

Smart from the Start:

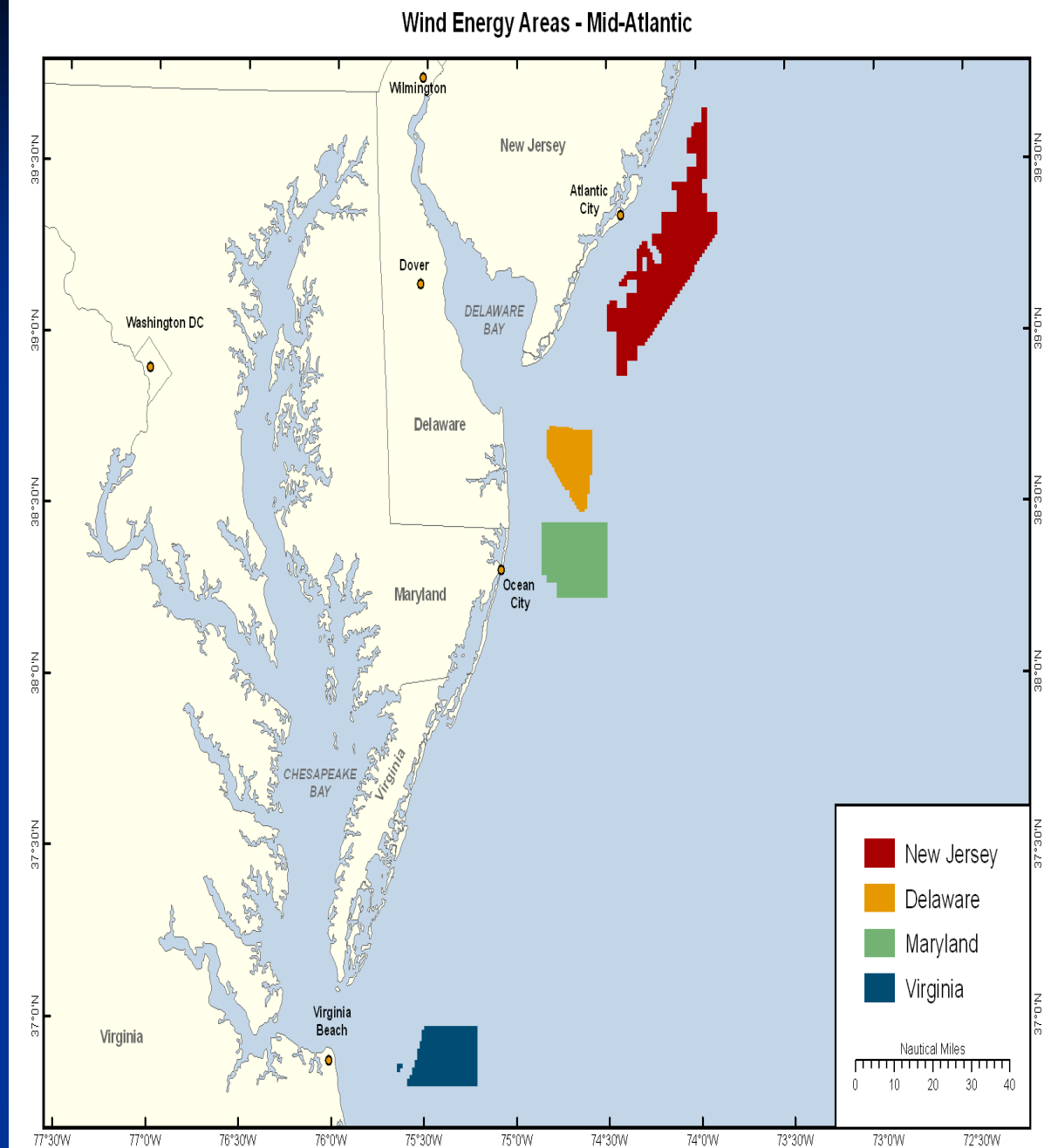
Mid-Atlantic Wind Energy Areas Environmental Analysis



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February 7,
2011, Secretary
Salazar
announced OCS
WEAs offshore
New Jersey,
Delaware,
Maryland, and
Virginia suitable
for further
consideration as
sites for future
offshore wind
development



3 Stages in Renewable Energy Leasing and Development

- Lease issuance
 - Grants exclusive right to submit plans
 - Does not authorize construction
 - Only reasonably foreseeable activity is surveys
- Site Assessment
 - Up to 5 year period
 - Lessee(s) submit site assessment plans (SAP) – Bottom-founded data collection facilities (i.e., meteorological towers and buoys)
- Commercial Activities
 - 25 year period typical
 - Lessee(s) submit construction and operations plan (COP)

Stage One: Lease Issuance

- Grants exclusive right to submit plans
- Does not authorize construction
- Only reasonably foreseeable activity is surveys



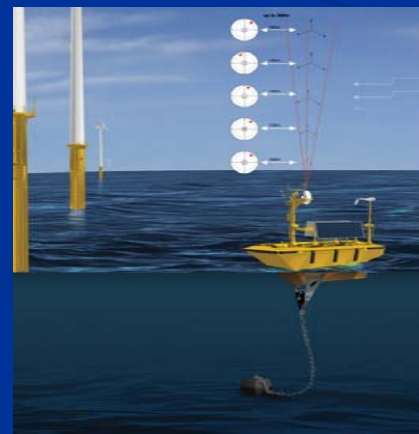
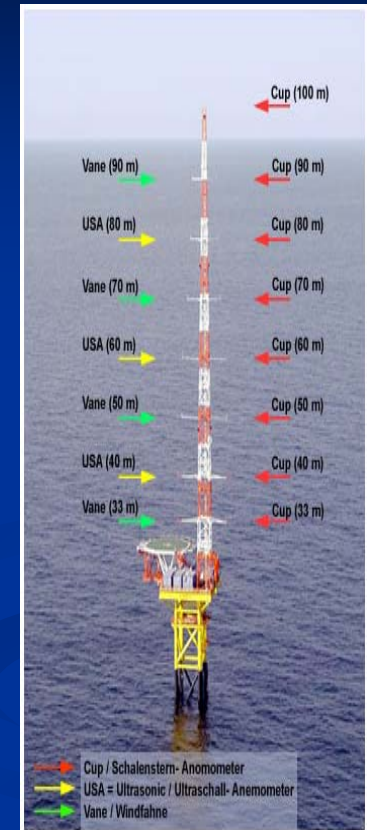
Site Characterization Surveys

- Surveys to inform the developer about the site specifics
- Allows the developer to survey potential area to prepare to submit a COP
- May include archaeological, biological, geophysical, geotechnical, and shallow hazard surveys



Stage Two: Site Assessment

- Meteorological towers and/or buoys
- Site Assessment Plans (SAP)
- Bottom-founded data collection facilities (i.e., meteorological towers and buoys)
- May not apply in Delaware since there is an Interim policy that previously addressed this activity



Site Assessment Plans (SAPs)

- Outlines the activities for any installation of a structure attached to the seabed
- Will compare to the WEA analyzed activities and impacts to see if EA adequately covers SAP
- Required by BOEMRE regulation
- Includes 5 survey reports with supporting data:
 - Geotechnical
 - Shallow hazards
 - Archaeological
 - Geological
 - Biological

Regional EA:



- Stage 1 & 2 only:
 - Lease Issuance & site characterization surveys
 - Site Assessment
- Combines NEPA for phase 1 & 2 activities together into single analysis
- Regional in scope
- Integrates Coastal Marine Spatial Planning (CMSP)

Regional EA Progress:

- At least 2 cooperating agencies have been identified (USCG & USACE) for EA.
- NOI published and comment period closed.
- ESA consultation initiation projected to begin in two weeks.
- Section 106 consultations began in March.
- Regional Federal Consistency Determination discussion has begun with all 4 states.

Summary of the Regional EA:

What it is:

- ✓ Applying *Smart from the Start*
- ✓ Creating efficiencies in renewable energy development
- ✓ Focused effort, regional in scope
- ✓ Addresses first two stages of leasing process

What it is NOT:

Does NOT include Construction & Operations of a commercial wind facility



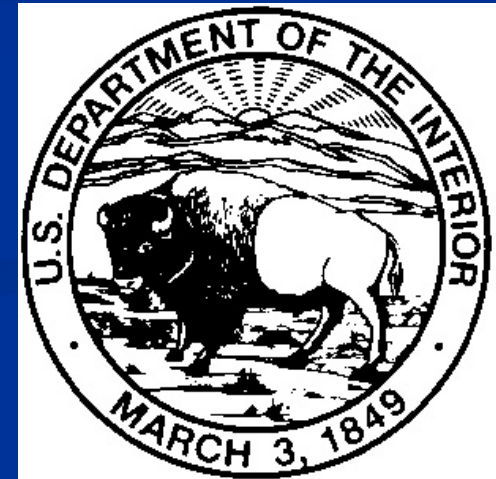
For More Information:

On the Web:

www.boemre.gov/offshore/renewableenergy

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Thank you!

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