EBC Rhode Island Offshore Wind Energy Program
Update on the Vineyard Wind Offshore Wind Project
Welcome

Daniel Moon

President & Executive Director

Environmental Business Council

Environmental Business Council of New England
Energy Environment Economy
Thank You to Our Silver Sponsor
EBC Committees & Chapters

- Climate Change and Air Committee
- Dam Management Committee
- Energy Resources Committee
- Infrastructure Committee
- Ocean and Coastal Resources Committee
- Site Remediation and Redevelopment Committee
- Solid Waste Management Committee
- Water Resources Committee
- Ascending Professionals Committee

Connecticut Chapter
New Hampshire Chapter
Rhode Island Chapter
EBC Rhode Island Chapter

Chapter Chair
Rick Mandile, Sage Environmental, Inc.

Chapter Vice Chair
Alan Shoer, Adler Pollock & Sheehan, P.C.

Leadership Team
Christian Capizzo, Shechtman Halperin Savage, LLP
Suzanne Courtemanche, Tighe & Bond
Patrick Haskell, AECOM
Robert M. Otoski, CDM Smith
Igor Runge, GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.
Ed Summerly, GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.
J. Craig Swanson, PhD, Swanson Environmental Associates LLC
EBC Membership Benefits

Programs

Access

Networking

Environmental Business Council of New England
Energy Environment Economy
Upcoming Programs

Sept 11 – Site Remediation: In-Situ and Ex-Situ Sediment
Sept 12 – Leadership Series: MassDEP Deputy Commissioner and CERO
Sept 12 – EBC & SAME: New Hampshire Harbor Cruise
Sept 17 – Solid Waste and MassDEP Regional Section Chiefs
Sept 18 – Briefing from the Mass DOT Secretary and CEO
Sept 20 – Climate Adaptation Forum: Changing Climate, Changing Health
Sept 24 – AP Site Visit: Duxbury Beach Reservation
Oct 1 – MassDEP Commissioner, SERO, and EOEEA Climate Program
Oct 2 – New Hampshire’s Evolving Energy Future
Oct 3 – EBC Member Orientation: Maximize Membership Benefits
Oct 3 – Meet The EBC Committees Wine Tasting
Final Notes

1. Presentations will be posted to “ebcne.org”
   – Link to location of presentations in follow-up email

2. Get involved in EBC Chapters and Committees
   – Join Leadership Teams
   – Join email listserv for each EBC Committee and Chapter
     • Email request to ebc@ebcne.org

3. Audience Introduction

4. Finally: Ask questions during presentations
   – Don’t hesitate to interrupt the speaker
Program Overview

Maria Hartnett

Program Moderator

Principal, Epsilon Associates, Inc.
Vineyard Wind Offshore Wind Project

Rachel Pachter
Vice President, Permitting Affairs
Vineyard Wind LLC
WHO WE ARE

• **Leading provider of renewable power in the United States**
  • Over 6,500 MW in 22 states
  • Part of Iberdrola, the world leader in the renewable energy industry
  • 30+ GW in operation
  • 10 GW of offshore wind under development, construction, or operations

• **Long-term, clean energy investment focus**
  • 6,000+ MW offshore development portfolio worldwide
  • Extensive offshore wind experience

• **Local non-profit partner**
  • Dedicated to community-oriented renewable energy
  • Closely involved in development activities
  • Guidance on local issues; local benefits
HISTORY OF OFFSHORE WIND AREAS

MULTI-YEAR, STAKEHOLDER PROCESS

• 2010: BOEM established, Task Force initiated
  - Multi-Agency, Intergovernmental
  - Extensive stakeholder meetings

• 2012: Environmental Assessment, Call for Information

• 2014: Lease Sale Notices

• 2015: Auction and Lease issuance: Awarded Lease 501

• 2018: Auction and Lease issuance: Awarded Lease 522

PROJECT OUTREACH

• 2009-Present: Fisheries, communities, environmental outreach on-going
  - First Fisheries representative
  - First Community Benefits Agreement: Vineyard Power

VINEYARD WIND

WIND AREA REDUCED THROUGH PUBLIC PROCESS

2010

2019
BUILDING A NEW INDUSTRY

VINEYARD WIND
WHERE WE ARE NOW
HOW DID WE GET HERE

- **Global Warming Solutions Act (2008)**
  - Statewide emissions reduction goals

- **Energy Diversity Act (2016)**
  - Authorizes procurement of 1600 MW of offshore wind energy
  - Climate change
  - Reliability
  - New industry

- **Offshore Wind Contracts (2018)**
  - Competitive process
  - May 2018 - Vineyard Wind selected to build nation’s first commercial-scale offshore wind project
• **Generation Capacity:** 800 MW
  • Energy for over **400,000 homes and businesses**
  • Reduce carbon emissions by over **1.6 million tons/year**, or **325,000 cars off the road** annually

• **Turbine area:** ~15 miles from Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket
  • ~35 miles from Cape Cod at closest point
  • 84 9.5 MW turbines

• **Use of local ports:**
  • New Bedford: Construction, staging and deployment base
  • Vineyard Haven: Operations and Maintenance

• **Electrical interconnection:** Barnstable Switch Substation
  • Enhances grid strength at weak area
  • No changes to existing transmission system will be required
  • Connection location enhances grid reliability by providing power at edge of grid system
PERMITTING PROCESS

Federal

ACOE  EPA  BOEM  USCG  NMFS  FAA

COP

NEPA Scoping

DEIS

SEIS

FEIS

Record of Decision

Facilities Design Report & Fabrication Installation Report

State

MEPA

ENF

CZM / CRMC

Scoping

MEPA Cert.

DEIR

DEIR Cert.

SDEIR

SDEIR Cert.

FEIR

Final MEPA Cert.

Cape Cod Commission & MV Commission

State Permits (including):
Chapter 91
401 WQC
Highway
Railroad

Town Conservation Commissions

Town Road Opening

National Environmental Policy Act
Endangered Species Act
National Historic Preservation Act
Migratory Bird Treaty Act
Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation Management Act
Marine Mammal Protection Act
Coastal Zone Management Act
Clean Air Act
PROJECT BENEFITS

- **Reduced Emissions**
  - Reduction of ISO NE CO₂ emissions by approximately **1,630,000 tons per year** (tpy), NOx ~1,050 tpy, SO₂ ~860 tpy

- **Reduce Electricity Costs**
  - Total net savings ~**$1.4 billion** to electricity customers over the life of the contract

- **Grid Reliability**
  - Reduce use of dirtiest “peaker” plants
  - Reduces price spikes resulting from natural gas supply constraints

- **Supply Chain Development**
  - Expansion of maritime industries, local research institutions, reliance on regional workforce

- **Offshore Wind Accelerator Program $15 million**
  - **$2 million** Windward Workforce (3600 new clean energy jobs)
  - **$3 million** Wind & Whales Fund (protect marine mammals)
  - **$10 million** Offshore Wind Accelerator Fund (infrastructure improvements)
Agreement with Environmental Groups on Right Whale Protection

- January 2019
- Achieved with Conservation Law Foundation, National Wildlife Federation, Natural Resources Defense Council
- Sets a standard avoid Right Whale impacts
- Stipulates seasonal restrictions, activity restrictions, robust monitoring, and others

Host Community Agreement with Barnstable

- October 2018
- Partnership to support the project while protecting local interests
- Town input and coordination on design and construction
- Significant Long-term benefits for the town
OUTREACH IN RHODE ISLAND & FEDERAL CONSISTENCY

2011 - 2017
Preliminary meetings with RI fishermen

2017
Meetings during the pre-filing year with:
• RI Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM)
• Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC)
• Fisheries Advisory Board (FAB)
• FAB members
• Other RI fishermen and organizations

2018
Meetings during the post-filing year with:
• Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC)
• RI Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM)
• Fisheries Advisory Board (FAB)
• FAB members
• Other RI fishermen and organizations
FEDERAL CONSISTENCY - RHODE ISLAND

Consistency Process

March - Vineyard Wind submits letter to CRMC regarding Intent to Voluntarily Submit Consistency Certification
April - Vineyard Wind submits Consistency Certification to BOEM and CRMC
July - Vineyard Wind and CRMC mutually agree to stay the CRMC six-month federal consistency review period (multiple stays agreed through early 2019)
November – Vineyard Wind agreed to minimize project size by using largest commercially available turbine – minimizing non-E/W area
December - Vineyard Wind prepares mitigation package and begins negotiation with the FAB

2019

January - Vineyard Wind provides CRMC and FAB with Economic Exposure of Rhode Island Commercial Fisheries Dr. Dennis King (based primarily on RIDEM economic impact assessments)
February - Vineyard Wind filed commercial fisheries biological assessment monitoring plan summary to CRMC
February - CRMC concurs with the federal Coastal Zone Management Act consistency certification (February 26, 2019)
FISHERIES OUTREACH

- **Fishing Liaison and Fishing Representatives**
  - Crista Bank, VW FL
  - New Bedford Seafood Consulting
  - Port of New Bedford
  - Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association
  - Martha’s Vineyard Fishermen’s Preservation Trust

- **Staying Informed**
  - Fisheries Communication Plan
  - Outreach

- **Science**
  - Pre/during/post construction studies
  - Led by fisheries scientists
  - Utilize fishing vessels
FISHERIES INITIATIVES (examples)

- Providing thumb drives for electronic charts, showing our lease area and areas of offshore survey work to area fishermen.
- Including Loran navigation lines and closed areas on project charts to facilitate discussion of fishing activities in the area.
- Orienting the wind turbines in a regular grid pattern to allow for navigable uninterrupted travel in multiple directions (to avoid ‘zig-zagging’).
- Committing to east/west alignment for future projects.
- Selecting the largest commercially available turbine in order to reduce the overall area of the first project.
- Removing turbine locations along the 20-fathom contour.
- Installing AIS on turbines and Electrical Service Platforms (ESPs) to improve navigation and safety.
- Creating protocols for project vessels to adhere to when encountering fishing activity.
- Dedicating a page on Vineyard Wind’s website for fishermen (www.vineyardwind.com/fisheries) to find the latest information on surveys, construction, and sign up to receive email or text message alert updates.
- Building on the Fisheries Liaison and Fisheries Representative program, including on-going recruitment of new FRs and other, informal lines of communication
- Maintaining regular, direct communications with fishermen through email, texts, social media mass messaging, as well as regular check-in calls with individual fishermen
- Use of Mariner Updates to notify fishermen and other mariners of vessel activity related to the project
QUESTIONS?
On a scale of 0-10, how likely are you to recommend this program to a colleague?

Will Not Recommend ------------------------------- Will Definitely Recommend

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

General comments or suggestions on how the program could be improved:

Suggestions for future EBC Program topics:

Name & Email (optional):
Moderated Discussion: America’s First Utility-Scale Offshore Wind Project – Challenges and Needs

Moderator: Maria Hartnett, Epsilon Associates

Panelists:
• Marcia Blount, Blount Boats
• Andrew Gottlieb, Association to Preserve Cape Cod
• Priscilla M. Brooks, Conservation Law Foundation
• Rachel Pachter, Vineyard Wind
• Jill Rowe, RPS North America
• Curt Spalding, IBES
• John Torgan, Nature Conservancy