

Biggest Onshore Wind Farm In Europe Given The Green Light

The biggest onshore wind farm in Europe will go ahead in Scotland after winning approval from the country's executive. Its developers claim the 140 turbine farm will have a full capacity of 322 MW – enough to power almost every home in Glasgow. When it is commissioned in 2009, it should meet more than two per cent of Scotland's electricity demand in an average year. Allan Wilson, Deputy Enterprise Minister, describes the project as a “huge step forward for green renewable energy generation in Scotland”. The farm, to be built on moorland at Whitelee, is the largest single onshore wind farm to be given the green light in Europe. “It is a significant milestone towards achieving our renewable energy and climate-change targets”, Wilson says. Meanwhile in the US, the \$1.9 billion Cape Wind project in Massachusetts is attracting opponents including Senator Ted Kennedy who are determined to block the wind farm. The wind farm involves 130 wind turbines spread over an area about the size of a small town 10 kilometres off the coast. At its peak, the turbines would generate more than 400 MW, enough to meet the needs of some 400,000 homes, or about 75 per cent of demand from Cape Cod and the islands.

[Source esaa news]