



French energy agency examines floating turbine applications

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FRANCE: Four projects to develop floating wind turbines are among 19 applications for grants from the "demonstrator research fund" launched in 2009 under the auspices of the French national energy agency Ademe.



Blue H launched its prototype floating turbine in Puglia, southern Italy

Although no further details are available, it is known that one of those applying is the French subsidiary of Dutch firm **Blue H**, which is developing a tension-leg platform for a 3.5 MW turbine in association with local companies and research centres.

Blue H has already installed a demonstration platform off the coast of Apulia

(Windpower Monthly, April 2009).

The EUR400 million research fund was set up to support the development of new technologies at an advanced stage in the energy sector, including renewable energies, smart grids and energy storage.

The applications are currently being assessed by Ademe, after which they will be presented to the ministers of industry, the environment and research for a final decision. The fund is to be dispersed by 2013.