

## **France seeks to develop its offshore wind farm expertise**

France will request proposals to develop offshore wind farms, which will boost the country's renewable energy output. French Junior Ecology Minister Chantal Jouanno says the first series of requests would be for proposals to provide 3 GW of capacity as France seeks to develop and gain experience in offshore wind technology. France will also launch a second tender for a further series of offshore wind farms of the same size at a later stage to help toward a target of 6 GW production by 2020. "The investment for the first 3 GW of capacity could amount to €10 billion (A\$13.7 billion)," according to an Ecology Ministry spokesman. "About 10 locations have been identified in the English Channel, the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean sea. The first offshore wind farms should start operations in 2015," he says.

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