



EBC Wind Energy Seminar

2009: Big Strides in Massachusetts Wind Energy

**Thursday, November 19, 2009
Lenox Hotel, Boston**

This EBC Wind Energy Program will provide an update on the latest developments in wind energy in Massachusetts including a review of the Wind Energy Siting Reform Act, the new Wind Technology Testing Center in Boston Harbor, the new energy projects under development by the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust, and the implications of the new Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan that will soon be finalized.

DRAFT ADENDA

- 7:30 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast**
- 8:00 a.m. Welcome Daniel K. Moon, President EBC
Steve Barrett, Chair, EBC Wind Energy Development Committee**
- 8:10 a.m. Legislative Update on the Wind Energy Siting Reform Act**
Ken Kimmel, General Counsel
Massachusetts Clean Energy Center
- 8:35 a.m. Wind Technology Testing Center**
Derek Berry, Director of Engineering
Wind Technology Testing Center
- 9:00 a.m. Massachusetts Wind Projects**
Carter Wall, Executive Director, Renewable Energy Trust
- 9:30 a.m. Cape Wind Project**
Mark Rodgers, Communication Director, Cape Wind
- 10:00 a.m. Networking Break**
- 10:30 a.m. Ocean Management Plan - Off Shore Wind - Renewable Energy Areas**
Deerin Babb-Brott, Assistant Secretary
Ocean and Coastal Zone Management, EEA
- 11:00 a.m. Panel Discussion**
 - Ken Kimmel

- Derek Berry
- Carter Wall
- Mark Rodgers
- Derrin Babb-Brott

12:00 p.m. Adjourn

The Wind Energy Siting Reform Act is a bill currently before the Massachusetts legislature which seeks to streamline the permitting of land-based wind energy projects while enforcing Massachusetts environmental protection standards and preserving home rule. The bill proposes to achieve these objectives by establishing a single local reviewing authority comprised of members of other town boards to issue the local permit for wind projects over 2 MW. For state permits, the Energy Facilities Siting Board would be the sole reviewing authority. In addition to existing members of the Board (e.g., the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs), two new positions would be created for a municipal representative and for the Commissioner of the Department of Fish and Game. Appeals to local decisions would be heard by the Siting Board and appeals of the Siting Board's decisions would go directly to the Massachusetts Supreme Court. It is anticipated that the legislature will take up the bill late on 2009 or early in 2010.

Wind Technology Testing Center - The Wind Technology Testing Center (WTTC) will offer a full suite of certification tests for turbineblades up to 90m in length. WTTC will also offer the latest wind turbine blade testing and prototype development methodologies in order to help the wind industry deploy the next generation of onshore and offshore wind turbine technologies. NREL is providing the technical expertise and testing hardware for WTTC under its Cooperative Research and Development Agreement with the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative.

Massachusetts Wind Incentive Program

The goal of the Commonwealth Wind Incentive Program is to assist responsibly sited wind energy projects of all scales in achieving successful and timely installations, while also supporting Governor Patrick's goal of having 2,000 megawatts (MW) of wind power capacity installed in the Commonwealth by 2020. The Commonwealth Wind Incentive Program (CommWind) provides rebate, grant, and loan funding for the installation of wind projects in Massachusetts. Funding is available for residential, commercial, industrial, and public facilities that are customers of investor-owned electric distribution utilities or Municipal Light Plant Departments that pay into the Renewable Energy Trust. There are three initiatives within this program: 1) Micro Wind, 2) Community-Scale Wind, and 3) Commercial Wind. The Micro Wind initiative exists today as a rebate program and has been incorporated into the CommWind framework. The Community-Scale Wind initiative replaces the Community Wind Collaborative (CWC) and the wind portion of the Large Onsite Renewables Initiative (LORI). The Commercial Wind initiative will support multi-turbine projects that are typically undertaken by private developers and primarily serve wholesale power markets.

Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan Renewable Energy Areas

Renewable Energy Areas are places specifically designated for commercial wind energy facilities, in recognition of the need to provide opportunity for renewable energy generation at a meaningful scale, but to do so with careful regard for potential environmental impacts. While other renewable energy technologies are allowed in these areas, it does not appear that commercial-scale opportunities for wave or tidal energy exist in the areas given currently available technology.

The draft ocean plan identifies two proposed designated Wind Energy Areas in the vicinity of the southern end of the Elizabeth Islands and southwest of Nomans Land. Adjacent to these areas, EEA has identified potentially suitable locations in federal waters for commercial-scale wind energy development. Comprising 2 percent of the planning area, this territory is capable of supporting 166 wind turbines of 3.6 megawatts each—roughly 600 megawatts total, or enough capacity to power up to 200,000 homes.

Cape Wind

Cape Wind is proposing America's first offshore wind farm on Horseshoe Shoal in Nantucket Sound. Miles from the nearest shore, 130 wind turbines will gracefully harness the wind to produce up to 420 megawatts of clean, renewable energy. In average winds, Cape Wind will provide three quarters of the Cape and Islands electricity needs.