



Rhode Island
Economic Development Corporation

Building the 21st Century Innovation Economy

US Offshore Wind Development

Opportunities and Barriers

February 15, 2011

The Market

Achieve 20% of its electricity from wind by 2030.

Build 54GW of offshore wind by 2030.

Generate 200 billions of new economic activity.

Create more than 43,000 permanent jobs.

Provide clean power to coastal demand centers.

Source: Large scale offshore wind power in the US-assessment of opportunities and barriers-Report
National Renewable Energy Laboratory-September 2010

The Path to Success

IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS:

Reduce the cost of offshore wind

Reduce the timeline for deploying offshore wind energy.

Barriers to Success

BOEMRE regulations and developers estimate that approvals may take as long as 7 to 10 years.

Overall, the opportunities for offshore wind are abundant, yet the obstacles and challenges are significant.

Removing deployment barriers can help support the first projects, with the objective of reducing long term uncertainties.

In the short term, reducing risk with stimulate economic growth and accelerate permitting time frames.

Unintended Consequence

If we don't remove barriers and challenges and accelerate the permitting and siting process the US will develop offshore wind projects without significant economic activity.

If the worldwide supply chain is mature and able to satisfy industry demands capital investment in the US will be significantly reduced.

Breaking down the Barriers

Move to marine spatial planning

DOE and DOI signed MOU to spur cooperation.

Establishing national offshore wind targets and government funding of priority environmental studies could help create more efficient decision timelines and fill in gaps in rules more effectively.

NEPA requirements need to be examined by high-level agency decision makers.

A strategic partnership between federal and state governments is essential for siting and permitting offshore wind in the US.

Breaking down the Barriers

BOEMRE as lead federal agency should be empowered to make interagency decisions effecting siting and permitting of offshore wind projects.

Rhode Island Leading the Way

Starts with Leadership-Governor, Speaker, Senate President

Special Area Management Plan

Joint Development Agreement with Deepwater Wind "DWW"

Quonset Point/Port of Providence

Block Island-30 MW Project in state waters

Approved Power Purchase Agreement with DWW

MOU with Massachusetts-Area of Mutual Interest "AMI" and Economic Development Activities

Two Unsolicited Bids to BOEMRE in AMI

DWW 1000 MW with power grid

Neptune Wind 385 MW

Hosted Northeast Offshore Wind Summit-November 2010

States Working Together

US Offshore Wind Collaborative

American Wind Energy Association

Offshore Wind Development Coalition

Atlantic Offshore Wind Energy Consortium

Great Lakes Wind Collaborative

Conclusion

If the United States moves faster to site and permit offshore wind projects the future is bright. We will capture multiple benefits:

Including an alternative renewal energy supply, significant capital investment, new jobs and a new green industry for the US.