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# Nathalie Stevenson

Offshore Wind Development Consultant

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*Seonaidh (anglicised Shony /Shoney/Shonny, & the Scottish Gaelic form of Johnny), was the name of a sea god in the Isle of Lewis celebrated by throwing ale into the sea on all hallows tide~ all saints day.*

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## Qualifications

- M.Sc. Tropical Coastal Management, 1996 (University of Newcastle)
- BSc (Hons) Marine Biology, Class 2 (1) 1994 (University of Wales, Swansea)
- Sea Survival Skills (South Shields Marine College)
- Association of Project Management (Level D exam)
- Commenced part time MBA at Newcastle Business School (ongoing)

## Specialisation

Marine Renewables

## Professional Affiliations

APM, IEMM (lapsed)

## Languages

English- mother tongue

Basic spoken & intermediate comprehension of French

## Publications

3 publications inc 8 book chapters & 4 books

## Profile

- Nathalie is an offshore project manager with 19 years post graduate experience, with 10 years consultancy experience in the marine environment inc. offshore wind, wave and tidal projects, and coastal engineering projects (ports/outfalls etc).
- Shoney Wind was established by Nathalie in 2011. Recent contracts include :
  - (i) 3 offshore wind due diligence contracts, covering development and pre-construction
  - (ii) Onshore wind farm consents troubleshooting for 2 south African wind farms, focusing on birds and bats
  - (iii) Interim Project Manager for Aberdeen Offshore wind farm AOWFL aka EOWDC - European Offshore Deployment Centre on behalf of Vattenfall responsible for managing the team and all development matters (consents, grid, FEED)
  - (iv) Consents manager for Vattenfall for AOWFL/EOWDC
  - (v) Consultant for Scottish Enterprise examining the construction, operational and commercial requirements for onshore prototype testing sites for offshore wind turbines
- Up to mid August 2011, managed the Narec Offshore Wind Demonstrator project at Blyth, comprising up to 15 tenanted 'pods' for testing and certifying prototype and pre-commercial turbines and foundations in water depths of 35, 45 & 55m. A uniquely challenging project with an accelerated delivery program whereby the offshore development and consenting process was ongoing simultaneously with the design and build of assets to meet grant funding deadlines and schedule.
- Experienced in budgetary reporting for capital projects, as well as consultancy contracts. Responsible for project development budget at Vattenfall and at Narec responsible for budget and reporting of £18M seed funding including reporting to One North East, DECC/BIS, project and executive board. At Entec annually managed circa £0.5-1.2M of consultancy fees.
- Experienced in business management, recently responsible for leading on preparation of structure proposals for the executive board, including top co., subsea cable co., operator co etc., and drafting of 'tenant' property sublease & major assets contracts documentation and future cash flows.

- Experienced in on and offshore wind farm site design and wind assessment from feasibility stage through to pre-construction stage including several onshore wind farms and the Narec offshore wind farm. At Narec responsible for overall scheme preliminary design, securing a grid connection and substation site and the D&B of an innovative offshore met mast.
- Having worked closely with several turbine OEMs Nathalie has substantial market knowledge of next-generation turbines in development, as well as current offshore commercial turbines.
- 4.5 years utility experience working for Vattenfall and prior to that at EDF Energy on secondment from consultancy & latterly as an employee. Hybrid role within EDF-ER working with the Teesside Construction Manager & for the Head of Offshore Development to prepare OPEX & CAPEX investment case; heavily involved in turbine supplier selection, & BoP & electrical contractor selection, responsible for management of met mast & lidar asset; joint preparation of OPEX budget & strategy with EDF in Paris. Completed selection of and CAPEX budget for O&M base.
- Substantial due diligence experience of on and offshore wind projects, as a consultant, in utility and at Narec. Worked on behalf of clients inc HSBC, GDF, and RWE covering small onshore schemes through to Round 2 offshore wind projects.
- Nathalie has extensive overseas experience having completed a number of marine & freshwater projects in China, South Korea, Hong Kong, West and Eastern Africa, the Netherlands, & USA and subsequently with global turbine OEMs.
- Public Inquiry experience includes Dibden Bay Terminal Public Inquiry on behalf of ESSO (an objector) working on rebuttals & objector proofs, & supplementary evidence. Also, technical advice to Public Inquiry team on wetland habitat creation during the Kowloon Canton Railway Company (KCRC) Long Valley Viaduct Appeal into the KCRC proposals to build an \$8 billion spur line to the mass transit system.
- Managed project teams of up to 60 people. Strong skills in subcontractor management, including contract negotiation, covering marine geophysical surveys, geotechnical investigations (inc being the on-call officer) & D&B contracts.
- Skilled in regulator & consultee liaison including planning authorities & marine consenting bodies.
- Experienced in fisheries consultation, disruption payment administration and fisheries mitigation having worked on several Round 1 & 2 offshore wind projects, as well working with fishermen on other coastal engineering projects
- In a former (pre-consultancy) life I worked for an international charity in the Netherlands, & worked on wetlands policy assessment & setting & research with country partners in Africa, Europe & the Middle East.

## Major Contracts and Employment Experience

### **Various confidential offshore wind Due Diligence contracts 2013**

On behalf of potential purchasers, covering developmental tasks including grid, land deals, environment, consents, and program assessment of pre-construction tasks such as FEED, procurement, lead in times

### **Aberdeen Offshore Demonstrator overall Project Manager/ promoted from Consents Manager – Vattenfall (15mo contract) 2011-2013**

Nathalie reported to the Vattenfall Project Director, responsible for management of all development and pre-construction aspects of the EOWDC/AOWF £230M offshore wind project. Role involves usual day to day management of the team covering land deals, grid connection, early FEED studies, wind resource assessment, consenting on and offshore. In addition the role includes engaging next generation turbines suppliers, including existing offshore suppliers and new entrants to the market, identification of R&D and business spin-off opportunities for the EOWDC in partnership with AREG.

### **Scottish Enterprise (2mo contract) 2011-2013**

Examining the construction, operational and commercial requirements for onshore prototype testing sites for offshore wind turbines (via a subcontract to main contractor.)

### **Offshore Demonstrator Project Manager – Narec (18 mo- 2010-2011 salaried)**

Until mid August 2011 Managing the Offshore Wind Demonstrator project at Blyth, which will comprise up to 15 tenanted 'pods' for testing and certifying novel, prototype and pre-commercial turbines and foundations in water depths of 35, 45 and 55m. Onshore and offshore infrastructure will be consented and installed by Narec, alongside a range of cross cutting services to facilitate demonstrators rapid deployment at the site. The overall aim is to demonstrate technologies in time to feed into the Round 3 supply chain. Managing overall scheme development including prospective tenant turbine manufacturers, and funding arrangements and delivery against central government grant requirements as well as wind resource assessment and data collection and commercial arrangement such as the grid connection, and leasing arrangements. With the support of external project managers Turner and Townsend, supervising the development works including EIA and consenting, design and build contracts for the substation and offshore platform, as well as offshore geotechnical investigations

### **Offshore Wind Manager (Development & Construction), EDF-ER (2008-2010 salaried)**

Recruited to EDFER following secondment from Atkins. Chiefly been working on post development matters for Teesside offshore wind farm including comparison & short listing of preferred WTG supplier & subsequently working with selected WTG supplier to determine certification & agree & finalise scope & supply terms. Closely worked with the following managers: HSE, grid connections, procurement and consents manager. Also responsible for preparing elements of the investment proposal for shareholder approval including (i) benchmarking CAPEX & OPEX (ii) working with french counterparts on determining preferred O&M strategy & cost estimating (iii) site identification, ranking & CAPEX/OPEX estimation of preferred O&M base & (iv) working with insurance broker to agree cover & deductibles for CAR & all operators insurance. On the developer side; managing fisheries disruption claims & payments (with Danbrit), managed the met mast and lidar assets and data collection) for Teesside.

### **Principal Marine Consultant, Atkins (2 years) 2006-2008 (salaried)**

Responsible for marine & terrestrial EIA workload for renewables projects covering wind, wave & tidal projects. Project work included several wind farm EIAs, a wind farm due diligence for HSBC, a wave power site feasibility for Neptune Renewable Energy; management of the marine works for a proposed bridge over the River Wear as part of the Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor, an appropriate assessment for marine development at Porthcawl, & EIA works for the Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme & a secondment to EDF Energy for Teesside offshore wind farm implementation phase.

### **Senior Marine Consultant, Entec (4 years) 2002-2006 (salaried)**

Responsible for management of marine & coastal team & work load. Projects managed included the on & offshore elements of the Teesside Offshore Wind Farm EIA for EDF Energy, management of the Area 481 marine aggregate ES, technical input into the generic scoping study for Ocean Power Delivery's 'Pelamis' device (2003); technical work on the Flyde Coast long sea outfall; & the Environmental Appraisal (2002) for 'Stingray' pilot tidal power development in Shetland.

### **Senior Consultant, Ecoscope Applied Ecologists (now RPS) 2 years 1999-2002 (salaried)**

Managed 10 staff in two UK offices & the HK office for a period of cover. Undertook & managed several projects including a major review of wetland & water resources covering England, Northern Ireland & Wales for the WWF-UK, & an independent critical review of the proposed Dibden Bay Terminal Environmental Statement for ESSO & involvement in the Public Inquiry. Worked on a major investment development project in China as part of an international team of architects & planners, involving liaison with Chinese planners, academics & investors. I also undertook a marketing appraisal trip to South Korea in July 2001 that led to government funded EIA work awarded to the company in February 2002 relating to a proposed bridge construction in a Ramsar site. Jointly completed a national project for the Irish Heritage Council – '*Towards a Framework for the Effective Management of Natural Heritage Information in the Republic of Ireland*' which proposed a framework for capacity building & institutional co-operation & strengthening in Ireland for natural resource information.

### **Consultant, Halcrow (UK) (1 year) 1999 (salaried)**

Undertook several projects including a rapid assessment of marine & coastal protected areas in the south & west of Sri Lanka on behalf of the Sri Lankan Department of Wildlife Conservation for the Asian Development Bank. Contract involved liaison with stakeholders working with local counterparts, & assessing management, training & infrastructure needs to implement a MPA programme. Conducted marine surveys of Southend Flat & assessed impacts of proposed flood defence works on marine & bird life for an Appropriate Assessment of the site SPA/SSSI/Ramsar site for Southend Borough Council. Prepared proposals, & designed methodologies for several commissions including sewage treatment works, long sea outfalls, desalination plants, irrigation schemes. *Unfortunately made redundant along with 14 other recent recruits.*

### **Early Career Contract Work**

### **Junior Wetlands Officer, Wetlands International (Netherlands) (1 year contract) 1998**

Conducted a synthesis, review & analysis of the existing knowledge of the extent & distribution of wetland resources in Africa, Eastern Europe, Western Europe & the Middle East with in-country partners. Client: Ramsar Convention Bureau. Co-led workshops with Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on policy & priority setting. Worked on a collaborative study with the (Dutch) Institute for Inland Water Management & Waste Water Treatment on 'a Pilot Study in the Baltics, Towards a Pan-European Wetland Inventory'.

### **Visiting Fellow, Cornell University & US Fish & Wildlife Department (USA) (1 year fellowship) 1997**

**Visiting Fellow** - Worked on a research '*Study of Habitat Utilisation of Sturgeon Species in the Hudson River*'. Conducted habitat utilisation studies of adult & juvenile Shortnose & Atlantic Sturgeon on the Hudson River. Techniques included mark & recapture using gill nets, external & sub-cutaneous tagging, & hydro-acoustic tracking. Co-edited & co-authored a bestselling handbook '*Common Methods for Aquatic Habitat Assessment*'. Client: American Fisheries Society.

**Junior Research Associate, Centre for Tropical Coastal Management (UK) (1.5 years- various short term contracts) 1995-1996**

Co-authored '*Manual for Contamination Flux Assessment in Tropical Coastal Environments*'. Client: Department for International Development (DFID). Assisted departmental staff with the completion of a tropical marine resources remote sensing handbook. Client: *UNESCO*.

Carried out independent (and self funded) M.Sc. thesis study entitled '*A Review of the Occurrence of Disused Shrimp Ponds; an Investigation into Causes of 'Abandonment', & Recommendations for Restoration & Rehabilitation*'. Special emphasis on SE Asia.

**Research Assistant, Physics Group, BNFL Sellafield (UK) (9 month contract) 1994-95**

Conducted technical work (e.g. gamma spectrometry); managed collaborative research projects & conducted financial tracking for the research group.

**Research Assistant, Planning & Development Dept, Cardiff City Council (UK) (3 month contract) 1994**

Assisted with the preparation of Cardiff's Nature Conservation Strategy for 1994. Assisted the Conservation Officer, Historic Buildings & Landscape Architect, Tree Preservation Officer, & Ecologist.

**Sandwich Year**

**Research Assistant, Institut de Biologie Marine d' Arcachon (France) - (sandwich year 1992)**

Examined the effects of suspended particulate matter on the development time of the copepod *Eurytemora affinis* & conducted in-situ zooplankton grazing studies (linked to PML work below). Part funded by the Erasmus scheme, part funded by bar work and cleaning work

**Research Assistant, Plymouth Marine Laboratory, Natural Environment Research Council UK (sandwich year 1992)**

Conducted laboratory experiments as part of Department of Environment Severn Barrage Study. Conducted mesocosm (large-scale) experiments to investigate the control of toxic & nuisance phytoplankton blooms.

**Pre-University**

**Various contract work experience (1988-1991)**

I worked for 2.5 years after leaving school before going to University including a one year contract for ICI in the medical information department, a summer job at a music store, & a marine guide at Great Yarmouth Sea life Centre. I gained 10 O'levels, 2 GCSE's & 4 A levels at school.

**Activities**

When I was younger I used to cave and cave dive, sail, windsurf, parachute, and rock climb and completed jungle training with the British Army in Belize. These days this is restricted to an occasional diet of sailing and rock climbing with my son and holiday diving, supplemented by annual trips to Africa, and UK trips to see windfarms.

I have always actively carried out voluntary work, including being a volunteer constable for 4 years for the South Wales Police; taken medical aid to the front line during the Bosnian war through the Rotary Club; and provided emergency accommodation in my home for the homeless through the De Paul Trust for 2-3 nights a week for nearly 2 years.