

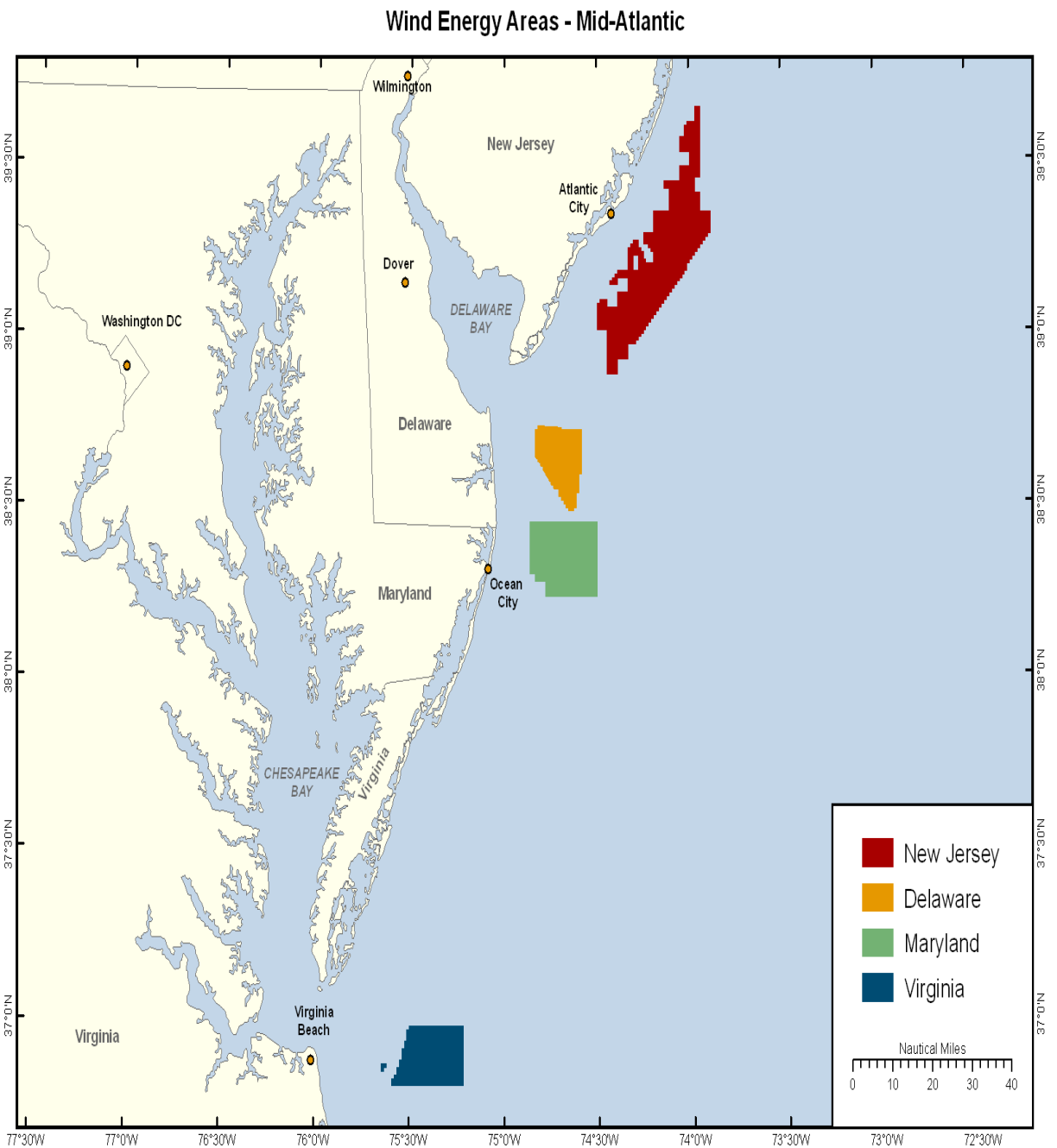
Smart from the Start:

Mid Atlantic Wind Energy Area 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 of 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.



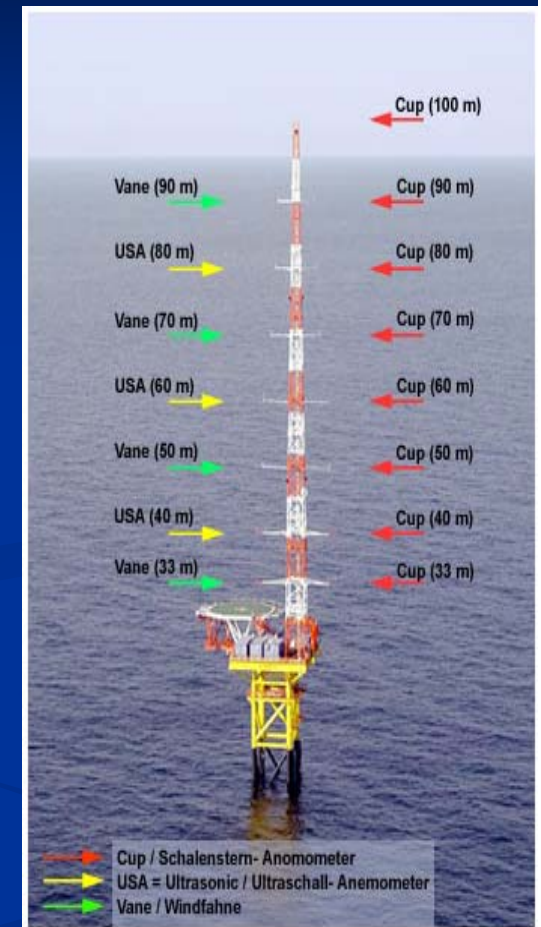
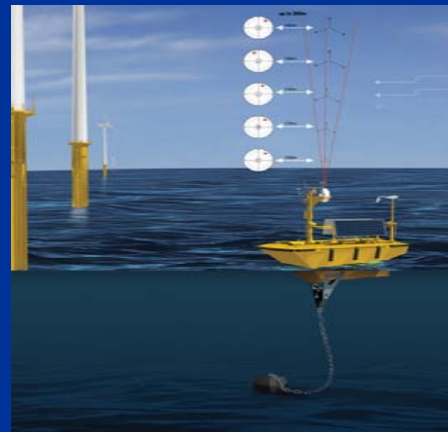
Site Characterization Surveys

- 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 (SAPs)
- Bottom-founded data collection facilities (i.e., meteorological towers and buoys)
- May include additional monitoring equipment



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 stage 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 phases of leasing process

What it is NOT:

Does NOT include Construction/
Operations of a commercial wind facility



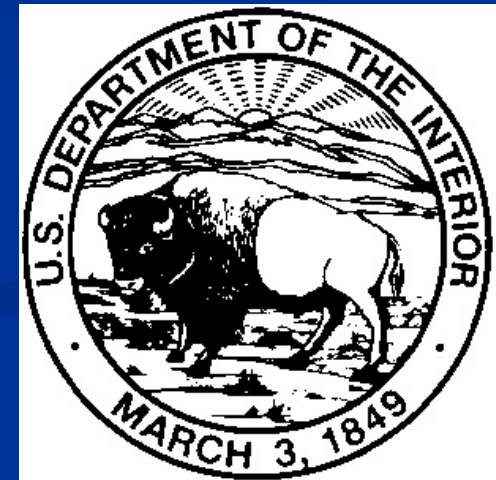
For More Information:

On the Web:

[http://www.boemre.gov/offshore/Renewable
Energy/index.htm](http://www.boemre.gov/offshore/RenewableEnergy/index.htm)

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Thank you!

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