## How the offshore energy industry is adding jobs in Aberdeen

Since the mid-20th century, Aberdeen has been popularly called 'the oil capital of Europe'. While the oil & gas industry has been a big employer in Aberdeen, however, the energy transition from fossil fuels to green energy has created a diverse job market in this city. Just recently, the decommissioning company Decom Engineering set up a new base in the Region. This move has already created jobs in the engineering, design, and administration fields. As Decom and similar decommissioning establishments set their eyes on the North sea market, It is only a matter of time that projects start pouring in. With this energy transition, the renewable energy industry has also found its place under the sun. A new renewable energy recruitment company, called Greenmar, has come up in Aberdeen foreseeing greater demand of professionals in this industry. Speaking to renews.biz, Greenmar operations manager Peter Rhodes quoted a RGU Energy Transition Institute study "The RGU Energy Transition Institute predicts a 25% increase in the workforce requirements for the UK offshore energy sector by 2030, supporting offshore wind, oil and gas, hydrogen and CCUS activities." This prediction doesn't seem too far off as just in July news streamed in that BP might make Aberdeen the centre of it's global offshore wind business, if it secures a lease to install and manage turbines in the North Sea. As the city gears in anticipation of new projects, an existing project made headlines with the millions it has been raking in. Aberdeen offshore wind farm reported pre-tax profits for 2020 of £16m.

Interestingly, Aberdeen has also been the setting for 'firsts' in the wind energy sector. The city is home to the world's first floating wind farm, a 50 mw plant consisting of 6 turbines, which is nearing completion. Now, It's not just offshore wind that is flourishing in the Granite city, there is quite a bit happening on the Hydrogen front too. Energyvoice.com reports that Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group (AREG) are examining the feasibility of creating a hydrogen highway, stretching from Aberdeen to Iverness. Talks of a Hydrogen Economy have been buzzing in the past few years. Hydrogen Enterprise, an Aberdeen based company, seeks to connect investors with hydrogen and carbon start-ups. Mr. Rawlinson, founder of Hydrogen Enterprise while talking to energyvoice.com said that "I've had enquiries from large companies such as Mitsubishi, as well as from Wall Street investment banks, looking to transition into hydrogen or add unique technology onto what they do already,". The Aberdeen city council is no stranger to Hydrogen. In early 2021, the world's first double decker Hydrogen buses were launched in the city. The city council seeks to create a Hydrogen hub in the city and talks are on to stimulate funding. While the renewable energy Industry continues to gather speed, the oil & gas industry continues to provide jobs in the city. With the flurry of activity going on in the Energy Industry in Aberdeen, it's definitely an exciting time for energy professionals to be in the granite city. Aberdeen is where all the energy action is happening.