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28 April 2022



US grid planners 'must get ahead of the game'

The US will need to build a shared offshore transmission grid to unlock its full offshore wind potential, Business Network for Offshore Wind chief executive Liz Burdock (pictured) told delegates. **p2**

Developers and supply chain need a 'new deal'

A collaborative "new deal" is needed between developers and the supply chain to support businesses struggling to make sustainable returns, IPF 2022 was told. **p3**

Wind in the sails at developer Mayflower

Mayflower Wind partners Shell and Ocean Winds have outlined an ambitious two-phase delivery timetable for their 2.4GW wind farm off Massachusetts with the first 1.2GW array set to come online by 2030. **p4**

THE INTERVIEW reNEWS

Today, Orsted Offshore North America CEO David Hardy **p5**

Day 2 highlights **p6**

BOEM lifts curtain on new lease sites

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management has started the process to identify new US offshore wind lease acreage off the Central Atlantic coast and in the Pacific off Oregon.

Director Amanda Lefton told delegates in Atlantic City on Wednesday the Department of the Interior agency is launching Calls for Information and Nominations to locate prime sites in both areas.

BOEM has identified around six plots totalling 3.9m acres in the Central Atlantic zone, taking in waters as far north as Delaware and south to Virginia. The closest point to the shore of any of the areas is approximately 20 nautical miles.

Two areas totalling 1.1m acres have been selected off Oregon. Both the Coos Bay and Brookings tracts begin about 12 nautical miles from shore at their closest points off central and southern state coastlines, respectively.

The calls for comment will be available for public inspection on Thursday and a 60-day comment period will end on 21 June, Lefton



DEVELOPMENT PIPELINE: BOEM Director Amanda Lefton addressing delegates in Atlantic City

PHOTO: reNEWS

said, adding BOEM will take feedback from all sea users and industry.

Concurrently, wind energy companies can nominate specific areas they would like to see offered for leasing.

Lefton said she and her staff are acutely aware of the need to build an offshore wind development pipeline in the US and remove uncertainty.

"This is critical and let me say to you as BOEM Director our absolute priority is ensuring we have a pathway to advance projects and lease sales," she added.

BOEM is also working hard

to standardise permitting to ensure "efficient and robust" processes for project reviews, Lefton said.

"On behalf of BOEM, we are working incredibly hard to ensure that we are on track to meeting administration goals." Lefton said the agency is "up to the challenge".

"We know that while we have made tremendous progress so far we have to keep the momentum going."

Two further lease auctions will take place this year. The Carolina Long Bay sale is set for next month while acreage off California will be put up for grabs in the fall.

THURSDAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

Regulatory Transparency

Agencies including BOEM and NMFS speak about bringing more certainty to the federal regulatory process for offshore wind and ask how they can improve oversight
8:30-9:30, Atlantic City Convention Center room 312

World Events

A briefing on what Russia's war in Ukraine means for the future of renewable energy around the globe
11:00-11:45, Plenary Room (Hall A)

Workforce Strategy

Experts from the U.S. and UK discuss recruiting, training and mitigating demand pinch points when developing wind assets offshore
13:00-14:00, Atlantic City Convention Center room 308

Safety at Sea

Join representatives from the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement to discuss best practices for health and safety in this nascent market
15:30-16:30, Atlantic City Convention Center room 308

2023 Outlook

Closing reception for IPF 2022 and a look forward at what next year's premier U.S. offshore wind conference could bring
16:30-17:30, Atlantic City Convention Center Atrium Lobby

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PANEL LINE-UP (left to right): Wood Thilsted president Matt Palmer, RWE's Sam Eaton, NYSERDA CEO Doreen Harris, Atlantic Shores' Joris Veldhoven, Jane Cohen from the Governor's Office in New Jersey and Joshua Weinstein of Invenergy

Photo: reNEWS

US grid planners 'must get ahead of the game'

The US will need to build a shared offshore grid to unlock its full offshore wind potential, IPF 2022 has heard.

Business Network for Offshore Wind chief executive Liz Burdock told delegates the current transmission planning system is "outdated" and should be replaced.

A shared offshore grid will support more offshore wind and also benefit ratepayers. "If you build it they will come," she said.

"To build a sustainable US industry we must toss away the grid and transmission planning process," Burdock declared. "It has functioned adequately in the past but quite honestly to address 21st century needs we must move away from reactive planning processes towards anticipatory grid and transmission investment."

Several speakers later on Wednesday pointed out that

key states New York and New Jersey are working on long-term transmission plans but early detail from both suggest they are taking different approaches.

Burdock meanwhile also called for an industrialisation strategy from the federal US government. Washington needs to match the "bold action" of states in supporting

the nascent sector. A strategic blueprint is required to create incentives, policies and programs to help US business overcome challenges and create resilience.

"As the whole world focuses on energy, let's use the opportunity to have an open and honest conversation with public and private partners," she said.

War footing for renewables

Russia's war in Ukraine "screams" the imperative that the US economy electrifies to move away from using fossil fuels, Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm told delegates.

Offshore wind is a "huge component" of this strategy, she said, adding that while moving to renewables is important for creating jobs and climate change it is now also about energy and national security. "You are

the army we need. This is the battle for our respective nations and regions because this is a war of good against evil.

"We are on a war footing and we are all enlisted and I for one am reporting for duty," she said.

Granholm meanwhile added she is "completely obsessed" with reducing permitting times for offshore wind. "We can do this. We're going to figure this out."

Ports an inflection point

Ports are the biggest pinch-point for the build-out of the US offshore wind sector, IPF 2022 was told.

Invenergy head of offshore development Joshua Weinstein said sites for manufacturing and marshalling are critical.

Localisation starts with ports, he added, with manufacturing and staging of key components. "That is by and large the scarcity we have," he said.

Weinstein pointed out that in Europe billions and decades of work had gone into building ports. US developers do not have that

time and will need ingenuity to get ports up to speed.

Jane Cohen, climate action executive director for the Governor's Office in New Jersey, said investment is already happening with \$500m being spent to prepare two sites, including EEW's monopile plant at Paulsboro. First steel is arriving at the site later this week, she noted.

The other port is the Salem assembly hub. "Five years ago we didn't have that. Three years ago we didn't have that. Today there is real infrastructure access for offshore wind in New Jersey."

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Developers and supply chain need a 'new deal'

A "new deal" is needed between developers and the supply chain to support businesses struggling to make sustainable returns, IPF 2022 was told.

Aker Solutions executive VP renewables Stephen Bull said turbine manufacturers are "really struggling", which also reflects battles in the wider sector.

"Pushing all this risk onto

the supply chain is not the answer," the former Equinor man told delegates in Atlantic City on Wednesday. "A new deal between developers and the supply chain is required.

"The traditional procurement model of playing off supply chain companies against each other, overloading them with risk, obsessively pushing for lump-sum contracts, that

cannot continue." Developers should involve the supply chain earlier and define a more collaborative approach, he added.

Bull said examples include setting common levelized cost of energy targets, incentivising around value improvements, and ensuring a new level of transparency or open book approach. Greater risk sharing and defining a healthy mix of reimbursable and lump-sum contracts would also help, he added.

"Developers and the supply chain need to look at the total economic rent and devise a risk-reward structure that gives sustainable returns across the sector. Perhaps the US market could lead the way here.

"The developer that manages to work towards a genuinely collaborative model will set the standard for the rest of the industry."



Photo: reNEWS

Bipartisan bullhorn

The offshore wind industry must change the mind of policymakers and politicians who believe it is just a North-East coast sector.

Orsted US boss David Hardy (*right*) said offshore wind can be a unifying force that ends the divide between red and blue states. The sector can provide economic opportunities in every state, including landlocked ones. "We need to change minds

on both sides of the aisle," he said.

Meanwhile, the industry needs to change minds in relation to how offshore wind can co-exist with marine ecosystems. Hardy pointed to recent research showing the operational 30MW Block Island wind farm has had no impact on fish populations.

IN BRIEF

■ Invenery has named its New York Bight lease zone the Leading Light Wind project, head of offshore development Joshua Weinstein told delegates on Wednesday at IPF 2022. The developer paid \$645,000 for the site, which has a minimum output potential of 934MW.

■ Avangrid Renewables chief executive Bill White told delegates pessimism around the sector should be tossed. The veteran US player said there are challenges such as inflation and developers being extremely busy but added this is to be welcomed. "Isn't this what we all wanted?" he asked.

■ Blackstone portfolio company Atlantic Power Transmission has committed to invest \$50m to help create a workforce hub for the burgeoning offshore wind industry in New Jersey. APT said it will trigger the investment upon the award of its bids to provide transmission supporting the delivery of 3600MW of offshore wind power to the existing electrical grid under the New Jersey Offshore Wind SAA Transmission Solicitation.

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GDG hiring for Rhode Island hub

Irish engineering consultancy GDG is to go on a hiring spree in the US. The company, which earlier this year set up an office in Providence, Rhode Island, is aiming to announce a number of local strategic hires as well as expanded service offerings as part of its investment in the market.

GDG USA country manager Jan Mangal said: "As the US is gaining momentum, the supply chain crunch is becoming even more apparent.

"A key focus for me is to continue building the local team in Rhode Island over the coming months to service the increased demand from developers, consultants and contractors across the North East."

GDG managing director Paul Doherty added the company's structural and design capabilities for cables and port infrastructure will make an "excellent match" for future East Coast projects.

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Wind in sails at developer Mayflower

The Mayflower Wind project owes its name to the ship that brought the first Pilgrims ashore in Massachusetts more than 400 years ago.

Now, partners Shell and Ocean Winds have outlined an ambitious two-phase delivery timetable for their 2.4GW offshore wind farm in those same waters with the first 1.2GW array set to come online by 2030.

The 50-50 joint venture, also called Mayflower Wind, was awarded the offshore lease area in 2018 and is planning for the full generation capacity to be in operation early in the next decade.

First-phase exports will be transmitted to the state of Massachusetts via a grid connection at Brayton Point in Somerset, explained Mayflower Wind external outreach and communications manager Christopher Hardy. The

Shell and Ocean Winds joint venture getting down to business to deliver 1.2GW first-phase wind farm off Massachusetts this decade, writes **Dan Woodland**

developers were awarded a 400MW power purchase agreement in December last year as part of Massachusetts' 83C 3 offshore wind energy solicitation, adding to the 804MW contract granted through the 83C 2 process in 2019, securing the market for all the first-phase power.

A second onshore link will be established in Falmouth, farther to the east, and will bring the remaining 1.2GW online after 2030, he added.

Mayflower Wind is set to feature up to 147 wind turbines with a maximum rotor diameter of up to 280 metres spread across a 199 square-mile array area some 30 miles south of Martha's Vineyard and 20

miles south of Nantucket in the Atlantic Ocean.

The joint venture is currently conducting baseline surveys that will inform the initial design and engineering as well as engaging in community outreach with local stakeholders.

Fabrication and installation agreements have yet to be signed but will be nailed down as the project advances through permitting.

"We anticipate that the permitting process will take an additional couple of years, and construction and installation will commence by the middle of the decade," Hardy said.

A final investment decision is also expected for the development before

2025, he added. The wind farm will be built through a collaborative engineering, procurement, construction and installation strategy involving the support of multiple contractors and sub-contractors.

Once the manufacturing element is complete, Mayflower Wind will then oversee the specialist transportation of components onto the site for installation.

The company has committed to establishing an operations and maintenance base at the Borden and Remington Ironworks complex along the Fall River waterfront as part of its \$42m investment program for the south coast of Massachusetts.

This six-acre

development is set to support several hundred long-term jobs and will be equipped with a shore-side cargo crane for loading and unloading turbine components.

The joint venture is hosting an open house next week to provide more information on the proposed export cable route and substation at Brayton Point as well as showcase a 3D tour of the planned development area.

Meanwhile, a host community agreement has also been agreed with the town of Falmouth, which will see the developer provide annual revenue to the area once the wind farm has been constructed.

The funding could be used to support locally-driven initiatives such as coastal resiliency, broadband and energy efficiency, Mayflower Wind said. ■

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THE INTERVIEW reNEWS



Setting the scene for IPF 2022, senior industry figures talk to reNEWS about vital issues shaping the sector. Today it's the turn of Orsted Offshore North America CEO **David Hardy** (left)

Q What are the main themes that have dominated US offshore wind since IPF last met in 2021?

A Progress and growth. Since last meeting in 2021, we have seen construction begin on two of the first major offshore wind projects, including Ørsted and Eversource's South Fork Wind earlier this year. Projects are moving through approvals and starting to get built, and that's really exciting. We've also seen the Biden Administration move quickly to prioritize new lease areas in the New York Bight, North Carolina, California and the Gulf of Mexico, setting the stage for this industry to take off across the country.

Q What considerations is Ørsted taking ahead of investment decisions for its first US projects this year and what challenges will construction bring?

A Ørsted made our first final investment decision in the US earlier this year and construction on that project, South Fork Wind, has been progressing very well. Increasing supply chain and cost pressures are certainly top of mind for a new and resource-intensive industry. These are real challenges. However, we have taken a strategic approach where we can to secure agreements

and contracts to help insulate us from inflationary challenges. We are moving quickly to stand up a domestic supply chain to support the offshore wind industry in the United States, and in some cases are depending upon infrastructure that doesn't yet exist. This means that in addition to building our projects we are also working to ensure that port infrastructure, manufacturing facilities, workforce training programs and vessel construction are also moving ahead on schedule.

Q Do you feel permitting decisions are keeping pace with the scale of Ørsted's ambitions in the US?

A We are grateful that the Biden Administration is prioritizing offshore wind as a critical source of clean energy to fight climate change, and that agencies like the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management are committed to timely review of offshore wind projects to meet the president's 30GW by 2030 goal. But we recognize that permitting offshore wind is still a relatively new process in the US for industry and regulators. We must seize opportunities to continue to make the interagency review process more timely, efficient and predictable. That's where we need to get to in order to meet not just our own ambition but the ambition set by President Biden.

Q Developers recently filed a record \$4.4bn of bids for leases in the New York Bight. Is this a vote of confidence for the industry or have developers overpaid?

A The New York Bight auction confirmed the growing opportunity for offshore wind energy in the United States with several new entrants paying record prices to enter the market. It was a historic first for the Biden Administration, and the start of a series of upcoming seabed auctions led by the Administration to help achieve their 30GW by 2030 target. Collectively, these are signs that show strong momentum for the offshore wind industry in the US.

Q How do you see the US market developing and which regions would you like to see open up next?

A There is certainly a lot of interest in the markets identified by the federal government for lease auctions in the next few years: California, North Carolina and the Central Atlantic. California is interesting as it will require deployment of floating wind turbines as that technology continues to develop. It's something we are looking at, and we are always keeping our options open for innovative new projects to add to our global clean energy portfolio. ■

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Day 2 highlights

Global Gateway Breakfast

Connect your company to the international offshore wind marketplace.

07:30-08:45, Plenary Room (Hall A)

Optimizing Floating Wind Systems through Control Co-Design

Researchers share their work on developing control co-design methods and their validation to optimise floating wind systems.

Amy Robertson, Offshore Wind Group Manager, National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

Anthony Viselli, Manager, Offshore Design and Testing, University of Maine.

Brandon Ennis, Offshore Wind Technical Lead, Sandia National Laboratories.

Seth Price, Vice President of Technology, Principle Power.

08:30-09:30, Atlantic City Convention Center room 310

The SMART-POWER MOU: Successes & Challenges of Regional Collaboration

Representatives from Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina give a view on how regional collaboration can promote and amplify all aspects of the offshore wind industry, from supply chain to federal-state

relationships.

Jennifer Mundt, Assistant Secretary for Clean Energy Economic Development, North Carolina Department of Commerce
 Dr. John Hardin, Executive Director, Office of Science, Technology & Innovation, North Carolina Department of Commerce
 Eric Coffman, Division Director of Energy Programs, Maryland Energy Administration
 John Warren, Agency Head, Virginia Energy Department

09:45-10:45, Atlantic City Convention Center room 312

Insights from Four Floating Wind Developers in the Basque Country

Developers discuss the challenges of bringing floating wind technology online and lessons learned from the first floating wind demonstrator in Spain.

Marcos Suarez, Project Manager, Basque Energy Cluster

José Serna, CTO, ESTEYCO

Jesús Busturia, CEO, Nautilus Floating Solutions

Imanol Urkiaga, Offshore & Marine Director, IDOM

Immanuel Capano, Head of Business Development, Saitec Offshore Technologies

11:00-12:00, Atlantic City Convention Center room 312

Lunch with Governor Murphy

11:45-13:00, Plenary Room (Hall A)

Approaching and Understanding the Importance of Tribal Relations

Panelists will offer guidance on how to best approach potential tribal partners and

understand different cultures to achieve inclusive development of offshore wind projects.

Frankie Myers, Vice Chairman, Yurok Tribe
 Craig Tucker, Partner, Lost Coast Wind, LLC

Terry Supahan, Partner, Lost Coast Wind, LLC

Art Sasse, Principal, Ovation Group

Mollie Myers, Community Activist, Karuk Tribe

13:00-14:00, Atlantic City Convention Center room 313

East Coast Offshore Wind Installation: Opportunities and Challenges

A moderated discussion on the technical, commercial and financial aspects of offshore wind construction in the burgeoning US east coast market.

Martin Degen, Commercial Director & Vice President, Offshore Wind, Havfram

Graham Tyson, Director, Offshore Construction Bid Management, Vestas USA

Troy Patton, COO, Offshore North America Ørsted

Jeffrey Andreini, Vice President, New Energy Crowley

14:15-15:15, Atlantic City Convention Center room 310

Moving Forward with Floating Wind: Understanding the Unique Requirements for Port Infrastructure

Experts give their view on the particular challenges that come with adapting offshore wind ports for floating technology and how these differ from bottom-fixed projects.

Tim Fischer, Global Director Offshore Wind, Ramboll

Amanda Schoen, US Policy Specialist, Global Public Affairs, Vestas

Nicolas Mac Ferran, Head of Project Development, Americas, SBM Offshore

Ed Liegel, Project Manager, Baird

14:15-15:15, Atlantic City Convention Center room 309

Navigating the Successful Construction of Hydrogen and Green Vessels

In the wake of the launch of the first US hydrogen fuel cell-powered passenger vessel, panelists debate the current green energy fuel options available to the industry as well as the steps required to construct a hydrogen/green fuel vessel.

Pace Ralli, CEO/ Founder, Switch Maritime

Bradley Neuberth, Co-founder/ Managing Partner, MidOcean Wind, LLC

Anastasija Kuprijanova, Director of Business Development, Ferries & Transportation Services, Hornblower Group, Inc

John Thompson, Senior Marine Design Engineer, Hornblower Marine

15:30-16:30, Atlantic City Convention Center room 312

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