in turn, are expected to supply 14 GW by 2030 and 20 GW by 2040.

# 3. STAKEHOLDER COOPERATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

# 3.1 MAP OF KEY STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

Ocean Winds is engaged in active dialog with key stakeholder groups in Poland during the implementation of the BC-Wind offshore wind farm project. The process began in the fourth quarter of 2021 with the development of a strategy for cooperation with stakeholders and communication of the OW brand in Poland.

# The key stakeholders of Ocean Winds for the BC-Wind project are as follows:

- government administration, including the ministries (e.g., Ministry of State Assets, Ministry of Infrastructure, Ministry of National Defense, Ministry of the Interior and Administration, Ministry of Climate and Environment),
- regulatory authorities (ERO, Office of Competition and Consumer Protection, Maritime Authorities),
- European Union institutions,
- local and regional authorities,
- installation and service port,
- fishing unions,
- environmental associations,
- suppliers and subcontractors (Tier 1/2/3),
- · competitors,
- professional associations,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Source:https://www.gov.pl/web/klimat/podpisano-porozumienie-sektorowe-na-rzecz-rozwoju-morskiej-energetyki-wiatrowej-w-polsce

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Source: https://www.gov.pl/web/klimat/zalozenia-do-aktualizacji-polityki-energetycznej-polski-do-2040-r.



- media and industry experts,
- OW employees,
- as well as educational centers (technical universities, high schools, schools in strategic regions).

Primary communication measures have been developed to implement the strategy for cooperation with stakeholders – dedicated Stakeholder Manager positions have been established, a BC-Wind project website has been set up (<a href="https://www.bc-wind.pl/">https://www.bc-wind.pl/</a>), and the company participates in industry events and organizes events dedicated to OW stakeholders and corporate social responsibility (ESG) programs. The following section presents detailed information about the individual stakeholder groups, including the activities carried out for the benefit of the groups or to maintain dialog with them.

Since the BC-Wind offshore wind farm is located 23 km away from the coastline, to the north of the Krokowa and Choczewo municipalities, the key local stakeholders of Ocean Winds in Poland include:

- 1. **Puck District** support and close cooperation with the local government. Cooperation under the "Career with the Wind" educational program, cooperation with Szkuner sp. z o.o. and the port of Władysławowo as a partner in the educational project for local fishermen and their families, as well as cooperation with the District Center for Vocational and Continuing Education in Puck an educational partner of Ocean Winds.
- Choczewo Municipality, where the connection infrastructure of the BC-Wind offshore
  wind farm will be located. Constructive dialog with the local community assumes the creation of a dedicated section on the website of OW Poland, regular updates of the website, continuation of annual information meetings with local authorities and residents of
  Choczewo Municipality, and continuation of activities within the PSE-PGE-Orlen working
  group.
- 3. **Fishing unions** open dialog regarding the future of fishing activities after the commissioning of the offshore wind farm. We assume participation in industry outreach activities aimed at fishermen along with other investors under Sector Deal, as well as meetings with representatives of fishing unions to determine their main concerns and expectations.
- **4. Environmental organizations** plans for an open dialog to understand concerns and expectations and participate in informational and educational activities concerning environmental protection.

The most important stakeholder groups are marked in the matrix below:



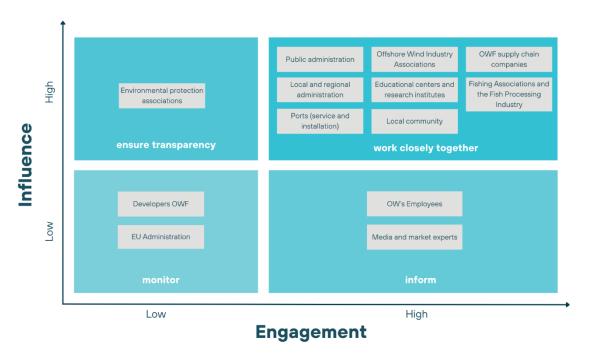


Fig. Matrix of stakeholders in the BC-Wind project, own materials.

# 3.2 MECHANISM FOR QUESTIONS AND COMPLAINTS

The complaint mechanism enables continuous involvement in the project for members of the community. It improves relations and reduces social risks because all issues can be resolved at a very early stage. This prevents problems and conflicts.

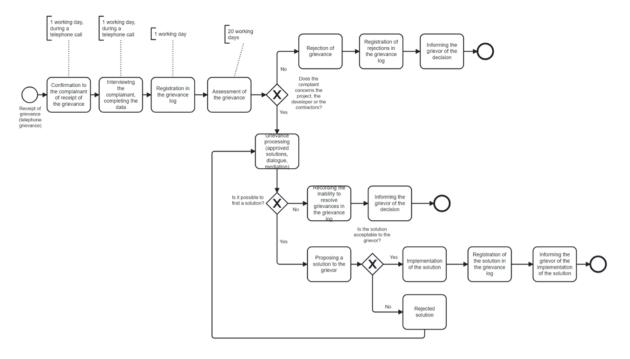
The purpose of the procedure is to find solutions to issues that arise during project implementation. Thanks to responsible project management, it is possible to build relationships with the environment that are based on trust. A grievance can be a complaint, concern, question, suggestion, or another comment concerning the project or its implementation or impact. Grievances can be filed:

- by e-mail to: <a href="mailto:farmawiatrowa@oceanwinds.com">farmawiatrowa@oceanwinds.com</a>;
- by phone at: +48 519 474 305;
- by mail to the following address: Ocean Winds, ul. Przyokopowa 33, 01-208 Warszawa;
- by personally filling out the form and leaving it in a dedicated box.

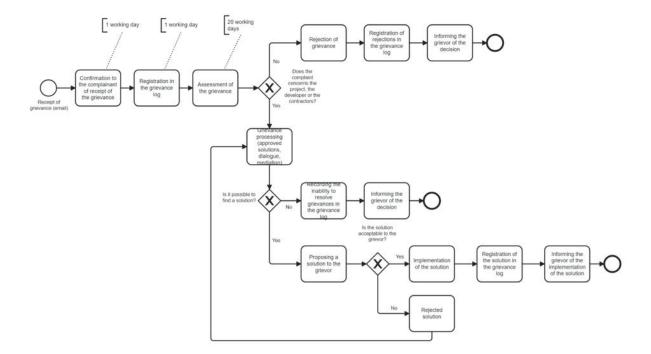
The diagrams below show the process for resolving complaints reported by phone, in writing, and by e-mail. The procedure is described in detail in <u>Appendix A</u> of this document.



# Annex 1 - Grievance Procedure Flowchart - telephone grievances

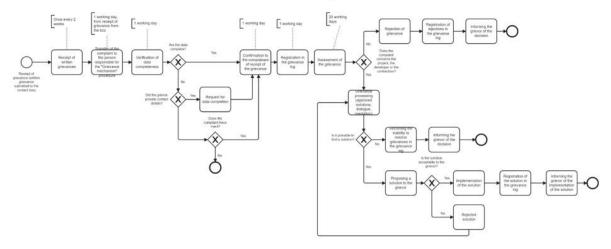


Annex 2 - Grievance Procedure Flowchart - grievances sent by e-mail





Annex 3 - Grievance Procedure Flowchart - written grievances submitted via the contact box.



# 3.3 CONTACT FOR STAKEHOLDERS - CLO

The contact person for the stakeholders of the BC-Wind project (the so-called Community Liaison Officer) is Aleksandra Jampolska.

E-mail: aleksandra.jampolska@oceanwinds.com

Phone: +48 519 474 305

# 4 PREVIOUS ACTIVITIES CONNECTED WITH SOCIAL DIA-LOG, BROKEN DOWN BY STAKEHOLDER GROUP

During the implementation of offshore wind farm projects, it is extremely important to engage in regular dialog with the stakeholders to ensure transparency, build mutual trust, and consider the needs and expectations of the various groups involved in the project. Activities to date were focused on discussions, communication of the project, and consultations with stakeholders. The activities concerning the individual stakeholder groups have been described in the points below.

# 4.1 PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Due to the complexity of the process of obtaining the necessary approvals for the development and construction of an offshore wind farm, active cooperation with the public administration is vital to the success of the project.

The key institutions involved in social dialog at the project development stage before the issue of the building permit include the following:



- Chancellery of the Prime Minister of Poland;
- Ministry of Climate and Environment;
- Ministry of Infrastructure;
- Ministry of National Defense;
- Ministry of State Assets;
- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development;
- Ministry of the Interior and Administration;
- Internal Security Agency;
- Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy;
- Ministry of Culture and National Heritage;
- Ministry of Economic Development and Technology;
- MEPs (EU Institutions);
- Office of Competition and Consumer Protection;
- Energy Regulatory Office;
- Polskie Sieci Elektroenergetyczne S.A. as the transmission grid operator.

The dialog is implemented
using the following tools:

- face-to-face meetings; traditional and electronic correspondence, ongoing contact regarding project issues;
- participation in parliamentary or senate committees or meetings on the ministerial level;
- meetings in Sector Deal workshops and working groups;
- industry dialog through the participation of OW in relevant associations:
- attendance of industry conferences involving representatives of public administration bodies;
- coordination by the designated person for contact with the stakeholders (Public Affairs Senior Manager).

There is a detailed public administration stakeholder group matrix for the project, which is available for audit purposes as an internal document of the BC-Wind project.

# 4.2 LOCAL AND REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION

Choczewo Municipality is located in the northern part of Pomorskie Voivodship, in Wejherowo District, in the Pobrzeże Kaszubskie (Kashubian Coast) region. It covers an area of about 19,000 hectares (190 km²), with a 17-km coastline. It consists of 31 villages, including 14 villages with civil parish rights. The population is about 6,000 people. The seat of the municipal authorities is the village of Choczewo. 9

The Choczewo Municipality will be the location for the connection infrastructure of most offshore wind farms (OWFs) developed in the first phase of offshore wind sector development in Poland – by three developers: PGE (in cooperation with Oersted), Orlen (Baltic Power project in cooperation with Northland Power), and OW (about 5 GW of capacity in total). It is also here that – for the purposes of the above projects – Polskie Sieci Elektroenergetyczne S.A. will build a substation (Choczewo substation) and 400 kV grids for power output from the offshore farms to the National Power System. Choczewo Municipality has also been selected as the final location for the pro-

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Source: <a href="https://www.choczewo.com.pl/o-gminie/">https://www.choczewo.com.pl/o-gminie/</a>



ject of the first nuclear power plant, which had been announced for years and which will be located in the vicinity of Słajszewo.

# LOKALIZACJA ELEKTROWNI ATOMOWEJ SALISON SALISO

# GMINA CHOCZEWO - INWESTYCJE ENERGETYCZNE

Infographic: Energy investments in Choczewo Municipality, source: tvn24.pl

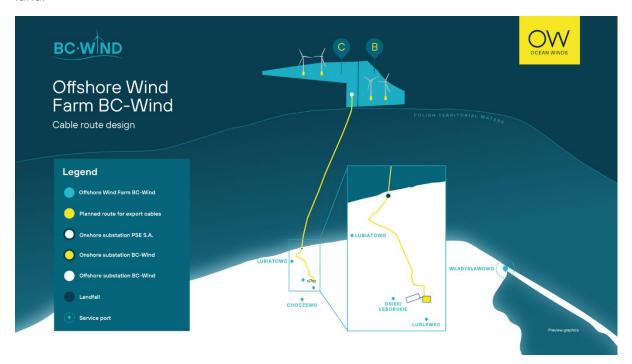
With this in mind, in line with the best standards for public communication concerning major infrastructural projects – an informal working group for public communication in Choczewo Municipality was established in 2019, and it maintains constant dialog with the key stakeholders in the municipality. The group included representatives of 4 investors in offshore wind farms (Baltic Power, PGE Baltica, Oersted, OW) and the transmission grid operator PSE. From the beginning, the main goals of the working group were to:

- Develop overall plans of the connection route in order to expedite the permitting and design of the onshore part of the project.
- Reliably inform key local stakeholders about the scale of OWF projects from the early stages of their implementation.
- Avoid a race between the developers in communication activities aimed at the same target groups.
- Work out a common ESG solution that accounts for the expectations of the municipality regarding the compensation for the economic transformation, including the change in the profile of the municipality from tourism to a profile that also includes the energy sector.

The BC-Wind offshore wind farm will be connected to the National Power System in Osieki Leborskie. The place of connection of the transmission infrastructure of the farm will be the SE-Choczewo substation of Polskie Sieci Elektroenergetyczne S.A. The cable route of the BC-Wind OWF includes the construction of approximately 33 km of an offshore cable line and approximately 8 km of an onshore line. All transmission infrastructure in the onshore section will be con-



structed using trenchless technology (HDD), which allows for the cables to be run underground without interfering with the coastal zone, including the beach. The HDD technology will enable the safe connection of offshore and onshore sections in dedicated cable draw pits located on land.



Design of the cable route of the BC-Wind OWF, own materials of OW.

Since the beginning of the activities of the working group, the key local and regional administration bodies involved in the dialog include the following:

- Maritime Office.
- Pomeranian Voivodship Office,
- Regional Directorate for Environmental Protection (RDEP),
- Choczewo Municipality.

# The dialog is implemented using the following tools:

- face-to-face meetings; traditional and electronic correspondence, ongoing contact regarding project issues;
- official letters and documents;
- public consultations and meetings with the residents;
- website and official announcements:
- BC-Wind project website;
- coordination by the person designated for contact with the stakeholders (Community Liaison Officer – CLO).

See Appendix B for a list of frequently asked questions during meetings with local and regional government officials.



# History of major activities

2024	EVENT
December 18, 2024	Participation of Ocean Winds representatives – including a presentation on the status of the project – in a meeting of the Team for the coordination of projects related to the construction of the nuclear power plant in Pomorskie Voivodship with associated infrastructure and offshore wind farms organized by the Governor of Pomorskie Voivodship.
December 17, 2024	Participation of Ocean Winds representatives – including a presentation on the status of the project – in a "Small Round Table" meeting of the Pomeranian Platform for the Development of Offshore Wind Energy in the Baltic Sea organized by the Marshal of Pomorskie Voivodship.
November 15, 2024	Meeting of the Team for the coordination of projects related to the construction of the nuclear power plant in Pomorskie Voivodship with associated infrastructure and offshore wind farms, held at the Pomorskie Voivodship Office.
November 26, 2024	Meeting with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of the Town of Władysławowo regarding communication with the public.
September 30, 2024	Meeting of the Team for the coordination of projects related to the construction of the nuclear power plant in Pomorskie Voivodship with associated infrastructure and offshore wind farms, held at the Pomorskie Voivodship Office.
June 6, 2024	Meeting of the Team for the coordination of projects related to the construction of the nuclear power plant in Pomorskie Voivodship with associated infrastructure and offshore wind farms, held at the Pomorskie Voivodship Office.

2023	EVENT
March 2, 2023	Representatives of Polskie Sieci Elektroenergetyczne S.A. and investors in offshore wind farms, including OW, met with authorities of Choczewo Municipality and presented plans for their work in 2023.
September 2023	Closeout meeting of the "Small Program – Government program to support the development of Pomerania" – a program developed by investors in OWF and PEJ as a coordinating unit.

# 4.3 LOCAL COMMUNITY

In implementing the offshore wind farm project in the Baltic Sea, Ocean Winds is in constant dialog not only with the local government administration but also with the local community. Since the earliest stages of the preparations for the construction of the BC-Wind OWF, the company has been implementing community initiatives for local stakeholders.

# The key stakeholders involved in the social dialog process are as follows:

- residents of Choczewo Municipality;
- residents of Władysławowo Municipality;
- local Country Housewives' Associations;
- Volunteer Fire Departments;
- units of the State Fire Service;
- local cultural centers;
- youth and school students;
- foundations and associations established to work for the benefit of the residents of Choczewo Municipality;



- social enterprises;
- organizational units of Choczewo Municipality and civil parishes;
- organizational units of Władysławowo Municipality and civil parishes;
- organizations, institutions, and entities working for the public good of the residents of Choczewo and Władysławowo Municipalities.

In 2021, in Choczewo Municipality, thanks to donations from offshore wind farm investors: PGE Group, PKN Orlen, and Ocean Winds, as well as European Union funds from the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, a multi-use path was built from the village of Sasino (Choczewo Municipality) to the sea, with a length of 1,500 m and a width of 3 m, with a natural surface. The multi-use path is a fast and comfortable connection between the center of the village of Sasino-Stilo and beach exit No. 51. The purpose of the path was to direct tourist traffic in the area in such a way as to protect and safeguard valuable natural habitats and species in the area of the Coastal Protected Landscape Area and, in part, in the Natura 2000 protected site – Sarbska Spit.



Photo: Sasino-Stilo multi-use path, source: gwe24.pl

In implementing the offshore wind farm project in the Baltic Sea, OW is in constant dialog not only with the local government administration but also with the local community. The result of more than 2 years of activities of the working group for communication with the public in Choczewo Municipality was the development of a comprehensive social program titled "Choczewo. A Wind-Powered Municipality".





# "Choczewo. A Wind-Powered Municipality" program

The program has been implemented from 2022 by Ocean Winds together with other offshore wind farm investors for the community of Choczewo Municipality, where infrastructure will be built to connect the BC-Wind offshore wind farm with the national transmission system. The program is based on direct cooperation with the community of the municipality, which – with the assistance of relevant specialists – diagnoses its needs and problems and seeks the best solutions. The scope of the program includes consultation points, workshops, informational meetings, research walks, and interviews with residents of the civil parishes. Residents can submit idea cards, which are then evaluated together with offshore wind farm investors. The final stage is the decision to provide support and implement the submitted projects.

# Goals of the program:

- minimizing the impact of the projects on the lives of the residents;
- broadly defined sustainable development of Choczewo Municipality;
- support for projects addressing the actual needs identified by the community; providing an opportunity to resolve problems diagnosed by the community; increasing public involvement, strengthening the social capital and competencies of the residents;
- building public acceptance of offshore wind energy;
- establishing a lasting relationship with the local community and building public trust;
- ongoing contact with community representatives the ability to communicate directly about projects and continuously monitor community sentiments.

# Benefits for the local community:

- Projects will be based on the actual needs of the community.
- Integrated, "tailor-made" projects that provide an opportunity to find long-term solutions to problematic issues.
- Projects implemented and subsidized under the program will be free and available to the general public in Choczewo Municipality.
- Increasing community involvement, strengthening long-term social capital, and competencies of the residents.

The first edition of the "Choczewo. A Wind-Powered Municipality" program began in February/March 2022. From March to April 2022, local needs, ideas, and problems were mapped. Nearly 80 interviews, 8 workshops, and 14 research walks were conducted in Choczewo. A meeting was held in June to summarize the conducted research. Consultation points were also organized to let the residents express their ideas for improving life in the municipality. During subsequent meetings in July, projects submitted by the residents, NGOs, and establishments of Choczewo Municipality were recommended for implementation. As a result of the first edition of the program, **45 projects were completed**, with **PLN 1 million** of financial support from the developers. The projects concerned social initiatives and development, safety, local activity sites, cultural and natural heritage, and child and youth development.









Bezpieczeństwo



Miejsca Aktywności Lokalnej



Dziedzictwo kulturowe i przyrodnicze



Rozwój dzieci i młodzieży

LICZBA PROJEKTÓW: 9 DOFINANSOWANIE: 405 tys. LICZBA PROJEKTÓW: 6 DOFINANSOWANIE: 80 tys. LICZBA PROJEKTÓW: 11
DOFINANSOWANIE: 220 tys.

LICZBA PROJEKTÓW: 11 DOFINANSOWANIE: 165 tys. LICZBA PROJEKTÓW: 8
DOFINANSOWANIE: 130 tys.

Source: https://gmina-napedzana-wiatrem.pl/

Due to the great success of the first edition of the "Choczewo. A Wind-Powered Municipality" program, *the second edition was inaugurated on April 12, 2023*; the inauguration was attended by approximately 40 people, including several new organizations that did not participate in the first edition. Throughout April, consultation points were organized in the civil parishes to engage residents and organizations and facilitate discussions of new ideas for activities in the following areas: social initiatives and development, safety, support for civil parishes, cultural heritage, environmental protection, and environmental education and development of children and young people, which are given greater emphasis in this year's edition of the Program. In order to encourage young people to participate in the Program, meetings were held in two schools with which we remain in constant contact. In early May, we finished collecting idea cards; the submitted ideas were then discussed during a meeting of the Team recommending the projects to support. In June, we began signing contracts and implementing selected projects.

A total of 111 projects were submitted for the second edition of the program, nearly twice the number submitted in the first edition. 68 projects were awarded a total funding of PLN 1,087,000.

In April 2024, the call for applications was announced for the 3rd edition of the "Choczewo. A Wind-Powered Municipality" program. This edition introduced the possibility of submitting youth initiatives, with young people acting as initiators. A dedicated budget of PLN 40,000 was allocated for this purpose.

In summary, the 3rd edition of the program supported the implementation of 68 local initiatives out of the 107 proposals submitted, awarding a total budget of PLN 1.213 million for their implementation. The projects covered various aspects of community life, from social activities to environmental education, and all of them were aimed at building a coherent and sustainable future for Choczewo Municipality.





Training and recreation camp for members of Youth Fire Teams organized by the Choczewo Volunteer Fire Department, source: "A wind-powered municipality" program website.

Program website: <a href="https://gmina-napedzana-wiatrem.pl/">https://gmina-napedzana-wiatrem.pl/</a>

In May 2022, the port of Władysławowo was selected as the location of the maintenance base for the BC-Wind OWF, causing Puck District to be included in the group of local stakeholders. From the time the decision on the choice of the base was made, we have been engaged in an active dialog with the local community. This included regular open meetings with representatives of fishing unions and fishermen (as discussed in greater detail in point 4.5 of this document) and periodic consultations with municipal authorities regarding the needs and concerns of the residents and opportunities to support local communities.

In 2023, the "Career with the Wind" educational program was expanded to include two schools in Puck District, as detailed in point 4.7 of this document.

The dialog is implemented using the following tools:

- Interviews, meetings, and research walks with the residents.
- Design workshops, a dedicated website for the "Choczewo. A Wind-Powered Municipality" program: <a href="https://gmina-napedzana-wiatrem.pl/">https://gmina-napedzana-wiatrem.pl/</a>.
- A dedicated stakeholder manager.
- Complaint mechanism.
- Open meetings with the local community of Puck District, including meetings with fishing communities.
- OW in Poland also conducts communication activities dedicated to local investment stakeholders press releases, participation in major offshore industry conferences and events, organization of face-to-face meetings with representatives of supply chain companies, open webinars, meetings, and stationary workshops.



•	Ongoing monitoring of local media and social media concern-
	ing offshore wind farms: BC-Wind and OW in Poland.

• There is an active dialog with all groups within Sector Deal working groups. Representatives of the government administration and the offshore wind sector – including Ocean Winds – signed the "Polish Offshore Wind Sector Deal" on September 15, 2021. The overriding goal of this agreement is to support the development of the sector in Poland and maximize "local content," i.e. the participation of Polish entrepreneurs in the supply chain for offshore wind farms built in the Polish Exclusive Economic Zone.

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# History of major activities

	EVENT
November 26–27 and December 10, 2024	One-on-one meeting with the authorities of civil parishes directly adjacent to BC-Wind infrastructure on the status of the project and transportation issues.
November 27, 2024	A face-to-face meeting with representatives of civil parishes from Choczewo Municipality and the representative of Choczewo Municipality for strategic investments in Choczewo concerning the status of work on offshore wind farm projects.
June 26, 2024	A meeting at the site of the PSE station in Choczewo with representatives o councilmen, the municipal office, and the local community and investors. A tour of the construction site and a presentation concerning the status of the project.
May 14, 2024	Participation in meetings with stakeholders in Gdynia, a meeting with the Anna Dymna Foundation in Choczewo
April 24– 25, 2024	Shifts at information points concerning offshore wind energy organized under the "Choczewo. A Wind-Powered Municipality" program.
	WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sasino – village community center Ciekocino – school
	3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.  Jackowo – village community center  Słajszewo – village community center
	5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Słajkowo – a meeting in the village of Żelazno Łętowo – village community center
	THURSDAY, APRIL 25
	9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Gościęcino – village community center Zwartówko – gymnasium of the former school in Zwartowo
	10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Borkowo Lęborskie – shelter at the playground
	12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.



	Kierzkowo – village community center
	Choczewo – Municipal Office
	2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
	Starbienino – old school in Lublewo
	Kopalino – village community center
	4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
	Choczewko – village community center
October 17,	Meetings with the local community and the Jastarnia Forest District during a pub-
2023	lic volunteer initiative of the BC-Wind team. https://www.bc-wind.pl/zespol-bc-
	wind-dla-spolecznosci/
April 13-14,	Shifts at information points concerning offshore wind energy organized under the
2024	"Choczewo. A Wind-Powered Municipality" program.
	THI IDODAY ADDII 13
	THURSDAY, APRIL 13
	11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
	Kierzkowo – village community center
	Starbienino – old school in Lublewko
	Gościęcino – village community center
	Zwartówko – gymnasium of the former school in Zwartowo
	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
	Kopalino – village community center
	Choczewo – Municipal Office
	Słajkowo – playground in the village of Żelazno
	Borkowo Lęborskie – shelter at the playground
	6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
	Sasino – village community center
	Choczewko – village community center
	FRIDAY, APRIL 14
	Noon to 2:00 p.m.
	Jackowo – village community center
	Łętowo – village community center
	Ciekocino – school
	Słajszewo – village community center
January 25,	Meeting with representatives of the Anna Dymna Foundation concerning the ca-
2023	ble tray.
December	Presentation concerning the BC-Wind project for the municipal council of
9, 2022	Choczewo Municipality.
September	Consultation point at the community harvest festival in Choczewo
4, 2022 June 11–22,	Shifts at information points concerning offshore wind energy organized under the
2022	"Choczewo. A Wind-Powered Municipality" program.
	2
	SATURDAY, June 11:
	10:00 a.m. to noon Sasino – village community center
	10:00 a.m. to noon Jackowo – village community center
	10:00 a.m. to noon Łętowo – garden by the store
	1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Borkowo Lęborskie – shelter at the playground



	1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Ciekocino – playing field near the school 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Zwartówko – gymnasium of the former school in Zwartowo
	SUNDAY, June 12:
	10.00 a.m. to noon Gościęcino – village community center 10.00 a.m. to noon Choczewo – square in front of the Municipal Office 10:00 a.m. to noon Słajszewo – square at the community center 10:00 a.m. to noon Słajkowo – playground in the village of Żelazno 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Kopalino – square at the community center 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Choczewko – village community center 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Starbienino – field in Lublewo 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Kierzkowo – shelter behind the community center
	MONDAY, June 20: 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sasino – village community center 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Ciekocino – school 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Słajszewo – village community center 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Jackowo – village community center
	TUESDAY, June 21:
	11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Gościęcino – village community center 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Słajkowo – community center in the village of Żelazno 2.00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Łętowo – garden by the store 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Borkowo Lęborskie – shelter at the playground 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Zwartówko – gymnasium of the former school in Zwartowo 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Choczewko – village community center
	WEDNESDAY, June 22:
	Noon to 2:00 p.m. Kierzkowo – community center Noon to 2:00 p.m. Choczewo – Municipal Office – Tourist Information Center 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Kopalino – community center 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Starbienino – old school in Lublewko
March 15, 2022	Meeting with the head of Choczewo Municipality and local stakeholders regarding "A Wind-Powered Municipality" program.
October 27, 2021	A meeting with representatives of the municipal council of Choczewo Municipality and the local community in Choczewo Municipality

A record of the most frequently asked questions from stakeholders during meetings with OW representatives has been included in <u>Appendix B</u> to this document.

# 4.4 PORTS (SERVICE PORT AND INSTALLATION PORT).

In May 2022, a preliminary agreement was signed for the lease of the port of Władysławowo, which was selected as the service base for the BC-Wind project. The port will serve as an operations and maintenance site for the maintenance of the offshore wind farm, as well as a base for turbine maintenance. The signing took place during a work conference at the port with the participation of port authorities, OW and the Staroste of the Puck District.





Photo. From the left, Witold Stanisław Wawrzonkoski – president of the management board of Szkuner Sp. z o.o., Jarosław Białk – Staroste of the Puck District, Kacper Kostrzewa – BC-Wind project director, own materials of OW.

This agreement was a key step in the plan of logistics operations for the project, enabling the optimal preparation to maintain the efficiency of the offshore wind farm. The Service Port will be the central operating point for maintenance activities, focusing on maintaining optimal farm performance.

OW is engaged in an active dialog with Polish and foreign ports to select the optimal location, availability, and readiness of the installation port for the construction of the offshore wind farm. As part of the commitment to ensure local supply chain participation of 20%–30%, the priority is to involve Polish companies and enterprises in the deliveries and services required for the project.

The selection of the installation port is a key part of the logistics strategy for the project, enabling the efficient management of the wind farm construction process, including the transport and installation of turbines and other infrastructure. OW consistently seeks to work with partners that support the development of the local economy, which is an important contribution to the expansion of the domestic offshore wind sector.

# The key institutions involved in the dialog process are as follows:

- Władysławowo Port Authority (Szkuner) O&M port
- Port Authority of Gdynia / Gdańsk / Świnoujście / Klaipėda / Mukran installation port

Including these institutions in the dialog process is an integral part of the stakeholder engagement plan, ensuring transparency, understanding, and cooperation, which, in turn, contributes to the success of the project. Effective communication with ports directly contributes to the onschedule completion of the activities and minimizes potential operational and logistical risks.

The dialog is implemented using the following tools:

- face-to-face business meetings; traditional and electronic correspondence, ongoing contact regarding project issues;
- communication platform; using an online platform to share information and documents and communicate on a regular basis;
- webinars and online presentations: organizing remote presentation sessions to discuss key aspects of the project;
- participation in parliamentary or senate committees or meetings



on the ministerial level:

- meetings in Sector Deal workshops and working groups;
- industry dialog through the participation of OW in relevant associations:
- attendance of industry conferences involving representatives of the ports;
- coordination by the designated person for contact with the stakeholders (Public Affairs Senior Manager).

# 4.5 FISHING UNIONS AND FISH PROCESSING INDUSTRY

The location of offshore wind turbines makes fishing communities, fish processing industries, and transportation and shipping groups important stakeholders in the project. The fishing industry is a key stakeholder group in the context of offshore wind farm construction. The industry plays a key role in the local economy and is a major contributor to the employment and revenue generation in the region.

The fish processing industry consists of various stakeholders, including fish processing companies, fishermen, suppliers, distributors, and employees. The construction of an offshore wind farm directly affects these stakeholders, as it could affect their operations and the access to fishing grounds and temporarily reduce the availability of fish stocks.

According to existing regulations, offshore wind farms can be built only in the so-called Exclusive Economic Zone, in strictly defined locations based on applications for location permits (so-called erection of artificial islands). In order to balance the interests of various industries, a Development Plan for the Polish Maritime Areas has been created for the Polish part of the Baltic Sea.

Additionally, Ocean Winds, as a signatory to the so-called Sector Deal for the offshore industry in Poland, actively participates in all major working groups dedicated to the impact of offshore wind energy on fishing.

It is critical for us to engage with these stakeholders in order to understand their concerns, address all negative impacts, and identify opportunities for cooperation and mutual benefit.

## The key stakeholders involved in the dialog process are as follows:

- Fishermen
- Fishing unions
- Fish processing companies
- Suppliers
- Distributors
- Fish factory workers

Among the many fishing unions operating in Poland, OW plans to work closely with representatives of fishermen operating in Władysławowo Municipality, especially the ones based around the port of Władysławowo. There is a detailed fishing union stakeholder group matrix for the project, which is available for audit purposes.

The dialog is implemented using the following tools:	<ul> <li>face-to-face meetings; traditional and electronic correspondence, ongoing contact;</li> <li>dedicated section on the project website:</li> </ul>
	https://www.bc-wind.pl/inwestycja/, "For Fisheries" sec-



<ul> <li>tion;</li> <li>participation in parliamentary or senate committees or meetings on the ministerial level;</li> <li>active participation in the working group for cooperation with stakeholders under the Sector Deal dedicated to, inter alia, systemic cooperation with fishermen;</li> <li>industry dialog through the participation of OW in relevant associations;</li> <li>attendance of industry conferences involving representatives of the fishing industry;</li> <li>coordination by the designated person for contact with the stakeholders (Public Affairs Senior Manager, environmental manager).</li> </ul>

# Initiatives implemented to date:

	EVENT
November 26, 2024	Meeting with the North Kashubian Local Fishing Group in Władysławowo.
October 2024	In October 2024, a meeting was held with representatives of fishing unions during the conference "Fishing and Wind Energy in the Baltic Sea" in Władysławowo During the panel discussion, a representative of OW presented investment plans related to the port of Władysławowo and assured of the readiness for open dialog and cooperation with fishermen during the construction of the Offshore Wind Farm.
	After the conference part, the participants had the opportunity to take part in a tour of the port and the site of the future OW maintenance base, which enabled a more detailed discussion of investment plans and a better understanding of the potential benefits for the local community.
2021	In the middle of 2021, we organized informational meetings to which we invited representatives of major fishing unions. In the next few years, activities are planned to engage fishermen in an open dialog about the future of their operations once offshore wind farms are operational.
June 2021	Public consultation in June 2021 in Władysławowo. The meeting was attended by representatives of the BC-Wind project and also by independent environmenta experts. The meeting included a presentation of the project, the results of studies of the marine environment, and the environmental impact of offshore wind farms There was also a round of questions and answers.  Report: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yKKnwzD9cbc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yKKnwzD9cbc</a>





Public consultation with the fishing community, June 2021, own materials of OW.



Guided tour of the port of Władysławowo during the conference "Fishing and Wind Energy in the Baltic Sea", October 2024, own materials of OW.

# 4.6 OFFSHORE WIND INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS

OW recognizes the key role of industry associations in shaping the offshore wind energy landscape. Therefore, we regard industry associations as important stakeholders whose involvement and perspectives are extremely valuable to our project. Their expertise and experience are an



important contribution to the development of the offshore wind sector in Poland, at the same time supporting the educational aspects.

Since 2021, OW has been actively involved in the work of the so-called Sector Deal concluded between government administration representatives, investors, entrepreneurs interested in creating a local supply chain, scientific and research units, and other entities from the industry. OW has been actively involved in the activities of the working group for the supply chain, which aims to develop a methodology for calculating local content.

# We actively cooperate with the following industry stakeholders:

- Polish Wind Energy Association (PWEA);
- Polish Offshore Wind Energy Chamber (POWEC);
- West Pomeranian Maritime Cluster;
- Pomeranian Group for the Development of Offshore Wind Energy;
- Regional Chamber of Commerce in Katowice.

The dialog is implemented using the following tools:

- active participation of investor representatives in conferences, industry meetings, and webinars;
- face-to-face meetings with representatives of the offshore industry, presentations concerning the Project;
- preparation of media materials, including information brochures and press releases;
- active participation in Sector Deal meetings.

In November 2024, as part of our efforts to find innovative solutions, we held an open online meeting aimed at suppliers of products, services, and technologies related to offshore wind energy. The purpose of the event was to consult the demand and exchange ideas and expectations of the investors and industry representatives. The meeting was organized jointly with the following associations: The Pomeranian Platform for the Development of Offshore Wind Energy (PPO), the West Pomeranian Maritime Cluster, and the Chamber of Commerce in Katowice.

The event was attended by 105 participants, which was met with great enthusiasm and a positive response from the industry. Representatives of the companies expressed interest in further dialog and cooperation. Under the initiative, companies can send their ideas and solutions to OW's innovation department, which then analyzes the submissions and provides feedback. This form of cooperation promotes the development of the local supply chain and strengthens the support facilities for offshore wind energy in Poland.

# 4.7 EDUCATIONAL CENTERS AND RESEARCH INSTITUTES

Education and cooperation with various educational centers is for us a very important part of the supply chain. According to us, the education of young people is particularly important. To prevent further climate change on our planet, it is worth teaching children (and others) what renewable energy sources are and the benefits that their widespread development will bring. As Ocean Winds, we want to build a long-standing relationship with key stakeholders and entities in the region, not only by including local companies in the offshore wind supply chain, but also by educating future staff for the emerging industry.



We have a base of Polish technical universities, especially those in the Pomorskie and Zachodniopomorskie Voivodships, with which we remain in contact: Maritime University of Szczecin, Gdynia Maritime University, Gdańsk University of Technology, University of Gdańsk, West Pomeranian University of Technology in Szczecin. We support, i.a., the MEWy "Trends and Visions for Offshore Wind Energy Development" competition, organized by the Maritime University of Szczecin and the Marshal's Office of the Zachodniopomorskie Voivodship, which aims to popularize the obtaining of energy from RES. This international competition is addressed to secondary school students, undergraduates and doctoral students, whose task is to provide in the form of a presentation a look at the development of offshore wind energy and methods of obtaining "green energy". One of the prizes covers a paid internship at Ocean Winds Poland. The winners of the first edition after completing their internships decided to stay with us for the long term and today work in our purchasing and technical departments. In July 2023, the winners of the third edition of the competition came to us and began their internship in the technical department of OW Poland.

As part of our cooperation with universities, we also participate in job fairs, including those at Gdańsk University of Technology. In March 2023 and March 2024, we participated in the EDU OFFSHORE WIND Education Career Fair, presenting Ocean Winds as a reliable and forward-looking employer. In addition, we conduct large-scale activities and educational programs addressed to school students, university students and graduates, as described below.

# 1. The "Career with the Wind" educational program



This is Ocean Winds' flagship program which familiarizes students with the energy potential of offshore wind, develops their knowledge of offshore wind farms and introduces them to career opportunities in this sector of the economy.

The first edition of the program took place in the 2021/2022 school year and was attended by students in the second and third year of secondary technical schools in three cities in Poland: Power Engineering School Complex in Gdańsk, Kazimierz Pułaski School Complex in Częstochowa and Władysław Orkan School Complex No. 2 in Szczecin. Ocean Winds signed letters of intent for long-term cooperation with all the schools and the co-organizer of the campaign – the Industrial Development Agency. Students educating in the field of energy technicians, renewable energy technicians and electrical technicians were acquainted with, i.a., the stages of development of offshore wind farms, the supply chain of components and strategic aspects of offshore wind energy development in Poland, using examples of the worldwide Ocean Winds' projects.

The second edition of the program was launched in September 2022 – expanded to include two schools from the Puck Starost Office: Stanisław Staszic District School Complex in Kłanin and the District Center for Continuing Education in Puck, with which we signed two separate tripartite agreements on the line of entrepreneur – school – educational consulting institution. This is a key area for Ocean Winds and the BC-Wind offshore wind farm project carried out by us, and a partner for cooperation – due to the plans to locate a service port in Władysławowo to service the wind farm.

In December 2023, the students of the renewable energy technician class at School Complex No. 2 in Szczecin were awarded the program graduate title after a two-year period of study. As of February 2024, the program will continue at the Technical Secondary School. It will cover year two students and the same profile, and will last for another two years.

In 2024, new classes joined the group of graduates of the "Careers with the Wind" program: students of the RES equipment technician profile class at the Technical Power Engineering Second-



ary School in Gdańsk, from the District School Complex in Kłanin, and students of the electrical technician profile class at the Electrical and Mechanical School Complex in Częstochowa. All of these schools continue to benefit from the support of the "Careers with the Wind" program, since the 2024/2025 school year, new classes with dedicated profiles related to renewable energy sources (RES) and energy have been included, allowing for further development of young people's competencies in this area.

Read more: https://www.bc-wind.pl/kariera-z-wiatrem-program-edukacyjny-ow/



Classes under the "Careers with the Wind" program at the District School Complex in Klanin, October 2024, OW's own materials.

# 2. "Wind Experts" educational program

The objective of the Wind Experts international educational campaign is to raise awareness of climate change among the youngest students and promote effective solutions to reduce its effects. The campaign is being carried out in schools in Spain, the UK and Poland.

The program is targeted to students who are 8–12 years old, participating in two interesting educational sessions, during which an educator who is a specialist in environmental issues presents topics related to offshore wind energy. Together with teachers, children gain knowledge about energy and its various sources, especially renewable energy. For this purpose, interactive educational materials and games are provided to verify the acquired knowledge.



In 2022, the first edition of the campaign was organized, the final stage of which was to take part in an international educational competition held at all the registered establishments in the three participating countries. Using all the knowledge they had acquired, children and teachers built offshore wind turbine models from recycled materials in teams. Each team prepared a video showing the creation of the model, with an explanation of each stage of the creation process and promoting their model as the winning one. The videos were then sent to Ocean Winds and posted on the YouTube platform channel so that viewers of the channel could vote for their favorite video. All the works were assessed by a jury (selected for this purpose by Ocean Winds), which announced the winners. In Poland, the winner was Jan Brzechwa Primary School No. 84 in Gdańsk, which received a cash prize. iPads 2021 (64GB) awaited each member of the winning team.

Read more: <a href="https://windexperts.oceanwinds.com/poland/">https://windexperts.oceanwinds.com/poland/</a>



Presentation of the main award at Primary School No. 84 in Gdańsk, September 2023, OW's own materials

# 3. "OW Graduate" program

At OW, we are committed to building a better future, which is why we have created a graduate program to invest in talented young people and enable them to grow within our company to create the future of renewable energy together.

Running since 2020, the international program for engineering students is Ocean Winds' own initiative. As part of the program, five people are covered by the Polish BC-Wind project to assist our team in various areas.



The "OW Graduate" program lasts 2 years, during which participants can rotate twice between different projects or offshore areas, benefiting from continuous training and learning to specialize in wind energy, growing professionally and personally through real-life experiences. During the program, its participants are provided with a mentor, are employed under an employment contract, have their accommodation paid for, and can enjoy a benefits package and numerous training courses.

Read more: https://www.bc-wind.pl/program-absolwent-ow/

#### 4. MEWy competition

MEWy is a competition addressed to primary and secondary school as well as university students to promote creativity and innovative thinking in the area of offshore wind energy. Participants in the competition present their ideas for the development of technologies related to the industry, and the submitted projects are evaluated in terms of their substantive and technical aspects, originality, implementation potential and compatibility with current trends in the offshore wind sector.

The competition is organized by the Maritime University of Szczecin and the Marshal's Office of the Zachodniopomorskie Voivodship. OW is an active partner in the competition, taking part in the committees reviewing the prepared works and offering participants the opportunity to complete a paid six-month internship at our registered office in Warsaw. This provides young people with valuable professional experience and the chance for further development in the wind energy sector.

In 2024, as part of our own initiative, we launched an educational video series that addresses issues related to the process of building an offshore wind farm. The purpose of these materials is to share knowledge and spread awareness of the various stages of project implementation.

The video features specialists from various departments who detail the individual phases of wind farm construction, including planning, preparation, installation, service and maintenance works, as well as the challenges of modern technology development. Experts explain the importance of environmental impact assessments and the processes involved in obtaining the approvals and licenses necessary to begin the farm construction. The series aims not only to educate, but also to understand the scale and complexity of the project that affects the development of the RES sector in Poland.

Read more about the initiative: <a href="https://www.pm.szczecin.pl/pl/studenci/konkursy/konkurs-mewy/idea-konkursu/">https://www.pm.szczecin.pl/pl/studenci/konkursy/konkurs-mewy/idea-konkursu/</a>

#### We actively cooperate with the following industry stakeholders:

- Educational centers and technical schools offering programs in the field of energy, engineering or renewable energy sources.
- Research institutes specializing in fields related to offshore wind energy.
- Local and regional authorities supporting the development of education and research in the field of renewable energy.
- Industry companies and enterprises that cooperate with educational centers and research institutes on research projects or student internships.
- Primary and secondary school as well as university students who benefit from the educational and research offer of centers and institutes to gain knowledge and practice related to offshore wind energy.
- Kindergartens and primary schools that may be interested in environmental education and educational projects in the field of renewable energy sources, including offshore wind energy.



The dialog is implemented
using the following tools:

- Meetings, workshops, classes, webinars organized for school students
- Media materials, press articles
- Tab dedicated to education on the project website <u>https://www.bc-wind.pl/inwestycia/</u> (Education tab)
- Cooperation with training institutions and centers
- Social media platforms

#### 4.8 OFFSHORE WIND FARM SUPPLY CHAIN COMPANIES

Supply chain companies play a key role in the offshore wind farm construction process, serving as important partners and stakeholders. In the context of our operations, partnership with supply chain companies is crucial to the success and achievement of offshore wind development objectives in Poland.

Offshore wind energy, due to its complex and long supply chain, is dependent on a wide range of suppliers. Project preparation and implementation, which lasts 8 to 10 years on average, requires the involvement of a variety of entities. Currently, more than 100 domestic companies participating in the supply chain have been identified, with the prospect of potential growth for even more entities in this market. In addition, the service life of offshore wind farms is about 25–30 years, which requires long-term collaboration with the necessary suppliers and partners throughout the supply chain.<sup>10</sup>

The national potential of entities and entrepreneurs involved in offshore wind energy covers a variety of areas, providing a key link in project implementation. The production of raw materials such as steel, copper, and thermal coal provides the foundation for the industry growth, meeting the specific need for more than 1 million tons of steel for 6 GW of power.

The design and planning which includes offshore wind farm projects, connection infrastructure, offshore environment surveys, and permitting processes, relies on cooperation with engineering companies, legal advisors and financial institutions.

The production of offshore wind power plant components, connection infrastructure and offshore farm systems is developed with the participation of Polish companies that have the production and technological potential. The participation of shipyards, installation ports, design offices requires close coordination and cooperation of diverse suppliers.

The operation and maintenance of an offshore wind farm is an area that includes service ports, service fleet, ongoing maintenance and repair, as well as logistics, training, and energy supply, where Polish companies play a key role.

All of these areas support personnel development, innovation, science and research, as well as communication, marketing and promotional activities that make up the comprehensive ecosystem of Polish offshore wind energy.

All the rules of cooperation with the supply chain are described in detail in the Supply Chain Plan for the BC-Wind project. The following link offers more information: <a href="https://www.bc-wind.pl/oprojekcie/#dokumenty-do-pobrania">https://www.bc-wind.pl/oprojekcie/#dokumenty-do-pobrania</a>

<sup>10</sup> https://www.gov.pl/web/morska-energetyka-wiatrowa/lancuch-dostaw-w-polsce



As Ocean Winds, we have defined the local supply chain (local content) in three dimensions. The first one is to engage Polish companies as suppliers to support the local economy. As a private entrepreneur operating around the world, we have the opportunity to promote Polish companies internationally in our other projects. In addition, we focus on the education of future employees by implementing educational programs at primary and secondary schools. We also support the competence of offshore wind specialists – the BC-Wind project currently includes more than 50 locally employed employees.

#### Stakeholders involved in the dialog during the advanced development phase comprise:

- Companies engaged in offshore wind farm projects,
- Companies specializing in connection infrastructure,
- Units carrying out surveys of the marine environment of fauna and flora,- Companies conducting geotechnical surveys of the seabed,
- Law firms and consulting companies providing advisory services,
- Financial institutions supporting project financing,
- Institutions specializing in innovation and R&D.

The dialog is implemented using the following tools:	<ul> <li>open meetings with potential stakeholders named "100 Questions for Ocean Winds";</li> <li>face-to-face meetings, training, presentations, Teams meetings;</li> <li>email instant messengers;</li> <li>notification of tenders;</li> <li>possibility of registering in the Ocean Winds supplier database         <ul> <li>https://oceanwinds.appianportals.com/211ded7c-2108-4449-b127-d46b68731656-new-supplier-for-oceanwinds;</li> <li>dedicated tab on the project website "For Suppliers" https://www.bc-wind.pl/wspolpraca-z-ow/.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<b>EVENT</b>
27/11/2024	Webinar on innovation in offshore wind energy. The meeting was open. It was organized in cooperation with the Pomeranian Platform for the Development of Offshore Wind Energy, the West Pomeranian Maritime Cluster and the Regional Chamber of Commerce in Katowice. 150 people registered for the meeting and 105 people attended the meeting.
13/09/2023	Open meeting with potential suppliers for OWE – "Suppliers Day". The meeting had a formula of "100 questions to OW", where OW representatives answered specific questions from potential suppliers, concerning the project execution schedule or the procurement process rules. The meeting was held in Gdańsk and transmitted online.
6/09/2022	Workshop with potential suppliers "Suppliers Day" in the formula "100 questions to OW: how to build a supply chain?". The event was held on a hybrid basis – on-site in Warsaw and online. Event Report: <a href="https://balticwind.eu/pl/100-pytan-do-ow-jak-zbudowac-lancuch-dostaw-dialog-pomiedzy-jednym-z-najwiekszych-globalnych-deweloperow-morskich-farm-wiatrowych-a-polskim-biznesem/">https://balticwind.eu/pl/100-pytan-do-ow-jak-zbudowac-lancuch-dostaw-dialog-pomiedzy-jednym-z-najwiekszych-globalnych-deweloperow-morskich-farm-wiatrowych-a-polskim-biznesem/</a>
9/06/2022	Meeting with potential suppliers at an online workshop concerning Ocean Winds'



procurement policy and the BC-Wind project, the breakdown and schedule of tender procedures as part of each package.

#### 4.9 ENVIRONMENT AND NATURE PROTECTION ORGANIZATIONS

Non-governmental and community organizations participating in the dialog with the Investor, in terms of reducing the potential environmental impacts of the project, can be categorized according to the criteria of objectives and profile of activities. The aforementioned organizations may remain loose associations of people living in the same area, or they may be legally established in the form of associations, foundations or chambers of commerce. Environment and nature protection organizations comprise groups made up of local activists who share the objectives regarding the quality of the local natural environment, the direction of social and economic development and spatial planning. Such organizations rarely take the form of a professionally organized structure, with a specified thematic profile. Another category comprises organizations that bring together scientists and researchers from recognized scientific centers, focused on the objective of preserving or improving the condition of areas of high natural value. Another category covers professional organizations working for environmental protection, with separate administrative structures, teams of specialists, actively obtaining funding for their activities.

Local community organizations made up of residents or people emotionally connected with a given area, are most often groups directly experiencing the effects of locally implemented projects, and are frequently characterized by good knowledge of the local environment, areas of particular natural or cultural value, important from the point of view of the local community. Over the past two decades, the formation of local associations has been an initiative of local governments, as an instrument to support sustainable local development, which is influenced by residents and entrepreneurs. Such associations were given the status of Local Action Groups, whose activities were supported by European Union funds aimed at rural development.

Environmental organizations that are made up of representatives of the scientific sector have indepth specialized knowledge, often at the expert level, and experience in environmental impact assessment procedures. Together with local community organizations, they play an important role in identifying valuable local natural resources, and act as watch dogs, identifying potential hazards to local marine and coastal ecosystems that may be affected by offshore wind farm construction and operation projects. Their analyses may be critical to the deciding process for the project, making them an important stakeholder group.

The draft strategic documents (described in point 2.2 of this document) and the strategic environmental assessments were subject to the public participation procedure and consultations conducted by the relevant administrative authorities, in accordance with the provisions of the Act on spatial planning and development. EU and national legislation on environmental impact assessments qualifies offshore wind farms and the National Power System connection infrastructure as projects that may always have a significant and potentially significant impact on the environment. Therefore, projects in the aforementioned area should be consulted with stakeholders representing local communities and specialist-naturalists at the earliest possible stage, in order to take into account their opinions, identify potential conflicts and jointly develop solutions acceptable to each party in the process.

In addition, the involvement of environmental organizations may significantly affect public perception of the project and its progress. Associations, through consultation processes, may have significant influence on decisions related to wind farm construction and connection infrastructure. With the trust of local communities and the certainty that their opinions will be taken into account in the investment process, the organization's participation may significantly affect public acceptance of the project. By monitoring the project progress and environmental impact, their observations may help identify possible violations of environmental regulations and take correc-



tive actions, providing important support for maintaining compliance with environmental standards

The following aspects related to the planned OWF were identified, which may cause social conflicts:

- onshore construction and transport of large-size structures;
- concern for the state of the environment and the resources of the Baltic Sea, which are a source of income for part of the local community, issues of nature protection in the broadest sense, including biotic and abiotic elements of the environment:
- concern of the current and potential users of the OWF Area for the possibility of access to this water region, concern about workplaces, e.g. related to fishery, ensuring proper functioning of communication systems;
- concern for navigational restrictions and their nature in the OWF Area;
- landscape aspects, visibility of the OWF;
- concerns for the impact on tourism in coastal municipalities;
- concerns for the impact on the economy in coastal municipalities.

Potential positive changes that may be caused by the planned OWF were also identified:

- jobs for residents of coastal municipalities involved in fishery at the stage of construction and long-term operation of the OWF;
- potential for the restoration of ichthyofauna resources, through the creation of new refuges the so-called "artificial reef" phenomenon;
- possibility of locating aquaculture in the OWF Area;
- impact on tourism and perception of the OWF as a tourist attraction.

The potential conflict concerning the planned OWF is underpinned by the following issues:

- depending on the decisions of the maritime administration or covering the OWF with a critical Infrastructure status, one can expect difficulties for fishing activities in the water region occupied by the OWF, resulting in a limitation of access to it and thus hindering free fishing and transit through the OWF Area;
- non-compliance of the objectives and interests of the parties the objective indicated by the fishermen community is fishing and transit through the OWF Area to further located fishing grounds, as well as ensuring the presence of fish in the Baltic Sea;
- periodic deterioration of the parameters of some environmental elements during the period of construction of the planned OWF.

Ocean Winds, when implementing the BC-Wind offshore wind farm project in the Polish Exclusive Economic Zone, is actively dialogging with key stakeholder groups for the project. The process began with the development of a strategy for cooperation with stakeholders and communication of the OW brand in Poland (Q4 2021).

#### Stakeholders involved in the dialog during the advanced development phase comprise:

- Nationwide conservation organizations, such as the Polish Society for the Protection of Birds (OTOP);
- Local community and economic organizations, including those working to protect the environment:
- International environmental and nature protection organizations, including WWF or Greenpeace;
- Scientific and research organizations involved in scientific analysis of the condition of the environment and its protection;



 Trade associations representing the interests of social and professional groups involved in the maritime industry.

The full list of associations has been mapped in detail, and cooperation with them is being carried out on an ongoing basis and adapted to the specific needs and priorities of the project.

The dialog is implemented using the following tools:	<ul> <li>Open meetings with potential stakeholders;</li> <li>On-site meetings, training, presentations, Teams meetings;</li> <li>Email instant messengers;</li> <li>Press releases;</li> <li>Environmental Manager dedicated role.</li> </ul>
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	EVENT
9/2024	The Regional Director for Environmental Protection in Gdańsk issued a decision on environmental conditions for the construction of the connection infrastructure of the BC-Wind offshore wind farm to the National Power System. The decision covers the construction of transmission infrastructure from sea to land and connection to the National Power System.
3/2024	Completion of the seabed survey campaign in the BC-Wind farm area and the export cable corridor, as well as the nearshore geophysical and geotechnical survey campaign.
09/2022	Issuance by the Regional Director for Environmental Protection in Gdańsk of a decision on environmental conditions for the project (briefly: environmental decision), positively concluding the process of assessing the project environmental impact.
6/02/2013	Obtaining the decision of the Minister of Transport, Construction and Maritime Economy on the permit for erection and use of artificial islands, structures and devices in the Polish maritime areas for the project entitled "Offshore wind farm complex with a maximum total capacity of 200 MW and technical, measurement, research and service infrastructure related to the preparation, execution and operation stages".
9/05/2012	Obtaining the decision of the Minister of Transport, Construction and Maritime Economy on the permit for erection and use of artificial islands, structures and devices in the Polish maritime areas for the project entitled "Offshore wind farm complex with a maximum total capacity of 200 MW and technical, measurement, research and service infrastructure related to the preparation, execution and operation stages"
2011	Submission of the application for the permit for erection and use of artificial islands, structures and devices

#### 4.10 OCEAN WINDS EMPLOYEES

One of Ocean Winds' priorities is to build a culture of support and knowledge sharing within the organization.

We use the experience gained from the already completed projects for future projects by creating international project teams and platforms for knowledge exchange. We want to develop



competence in the emerging offshore wind market in Poland. In every market where we operate, Ocean Winds has adopted the principle of building a team of local experts.

Wherever OW develops its projects, in parallel it forms a local team of the best experts. The team in Poland has been operationally active since 2019. At the end of 2024, the team in Poland included 60 people of various areas of expertise: engineers for the onshore and offshore parts; OH&S and environmental specialists, project management and the operational part of the project. Ocean Winds has two locations: an office in Warsaw and an office in Gdynia.

OW's global team is diverse and young – 51% of employees are Millennials – and it is still growing. We represent 25 nationalities and are committed to increasing the number of employed women who now make up more than 1/3 of our team. 99% of us are employed on the basis of an employment contract for an indefinite period of time, and 98% have a university degree.

#### Stakeholders involved in the dialog during the advanced development phase comprise:

- OW employees directly related to the project,
- all Ocean Winds Group employees.

The dialog is implemented using the following tools:	<ul> <li>Status internal BC-WIND meetings for the entire team;</li> <li>Cascade communication within the BC-Wind team.</li> <li>Meetings and video conferences;</li> <li>Internal newsletter, project dashboards, Intranet;</li> <li>Posters placed in the office;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>International training and integration meetings;</li> <li>Emails and instant messengers, such as Teams;</li> <li>LinkedIn updates.</li> </ul>

	EVENT
01/2025	Informational meeting with the Regional Director concerning the project status.
10/2024	OW Global Meeting – an international meeting of Ocean Winds employees from around the world. The event was of training and integration nature.
07/2024	Meeting with the new management (CEO and COO), during which the company's development plans were presented.
10/2023	CSR meeting in Jastarnia for employees involved in the BC-Wind project, combined with a CSR action in the Puck district and a visit to the location of the connection of the BC-Wind offshore wind farm to the PSE-Choczewo substation.
05/2022	The opening of Ocean Winds' office in Warsaw with the participation of the company's management, during which OW's development plans were presented.



#### 4.11 MEDIA AND MARKET EXPERTS

The media, which represent a wide range of information platforms, from television and radio through the press to online portals and social media, play a key role in shaping public opinion and disseminating information. Their objective is to provide reliable, valid and diverse content that influences social and political decisions.

By reporting the project progress, communicating its potential benefits and challenges, the media can significantly influence public perception of the project. Both positive and negative media coverage can influence local community decisions and the attitude of authorities and regulatory institutions. Therefore, building partnership relations with the media, based on transparency and integrity, can be crucial to the success of the project. Market experts with specialized knowledge and experience in areas such as renewable energy, economics or regulations are a valuable resource in the strategic decision-making process related to the project. Their market analyses and forecasts are important for assessing the profitability and sustainability of an offshore wind farm project. In addition, market experts may provide important information on market conditions, competition and development perspectives for the renewable energy sector. Their role as advisors may also include providing support in identifying potential risks and developing strategies to manage them. Therefore, cooperation with market experts can be crucial to implement an offshore wind farm project in an efficient manner and in line with market trends and requirements. At Ocean Winds, we appreciate the need to share experiences and establish relationships with others operating in the OWF industry in Poland. We achieve this objective, i.a., by organizing meetings and participating in the Sector Deal.

Since 2021, OW has been actively involved in the work of the so-called Sector Deal concluded between government administration representatives, investors, entrepreneurs interested in creating a local supply chain, scientific and research units and other entities from the industry. The ceremonial signing of the Sector Deal was hosted by the Ministry of Climate and Environment.

Since 2022, as Ocean Winds, we have participated in a number of industry meetings which are listed below. In May 2022 the new office of Ocean Winds was opened in Warsaw. The meeting was attended by representatives of OW, Engie, EDPR, industry stakeholders and the media.

#### OW participation in industry events:

#### 2022

- **22/03/2022** OW and British Embassy Warsaw held a webinar on the experience of Ocean Winds in the field of offshore wind energy in the UK market.
- **22/04/2022** Presentation concerning BC-Wind during the meeting of the West Pomeranian Maritime Cluster.
- 01/06/2022 Presentation concerning BC-Wind at the Pomeranian Offshore Group meeting in Gdańsk.
- **10/06/2022** Inauguration of the CSR program Choczewo. A Wind-Powered Municipality. More about the program: <a href="https://gmina-napedzana-wiatrem.pl/">https://gmina-napedzana-wiatrem.pl/</a>.
- 11-13/06/2022 OW was the main ambassador of the PWEA Conference 2022 in Serock the largest wind event in Poland:
  - over 1,500 participants,
  - 3 substantive speeches,
  - Supply chain meetings,
  - 7 media materials dedicated to OW.
- **26-27/10/2022** OW was the main partner of the 11th PTMEW International Conference "Offshore Wind Logistics & Supplies 2022" in Gdynia
- **16-17/11/2022** OW was the main partner of the Offshore Wind Poland Conference 2022 organized by PWEA in Warsaw



• **21/11/2022** OW participated in the 12th Edition of the European Congress of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises in Katowice, appearing in "The future of RES in Poland against the background of the European market" panel

#### 2023

- **6-7/03/2023** OW attended the "OFFSHORE WIND Risk | Safety | Financing Conference" in Sopot.
- **13-15/04/2023** Presentation of the BC-Wind offshore wind farm project during the 9th seminar organized by the West Pomeranian Maritime Cluster
- **25-27/04/2023** Ocean Winds was a partner of Floating Wind and a sponsor of the WindEurope 2023 event organized by WindEurope in Copenhagen
- **1-2/06/2023** The OW Poland team participated in the first edition of the Polish Ports 2030 Congress in Sopot.
- **20-22/06/2023** OW was a contents partner in the supply chain subject of the PWEA Conference 2023 in Serock **20-21/09/2023** OW provided patronage to the 12th International Conference OFFSHORE WIND Logistics & Supplies.
- **2/10/2023** A representative of OW attended a panel concerning the offshore wind farm industry during the Offshore conference licenses in the Polish maritime areas.
- **15/11/2023** Representatives of Ocean Winds participated in the Baltic Offshore Wind transmission conference
- **21-22/11/2023** Offshore Wind Poland Conference organized by PWEA, of which OW was the Main Partner. Poland's most important offshore wind energy conference. A representative of OW participated in the "Fifth gear for offshore" panel.

#### 2024

- 11-12/03/2024 Offshore Wind Conference Risk, Safety, Financing vol. 2, during which the Head of Finance & Controls OW participated in the discussion concerning investment challenges in light of volatile economic conditions and supply chain uncertainty.
- **12-13/03/2024 –** Transport Week presentation of the BC-Wind project and Ocean Winds development plans in Poland.
- **20-22/03/2024** Wind Europe the largest wind energy fair in Bilbao, Spain. Ocean Winds was a partner of Floating Wind, and representatives of OW Poland attended the event, which brought together more than 12,000 offshore industry and supply chain representatives from around the world.
- **10-11/04/2024** a representative of Ocean Winds provided a presentation on the technical conditions for the preparation of OWFs in the Baltic Sea from the perspective of the developer,
- **16-17/04/2024** Future Energy Congress a representative of OW participated in the "Future of offshore wind energy" panel among other industry experts.
- **4-6/06/2024** PWEA conference, the largest wind energy conference in Poland. The event was attended by more than 2,000 participants from various countries, including political leaders, industry experts, major investors, entrepreneurs and scientists. Representatives of Ocean Winds participated in panels concerning education, supply chain and offshore wind energy. OW was a contents partner of the event.
- 10-11/06/2024 Polish Ports Congress 2030 a nationwide conference focused on the seaport sector. Ocean Winds provided patronage to the event, and its representatives participated in panel discussions on the impact of port development on the economy of cities and the logistics of OWE.
- 23-29/08/2024 Campus the Future of Poland an innovative initiative that creates a space for the exchange of views, knowledge and experience between young people, experts, opinion leaders and representatives of the business and political world. Ocean Winds provided patronage to onshore and offshore wind zone orga-



- nized by PWEA during the event. The project director participated in the "Wind Energy" panel. Innovative jobs on the horizon".
- **2-3/10/2024** PAIH Business Forum is an event organized for the SME sector and its partners representatives of regions and development institutions. It is a space for entrepreneurs who want to grow, looking for new solutions and ideas. A representative of OW was invited to participate in a panel on OWF innovative technologies.
- **2-3/10/2024** Energy Days are a prestigious event, bringing together industry leaders, experts and decision-makers to discuss the most important challenges and opportunities for RES. OW provided patronage to the event, and its representatives participated in panels on the progress of OWF projects and on human resources and competence of employees in the power sector.
- **7/11/2024** Baltic Offshore Wind Transmission a conference with international recognition to discuss challenges and find solutions to enable the development of the offshore wind industry and transmission infrastructure. A representative of OW spoke as part of a panel on the expectations and perspectives of developers.
- **20-21/11/2024** Offshore Wind Poland is the largest conference in Poland dedicated to offshore wind energy. The conference is held in Warsaw and is organized by PWEA. A representative of OW attended the session "From words to deeds we are building! Start of construction of the first OWF projects in Poland". OW Poland employees also participated in the networking sessions.

#### 2025

• **16/01/2025** – Energy Security Congress – the conference focuses on security challenges.

#### Stakeholders involved in the dialog during the advanced development phase comprise:

- local and regional newspapers, magazines, radio and television stations, portals,
- Polish nationwide media,
- social media,
- journalists and editors,
- market analysts specializing in the renewable energy sector,
- economic and legal consultants with experience in the power sector,
- academicians and researchers in the field of sustainable development and renewable energy.

## The dialog is implemented using the following tools:

- Press releases, publications, interviews and press commentary;
- Analysis of daily media monitoring to track published information about the BC-Wind and Ocean Winds project in Poland;
- Industry consultations;
- Participation in the work of the so-called Sector Deal;
- Speeches, debates, seminars during panels at industry conferences.

#### 4.12 OFFSHORE WIND DEVELOPERS IN POLAND

In the context of the BC-Wind project, competitors cover other companies actively involved in the construction of offshore wind farms in the Baltic Sea, especially within the framework of the so-called phase I wind projects.



The actions of competitors can affect the success of our project. As part of the so-called phase I of offshore wind farm construction in the Baltic Sea, many companies are trying to gain technological, operational and financial advantages. The competition concerns the obtaining of the location permit for the erection of artificial islands and the access to resources and talents of specialists. The competitors comprise international corporations with experience in offshore projects, Polish energy groups, local companies that are gaining ground in the renewable energy sector.

#### The stakeholders involved in the dialog are:

- Developers implementing OWF projects under phase I
- Companies with experience in OWF construction

## The dialog is implemented using the following tools:

- Meetings of working groups of associations, Sector Deal as part of implementation of the OWF;
- Press releases:

#### 4.13 EUROPEAN UNION ADMINISTRATION

The European Union (EU) administration plays a key role in regulating and supporting the development of offshore wind farms in Poland and other member countries. There are several aspects in which the influence of the EU administration is particularly important for the development of the BC-Wind project implemented by our company.

The EU administration, including the European Commission, creates a legal and regulatory framework that promotes the development of renewable energy sources, including offshore wind farms. Policies such as the European Green Deal and the Renewable Energy Directive (RED III) aim to increase the share of renewable energy in the EU energy mix. The EU commitments concerning the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and transition to sustainable energy are shaping national energy strategies and stimulating RES investments.

In addition, the European Union offers various financial programs and support for renewable energy projects. Initiatives such as the European Fund for Strategic Investment (EFSI), the Innovation Fund or Horizon Europe can provide additional funding and technical support.

Any project implemented within the framework of EU energy policy must comply with certain procedures and requirements. For the BC-Wind project, a key aspect is the individual notification of the differential contract with the Energy Regulatory Office (ERO) to the European Commission. This notification is necessary to obtain approval for the support in the form of a differential contract, which stabilizes project revenues and reduces financial risk.

The EU administration places great emphasis on project compliance with environmental standards as well as the maintenance and enhancement of biodiversity. Environmental impact assessment (EIA) requirements and compliance with the environmental directives that provide the framework for EIA procedures, as well as the directives underpinning the establishment of the Natura 2000 network, such as the Habitat and Birds Directives, are of key importance to the implementation of OWF projects. Cooperation with the EU administration in the field of meeting these requirements is essential for the successful completion of the project.

## Stakeholders involved in the dialog comprise institutions, authorities and executive agencies of the European Union, including but not limited to:

 The European Commission which sets policy and legislative directions for environmental protection and sustainable economic and social development, acting through the Direc-



torates General in the areas of climate, environment, energy, maritime affairs and fisheries:

- European Investment Bank, co-financing key projects to improve the condition of the environment in accordance with the highest standards aimed at minimizing impacts on the environment and local communities;
- The European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA) which manages EC programs supporting decarbonization and sustainable economic growth;

The dialog is implement- ed using the following tools:	<ul> <li>Direct contact with representatives of the EU administration is carried out at the level of the BC-Wind Project Sponsors through dedicated roles within ENGIE, EDPR.</li> <li>Correspondence as part of working groups; or working contact in processes such as individual CFD notification by the European Commission.</li> <li>English version of the BC-Wind website.</li> </ul>
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# PLANNED ACTIVITIES IN SELECTED STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

#### **Updated on 31/01/2025**

STAKEHOLDER GROUP	ACTIVITY	DATE
media and market experts	<ul> <li>Industry conferences according to the conference plan for Q1 and Q2 2025;</li> <li>Press releases according to the BC-Wind Q1 and Q2 2025 communication plan;</li> </ul>	Q1 and Q2 2025
Local stakeholders	<ul> <li>Information points or meetings before the commencement of construction of the onshore part;</li> <li>Face-to-face meetings with stakeholders (village areas directly adjacent to the infrastructure, Anna Dymna Foundation);</li> <li>News articles in the local press and social media profiles.</li> </ul>	May 2025 Q1 and Q2 2025
Ocean Winds and BC-Wind employees	<ul> <li>Global meeting of OW employees – strategy briefing;</li> <li>Internal cascaded communication in the project according to schedule</li> </ul>	February 2025 Permanent activity
Nature conservation organ- izations	<ul> <li>Mapping the implementation of the bird protection program in the Pomorskie Voi- vodship in consultation with the bird pro- tection association and academic circles</li> </ul>	Q1 2025
Supply chain companies	<ul> <li>Organization of the event – Suppliers         Days – presentation of the main contract-             ing parties and advancement of the pro-     </li> </ul>	Q2 2025



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	cess of contracting components for BC- Wind	
Educational Centers	<ul> <li>Continuation of classes within the framework of the "Career with the Wind" educational program – fourth edition.         Classes in January 2025:</li></ul>	Q1, Q2 2025
Suppliers and subcontractors (Tier 1/2/3)	<ul> <li>Organization of Suppliers Days</li> <li>Industry conferences according to the conference plan for Q1 and Q2 2025;</li> <li>Press releases according to the BC-Wind Q1 and Q2 2025 communication plan;</li> </ul>	Q2 2025
Professional associations	<ul> <li>Active participation in working groups within associations</li> </ul>	Q1, Q2 2025
Fishing associations	<ul> <li>Information meeting concerning the status of the BC-Wind project;</li> <li>Mapping the implementation of the reskilling program;</li> </ul>	Q1, Q2 2025
Local and regional authorities	<ul> <li>Continuation of meetings of the team for coordination of projects related to the construction of a nuclear power plant in the Pomorskie Voivodship with the accompanying infrastructure and offshore wind farms organized by the Pomorskie Voivodship Governor.</li> <li>Individual meetings with stakeholders in this group.</li> </ul>	Q1, Q2 2025
European Union institu- tions,	<ul> <li>Mapping events around Poland's EU presidency</li> </ul>	Q1, Q2 2025
Government administration including ministries	<ul> <li>Meetings within working groups – within the sector deal, associations</li> <li>Industry conferences according to the conference plan for Q1 and Q2 2025;</li> </ul>	Q1, Q2 2025
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### **APPENDICES**

- A. MECHANISM FOR QUESTIONS AND COMPLAINTS
- B. DATABASE OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS CON-CERNING PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED BY BC-WIND