



# Virginia Offshore Wind Development to Date

**Casey Reeves**, *Project Coordinator*

# Overview

- State Task Force Engagement and Development
- Commercial Lease Status
- Research Lease Status



# Applicable Laws and Executive Orders

- National Environmental Policy Act
- Endangered Species Act
- Marine Mammal Protection Act
- Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
- Marine Protection, Research & Sanctuaries Act
- National Marine Sanctuaries Act
- Coastal Zone Management Act
- Clean Air Act
- Clean Water Act
- Ports and Waterways Safety Act
- Marking of Obstructions
- Rivers and Harbors Appropriation Act
- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
- National Historic Preservation Act
- Archaeological and Historical Preservation Act
- American Indian Religious Freedom Act
- Federal Aviation Act
- Federal Power Act
- *E.O. 13007* (Indian Sacred Sites)
- *E.O. 13186* (Migratory Birds)
- *E.O. 13547* (Stewardship of the Oceans, Our Coasts & the Great Lakes)
- Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act
- Energy Policy Act

# Commercial Site Assessment Plan

- **October 12, 2017:** BOEM approved a Site Assessment Plan (SAP) for lease OCS-A 0483 (Dominion)
- SAP details **methods and procedures** Dominion will use to collect and analyze meteorological data and information on the conditions of the marine environment within the Commercial Lease during the 42 month site assessment term.
- SAP approval allows for the installation of a **WindSentinel™**, a floating light detection and ranging (LiDAR) buoy



Photo: AXYS Technologies Inc.

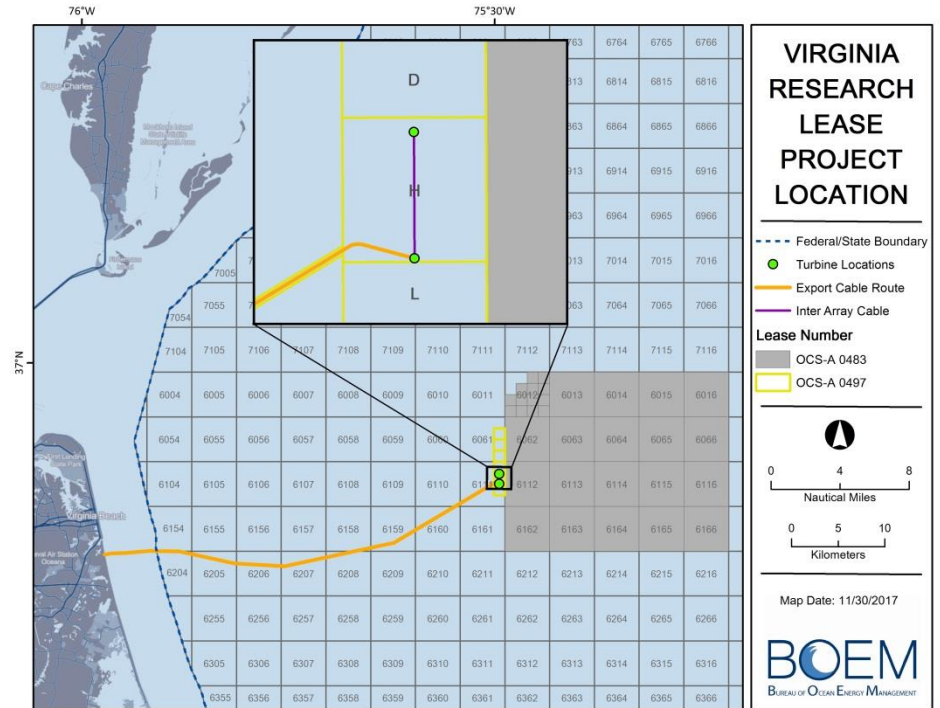
# Next Steps

- Continue stakeholder outreach and data gathering
- Continue transparent process and intergovernmental review of plans and activities



# Virginia Research Lease

- **Effective Date:** April 1, 2015
- **Lessee:** Commonwealth of Virginia, DMME
- **Operator:** Virginia Electric and Power Company (dba Dominion Virginia Power)
- **Size:** 2,135 acres
- **Research Term:** 30 years





# Virginia Research Lease

- Department of Energy awards funding for "Offshore Wind Demonstration Projects" (2012)
- Dominion Resources, Inc., partnered with DMME and others to establish **Virginia Offshore Wind Technology Advancement Project**
- Subsidized funding and development of publicly available documents, data collection, methodologies, and planned development to meet BOEM regulations
- Commonwealth of Virginia, and its business and industry partners, provided **substantial benefits to offshore wind industry**
- Information collected on research lease is available to public, **supports future development**

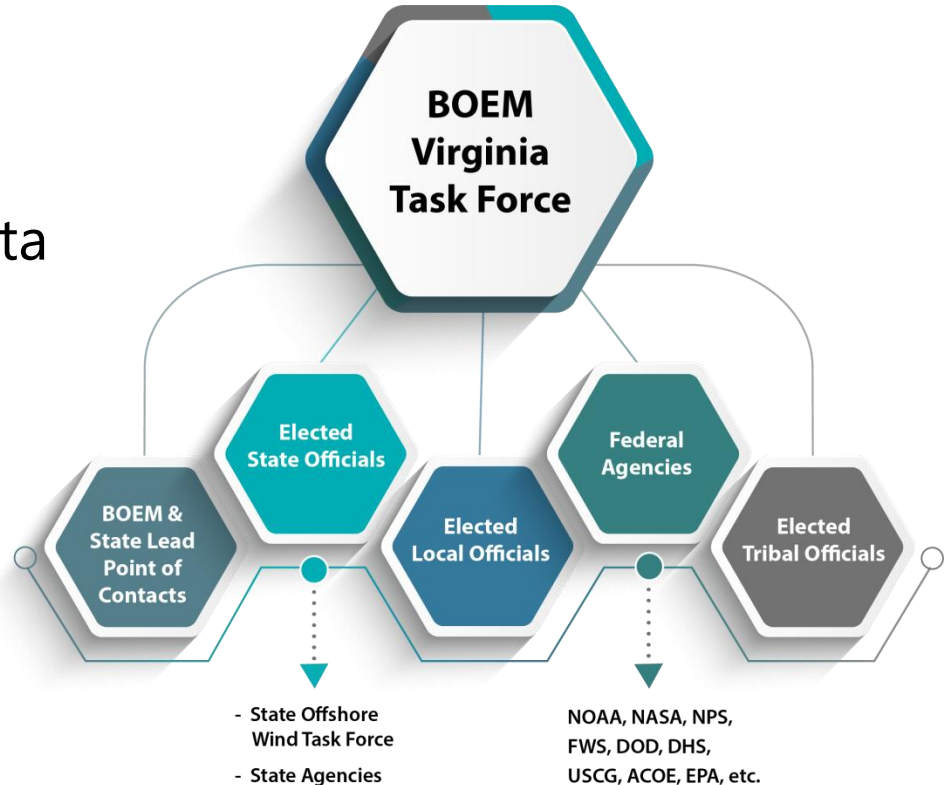
# Virginia Research Lease

- BOEM Issues **First Wind Energy Research Lease** in Federal Offshore Waters *(03/26/2015)*
- BOEM Approves Virginia's Offshore **Wind Research Activities Plan** *(03/24/2016)*
  - Included approval of a Certified Verification Agent
  - Approved first project easement for a submarine transmission cable from a federal renewable energy lease to shore



# BOEM Virginia Task Force

- Established in 2009, introduced VA Charter
- Gathered input and new data sources on existing OCS uses through Task Force and Public meetings
- Maintains information gathering Engagement and Outreach



# Enhanced Government Efficiencies

By engaging in BOEM's leasing process, Task Forces:

- Provide a **regional perspective** to the leasing process
- Engage federal, state, and other entities in **long-term resource planning**
- Facilitate **site selection** through stakeholder coordination
- Promote **issue identification** and mitigation of potential impacts
- Collaborate on the use of **scientific research and information**
- Enhance **environmental monitoring** and mitigation strategies

# Examples of Coordination with Cooperating Agencies

## CONDITIONS RELATED TO NAVIGATIONAL SAFETY (USCG/DOD)

**11.1 Pre-Construction Briefing.** The Lessee, by itself or through its designated operator, must provide the Lessor and the USCG a pre-construction briefing at least 120 calendar days prior to the commencement of any construction or installation activities. The briefing must include, at a minimum:

**11.1.1 Weekly Schedule.** A detailed weekly schedule on construction and installation activities from commencement to project operations;

**11.1.2 Communication Capabilities.** Capabilities to be maintained by the Lessee or its designated operator to communicate with the Lessor, USCG, and mariners in the vicinity of the WTGs;

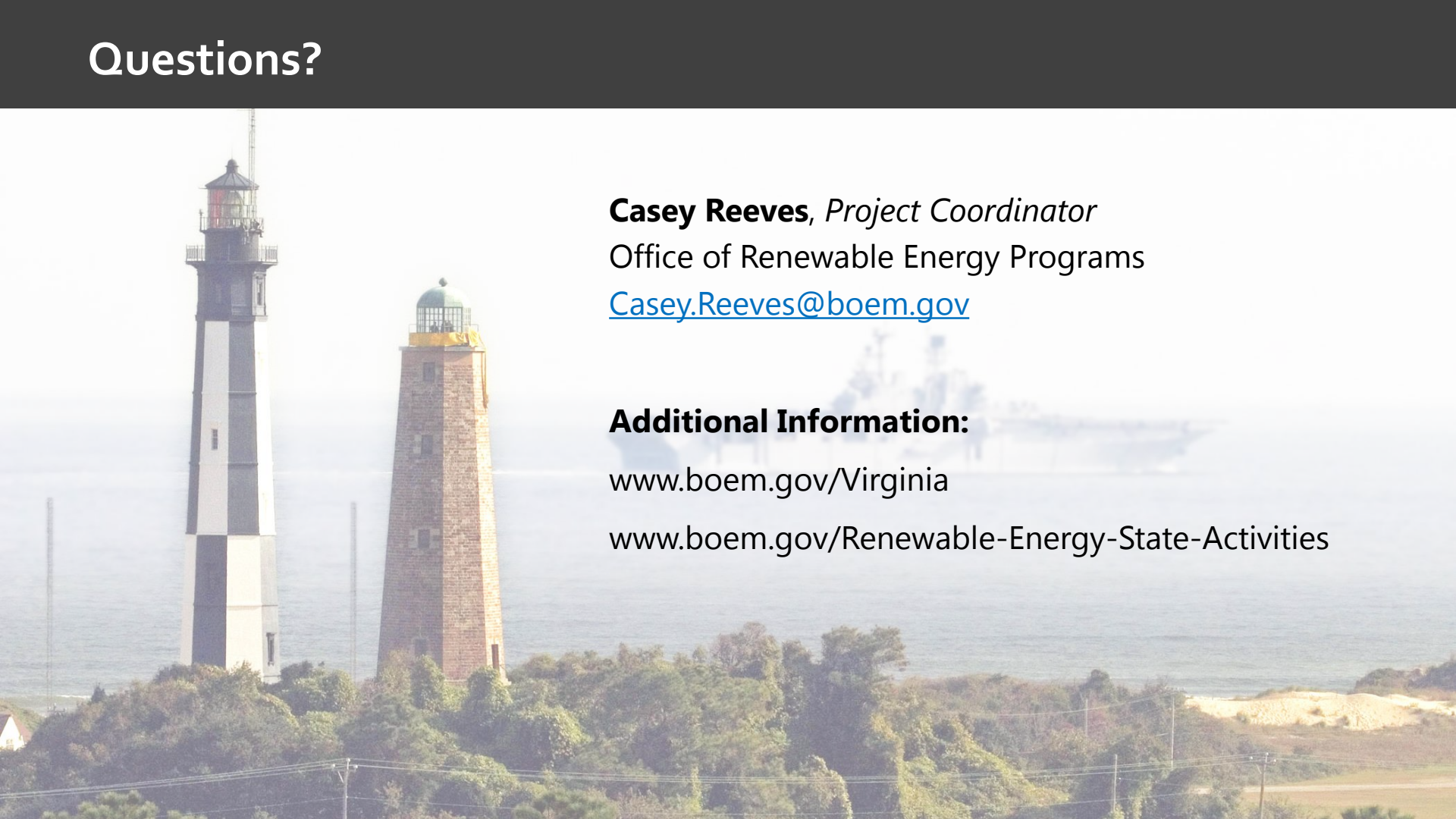
**11.1.3 Installation Monitoring.** Capabilities to be maintained by the Lessee or its designated operator to continuously monitor its transportation, construction, installation and maintenance vessels, project related facilities as necessary, and the local marine traffic in the vicinity of the leased area; and

**11.1.4 Mitigation.** All planned mitigations to minimize any adverse impact to navigation while construction is ongoing.

# Next Steps

- Receive modification requests to the Schedule and approved Research Activities Plan
- Continue State coordination, stakeholder outreach and data gathering
- Maintain visibility, continue to track dynamic changes in other offshore developments with potential to affect approvals
- Continue transparent process and intergovernmental review of Plans and activities

# Questions?

A photograph of two lighthouses on a coastal hillside. The lighthouse on the left is tall and slender, with alternating black and white horizontal bands. The lighthouse on the right is shorter and wider, constructed of brick with a green lantern room. The background shows a hazy ocean and a clear sky.

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**Additional Information:**

[www.boem.gov/Virginia](http://www.boem.gov/Virginia)

[www.boem.gov/Renewable-Energy-State-Activities](http://www.boem.gov/Renewable-Energy-State-Activities)