

BOEM Task Force Rhode Island – Massachusetts

Massachusetts Update

April 24, 2018



**Massachusetts Office of
Energy and Environmental Affairs**



**MASSACHUSETTS
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Overview

- Massachusetts Legislation
- Massachusetts Initiatives
 - Stakeholder Engagement
 - Environmental Studies and Characterization
 - Infrastructure Investments
- Massachusetts Reviews and Permitting

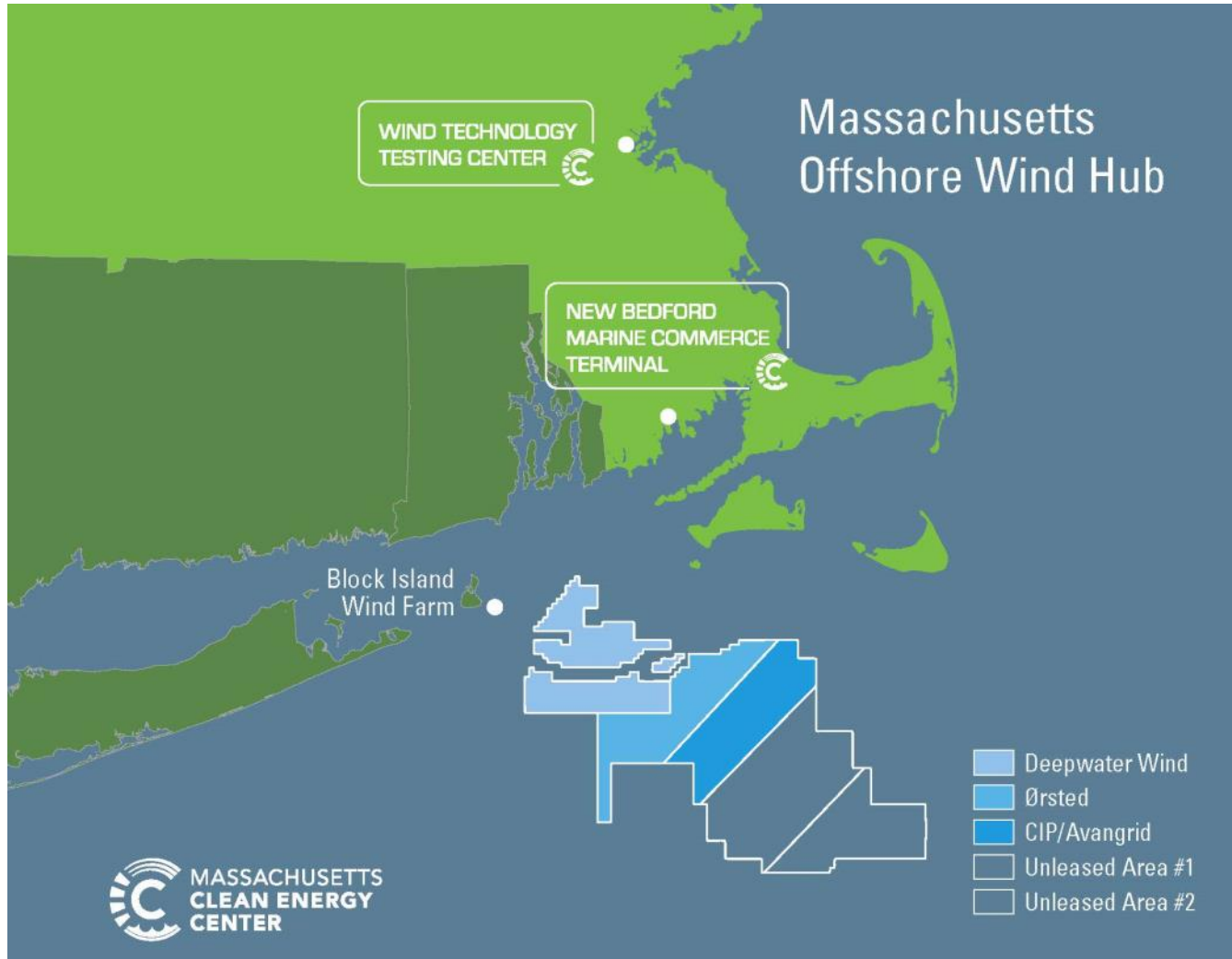


Massachusetts Legislation

- ***Global Warming Solutions Act*** requires economy-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction goals:
 - 25% below 1990 GHG emission levels by 2020
 - 80% below by 2050
- ***Energy Diversity Act*** requires utilities to solicit 1,600 MW of cost-effective offshore wind between 2017-2027
 - 3 bids submitted in December 2017
 - ✓ Deepwater Wind: 200 MW, 400 MW
 - ✓ Bay State Wind: 400 MW, 800 MW
 - ✓ Vineyard Wind: 400 MW, 800 MW
 - Project(s) to be selected for negotiation in May, 2018



New England Offshore Wind Lease Areas



Offshore Wind Stakeholder Engagement

- BOEM MA-Task Force formed in 2009, with representatives from federal agencies, state, tribes, and locals to participate in the planning, siting, and analysis of offshore wind areas
- Convened over 100 public & stakeholder meetings
- MA augments Task Force with Habitat Working Group and Fisheries Working Group

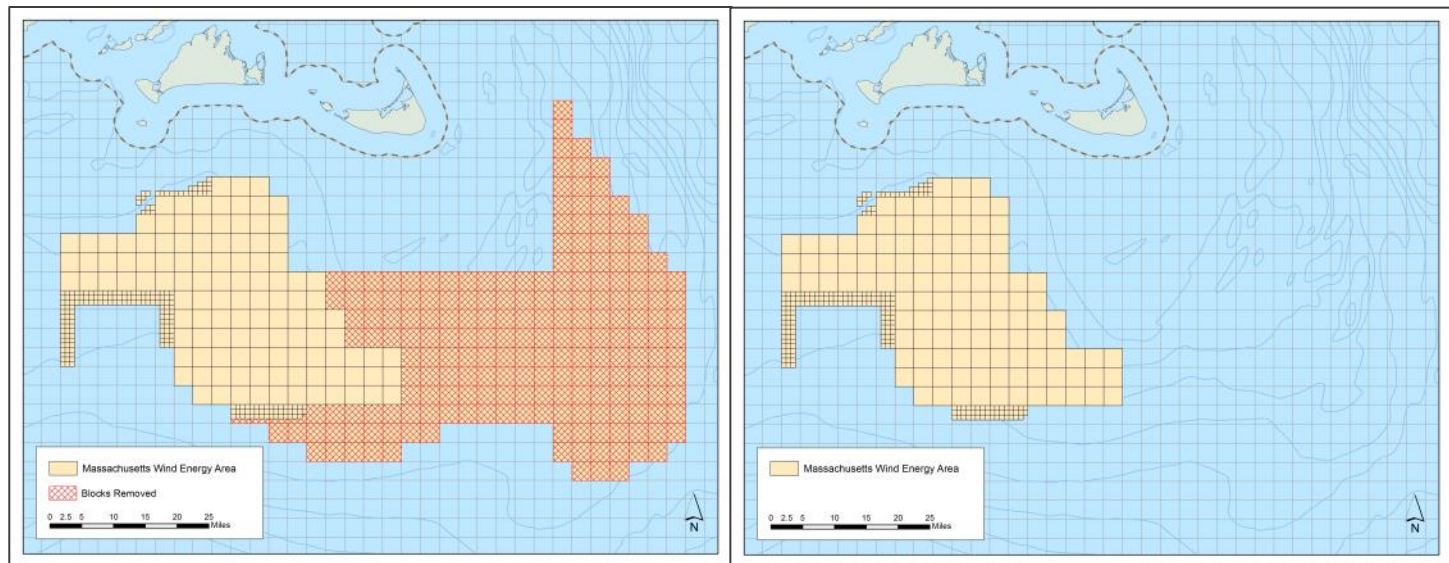


Photo: Deepwater Wind



Fisheries Working Group

- Convened in 2011 and comprised of commercial fishermen and representatives from different ports and sectors, recreational fishermen, scientists, and state and federal agencies
- Forum to allow for direct dialogue with BOEM, Coast Guard, NMFS, MA Marine Fisheries, EEA/CZM, MassCEC, others
- Ongoing work to identify and address issues and concerns



Environmental Studies and Characterization

Large Whales and Turtles

New England Aquarium

- 7-year effort in partnership with BOEM and EEA
- Aerial Surveys and passive acoustic devices

Avian

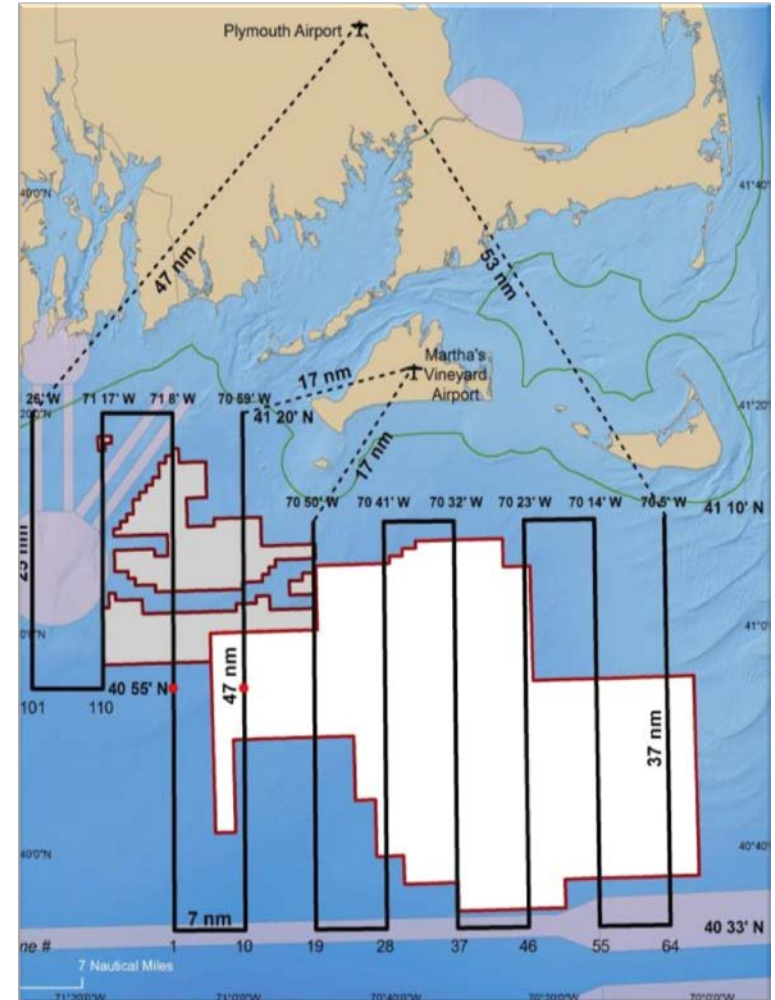
College of Staten Island

- 3-year effort in partnership with BOEM and EEA
- Aerial Surveys

Benthic Surveys

UMass Dartmouth, SMAST

- 2-years of benthic characterization



MA Infrastructure Investment



Wind Technology Testing Center

Largest wind blade testing facility in North America located in Boston. Operating since 2011 and enabling industry to advance the technology and drive down costs.



New Bedford Marine Commerce Terminal

Multi-purpose facility designed to support staging & deployment of OSW projects, handle other marine cargo, located in New Bedford Harbor and operating since 2015.



State Review & Permitting

- Vineyard Wind MEPA Environmental Notification Form filed and noticed in Monitor on 12/20/17 for public comment
- Secretary's Certificate issued on 2/9/18; calls for preparation of Draft and Final Environmental Impact Reports
- MA-CZM federal consistency certification filed on 4/6/18
 - Under going completeness review; then public notice and comment
- Energy Facilities Siting Board: 3 petitions
 - Siting Board holding public comment hearing on 4/24/18, at Barnstable High School 7pm
- DEP permitting pending



Thank you



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