

CASE STUDIES ON AQUACULTURE SOCIAL ACCEPTABILITY

5

BREIZH MER: SOCIAL ACCEPTABILITY OF OFFSHORE WINDMILLS IN BRITTANY

Christophe Chabert is responsible of the SME EOLFI that is specialized in floating offshore wind turbines. He presented in a conference, the social acceptability process that he implemented to install offshore wind turbines in the area of Groix Island. The social acceptability of this project was quite challenging as there is a lot of fishing and touristic activities, there is also a high housing density on the coast. These factors could have increased a lot the local contestation of the project.

He summarized his social acceptability process with 3 points: Anticipation, listening and transparency.

Anticipation: He started to anticipate this question of social acceptability very early in 2008 (so ten years before a possible installation). He consulted the fishermen organization in the area, local administration and local people to know where the best spot to install the wind turbines would with the best possible compromise.

Christophe Chabert also said that transparency was a key when they negotiated and explained the project with local stakeholders. He said that they have been very transparent on their needs about the area they needed, they have been transparent when they communicated on the project on the positive impacts and the possible negative impacts of the wind turbines implantation.

Listening is also a very important part of a successful social acceptability process. Christophe Chabert said that they listened the fishermen to understand the different issues the fishermen to adapt the project to them. The last and very important measure that has been implemented is that Eolfi created a job dedicated to the social acceptability of the project. This job's aim is to communicate on the project, deal with local concerns, adapt to local and fishermen requirements. It has been seen that this has improved a lot the acceptability of the project.

As a result, the project of Windturbine installation did not yet receive contestations and judicial remedy which is quite rare in the sector. In total more than 30 concertation meetings have been held with local stakeholders. Moreover, Eolfi created a touring exposition that presented the project locally to multiply information points to be as close as it can from local stakeholders' concerns.

INDICATOR:

THEY DID NOT RECEIVE AT THE MOMENT JURIDICAL REMEDY.

BIBLIOGRAPHY / SOURCES

- CONFÉRENCE BREIZH MER ; 2019.