

# Material World



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## 03/05/2012

Quentin Cooper examines the practicalities of expanding wind farms in the North Sea. Last week a meeting of European ministers called for greater investment in wind technology, and an industry consortium was launched to look at ways of increasing the amount of offshore power that could be generated from the North Sea. The engineering challenges are huge, we get to grips with the big questions on how to wire up the sea for electricity production and look to the shape of future wind turbines,...

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## A seafront view to become more familiar?

Credit: Eon Lyn Harris



## What makes some people more sensitive to horrible noises?



So You Want to be a Scientist finalist Izzy Thomlinson is launching her online experiment to answer this question.

While Izzy is busy taking an A-level exam, Quentin talks to musicologist Michael Oehler and Izzy's scientific mentor Trevor Cox. They discuss some reasons for why we may be so sensitive to horrible noises and

even suggest how we can sometimes be tricked into thinking a sound is less horrible than it really is.

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