

MINUTES
VIRGINIA OFFSHORE WIND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
SCIENCE MUSEUM OF VIRGINIA DISCOVERY ROOM
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2011
10:30 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Vice Chair Joan Bondareff called the meeting to order. At 10:30 am, Chairman Moye arrived and took over presiding over the meeting.

Members Present: Art Moye, Joan Bondareff, Lisa Johnson, Mary Doswell, Brian Redmond, Ron Ritter, John Jester

Members Absent: Bob Matthias

Staff Present: Conrad Spangler, DMME Director; Cathie France, DMME Deputy Director for Energy Policy; Al Christopher, DMME Division of Energy Director; Ken Jurman, DMME Renewable Energy Manager; Maureen Matsen, Deputy Secretary of Natural Resources and Senior Advisor for Energy; Kerri Nicholas, Assistant Attorney General

Guests Present: George Hagerman, VCERC Director of Offshore Wind Research; Rick Thomas, Timmons Groups

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Vice Chair called for a motion to approve the October 5, 2011, minutes as presented. The minutes were unanimously approved.

OVERVIEW OF OFFSHORE WIND DEVELOPMENT KEY EFFORTS BY PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS AND RECENT AND ONGOING JMU EFFORTS
Presenters: George Hagerman and Rick Thomas

George Hagerman presented an overview of public and private offshore wind development efforts in Virginia. Private sector enterprises include projects by Gamesa and Poseidon Atlantic. His presentation focused on the public sector, and he explained the value of three selected test site locations in the City of Suffolk, Hampton Roads, and Newport News.

Rick Thomas talked about JMU pre-permitting and regulatory activities associated with the three test sites:

- Site 1: study area for radar effects measurement and mitigation
- Site 2: study area for sub-scale foundations and installation methods
- Site 3: study area for full scale installation and avian interaction

These and other sites are being assessed for suitability for private development and identification of potential barriers or constraints. To date, the sites appear to be viable and interest by private organizations has been expressed. A detailed progress update will be available for the February VOWDA meeting.

A copy of the slide presentation is available.

CHESAPEAKE LIGHT TOWER UPDATE

Presenter: George Hagerman

Members were sent a copy of DOE's Chesapeake Light Tower Public Partnership Concept Paper, which was provided by Stan Calvert. George reported that a MOU (DOE-USCG-COV) has been drafted to determine the roles and responsibilities of moving forward with this partnership.

IMPLEMENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

Presenter: Cathie France

- Joan indicated that she thought VOWDA should draft legislative language to implement Recommendations 1B, 2A and 2B of the VOWDA Annual Report. She will work with Mary to draft and circulate to the Board for review and feedback. Cathie noted that the pre-filing drafting deadline has already passed, so securing a patron may be an issue. Joan requested an update on the budget but the information was embargoed at that time.
- A motion was unanimously approved to establish a working group to:
 - Develop VOWDA comments to BOEM in response to its request for interest in the wind lease auction process. Joan, Mary and Brian volunteered to assist. Several members voiced concern that comments from VOWDA and or the Commonwealth of Virginia may be needed to ensure that the auction process takes into consideration Virginia's regulatory framework (regulated monopoly), which is unique among East Coast states.
 - Work with the Virginia Offshore Wind Coalition to coordinate legislative priorities and strategy.
- Ken Hutcheson described a draft proposal for legislation, which is under consideration by the board of VA-AREA that would make changes to Virginia's voluntary Renewable Portfolio Standards directed at closing the gap between electricity production and consumption in Virginia.

DEVELOPMENT OF 2012 ACTION PLAN

Presenter: Cathie France

The 2011 VOWDA Action Plan was reviewed and items to be carried forward were identified. Discussion on new projects for the 2012 Action Plan included:

- VOWDA's role in BOEM selection process: Be proactive and once Virginia Call is released, VOWDA can be prepared to educate developer(s).
 - Update VOWDA's website to provide access to information.
 - Prepare letter / package to introduce VOWDA
 - Invite developers to speak at VOWDA meeting.
- Pursue identification of private funding opportunities.
- Revisit the need to conduct a consumer survey (May 2012).
- Work with other groups, such as VOW, CBBT, VEDP, VDOT to coordinate efforts

Cathie will update the plan for 2012, adding proposed timelines, and will send the draft plan to members for review before the January meeting.

UPDATE ON RELEASE OF THE CALL BY BOEM

Presenter: Maureen Matsen

Maureen reported that Virginia's Call has been reviewed by the Solicitor's Office and is now in the Assistant DOI Secretary's Office for review. She has heard that the release of the Call has been tied to the completion of the commercial wind lease environmental assessments sometime in January 2012. The final language will be circulated to the Task Force members.

OFFSHORE WIND GRID INTERCONNECTION STUDY

Presenters: Brian Redmond and Mary Doswell

DOE will provide funding for a team of leading energy organizations to perform a broad study to assess the most promising sites for high offshore wind production along all of the U.S. coastal regions. How does this study relate to what we do in Virginia?

- Dominion submitted its interconnection study to the legislature in November 2011
- Dominion's trunk line study should be ready by the end of the year. ABB is assisting in this study.
- Dominion will contact ABB to share information, which can be a good opportunity to ensure they are aware of Virginia's interests. Mary will report back to VOWDA on discussions with ABB.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jerry Giles, VEDP:

1. The 2012 AWEA conference will be held in Virginia Beach, which provides the opportunity for us to highlight what we do in Virginia. VOWDA can add this to its action plan
2. Over the next few months, VOWDA, VEDP and DMME can form a subcommittee to create a digital document to share with others about offshore wind in Virginia. This could be used at the AWEA conference

Eileen Levandoski, Sierra Club: Offshore wind conference that will focus on supply chain will be held in March 2012 in Charlotte, North Carolina. She will send members link to the website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS and FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Some agenda items for next meeting include Dominion Power report on the trunk line study, 2012 VOWDA Action Plan, legislation status, possible presentations by DEQ and VMRC, JMU update. Members can email suggestions for agenda items to Cathie and Ken.

Gamesa might be able to brief VOWDA on project status, probably no sooner than February.

A BOEM presentation on status of the Call, Virginia research lease application and next steps has been requested for the January meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 10, 2012, at 1:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.