EBC and RISEP Evening Program

Updates from Rhode Island DEM & OER
Introduction & Program Overview

Christian F. Capizzo

Program Chair & Moderator

Counsel, Partridge Snow & Hahn LLP

Environmental Business Council of New England
Energy Environment Economy
Update from the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources

Carol Grant

Commissioner
Office of Energy Resources
State of Rhode Island
GROWTH OF CLEAN ENERGY IN RHODE ISLAND: THE ROAD TO 1,000 MW
Clean
Reduce carbon-intensity of supply portfolio

Affordable
Consumer cost as a lens for all policies, from procurement to investment

Reliable
Invest in a diverse resource portfolio through infrastructure, supply and system redesign

Principles for Policy and Programmatic Decision-Making
CLEAN, AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE

1) Efficiency
2) Clean energy
3) Strategic electrification
Benefits of Energy Efficiency in Rhode Island

- Driving the local economy with over $2.3 billion in economic benefits since 2006
  - Every $1 invested in energy efficiency puts $4.20 back into Rhode Island's economy
- Preventing 7 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions over the life of energy efficiency improvements
  - Equivalent to taking nearly 1.5 million passenger cars off the road for one year
- Saving $1 billion on utility bills
  - Energy efficiency helps keep costs down to maintain grid infrastructure, and keeps rates down for all Rhode Islanders
- Supporting over 8,000 local jobs
  - Over 700 Rhode Island businesses are in the energy efficiency industry
2018 Qtr. 1

Clean Energy Portfolio

294 Megawatts

11 MW 30 MW 35 MW 95 MW 123 MW

Small Hydro Offshore Wind Landfill Gas / Anaerobic Digestion Solar Onshore Wind

1,000 MW by 2020
West Warwick High School - Ice Rink and Athletic Field House
1.5 MW Wind Turbines, Coventry
2 MW Solar System, Leyden Christmas Tree Farm, West Greenwich
MAJOR PROCUREMENT INITIATIVES

- <400 MW Any Class 1 Technology
- Aiming for affordability
  - 3-State RFP generated clean energy at savings
  - Federal tax credits & plummeting costs create opportunity
1,000 MW CHALLENGES
1,000 MW

SUCCESS FACTORS
OFFSHORE WIND OPPORTUNITIES FOR RI
15,000 CLEAN ENERGY JOBS
QUESTIONS?

Carol Grant, Commissioner
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Update from the RI Department of Environmental Management

Janet Coit

Director

Department of Environmental Management

State of Rhode Island
guiding priorities

• Delivering quality service for our customers and stakeholders
• Promoting a healthy bay & communities
• Growing our state’s vibrant green economy
• Connecting people with the outdoors
• Acting on climate change
responsible clean energy siting

1. Guidance via Pre-Apps
2. Compliance with wetland and stormwater regulations
3. Brownfields/landfill redevelopment
leaders in conservation

1. Protect important natural areas with high intrinsic value
2. Prime forests, wetlands, drinking water sources, recreation areas, and lands and waters rich in biodiversity

- Fee title
- Deed to development rights
- Forestry easement
- Conservation easement
- Recreation easement
leaders in protecting farmland

• Most recent project, Rhode Island’s second-largest protected farm.

• The 369-acre Adams Farm property in Exeter includes ecologically sensitive pasture, woodland, wetlands, and 2 tributaries to the Queen’s River — one of the cleanest and coldest rivers in RI.

111 → 7,888

PROTECTED FARMS IN RI

TOTAL ACREAGE PROTECTED
promoting our fishing industry

1. Port of Galilee & Pier 9/Newport infrastructure upgrades
2. 1,253 active commercial fishers
3. Recreational fishing — $322M sales and $141M in income
4. Overall, commercial and recreational fishing in RI supported over 8,000 jobs, with a value-added contribution of over $363M to the State
Bond investments in water quality, land cleanup, farmland, recreation, and open space, ensure RI remains a desirable place to live, visit, and raise a family.

Rhode Island’s vibrant green economy accounts for more than 15,000 jobs and adds $2.5 billion to the economy each year. - 2016 URI study
Brownfields Leadership

1. Green Economy Bonds capitalized $10 million for brownfield sites.

2. $7.4 million has helped clean up and redevelop 23 sites in 10 cities and towns.

3. Grant round this spring – stay tuned

$7.4M → $575M → 3,700

Invested in Communities  Leveraged in Private Investment  Jobs Supported
improving water quality

- Steady **progress** in cleaning up Bay
- Renewing NBC discharge permit & finalizing **CSO Phase III** permit
- Entered into **stormwater agreements** with Providence, Warwick, and Cumberland

$6.8M → **33** PROJECTS AWARDED STATEWIDE with matching grants to improve stormwater management, mitigate flooding, and reduce non-point source pollution.

ANNOUNCED IN NOVEMBER 2017
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
May 25, 2017

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EXPANDED SHELLFISHING OPPORTUNITIES ANNOUNCED FOR R.I. WATERS;
CHANGES TAKE EFFECT THIS WEEKEND

Restrictions for portions of Upper Narragansett Bay lifted for first time in 70 years

PROVIDENCE - The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) today announced access to prime shellfishing areas has been expanded under the Department’s annual shellfish harvesting reclassification. Among the changes, which take effect at sunrise on Saturday, restrictions on portions of Upper Narragansett Bay – in place for the last 70 years – will be lifted; all of Cormorant Cove on Block Island will open for the first time in a decade; and the seasonal closure of Greenwich Bay will be
acting on climate change

1. Helping communities assess and address vulnerabilities

2. In 2017, DEM released a detailed study that assessed wastewater system vulnerability and recommended specific “adaptive strategies” that each WWTF could take to improve resiliency to climate change impacts.

3. Climate Resilience Action Plan – summer 2018
challenges & opportunities

Full-Time Employee Cap: 400
Current Full-Time Employees: 364*
Staff Who’ve Elected VRI: 27
lean

- Involved with Lean for 6 years
- Improved **customer service**
- Sharpening business practices
- Tracking **progress**
- Promoting a culture of **continuous improvement**

**total staff trained**

- 417

**improving key services**

- outdoor licensing
- OWTS/septic
- brownfields

- 2 lean ambassadors
- 14 lean liaisons
- 32 improvement projects completed or ongoing
We are evaluating needs across our facilities, including parks and farm properties.

According to a recent URI study, our major recreational facilities annually generate:

- 9.4 million visits
- 3,709 jobs annually
- $311 million consumer spending
Volvo Ocean Race

The only North American stop returns to Fort Adams State Park this May

147,706 → $47.7M → 353

Visitors in 2015  Economic Impact  Jobs Supported
volvo ocean race

EXPERIENCE THE EXCITEMENT AT
FORT ADAMS STATE PARK - MAY 8 - 20
Open Discussion

Moderator:
• Christian Capizzo, *Patridge Snow & Hahn*

Panelists:
• Janet Coit, *RI DEM*
• Carol Grant, *RI OER*