Building Economic Partnerships

Esbjerg and Ulsan collaborate to progress their mutual interests

The World Energy Cities Partnership is an international, city-led organization headquartered in Houston, USA, comprised of some of the world’s leading Energy cities, including:

ABERDEEN SCOTLAND • ATYRAU KAZAKHSTAN
CALGARY CANADA • CAPE TOWN SOUTH AFRICA
BARRANQUILLA COLOMBIA
DAMMAM SAUDI ARABIA • DAQING CHINA
DONGYING CHINA • ESBJERG DENMARK
HALIFAX CANADA • HOUSTON USA
KARAMAY CHINA • KOBE JAPAN
LUANDA ANGOLA • PERTH AUSTRALIA
STAVANGER NORWAY • ST. JOHN’S CANADA
ULSAN SOUTH KOREA • VILLAHERMOSA MEXICO

WECP’s mission is to foster the world’s energy transition by facilitating international economic partnerships for our member cities.

Since the signing of a cooperation agreement in Seoul during May 2019, WECP member cities Esbjerg and Ulsan have formed a strong partnership focused on advancing offshore wind technology.

Despite being located over 5,000 miles apart, the two cities have various similarities including their significant interest in sustainable energy production.

Ulsan is known for its large port, many shipyards, and the production of Hyundai cars. However, this is something the city wanted to change. In recent years, Ulsan has become focused on turning the city into the new offshore wind hub of East Asia.

The cooperation agreement between the two cities was signed by Mayor of Esbjerg, Jesper Frost Rasmussen and Mayor of Ulsan, Song Cheol-Ho. This focused on port development, research, regulatory frameworks, and floating offshore wind turbines, within the two regions.

Following the evolution of this partnership, Esbjerg recommended Ulsan to become a member of WECP. This led to the South Korean city’s incorporation at the 2020 WECP Annual General Meeting.

With Ulsan and Esbjerg sharing an ambitious approach to the energy transition, companies from the two cities are working together to benefit their local economies, the climate, and the offshore wind industry.

Upon the admittance of Ulsan, WECP features 19 leading energy cities that are placing an increased focus on the energy transition moving away from fossil fuels to sustainable sources.