

# Interagency Offshore Wind Council

*Public Information Sessions*

September 11 and 12, 2024

# Agenda

1. Introductions
2. IOWC Overview
3. Strategic Plan Content
  1. Vision
  2. Goals
  3. Strategies
  4. Actions
4. Timeline & Next Steps

# IOWC Overview

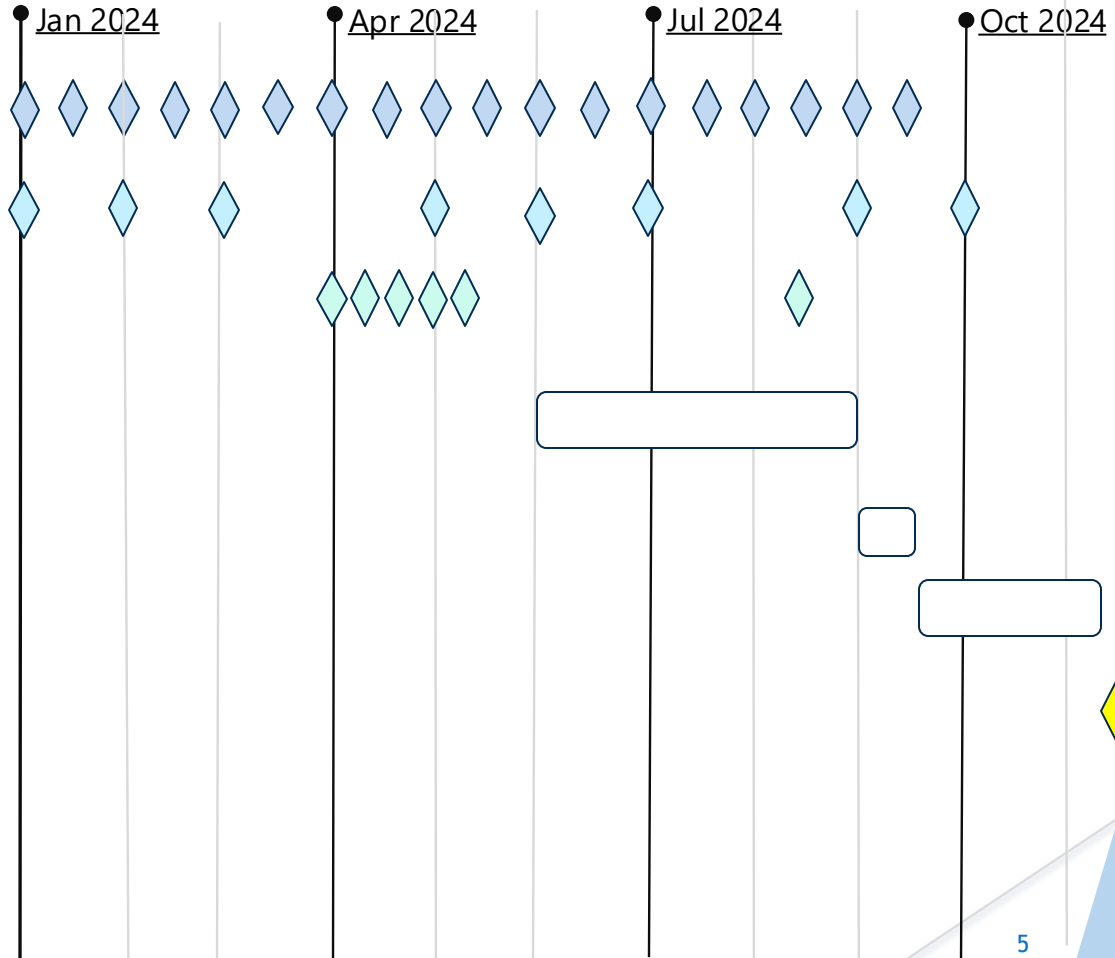
- Interagency Offshore Wind Council (IOWC) established to advance the responsible development of offshore wind to meet ambitious climate goals
- IOWC is responsible for developing and maintaining an Offshore Wind Strategic Plan with stakeholder and community input
- Strategic Plan will:
  - lay out the current status of the offshore wind industry, existing legal and policy frameworks, and progress made to date;
  - identify key drivers, gaps and needs, and findings; and
  - recommend specific actions and strategies necessary to advance the Plan's goals and objectives before 2040
- Scheduled for release Fall 2024

# IOWC Membership

Organization	Representatives
<b>Department of Energy Resources</b>	Susannah Hatch Joanna Troy Marian Swain Austin Dawson
<b>Massachusetts Clean Energy Center</b>	Bruce Carlisle Lisa Engler Nils Bolgen Lauren Farnsworth
<b>Office of Coastal Zone Management</b>	Alison Brizius Tyler Soleau Todd Callaghan Hollie Emery
<b>Department of Fish &amp; Game/Division of Marine Fisheries</b>	Tom O'Shea Dan McKiernan
<b>Department of Fish &amp; Game/Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program</b>	Tom O'Shea Eve Schluter
<b>Department of Environmental Protection</b>	Danah Tench
<b>Department of Public Utilities</b>	John Slocum
<b>Executive Office of Economic Development</b>	Ashley Stolba
<b>Executive Office of Labor &amp; Workforce Development</b>	Katelyn Kelly
<b>Executive Office of Education</b>	Robert Le Page

# Strategic Plan Process

1. Steering Committee (bi-weekly)
2. IOWC Council
3. Stakeholder Interviews
4. Draft Recommendations
5. Public Comment Period
7. Final Draft Strategic Plan
8. Strategic Plan Release



# Draft Offshore Wind Strategic Plan – Outline

1. Executive Summary
2. Introduction
3. Regional and Commonwealth Offshore Wind Overview
  - Context and current landscape
  - Policy, Industry, Investments, OSW Process, Energy Markets
4. Engagement & Outreach
- 5. *Offshore Wind Vision & Strategic Actions***
6. Implementation
7. Conclusion

# Discussion

## Vision

*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts envisions a future where offshore wind energy plays a pivotal role in the regional energy landscape, **drives economic growth and the creation of high-quality jobs, enhances energy security, and ensures equity, and protects natural resources for all Commonwealth residents.***

*To accomplish this vision, **Massachusetts aims to stand up XX gigawatts of offshore wind by 2040** to power millions of homes, decrease our grid's reliance on fossil fuels, and significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, to achieve Net Zero by 2050 as required by law.*

## Goals

- ▶ Affordability and Competitiveness
- ▶ Equity and Inclusion
- ▶ Responsible Development
- ▶ Regional Coordination

## Strategies (condensed)

1. Ensure that offshore wind development **protects natural resources and allows for coexistence** with existing uses.
2. Promote a robust **regional supply chain** to support the industry with local resources.
3. Redefine the State's approach to **procurement**.
4. Proactively plan and develop **offshore wind transmission and delivery systems**.
5. Strengthen and expand **port operations and infrastructure**.
6. Establish a robust and inclusive **stakeholder engagement** and feedback loop.
7. Build a skilled, diverse, and **equitable workforce**.
8. Foster a thriving ecosystem of **research and innovation**.
9. Prepare the Commonwealth to best support the development of **floating offshore wind**.



1

Ensure that offshore wind development protects natural resources and allows for coexistence with existing uses including commercial and recreational fishing, marine commerce, and navigation.

**ACTION****TIMEFRAME**

1-1

Support biodiversity goals, conservation and natural resource management objectives

Short-Term

1-2

Leverage procurement process for financial commitments to monitoring and research

Short-Term

1-3

Work with regional partners to share facts and dispel misinformation about effects on natural resources and existing uses

Medium-Term

1-4

Broaden contingency planning for emergencies to protect natural resources and existing maritime activities

Short-Term

1-5

Reform state siting and permitting to ensure siting of on- and offshore infrastructure minimizes impacts to resources and existing maritime uses

Short-Term

1-6

Support and invest in regional partnerships to survey, monitor, and assess marine resources

Medium-Term

1-7

Leverage federal and state regulatory tools to strengthen protection of natural resources and existing maritime activities

Short-Term

1-8

Enhance and leverage existing Habitat and Fisheries Working Groups

Short-Term

2

Promote a robust regional supply chain to support the industry with local resources, addressing both present and future needs.

**ACTION****TIMEFRAME**

2-1

Establish a Business Readiness Initiative to expand participation in offshore wind by MA businesses, with a focus on Minority- and Women-Owned Businesses

Medium-Term

2-2

Support MA businesses as subcontractors and vendors to suppliers of major offshore wind components

Medium-Term

2-3

Leverage procurement process to grow regional supply chain

Medium-Term

2-4

Expand tax credit eligibility to local secondary suppliers and service providers (Tier 2 and 3)

Medium-Term

2-5

Attract primary suppliers (Tier 1) to locate manufacturing facilities in the Commonwealth

Medium-Term

## 3

Redefine the State's approach to procurement to promote consumer affordability through increased certainty, greater efficiency, enhanced collaboration, and innovative mechanisms.

**ACTION****TIMEFRAME**

3-1

Work with MA legislature to reform procurement process and authority

Short-Term

3-2

Collaborate regionally on procurement legislation

Medium-Term

3-3

Define standards for the preparation of Community Benefit Agreements

Short-Term

3-4

Establish a long-term and well-defined procurement schedule

Short-Term

3-5

Explore use of innovative procurement strategies, creative financing and federal monies to reduce costs to consumers

Medium-Term

3-6

Explore wholesale electricity market reforms for future pathways for financing and development

Long-Term

## 4

Proactively plan and develop offshore wind transmission and delivery systems to de-risk offshore wind projects, enable an equitable siting review, and benefit consumers through reduced costs and enhanced reliability.

ACTION	TIMEFRAME
4-1 Identify suitable points of interconnection along New England coast, targeting investment for upgrades	Long-Term
4-2 Work regionally to explore networked offshore transmission	Long-Term
4-3 Support grid reliability through the procurement of transmission and energy storage systems	Short-Term
4-4 Work with federal and regional partners to establish standards for networked HVDC transmission	Medium-Term

## 5

Strengthen port operations and existing infrastructure while facilitating coordinated port expansion across the state and the region.

ACTION	TIMEFRAME
5-1 Conduct a port infrastructure gap analysis, establish plan for investments in ports of all sizes	Short-Term
5-2 Invest in ports coast-wide that can support offshore wind in marshalling, staging, operations, and maintenance	Medium-Term
5-3 Promote knowledge sharing and coordinated decision making across regional port operators	Short-Term
5-4 Leverage New Bedford Marine Commerce Terminal for Southern New England Lease Areas build out	Short-Term
5-5 Invest in Port of Salem as a primary port facility for floating offshore wind deployment in the Gulf of Maine	Medium-Term
5-6 Establish a roadmap with funding for the electrification of key offshore wind ports	Medium-Term

## 6

**Establish a robust and inclusive stakeholder engagement information sharing and reporting process.**

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>TIMEFRAME</b>
Invest in meaningful public engagement leveraging the expertise of EEA's Office of Environmental Justice and Equity	Short-Term
Create new Working Groups or Communities of Practice focused on supply chain, ports, and research and innovation	Short-Term
Create a state-sponsored offshore wind website for information, resources, and best practices	Short-Term
Develop a standard engagement plan for diverse stakeholders early in the offshore wind project planning process	Short-Term
Engage and guide municipal governments involved in siting and permitting	Medium-Term
Ensure materials about OSW industry or projects are available in multiple languages	Short-Term

## 7

Build a skilled, diverse, and equitable workforce through programs to increase access, ensure workers' safety, and drive a just transition with employment across the Commonwealth.

	ACTION	TIMEFRAME
7-1	Establish program to reduce barriers to entry for low-income individuals, increase training and job placement	Medium-Term
7-2	Track workforce development gaps and needs	Short-Term
7-3	Grow and adapt training and educational programming in elementary and middle schools	Short-Term
7-4	Guide students along career pathways from graduation to full-time employment, including through pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs	Short-Term
7-5	Expand support for Career and Technical Education (CTE) schools	Medium-Term
7-6	Expand and develop new post-secondary education and training opportunities	Short-Term
7-7	Engage contractors and subcontractors to understand the value of a diverse workforce	Medium-Term
7-8	Build upon the success of the Offshore Wind Workforce Community of Practice	Short Term

## 8

Foster a thriving ecosystem of research and innovation, supporting the development of new technologies and solutions that can enhance the efficiency and sustainability of offshore wind projects.

ACTION	TIMEFRAME
8-1 Invest in the respective strengths of research programs around the state	Short-Term
8-2 Build bridges between research programs, businesses, and government	Short-Term
8-3 Support the expansion of the offshore wind research and innovation ecosystem including testing and validation sites	Medium-Term
8-4 Support researcher access to offshore wind data and facilities	Medium-Term
8-5 Communicate the findings and importance of offshore wind research to a broad audience	Short-Term



## 9

## Prepare the Commonwealth to support the development of floating offshore wind.

ACTION	TIMEFRAME
9-1 Develop a cable routing plan for Gulf of Maine offshore wind with neighboring states and federal agencies	Long-Term
9-2 Support research and innovation in anticipation of floating offshore wind leveraging the knowledge of existing partnerships	Medium-Term
9-3 Track and assess global advancements in floating offshore wind to understand applications relating to coexistence with marine species, habitats, and uses	Short-Term

# Timeline

- Public Comment – **Sep 4-Sep 18**
- Public Information Meetings – **Sep 11 & 12**
- Target Report Release – **mid Nov**

# Public Comments

- To give verbal comments, please click “raise hand” in your Zoom navigation bar.
- When invited to speak, please introduce yourself and spell out your name.
- Please keep your comments brief (2-3 minutes max) and respectful so we can get to as many people as possible.
- To submit written comments, please send them to [jmintz@vhb.com](mailto:jmintz@vhb.com) with “IOWC Public Comments” in the subject line.
  - Written Comment Deadline: 5pm on September 18