

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RENEWABLE ENERGY TASK FORCE  
WEBINAR ON THE NEW YORK BIGHT  
DECEMBER 4, 2017  
WEBINAR SUMMARY**

*DISCLAIMER: This meeting summary was prepared by the Consensus Building Institute (CBI), a non-profit entity contracted by BOEM to facilitate Task Force discussions and draft a discussion summary. This summary is not intended to be a meeting transcript. Rather, it focuses on the main points covered during the webinar. For questions regarding this summary, please contact BOEM’s Office of Renewable Energy Programs at (703) 787-1300. Please visit <https://www.boem.gov/New-York/> or <https://www.boem.gov/New-Jersey/> for the latest meeting information and materials.*

**WEBINAR IN BRIEF**

During the December 4, 2017 webinar, members of the New York Bight Task Force, other regional representatives, and the public heard updates on BOEM’s leasing effort in the New York Bight. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) staff presented the draft Call for Information and Nominations (Draft Call) which identifies four potential areas for offshore wind leasing. The Task Force discussed the steps taken by BOEM and New York State (NY) to-date, the Draft Call Areas, and the Call timeline. The Task Force heard from representatives of the Department of Defense and U.S. Coast Guard on their input into the Draft Call Areas. The webinar also included an opportunity for verbal public input on the Draft Call. Presentation slides and a webinar recording are available at <https://www.boem.gov/2017-Intergovernmental-Renewable-Energy-Task-Force-Webinar-on-the-New-York-Bight/>.

**ACTION ITEMS**

Who	What
BOEM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post all presentation slides, webinar summary, and webinar recording.</li> <li>• Distribute a lined version of the Draft Call and comment matrix to Task Force members.</li> </ul>
Task Force members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submit comments on the Draft Call to BOEM by December 15.</li> </ul>

**ATTENDANCE**

There were approximately 160 distinct participants on the webinar at peak attendance, which does not account for participants who shared a phone line. Participants included 30 members of the NY Bight Task Force, four representatives from other interested states (CT, MA, RI), BOEM staff, other federal and state employees, and 66 members of the public.

**DISCUSSION**

Below is a summary of key themes and topics discussed during the webinar.

***Welcoming Remarks***

James Bennett, Chief of BOEM’s Office of Renewable Energy Programs (OREP); Alicia Barton, President and CEO of NYSERDA; and Kisha Santiago-Martinez, New York Deputy Secretary of State, Office of Planning and Development, offered welcoming remarks to the Task Force and the public. The speakers noted the Northeast’s considerable development potential for offshore wind energy. BOEM commended states in the region like New York, New Jersey, and Massachusetts for committing to ambitious goals for offshore wind development. Federal, tribal, state, and local authorities need to prioritize coordination to comprehensively address stakeholder concerns over potential impacts due to wind energy development in the NY Bight.

***BOEM Leasing Process Overview and Development of the Draft Call***

BOEM staff presented on the leasing process and the Draft Call for the NY Bight:

- Leasing process overview – Luke Feinberg, BOEM Project Coordinator, and Isis Johnson-Farmer, BOEM NEPA Coordinator, reviewed the procedural steps between the Call and a lease auction. BOEM staff briefly described the draft Call Areas and how they were chosen. They also highlighted planned stakeholder outreach events and opportunities for public comment. BOEM briefed the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Councils on the draft Call on December 5 and December 13, respectively.
- Development of the draft Call – Isis Johnson-Farmer reviewed the criteria used to delineate the draft Call Areas. Criteria included water depth, visual impact considerations, maritime traffic, Department of Defense exclusions, ecological priority areas, the Scallop Rotational Area, and NYSERDA recommendations.

Task Force members asked for clarification and had comments about (1) the timeline for Task Force comments on the draft Call document, (2) the status and definition of draft Call Area boundaries and names, (3) the status of the NY Wind Master Plan and public comments received by NY, (4) differences between the NY and BOEM proposed Call Areas, and (5) BOEM stakeholder engagement and public scoping plans for New Jersey and other interested states.

#### ***Task Force Feedback on Draft Call Areas: Department of Defense (DoD) and U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)***

- ***DoD Feedback on Draft Call Areas*** – Fred Engle, Director of Military Trainings and Ranges for the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, presented the methodology used to assess whether the Draft Call Areas are compatible with DoD’s offshore security and training missions. The 2013 DoD New York Offshore Wind Mission Compatibility Assessment resulted in the exclusion of certain sites for offshore wind development and this information has been incorporated into BOEM’s Draft Call. DOD plans to release an expanded and updated Assessment in 2018.
- ***USCG Feedback on Draft Call Areas*** - George Detweiler, a Maritime Transportation Specialist at USCG Headquarters, presented the USCG’s interests in and concerns about the draft Call Areas. Their primary responsibility is navigation safety for a range of vessels transiting traditional maritime routes. USCG also has missions in the region related to security. Although their review of the draft Call Areas concluded that the draft Call Areas as currently defined will result in unacceptable increases to risk to navigational safety, USCG is committed to supporting BOEM in its planning efforts. NYSEERDA’s proposal to include buffers around Wind Energy Areas (WEAs) is one possibility for alleviating potential conflict with traffic routes. Mr. Detweiler noted that USCG does not have the authority to approve or disapprove a project.

#### ***Task Force Feedback on Draft Call Areas: Task Force Structured Discussion***

Luke Feinberg, BOEM, reviewed the Call timeline and what feedback BOEM is seeking from the Task Force and the public. BOEM would like (1) feedback on the questions they pose in the Call and (2) feedback on what is described in the Call. BOEM is particularly interested in feedback on the following topics:

- Should, and if so, how, could BOEM modify the Draft Call Areas to deconflict potential conflicts now (e.g. navigation, military activities, fishing, cumulative effects and/or wake effects)?
- Seaward boundary of the Call Area
- Visual impacts
- Call Area islands
- Nominations requirements
- Stakeholder outreach

To stay on schedule, BOEM would like to receive written Task Force comments on the Draft Call document by December 15, 2017. BOEM is also accepting public feedback on the Draft Call and the formal public comment period will be open for 45 days after the Call is published in the Federal Register. Task Force member questions and remarks focused on (1) stakeholder engagement and cross-jurisdictional challenges, (2) the DoD exclusion zone, (3) the state of floating turbine technology, and (4) the Task Force comment timeline. Some Task Force members stated that they would not be able to submit comments by December 15.

#### ***Public Input Opportunity***

Below is a summary of public questions and input offered during the webinar. BOEM responses are in italics.

- When is the appropriate time to start the discussion on the technical aspects of proposals (e.g. undersea cables)? *BOEM can take information on this topic at any point in time but the specifics will be determined during the Construction and Operations Plan (COP) review stage.*
- There may be other types of transmission interconnection (e.g. offshore collector platforms that are not associated with generators) that might require right-of-way or right-of-use grants on the Outer Continental Shelf but not necessarily in a WEA block. How will these facilities be treated in the BOEM process? *Right-of-way could be handled through an unsolicited application or BOEM could initiate a process. BOEM has heard periodically about the efficiency of an offshore feeder/collector and can accommodate developers interested in that model.*

**ATTENDEE LIST**

*Task Force members*

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Tracy Babbidge	CT DEEP
Megan Brunatti	NJDEP
Shari Calnero	NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Bruce Carlisle	MA CZM
Karen Chytalo	NYS DEC
Denise Coca	FCC
Julie Crocker	National Marine Fisheries Service
Andrew Davis	New York State Dept. of Public Service
Michele DesAutels	USCG
George Detweiler	USCG
Frederick Engle	Department of Defense
Anthony Fiore	NYC Mayor's Office of Sustainability
Beth Fiteni	New York State Department of Public Service
Ruth Foster	NJDEP
Karen Gaidasz	NYSDEC
Karen Greene	NOAA
Naomi Handell	USACE
Doreen Harris	NYSERDA
Sherryll Hubber Jones	NYSDEC/ASFMC
Cheri Hunter	Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement
Wilhelmina Innes	NYS Department of State
Lingard Knutson	US Environmental Protection Agency
Julia Livermore	RI DEM, Division of Marine Fisheries
Greg Matzat	NYSERDA
Anne Marie McShea	NJ Board of Public Utilities
Kisha Santiago-Martinez	NY Department of State
Doug Simpson	US Coast Guard 5th District (dpw)
Sue Tuxbury	NOAA
Jesse West-Rosenthal	New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office
Jeff Yunker	U.S. Coast Guard

*BOEM staff and other federal and state employees*

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Kyle Baker	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
Alicia Barton	NYSERDA
Melissa Batum	BOEM
Mary Boatman	BOEM
Stephen Boutwell	BOEM

Jeanette Bowers-Altman	NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife
Jeff Browning	BOEM
Leann Bullin	BOEM
Kathy Clark	NJDEP Fish & Wildlife
Peter Clarke	NJ DEP
Heather Corbett	NJ DEP
Kira Dacanay	NJDEP
Christina Davis	NJDEP-DFW-ENSP
Sherif Esmail	NJDOT
Luke Feinberg (with BOEM HQ)	BOEM
Joshua Gange	BOEM
Ryan Gergely	NJDEP
MacKenzie Hall	NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife
Sara Hart	NY Parks, Division of Stewardship and Planning
Robert Helton	USCG - LANT AREA (531)
Brian Hooker	BOEM
Mitchell Hoskins	BOEM
Ursula Howson	NOAA
Joshua Kaplowitz	BOEM
Monty Kemiki	BOEM
Chris Khoury	Department of Defense
Jennifer Kilanski	BOEM
Gregory Lampman	NYSERDA
Edward LeBlanc	U.S. Coast Guard Sector Southeastern New England
Julia Lewis	USCG
Frances Mann	BOEM
Angel McCoy	BOEM
Annette Moore	BOEM
Edward Munoz	U.S. Coast Guard Fifth District (Waterways Management)
Dan O'Connell	BOEM
Steve Papa	USFWS
Casey Reeves	BOEM
Kiley Relf	USCG
Elizabeth Semple	NJDEP
Ian Slayton	BOEM
Stephanie Specht	Ocean County NJ Planning Department
Jess Stromberg	BOEM
Christine Taylor	BOEM
Jennifer Tomko	NJ DEP
Chris Tompsett	Naval Undersea Warfare Center
Erin Trager	BOEM
Josh Wadlington	BOEM

*Other representatives from invited states*

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Nicole Lugli	CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
David Beutel	RI Coastal Resources Management Council
Kathryn Ford	MA Division of Marine Fisheries
Chris Kearns	RI Office of Energy Resources

*Facilitation team*

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Rebecca Gilbert	Consensus Building Institute
Dory Dinoto	Consensus Building Institute

*Public*

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
David Amerikaner	
Walter Anoushian	
Tim Axelsson	
Richard Balouskus	Inspire Environmental
Elizabeth Barminski	Business Network for Offshore Wind
Kensy Berry	
Tom Brinton	
Jim Brown	South Shore Audubon Society
Derek Buffitt	TE SubCom
Kim Castle	
Alison Chase	NRDC
Noah Chesnin	
Doug Copeland	EDF RE
Andrew Curtin	Kearns & West
Susanne DesRoches	
Michael Drunsic	DNV GL
Kevin Dugan	NYPIRG
Bob Erickson	ESS Group, Inc
Michael Ernst	
Patrick Faha	TE Subcom
Mary Ford	MARACOOS
Michael Gloden	Atkins Energy Americas
Martin Goff	
Alan Gregory	Gulf Marine Contractors
Helen Henderson	American Littoral Society
Lyndie Hice-Dunton	Ecology and Environment
Raymond Hinkle	AECOM

Jamil Khan	Deepwater Wind
Tess Korten	
Patti Lane	reNews
Oksana lane	
Cara Lee	The Nature Conservancy
Scott Lundin	Tetra Tech
Deborah McKew	
Ellen Meyers	S&P Global Market Intelligence
Joanne Moore	All Our Energy
Charles Natale	ESS Group
Jeffrey Nield	
William O'Hearn	Business Network for Offshore Wind
Kris Ohleth	Ecology & Environment
Nancy Palmstrom	
Ann Pembroke	
Doug Pfeister	
Clint Plummer	Deepwater Wind
Karen Raaberg	
Ronald Rapp	TE SubCom
Vincent Ravaschiere	Empire State Development
Chris Rein	
Bryan Sanderson	Anbaric Development Partners
Derek Segars	
Sydney Sheridan	TE SubCom
Frank Smolenski	
Tiffany Smythe	University of Rhode Island
Val Stori	Clean Energy States Alliance
Tyler Studds	
Tim Sullivan	
Todd Sumner	Governmental Affairs and Law Firm
Megan Treml	TBG @ NOAA Office for Coastal Management
Brian Vahey	The American Waterways Operators
Michael Warren	NJ Advance Media
Bill White	
Ralf Wigfield	
Stephanie Wilson	Deepwater Wind
Steve Wood	ESS Group
Andy Zalay	PNE Wind USA Inc
Douglas Zemeckis	Rutgers University