



Offshore Wind Energy MBA

Module:

Legal Issues in the Offshore Wind Industry

Hochschule Bremerhaven, Bremerhaven, Germany
& Business Academy Southwest, Esbjerg, Denmark

Teaching language: English

Period: Spring 2019

Offered in: Esbjerg, Denmark

ECTS/weighting: 5 ECTS / 0.083 Full-time equivalent

Approved: 05.09.18

Tuition Fee: 2000 EUR

Subject director:

Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Lukas, University of Applied Sciences Bremerhaven

Prerequisites:

A bachelor or other equivalent degree combined with two years' work experience from the energy or offshore sector.

Course Theme

Liability, safety, obligations and rights are often seen as barriers or risks in business or as unpleasant side effects, however they may contribute both to significant success opportunities when doing it right as well as disturbing factors in realizing business when ignoring it.

Usually legal issues follow national rules, which make it even more challenging to follow them in international projects.

Most wind farms are located outside of the territorial sea in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

The course mainly aims to increase the awareness for legal aspects in the service and maintenance sector of offshore wind energy, to a certain extent as well on the installation. Planning and approval of new wind farms are not the focus of this module.

Aim & objectives

The course aims to support the participants to avoid foreseeable legal problems in the mostly relevant different fields of law, legal implications of operations in the exclusive economic zone and create a very basic understanding of the differences of the national legal systems in the North Sea Region and their impact on managing an offshore wind farm.

Content

When selecting the breadth and depth of topics, it is crucial to build on the previous experience of the participants. The participants are laymen in the field of law. Legal competence is only one part of their competence spectrum. In this respect, legal expert knowledge is transferred in an interactive way into understandable and manageable competencies, which also includes, in particular, raising awareness of when a legal expert should be consulted instead of making one's own decisions.

Based on this understanding a participants' specific selection of the following topics will be chosen.

- Basic differences in the national legal systems in the North Sea Region and their impact managing an offshore wind farm
- Introduction to international maritime law, e.g. marine zones (EEZ, continental shelf, etc.), safety zones, marine environmental protection, undersea cables, etc.

- Contract issues between the owner of wind parks and the suppliers including general liability and typical contractual clauses between the owner of wind parks and the suppliers.
- Protection and safety requirements
- Selected Environmental issues / EIA-assessments
- Energy related legislation
- Legal issues embedded in technical norms
- Labour legislation
- Data protection law, e.g. for camera surveillance, AIS data, telemedical care, data security, etc.

The content is not just knowledge based but includes typical ways, how such as courts, authorities and certification organisations deal with typical legal issues, having in mind that still many aspects are in the process of clarification in the still dynamically developing offshore wind sector.

Objectives:

Participants understand the differences in the national legal systems in the North Sea Region. They are aware of legal requirements relevant for the management of offshore wind farms and are able to identify situations where a legal aspect in agreements or management requires specific attention in order avoid hidden risks. Participants can specify requirements to legal experts in situations where an in-depth competency is needed, which is beyond usual managerial scope.

Teaching methods and evaluation

- Innovative teaching methods: We strive for actual competences needed in the industry - a “bookless MBA”. Reading and study is done at home for class preparation. During class actual consultancy tasks and problems will be presented and the MBA students will apply theory in a real time scenario and solve actual problems for the partner firms.
- Self-study: We expect the participant to hold a high degree of self-discipline and show up well prepared and motivated for sharing knowledge.
- Online lectures: We will offer virtual online lectures in real time (video-conferences). This gives the participant a chance to discuss issues within the subject matter together with other participants and lecturers.
- Video podcasts. All online lectures will be available for download for the participants.
- Forum, chat and messaging: All students can get in contact with lecturer and fellow students and discuss, elaborate and clarify issues, ask questions and exchange views.
- Live cases will be analyzed in order to prepare the students/participants for future leadership requirements within wind energy.
- Students will meet physically during the module, maybe several times when required, and solve actual problems raised by partner firms. Geography will depend on the participants.

Time of classes and location:

One module consists of two workshops á two teaching days (dates and located to be determined)

Form of instruction:

The teaching methods focus on evolving actual competencies needed in the industry with innovative methods of teaching as a centerpiece. Reading and studying is done at home for class preparation. During class, actual tasks and problems will be presented and the MBA students will then apply knowledge in a real-time scenario and solve actual problems for the partner firms.

Comments:

The course is limited to a maximum of 15 participants. Places are assigned on a first come, first served basis.

For more information, please contact:

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