



PRESS RELEASE – May 11 2009

First six farshore wind turbines operational at the Thornton Bank as of 10 May 2009

Filip Martens, Managing Director of C-Power: “We are very glad to be able to announce that after the successful running of all test procedures, the last of the first six wind turbines was started up on 10 May 2009. So far, the start-up procedure has produced almost 8.5 million KWh. During the coming weeks, the production capacity of the wind turbines will be increased to the peak capacity of 5.25 MW per wind turbine”

The permitted wind farm wants to have a total installed capacity of some 300 MW and expects to produce about 1,000 GWh of power a year, a sufficient volume for the energy needs of about 600,000 consumers. The park will be fitted with 60 wind turbines of 5 MW. The first six wind turbines were already satisfactorily built in the pilot phase. The next project phases should be completed by 2013. The wind farm will provide a significant contribution to the realisation of renewable energy goals set by the Belgian government. As compared to a modern gas-fired power plant, the wind farm ensures a reduction in CO2 emissions of 450,000 tonnes a year.

C-Power has not only developed the Thornton Bank offshore wind farm, but it is also responsible for its realisation. The Thornton Bank project is the first offshore wind farm on the Belgian coast that has been given full approval. Construction was started on 23 May 2007 and after building the wind turbines in 2008, connecting them to the electricity grid was done at the end of 2008. Since the beginning of 2009 electricity has already been injected into the transport network. On 10 May 2009, the last wind turbine was started up after the perfect running of all test procedures. So far, during the start-up phase 8.446.177 KWh has been produced. For safety considerations, the wind turbines will be started up gradually with a capacity limit of (820 KW, 1600 KW, 3500 KW) so that the installed capacity can gradually be built up, after further tests and controls, to the peak capacity of 5.25 MW per turbine

For more information about the Thornton Bank wind farm visit www.c-power.be.

Contact: C-Power, Hilde Fredrickx
Communications Manager C-Power

Tel.: +32 3 250 55 51

Mobile: +32 484 69 63 69