

NEW YORK INTERGOVERNMENTAL RENEWABLE ENERGY TASK FORCE MEETING
OCTOBER 3, 2017
MEETING 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 meeting. 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/> for the latest meeting information and materials.

MEETING IN BRIEF

At its October meeting, the New York Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force and the public heard updates on recent offshore wind leasing activities in the New York region. Lessee representatives presented status updates for the Statoil Project and the South Fork Project and took questions from Task Force members. New York State (NYS) representatives presented on the *Area for Consideration* identified in a draft chapter of the NYS Offshore Wind Master Plan, released on October 2. The Task Force also discussed the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)’s plans for future leasing in the Atlantic, an upcoming Call for Information and Nominations (Call), and BOEM’s efforts to strengthen stakeholder outreach and Task Force engagement. The meeting provided two opportunities for public input on topics being considered by the Task Force. Presentation slides from the meeting can be found at <https://www.boem.gov/2017-NY-Task-Force-Meeting/>.

ACTION ITEMS

Who	What
BOEM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post presentation slides. • Work with NYS to provide Task Force members with maps that overlay key data (fisheries, protected species, shipping traffic, etc.) on the NYS <i>Area for Consideration</i>. • Solicit feedback from Task Force members on three key questions related to upcoming Call: areas to consider, size, and use of the NYS <i>Area for Consideration</i>. As possible, demonstrate how feedback informs the Call.
New York State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with BOEM to develop graphics that overlay the NYS <i>Area for Consideration</i> on other key data (e.g. fisheries).
Task Force members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit feedback to BOEM on the upcoming Call as soon as possible.

ATTENDANCE

Approximately 25 Task Force members attended the meeting, including federal, tribal, state, and local representatives (attendee list attached). In addition to Task Force members and BOEM staff, representatives from the states of Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and New Jersey participated to foster a more integrated consideration of regional issues. Approximately 50 members of the public attended the meeting including representatives from the fishing industry, environmental NGOs, and the wind energy industry. Representatives from BOEM lessees Statoil and Deepwater Wind also participated in the meeting.

DISCUSSION

Below is a summary of key themes and topics discussed at the meeting.

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 strong competitive interest on the East Coast and NYS’ ambitious commitment to build 2.4 gigawatts of offshore wind power by 2030.

BOEM Overviews – Recent and Future Activities

BOEM staff presented on recent and future activities in the New York region:

- Commercial renewable energy lease activities offshore NYS – Luke Feinberg, BOEM Project Coordinator, reviewed BOEM’s leasing process and provided status updates on the eight leases and three unsolicited applications in the region. The presentation underscored the extensive activity along the outer continental shelf.

- Post-lease surveys and studies – Isis Johnson-Farmer, BOEM NEPA Coordinator, and Brian Hooker, BOEM Marine Biologist, described how data collected through surveys and studies feed into guidelines and lease stipulations for lessees and inform BOEM’s review of a Construction and Operations Plan (COP).
- Next steps in leasing process – Luke Feinberg and Isis Johnson-Farmer reviewed the procedural steps between a Call for Information and Nominations and a lease auction. BOEM is targeting a Call by the end of 2017 and an auction in 2019. It is seeking input from Task Force members on Call size, location, and the extent to which BOEM should incorporate the *Area for Consideration* identified by NYS.
- Task Force assessment – CBI Facilitator Bennett Brooks briefly reviewed findings from a series of interviews CBI conducted with Task Force members nationwide to assess overall Task Force effectiveness. James Bennett then shared BOEM’s current thinking on specific strategies it is already pursuing or likely to pursue to improve Task Force coordination. Task Force members generally voiced support for the intended changes.

Industry Project Updates – Statoil and South Fork

Christer af Geijerstam, Project Director with Statoil, and Aileen Kenney, Vice President of Permitting and Environmental Affairs with Deepwater Wind, provided updates on their respective leases: the Statoil Project and the South Fork Project. The presentations included information on their companies, the proposed developments and associated timelines, future survey work, and intended approaches to stakeholder outreach. Task Force member questions and remarks focused on (1) the importance of proactive outreach (to both agencies and stakeholders), (2) opportunities for work force training and port revitalization, and (3) the potential for coordinating transmission cable routing to minimize impacts.

New York State Updates

NYS representatives provided an update on the state’s efforts to develop offshore wind resources in order to meet its 2030 renewable energy goal. State representatives reviewed some of the studies undertaken to highlight potential use conflicts and identify promising areas for offshore wind energy development. On October 2, NYS submitted to BOEM an *Area for Consideration* composed of an East Area and a West Area. Detailed information about this *Area* is available at <https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Offshore-Wind> and will be included in the forthcoming NYS Offshore Wind Master Plan. NYS has asked BOEM to identify and lease at least four new Wind Energy Areas (WEAs) within the *Area*, each capable of generating at least 800 megawatts, as part of its upcoming Call. Task Force member questions and remarks focused on (1) the need for better data overlays to identify conflicting uses within the proposed *Area*, (2) interest in better understanding NYS efforts to coordinate with other states in the region, and (3) clarification on whether BOEM would require mitigation plans in future leases.

Public Input Opportunities

Below is a summary of public questions and feedback offered during two public input sessions. The summary represents categories of individual remarks only.

- Task Force representation – Interest in stronger Task Force representation from the Fisheries Management Councils, impacted stakeholder groups (e.g. recreational ocean users), and other necessary voices (e.g. health and safety experts).
- Conflicting uses – Interest in better understanding how BOEM and NYS weigh conflicting uses (e.g. fisheries, navigation) when identifying new WEAs, with several speakers suggesting fishing impacts are not being adequately considered and necessitate a discussion about mitigation.
- Data standards and availability – Voicing concern with the data standards BOEM and NYS use when evaluating different phases of leasing and development. There was also interest in exploring opportunities to make data from lessee-funded surveys available for research purposes.
- Promise of wind energy – Voicing support for scaling up development of clean energy sources like offshore wind but making sure development is done responsibly.
- Cumulative impacts – Interest in better understanding whether, how, and when BOEM assesses the cumulative impacts of offshore wind development when reviewing Site Assessment Plans (SAPs) and COPs.
- Stakeholder outreach – Emphasizing the need for BOEM and their lessees to reach out to stakeholders early in the process, particularly those who may have expertise to contribute or felt left out of past discussions.

ATTENDEE LIST

Task Force Members and BOEM Staff

Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Alicia Barton	NYSERDA	Luke Feinberg	BOEM
Andrew Davis	NYSDPS	Maggie Clements	NYS Parks
Anthony J. Fiore	City of New York	Mary C. Krueger	NPS
Brian Hooker	BOEM	Michele DesAutels	USCG
Cheri Hunter	BSEE	Mike Snyder	NYS DOS
David Martine	Shinnecock Nation History Preservation	Mina Innes	NYS DOS
David Vejar	NOAA	Naomi Handell	USACE
Doreen Harris	NYSERDA	Peter Fountaine	Town of Brookhaven
Elisabeth Fitemi	NYSDPS	Shari Calnero	NYS Parks
Isis Johnson-Farmer	BOEM	Shavonne Smith	Shinnecock
James Bennett	BOEM Office of Renewable Energy Programs	Sheryll Huber Jones	NYSDEC
Jon Binder	NYSDEC	Steve Papa	USFWS
Joshua Gange	BOEM	Sue Tuxbury	NOAA
Karen Gaidasz	NYSDEC		

Invited States

Name	Affiliation
Ann Marie McShea	NJ BPU
Bill White	MA CEC
Bruce Carlisle	MA CZM
Julia Livermore	RIDEM
Nicole Lengyel	RIDEM

Facilitation Team

Name	Affiliation
Bennett Brooks	Consensus Building Institute
Rebecca Gilbert	Consensus Building Institute
Julie Herlihy	Consensus Building Institute

Lessee Representatives

Name	Affiliation
Aileen Kenney	Deepwater Wind
Jennifer Garvey	Deepwater Wind
Clint Plummer	Deepwater Wind
Christer af Geijerstam	Statoil
Deb Colton	Statoil
Knut Aantsad	Statoil
Lars Sunde	Statoil
Martin Suff	Statoil

Public

Name	Affiliation
Adrienne Esposito	Citizens Campaign for the Environment
Allison Rose	NYSERDA
Alyssa Poirrier	E&E
Andy Zalay	PNE Wind
Beth Chevere	NY Laborers'
Bonnie Brady	LICFA
Boone Davis	RCG
Brad Warner	Norton Rose Fulbright
Brendan Dolan	USCG
Catherine Bowes	National Wildlife Federation
Cindy Shurling	E&E
Dan Chorost	Sive Paget and Riesel
David Carcache	CCNY
Donna Lanzetta	Manna Fish Farms
Drew Minkiewicz	KDW
Enrique Alvarez-Uria	EDPR
Eric Johansson	Maritime College
Eric Swanson	TerraSand
Francine Kershaw	Natural Resources Defense Council
Franz Litz	Litz Energy Strategies/Audubon NY
Greg Lennon	Mitsui
Jacob Nolda	USCG
James Glennie	Danish Consulate
Jennie Encalada	NYSLOF
Joanne Moore	All Our Energy
Joe Martens	NY Offshore Wind Alliance
Joe Tonini	Sierra Club Beyond Coal
Jordan Christensen	Citizens Campaign for the Environment
Justin Bailey	Alpine
Kaitlin Brazill	ENGO/NRDC
Kari Gather	NYS DOS
Katherine Linnick	USCG Sector LIS
Kim McKown	NYSDEC
Kit Kennedy	Natural Resources Defense Council
Konstantine Rountos	Manna Fish Farms
Lauren Wahl	AIS Inc
Lena DeSantis	Anchor QEA
Lilia Factor	Sierra Club Long Island
Lyndie Hice-Dunton	E&E
Markian Melnyk	Atlantic Wind Connection
Marvin Toussaint	NYSERDA

Marvin Weiss	Surfrider Foundation
Matt Gove	Surfrider Foundation
Megan Hayes	PS&S Engineering
Meghan Lapp	Seafreeze Ltd
Michael Ernst	Power Advisory
Michael Thompson	Northland Power
Nathalie Schils	TetraTech
Noah Chesnin	WCS / NY Aquarium
Raya Treiser	Wilmer Hale
Resi Cooper	Anbaric
Rob Micallef	LIUNA
Robert DiGiovanni	AMCS
Roger Flood	Stony Brook University
Scott Lundin	TetraTech
Shannon Andrew	USCG Sector LIS
Shara Mohtadi	NYSERDA
Stephen Drew	Sea Risk Solutions
Tara Schneider-Moran	Town of Hempstead
Taylor-Lynn Kunkle	USCG
Thomas Bjurlot	
Tim Axelsson	Ocean Tech Services
Victor Vecchio	NOAA Fisheries
Vincent Ravaschiere	Empire State Development
William O'Hearn	Bus. Network for Offshore Wind