Faster permission process for Norwegian offshore wind?

Prof Sigrid Eskeland Schütz,
Faculty of Law, UIB

• DeWindSea – Academia-agreement (Equinor – UIB)
• Designing a Refined Legal Framework for Offshore Wind in the North Sea Basin (2020-2024)
Towards sustainability; synergies, conflicts

- Affordable and clean energy (SDG 7)
- Industry, innovation and infrastructure (SDG 9)
- Climate action (SDG 13)
- Stress ecology, affecting Life below water (SDG 14)
- Ensure responsive, inclusive and representative decision-making. (SDG 16, target 16.7)
- OWFs could displace conflicting or alternative uses of marine space, such as fisheries or aquaculture, harming goals such as Zero hunger (SDG 2) and Good Health and Well-being (SDG 3). It could also displace other climate mitigation technologies, such as offshore Carbon Capture Storage (CCS).

Illustration: © Interactions between SDG 2, SDG 3, SDG 7, SDG 14, in A guide to SDG inter-actions: From science to implementation, International Science Council 2017
Some facts

Ocean Energy Act:
2010 the opening process starts
2020 opened UN, SNII
2023 (?) auction SNII
20?? Licence

Petroleum Act: Fast track
Hywind Tampen 11 turbines floating windpark
Program for EIA 2018, EIA 2019
Plan for Development and operation 2020, awarded by the Ministry of Petroleum and Energy (MPE)
Why faster in some countries?

• Sustainability transition research.
• Explain similarities and differences in the emergence of transformational technologies in national energy systems.
• Important national features influence transnational activity/outcomes.
• Public financial support and policy making to accommodate offshore wind; “niches” for sustainable technologies. Strategic niche management (SNM); actor networks, ambitious expectations/shared, organisation of learning process, reflexiveness.
• Shielding, nurturing, empowering.
• E.g. Hanson, Normann (ed) Conditions for growth in the Norwegian offshore wind industry, Censes 2019
Why faster now?

The need for wind energy permitting to be “drastically accelerated”.
New legislative proposal on renewables permitting from the Commission.
Recommendation and guidance to Members States for simplifying processes.
The Commission has called on Member States to consider Renewables and electricity grids as projects of overriding public interest, qualifying them for faster and favourable permitting procedures.
The Norwegian fast track: wind as accessories to petroleum

Hywind Tampen. Revision/att. to PDO for Snorre and Gullfaks
Trollwind: The Ocean Energy Act
The Ocean Energy Act - towards regulatory certainty

2010, V01, immature, open framework

2023, V02, added details in law, regulations and guidelines

20??, V03, reflexive and responsive regulation

20??, mature regulation
Sequential opening processes
Partly parallel opening processes
Opening
Division of opened areas
Auction

Public hearing, SEA program
Public hearing, SEA
Public hearing, proposed division
Utsira Nord
Sørlege Nordsjø II
division of opened areas

opening

Public hearing SEA and proposed division of area

auction
Baseline; wildlife, depth, geology, pollution, currents, wind...
Earlier, more, sampled by the authorities.
Thank you for your attention!