

## **One step closer to extension of the test-centre after the green light from the Government**

-It is very nice that the ministry gives the green light, says Arvid Nesse, general manager at the test centre on Karmøy.

"The grid capacity on land is 70 megawatts, but we want to have higher capacity on some of these turbines. In 2022, we are waiting for Flagship to also come to test the technology. This turbine collaborates with Spanish Iberdrola and Norwegian Dr. Techn. Olav Olsen. Flagships will have a capacity of around ten megawatts and will reduce costs per megawatts by 40-60 euros ", Nesse continues.

"In addition, we have an agreement with the Swedish energy company Hexicon and other players that have not yet been announced, so there is a lot going on outside Karmøy if we get the license to expand the area," says Nesse.

The application for extension covers an area of 21 square kilometers, and the turbines will be positioned with 1.5 kilometers between them. Apart from a caution zone of 50 meters, the turbines will not be an obstacle to traffic in the area.

### **What is the next step?**

In principle, the sea area must be opened by the Government for someone to be able to apply for licenses for offshore wind. Prior to such an opening, there is a requirement for an impact assessment and consultation. However, the Marine Energy Act allows the ministry to make exceptions, including for test projects with individual facilities with a limited-service life. Bru, the Minister, considers that the extension METCentre wants is such an exception. Thus, the centre can go directly to NVE with the license application.

### **[Case and quotes with Minister Tina Bru in E24 that can be used.](#)**

- METCentre has developed into a world leader. The fact that they can now apply for expansion means that we can maintain Norway's leading position in floating offshore wind, says Minister of Petroleum and Energy Tina Bru.

- The purpose of the investment is that we can build a new supplier industry in Norway. We already know that we have companies that can deliver large parts of the value chain, and we know that pilot projects create ripple effects locally and provide useful experience for Norwegian companies.

