

PORTUGAL DISCLOSES AREAS FOR OFFSHORE RENEWABLES

A public hearing on the proposal for the areas for commercial offshore renewable energy projects, totalizing 10 GW, runs from 30 January to 10 March 2023.

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A public hearing for the proposal of the areas dedicated to installing of offshore electricity renewable generation plants opened last January 27th ([Order 1396-C/2023](#)). It follows the Portuguese government's recent announcement that an auction for offshore wind energy production would be launched by the end of September.

The proposal (a Portuguese language version can be found [here](#)) subject to public hearing until March 10th, comprises the following areas: Largo de Leixões, Figueira da Foz, Ericeira and Sintra-Cascais, Sines and Viana do Castelo (through an extension of the existing pilot area).

These territories comprise 3,393.44 km² of national maritime space, occupying roughly 5.9% of the space between the coast and the territorial sea's outer boundary and 0.71% of the EEZ, respectively.

The locations in depth from around 75 meters to 200 meters and hence call for the construction of floating structures fastened to the seabed, have a total installable power of 10 GW and are as follows:

Profundidades ente cerca de 75 m e cerca de 200 m		
PROPOSED AREAS	AREAS (KM ²)	POWER (GW)
Viana do Castelo	663,00	2,0
Leixões	463,36	1,5
Figueira da Foz	1237,29	4,0
Ericeira	256,84	1,0
Sines	498,66	1,5
Total	3209,9	10

The locations with a maximum depth of 50 meters – allowing the installation of fixed structures on the seabed – add up to an installable power of roughly 1 GW:

Depths up to 50m		
PROPOSED AREAS	AREAS (KM ²)	POWER (GW)
Matosinhos	180,90	0,995
Port of Sines jurisdiction area	9,64	0,005
Total	200,54	1

These areas will be relevant for the Offshore Renewable Energy Allocation Plan and they will be integrated into the National Maritime Spatial Planning Situation Plan (PSOEM), which is being drafted in accordance with [Order 12020/2021 of the 7th of December](#).

These are the onshore connection points to the national grid (RNT) highlighted in the report:

AREAS	LOCATION
Viana do Castelo	Between Ponte de Lima and Vila Nova de Famalicão substations
Leixões	In the area around the Feira substation (Santa Maria da Feira) along the 400 kV Lavos-Feira/Paraimo-Recarei north-south axis
Figueira da Foz	North of Lavos substation (Figueira da Foz), along the Lavos-Feira/Paraimo-Recarei axis, including the future Lares cut-off pole, up to the zone of the Paraimo substation (Anadia), and, south of Lavos substation, up to the area of the RNT north of Leiria
Ericeira	From the north-east area of the Carvoeira substation (Torres Vedras) to the area surrounding the Alto da Mira substation (Amadora)
Sines	Within the area of influence of Sines (Santiago do Cacém) substation

Additionally, on January 27th, [Notice 1976-A/2023](#) extended for an additional 10 days the deadline to comment on the proposed order defining the technological free zone for renewable energies with maritime origin or placement off the coast of Viana do Castelo.

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