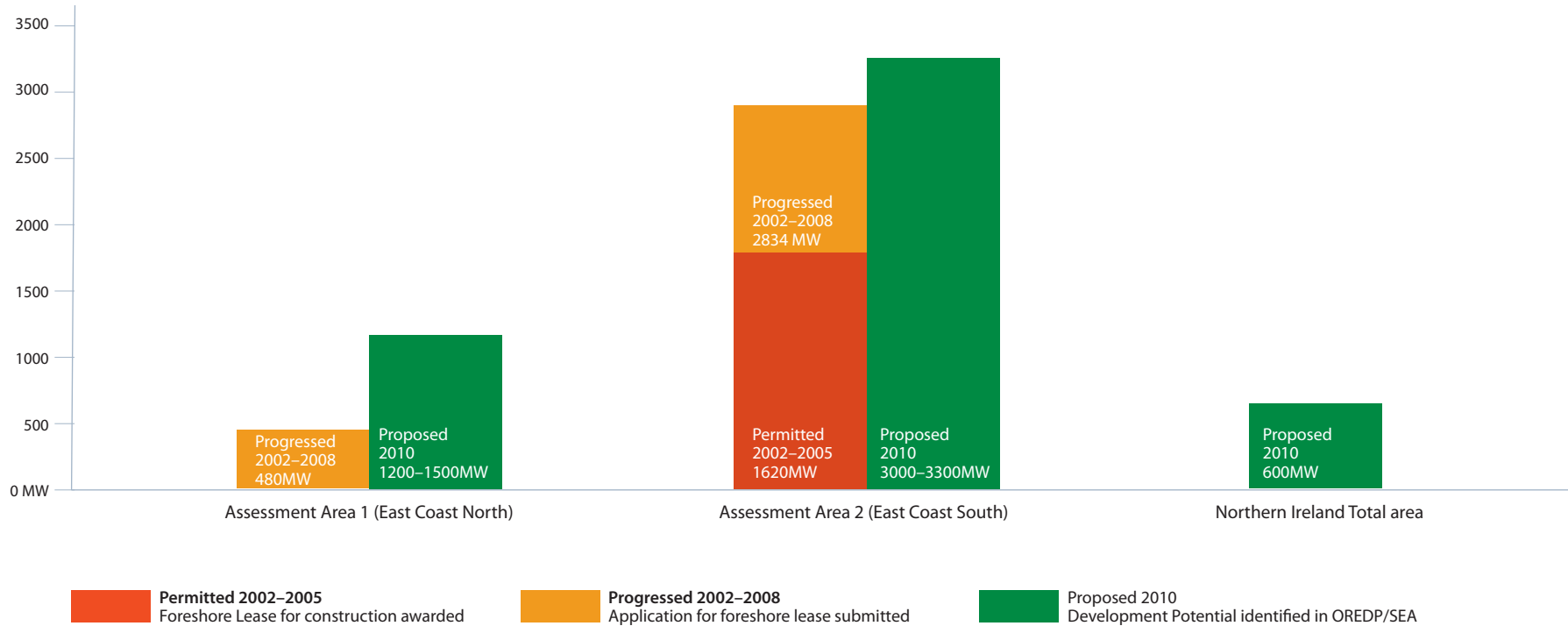


Ireland Offshore Wind Farm Development 2002–2010



Note

In 2010 the Irish Government produced a draft Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan (OREDPA) and commissioned a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to assess environmental impacts. The East coast was divided into Assessment Areas 1 and 2.

The potential offshore wind farm development identified as environmentally acceptable off Ireland's East coast, almost exactly corresponds to the developer-led projects permitted and progressed off the East coast with no Plan and no SEA, on the sole authority of the Minister for the Marine, under outdated legislation, in the period 2002 to 2008.

Strategic Environmental Assessment is supposed to guide plans to ensure that development is sustainable. In Ireland's case, SEA could not fulfil that function. In fact 36% of the draft OREDPs High Development Scenario for Offshore Wind (4500MW) for 2030 was already fully permitted (1620MW) in Assessment Area 2 by 2005.

It is worth noting that in Northern Ireland where no development had been permitted, the OREDP/SEA carried out in 2009 identified that just 600MW could be developed without likely significant effect on the environment.

Projects permitted East Coast South: Arklow Wind Park (520MW); Codling Wind Park 1 (1100MW)

Projects progressed East Coast South: Codling Wind Park 2 (1000MW); Dublin Array South (214MW) East Coast North: Oriel Wind Park (330MW), Dublin Array North (150MW)