

## Wind energy at the North Sea: A social Cost-Benefit Analysis

### Research Question

Perform a social cost-benefit analysis (CBA) for erecting and operating wind farms on the Dutch North Sea with a total capacity of 6000 MW.

### Partners

- The Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis (CPB)
- Energy Research Centre of the Netherlands (ECN)
- Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs



### Results

- Socially cost-effective investment in offshore wind energy requires a very gradually enlarged capacity and a stringent European climate policy.
- World market prices for oil in the coming decades do not provide sufficient perspective for making offshore wind energy cost-effective without a stringent climate policy.
- In the case of tradable emission rights, subsidized development of offshore wind energy supplants other measures for reducing CO<sub>2</sub>.
- Investing in offshore wind energy may become economically cost-effective after 2025 under a stringent climate policy.
- Reserve capacity is not a bottleneck in developing offshore wind energy.



### More information

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<http://www.cpb.nl/eng/pub/cpbreeksen/bijzonder/57/>