November 15, 2008

Mr. J. Michael Saul
Deputy Director, Management Operations & Services
The Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation
315 Iron Horse Way
Providence, RI 02908

Dear Director Saul:

The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) and the University of Rhode Island (URI) is pleased to provide you and the Corporation with the first quarter progress report regarding The Ocean Special Area Management Plan (SAMP).

I am pleased to report that the launch of the SAMP has met with early and initial achievement; practical and effective methodologies for supporting efficient data collection have been implemented, and our outreach effort has produced a comprehensive array of communication tools to ensure the Stakeholder Group process is as open, transparent, informative, and productive as possible.

Thank you for reviewing the attached progress report. Please contact me to set up a meeting to discuss the contents of this progress report. My contact information is listed on the cover page of the document.

Sincerely,

Grover J Fugate

Grover Fugate
Executive Director, Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council

Rhode Island Renewable Energy Development Fund
Special Area Management Plan
First Quarter Narrative and Financial Report
November 15, 2008

Submitted to:
The Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation (RIEDC), 315 Iron Horse Way, Suite 101, Providence, RI 02908, Attn: J. Michael Saul

Narrative and Financial Report:
First Quarter (August 1 – September 30, 2008) Narrative and Financial Report for the Rhode Island Renewable Energy Development Fund Special Area Management Plan

Submitted by:

Grover Fugate, Executive Director, Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council, Stedman Government Center - Suite 3, 4808 Tower Hill Road, Wakefield, RI, 02879. Tel: 401-783-3370, Fax: 401-783-3767. Email: GFugate@crmc.ri.gov

Jennifer McCann, Principal Investigator, URI Coastal Resources Center and Rhode Island Sea Grant, Narragansett Bay Campus, Narragansett, RI 02882, Tel: 401-874-6127, Fax: 401-874-6920. Email: mccann@crc.uri.edu

Sam De Bow, Principal Investigator, URI Graduate School of Oceanography, Narragansett Bay Campus, Narragansett, RI 02882, Tel: 401-874-6165, Fax: 401-874-6889, Email: sam.debow@gso.uri.edu

Senior Advisors:
Dr. Kathryn Moran, URI Graduate School of Oceanography (GSO)
Dr. Malcolm Spaulding, URI Department of Ocean Engineering

Institutional Representative:
Franca Cirelli, Authorized Organizational Agent, Assistant Director of Sponsored Projects Review, University of Rhode Island, 70 Lower College Road, Kingston, RI, 02881, Tel: 401-874-5891, Fax: 401-874-4272, Email: franca@uri.edu

Point of Contact:
Grover Fugate, Executive Director, Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council Stedman Government Center - Suite 3, 4808 Tower Hill Road, Wakefield, RI, 02879. Tel: 401-783-3370, Fax: 401-783-3767. Email: GFugate@crmc.ri.gov

Table of Contents

Rhode Island Renewable Energy Development Fund
Special Area Management Plan
First Quarter Narrative and Financial Report
November 15, 2008

First Quarter Ocean SAMP Project Highlights (August 1 – September 30, 2008)

Official Approval: The signing of the Ocean SAMP Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes a formal relationship amongst SAMP partners – the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation (RIEDC), the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC), and the University of Rhode Island (URI) (Attachment b).

Study at Sea: A team of scientists start investigating SAMP issues on board the ship R/V Endeavor during an approved ten-day research mission that commenced on September 30, 2008 and focused on the Rhode Island Sound (Attachment h).

Public Process Preparation: Printed and web-based materials are provided as a means of informing community members about the SAMP and encouraging them to consider participating in SAMP public processes (Attachment i).

First Quarter Ocean SAMP Narrative Report

August 1 – September 30, 2008

Financial Activities

Ocean SAMP project expenditures. Each SAMP research and outreach component has been assigned a separate account with a budget representing estimated costs to be incurred during the first year of this two-year project. While SAMP activities this period incurred costs approximating the projected amount of $345,863.55, the report for the quarter reflects $78,156.60 in expenditures. The discrepancy is due to a longer than anticipated synchronization with the university accounting system. Costs not reflected in this report are thus scheduled to appear on the next report (Attachment a).

Administrative Activities

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed. In coordination with the RIEDC, the Ocean SAMP management team (OSMT) developed the document and secured signatures from all parties. This MOU provides the RIEDC, CRMC, and URI with clarity concerning SAMP roles and responsibilities, financial reporting and responsibility, and project management (Attachment b).

Protocols created and communicated. A set of guiding principles, *CRMC's Ocean SAMP Standards for Information Sharing and Release*, was developed and distributed to all project leads. The document (Attachment c) provides "rules for the road" in terms of navigating issues such as conflicts of interest, communicating with individuals or organizations that are not part of the Ocean SAMP project team, use of information generated for the Ocean SAMP project, and review of final products.

Project Organization Chart created. Due to the number of individuals engaged in this process, the Ocean SAMP Management Team created an Organization Chart that illustrates the framework within which these team members and their organizations function for this project (Attachment d). A staff contact sheet complements the chart (Attachment e).

Work plan for policy and outreach project component developed. This work plan defines specific goals and objectives, timeline, and roles and responsibilities for the URI Coastal Resources Center/Rhode Island Sea Grant Policy and Outreach team (Attachment f).

Specific goals are to:

1. Assemble background information on the project boundary's natural features, human activities, and policy and procedures to assist in the understanding of this Ocean SAMP region;

2. Study marine renewable energy projects from other places, apply appropriate aspects of these projects to the SAMP, and subsequently provide the SAMP as a model and monitored plan for adaptation by other regions or countries;
3. Engage a well-informed and well-represented constituency that understands the Ocean SAMP issues and is involved in the creation of the Ocean SAMP; and
4. Develop a SAMP for Rhode Island's coastal waters that serves as a tool to encourage regulatory and management coordination and consistency among state agencies (CRMC, Office of Energy Resources, Department of Environmental Management), federal agencies (U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mineral Management Service, U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission), neighboring states (MA, CT, NY) and other public entities, developers, and environmentalists within this project area.

Milestone 1: Complete the mapping of existing uses and critical zones, including transportation corridors, military use, and essential habitats, etc.

Research issues further defined and described. Building on the technical expertise and place-based experience of the research team, working sessions were held to enable team members to target research questions further, plan research collaboratively, and gain initial understanding of the outreach aspects of the SAMP. A summary document featuring clear and concise descriptions of each research scope or component has been created as part of this process (Attachment g).

Research cruise planned to collect data effectively and efficiently. A targeted slate of research questions and complementary activities has been developed, with approval by the Management Team, for ten days of consecutive research aboard the R/V Endeavor in the Rhode Island Sound. The majority of work will focus on learning more about ocean geography – its floor and coastal features; ocean physics – wind and waves; and analysis that may help determine whether the local ocean can support wind turbines and other infrastructure. (Attachment h).

Milestone 2: Provide draft profiles of all these aspects to complement the maps.

Collection of basic date begins. Project team has begun to collect background information on many of the Ocean SAMP components.

Milestone 3: Develop and implement a communication and outreach strategy, including the organization of technical and citizen advisory committees to engage the public throughout the process.

The Ocean SAMP public outreach goal is to: *Engage a well informed and well represented constituency that understands the Ocean SAMP issues and is involved in the creation of the Ocean SAMP.*

The project team has either completed or is planning the following activities to achieve this public outreach goal. A summary document of this strategy is located in Attachment i.

Objective 1: Develop a formal process to ensure that all stakeholders and citizens have an opportunity to engage in the process.

a) **Ocean SAMP Stakeholder Group:** More than 40 organizations have been identified to serve on the Stakeholder Group (Attachment j). This monthly public forum launched in October 2008 with the purpose of providing the public, including key stakeholders, with an opportunity to better understand Ocean SAMP issues and engage in the process.

b) **State Agency Advisory Group:** A forum for Rhode Island and neighboring state agencies convenes monthly to share expertise, priorities, and review proposed Ocean SAMP actions.

c) Federal Agency Advisory Group: A forum for Federal agencies convenes monthly to formally engage in the Ocean SAMP process to provide feedback and advice.

d) **Science and Engineering Advisory Task Force:** The task force reviews and provides input every other week on all research created by the SAMP process. The group will also serve as a forum for SAMP researchers to learn about colleagues' projects and progress, and ascertain opportunities for joint efforts.

e) **Legal Advisory Task Force:** The task force provides SAMP team with legal advice on possible policies and regulations and an understanding of existing federal, regional and state policies related to the SAMP issues.

f) **Commercial and Recreational Fisheries Involvement:** Ocean SAMP staff will hold regular meetings with Rhode Island commercial and recreational fishing associations as part of the public process.

Objective 2: Organize and/or support existing events that offer project team and stakeholders an opportunity to better understand issues including ocean zoning, impacts of renewable energy activities on existing human activities and natural features and other related topics.

a) **Ronald C. Baird 7th Annual Science Symposium: *Sound Connections: The Science of Rhode Island and Block Island Sounds* (October 19 – 21, 2008).** This event explored the physical oceanography and living marine environments of the Sounds region, ecological trends, ocean-atmosphere interactions, and the geological landscape of the area. For more information go to: http://seagrant.gso.uri.edu/research/baird_symposium/2008/Baird_2008.pdf

b) **Roger Williams University School of Law 7th MARINE LAW SYMPOSIUM: *A Viable Marine Renewable Energy Industry: Solutions to Legal, Economic, and Policy Challenges* (October 23-24, 2008).** This two-day Symposium explored the means to achieve a viable marine renewable energy industry for the United States

with a focus on offshore wind, hydrokinetics (wave, current and tidal), and ocean thermal energy conversion. Panels discussed a range of solutions for the nascent U.S. marine renewable energy sector's current legal, economic and policy challenges. For more information go to: http://law.rwu.edu/sites/marineaffairs/symposia/seventhMLS.aspx

c) **Rhode Island Natural History Survey Lecture Series and Conference (Fall 2008 – Spring 2009).** These events focus on the impacts and interrelationships between energy and natural resources, and are opportunities for the SAMP team to provide the public and community members with information regarding the SAMP project and attendant research issues.

d) **Round table Event: Learning from the United Kingdom Crown Estate Modeling Effort (October 22, 2008).** This event provided the project team with a fuller understanding of Britain's substantial investment in developing and managing offshore renewable energy and enabled the team to participate in discussions regarding "lessons learned" that hold potential application to the local SAMP.

Objective 3: Develop communication tools that provide up-to date information for all interested citizens and interest groups.

a) Ocean SAMP web page. The site provides the public with a better understanding of the process, the research and the timeline for the SAMP process. According to a tracking system managed by Rhode Island Sea Grant, there were in excess of 775 visits to the Ocean SAMP web site. The site can be found at: http://seagrant.gso.uri.edu/oceansamp/index.html.

b) Ocean SAMP fact sheet. The one-pager provides the public with an overview of the project, including its economic, social and environmental contents, and offers options for public engagement with the effort (Attachment k).

c) Listserve. The web tool alerts the public to SAMP events and underway research. As of November 1, 2008, there are 310 people signed onto the list, with 151 users requesting signup since October 1, 2008.

d) Ocean SAMP presentation series. The series enables Ocean SAMP staff to present the project at community, state, national and international events.

e) Media and publications: Newspapers, newsletters, and appropriate magazines are contacted as a means of communicating the Ocean SAMP project to the wider community. Media reports can be found at attachment l.

f) Ocean SAMP exhibits: These displays will be placed at local libraries, ferries and other public places, including conferences. The team is in the process of assessing the appropriate locations and technologies.

Milestone 4: Complete a draft zoning map and draft regulatory standards for guiding renewable energy infrastructure for public review and comment.

A draft Ocean SAMP Table of Contents has been created to help guide the Ocean SAMP process (Attachment m).

Attachments

Financial

a. Financial Report for First Quarter

Administration

b. Signed MOU
c. CRMC's Ocean SAMP Standards for Information Sharing and Release
d. Ocean SAMP organization chart
e. Ocean SAMP contact sheet
f. Ocean SAMP work plan

Milestone 1

g. Researcher summary scopes of work
h. R/V Endeavor cruise plan

Milestone 2

Milestone 3

i. Ocean SAMP outreach strategy
j. Draft stakeholder list
k. Ocean SAMP fact sheet
l. Ocean SAMP press

Milestone 4

m. Draft Ocean SAMP table of contents

Financial

QUARTERLY SUMMARY OF PROJECT EXPENDITURES

University of Rhode Island
OCEAN OFFSHORE SPECIAL AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN (SAMP)

Summary of Project Expenditures: YEAR I	Quarter	Quarter I	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	*Quarter 5			CLOSE OUT			
QUARTERLY SUMMARY	Period covered:	8/01/08-09/30/08	10/01/08-12/31/09	1/1/09-3/31/09	4/01/09-6/30/09	7/1/09-7/31/09					Project Period:	8/01/08-7/31/09
Project PI's to CRC/GSO	Date Due:	Oct. 15th	Jan. 15th	Apr 15th	July 15th	Aug 15th					PI's to CRC/GSO	10/15/2009
CRC/GSO to CRMC	Date Due:	Nov 1st	Feb 1st	May 1st	Aug 1st	Sept 1st					CRC/GSO to CRMC	11/1/2009
CRMC to RIEDC	Date Due:	Nov 15th	Feb 15th	May 15th	Aug 15th	Sept 15th					CRMC to RIEDC	11/15/2009
Account Expenses	Budget	Expenses	Expenses	Expenses	Expenses	Expenses	Total Expenditures:	Fund Balance:	Budget	(not reported to date)	Total Expenditures	Fund Balance
1) Policy & Outreach Strategy-McCann												
Total Project Expenditures	$ 612,864	$9,427.74	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$9,427.74	$603,435.76	$612,863.50	$0.00	$9,427.74	$603,435.76
2) Project Management/Governance-DeBow												
Total Project Expenditures	$50,021	$51.93	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$51.93	$49,969.07	$50,021.00	$0.00	$51.93	$49,969.07
3) Tecnological Assessment- Hu												
Total Project Expenditures	$64,563	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$64,563.00	$64,563.00	$0.00	$0.00	$64,563.00
4) Temperature & Salinity Review & Analysis-Codiga												
Total Project Expenditures	$53,562	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$53,561.50	$53,561.50	$0.00	$0.00	$53,561.50
5) Sight Screening Mapping Study-Damon												
Total Project Expenditures	$67,900	$1,161.05	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$1,161.05	$66,738.95	$67,900.00	$0.00	$1,161.05	$66,738.95
6) Marine Mammel Analysis-Kenney												
Total Project Expenditures	$21,317	$2,104.19	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$2,104.19	$19,212.31	$21,316.50	$0.00	$2,104.19	$19,212.31
7) Geophysical, Geological, Biological & Transportation Analysis- King												
Total Project Expenditures	$176,615	$24,355.19	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$24,355.19	$152,259.81	$176,615.00	$0.00	$24,355.19	$152,259.81
8) Wind, Storm Occurance & Precipitation Analysis-Merrill												
Total Project Expenditures	$6,769	$2,941.20	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$2,941.20	$3,827.80	$6,769.00	$0.00	$2,941.20	$3,827.80
9) Accoustic Noise & Electromagnetic Effects Analysis-Miller												
Total Project Expenditures	$73,473	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$73,473.00	$73,473.00	$0.00	$0.00	$73,473.00
10) Avian Study-Paton												
Total Project Expenditures	$262,141	$6,999.68	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$6,999.68	$255,141.32	$262,141.00	$0.00	$6,999.68	$255,141.32
11) Wind Source, Wave and Storm Surge Characterization & Sight Analysis-Spaulding												
Total Project Expenditures	$ 143,971	$31,099.46	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$31,099.46	$112,871.04	$143,970.50	$0.00	$31,099.46	$112,871.04
12) Ecosytems-Nixon												
Total Project Expenditures	$ 66,806	$ 16.16	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$16.16	$ 66,789.84	$ 66,806.00	$0.00	$16.16	$66,789.84
GRAND TOTAL-*All Projects*	$ 1,600,000	$78,156.60	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 78,156.60	$ 1,521,843.40	$ 1,600,000.00	$ -	$ 78,156.60	$ 1,521,843.40

OCEAN SAMP-QUARTERLY EXPENDITURE REPORT												
CUMULATIVE TOTALS-All Projects	*BUDGET*	*QUARTER I*	*QUARTER II*	*QUARTER III*	*QUARTER IV*	*QUARTER V*	Total Expenditures:	Fund Balance:	*Budget*	*Current Activity (not reported to date)*	*Total Expenditures*	*Fund Balance*
Personnel: Staff	*$584,749.00*	*$16,598.92*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$16,598.92*	$568,150.08	$584,749.00	*$0.00*	$16,598.92	$568,150.08
Personnel: Students	*$70,296.00*	*$8,931.73*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$8,931.73*	$61,364.27	$70,296.00	*$0.00*	$8,931.73	$61,364.27
Fringe Benefits:	*$223,088.00*	*$639.88*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$639.88*	$222,448.12	$223,088.00	*$0.00*	$639.88	$222,448.12
Operating Expenses:	*$161,812.00*	*$6,514.05*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$6,514.05*	$155,297.95	$161,812.00	*$0.00*	$6,514.05	$155,297.95
Publications:	*$28,000.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	$28,000.00	$28,000.00	*$0.00*	$0.00	$28,000.00
Subcontracts:	*$219,527.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	$219,527.00	$219,527.00	*$0.00*	$0.00	$219,527.00
Travel-In State Mileage:	*$4,585.00*	*$41.54*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$41.54*	$4,543.46	$4,585.00	*$0.00*	$41.54	$4,543.46
Travel-Out of State:	*$16,955.00*	*$588.30*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$588.30*	$16,366.70	$16,955.00	*$0.00*	$588.30	$16,366.70
Encumbrances:	*$0.00*	*$44,446.81*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$44,446.81*	($44,446.81)	$0.00	*$0.00*	$44,446.81	($44,446.81)
Indirect Costs: 25%	*$290,988.00*	*$395.37*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$0.00*	*$395.37*	$290,592.63	$290,988.00	*$0.00*	$395.37	$290,592.63
Total OCEAN SAMP Project Expenditures	$1,600,000.00	$78,156.60	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$78,156.60	$1,521,843.40	$1,600,000.00	$0.00	$78,156.60	$1,521,843.40

Administration

Execution Copy

RHODE ISLAND RENEWALABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT FUND
SPECIAL AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is dated as of the 1st day of August, 2008 by and among the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation ("RIEDC"); The University of Rhode Island ("URI"); and the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council ("CRMC").

P R E A M B L E

WHEREAS, pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws Section 42-64-13.2, the RIEDC is responsible for managing the Renewable Energy Development Fund of the Renewable Energy Standard as set forth in Rhode Island General Laws Chapter 39-26 to promote the expansive and sound development of renewable energy resources;

WHEREAS, URI has agreed to perform scientific research, create policy recommendations, and facilitate a transparent public process to enable the CRMC to formulate, develop and adopt a Special Area Management Plan ("SAMP") in accordance with federal and state laws to allow for the efficient permitting of offshore wind energy;

WHEREAS, CRMC has agreed to utilize the scientific data, policy recommendations and public process provided by URI in order to develop such SAMP; and

WHEREAS, the Trustees of the Renewable Energy Development Fund, the predecessor to the RIEDC with respect to responsibilities for the implementation and use of the Renewable Energy Development Fund, on June 26, 2008, approved the use of funds of an amount up to $3,200,000.00 (up to approximately $1,600,000.00 per year for two years, renewable annually) by CRMC for the development of the SAMP.

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and adequate consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties hereby agree as follows:

1. URI shall perform the scientific studies, create policy recommendations, and facilitate a public process as more fully described in that certain Ocean/Offshore Renewable Energy Special Area Management Plan ("SAMP") Proposal dated May 13, 2008 submitted to the Renewable Energy Development Fund and approved by the fund Trustees on June 26, 2008, a copy of which is attached to the minutes of the meeting of the Trustees on that date, and the terms of which are incorporated herein (the "Proposal").

2. CRMC agrees that the funds shall be paid to URI to support the studies and work performed by URI in accordance with the associated budgets set forth in the Proposal and as attached hereto. All payments shall be made payable to the ***"University of Rhode Island"***, contain the following reference and, unless otherwise

notified, will be mailed or delivered to the following office: Reference: Ocean SAMP / URI LOG No. 0708-0529

Attn: Zeny Rhyner, Grant and Contract Accounting
University of Rhode Island
70 Lower College Road
Kingston, RI 02881

3. CRMC will report in writing to the RIEDC on the progress made toward the implementation of the Proposal on the following dates: November 15, 2008; February 15, 2009; May 15, 2009; August 15, 2009; and September 15, 2009. Each such written report shall reflect progress made on the implementation of the Proposal, the development of the SAMP, and an identification of expenses incurred as compared with the project budget contained in the Proposal. URI shall provide financial reports, including expense statements to CRMC and RIEDC on a quarterly basis.

4. CRMC also agrees to manage the SAMP development, the implementation of the Proposal and the associated SAMP development process to assure that the Funds are utilized by URI in accordance with the terms and budgets set forth in the Proposal. URI will respond to direction only from CRMC as the project manager of the Proposal.

5. The RIEDC, upon the submission of a disbursement voucher in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, duly executed by a duly authorized representative of CRMC and URI, agrees to authorize the release of funds from the Renewable Energy Development Fund for payments to URI as provided in paragraph 2 hereof in accordance with the request on said disbursement voucher; provided, however, that such disbursements are generally in accordance with the milestones and cash flow projections set forth on Exhibit B attached hereto and made a part hereof, or otherwise at the discretion of the Executive Director of the RIEDC.

6. The Parties hereto shall meet at least once every three months, and at such other times as they may otherwise agree from time to time, in order to review the status of the development of scientific research and data for the SAMP and the utilization of such scientific research and data for the SAMP by CRMC. In preparation for such meetings, CRMC and URI shall prepare and submit in writing to the RIEDC before such meetings an analysis setting forth the status of Proposal milestone in relation to the budget and on a percentage completion basis.

7. All notices and/or other written communications required or permitted under this MOU shall be valid if properly addressed and mailed by certified mail, postage prepaid, or hand delivered, as follows:

If to RIEDC:

Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation
315 Iron Horse Way, Suite 101
Providence, RI 02908
Attn: J. Michael Saul

If to URI:

Attn: Zeny Rhyner, Grant and Contract Accounting
University of Rhode Island
70 Lower College Road
Kingston, RI 02881

If to CRMC:

Grover Fugate, Executive Director
Coastal Resources Management Council
Oliver Stedman Gov't Center
4808 Tower Hill Road
Wakefield, RI 02879

Any Party may, from time to time, change the person or office authorized to receive notice on its behalf by providing notice of the change as set forth herein.

8. If any dispute arises between the parties relating to this MOU, or any part hereof, the parties shall make a good faith effort to resolve the dispute within ten (10) days of notice thereof and if that effort fails the administrative executive of each Party or his/her designee shall attempt to resolve the dispute. Any dispute that remains unresolved for more than (30) thirty days shall be submitted first to mediation and then, if necessary, to arbitration in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association then in effect. The associated costs and expenses of the mediation and/ or arbitration process shall be shared equally between the parties but each party shall be responsible for its own counsel and witness fees which shall not be made part of any arbitration award.

9. No party shall be liable to the other party for any breach or delay in the performance of its obligations hereunder, nor shall it be the basis for termination of this

MOU, if caused by any act or occurrence beyond its reasonable control, including, but not limited to, fires, strikes, accidents, natural disasters, other acts of nature or acts of terrorism; provided, however, that whenever the provisions of this paragraph are believed to apply, the party relying thereon shall give prompt written notice to the other Parties of the circumstances and basis for the applicability of this paragraph and the time required to cure such breach or delay.

10. Any party may terminate this MOU upon thirty (30) days prior written notice of termination for the breach or violation of its terms and conditions by the other party or parties, as the case may be, which breach remains uncured for thirty (30) days following the date of the notice of termination. The notice of termination shall also provide a reasonable description of the alleged breach or violation and the effective date of termination.

11. No amendment or modification to this MOU shall be valid unless contained in writing signed by all Parties hereto.

12. No waiver of any term or condition of this Agreement, or its performance, shall be valid unless contained in a writing signed by the party who is claimed to have waived or released such term, condition or performance. The failure to insist upon the strict performance of any provision of this Agreement or to exercise any right or remedy set forth herein shall not constitute a waiver of that provision or relinquishment of said right or remedy.

13. This MOU, including all exhibits and attachments hereto, contains the entire agreement and understanding between the Parties and supersedes all prior agreements, understandings, arrangements, negotiations or communications, either oral or written.

14. This MOU shall be governed by the laws of the State of Rhode Island.

In witness whereof, the undersigned have executed this MOU as of the date first above written.

RHODE ISLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

By: _____

Its: _____

RHODE ISLAND COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

By: _____

Its: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

By: _____

Its: _____

EXHIBIT A

Disbursement and Voucher Form

Date: _____, 200_

Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation
315 Iron Horse Way, Ste. 101
Providence, Rhode Island 02908
Attn: J. Michael Saul,
Deputy Director

Re: Rhode Island Renewable Energy Development Fund/SAMP

Dear Mr. Saul:

This letter will serve to confirm that (i) a disbursement of $_____ is due from the Rhode Island Renewable Energy Development Fund with respect to the Special Area Management Plan being implemented by the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council and The University of Rhode Island in accordance with that Memorandum of Understanding (the "MOU") dated August 1, 2008; and (ii) that expenditures incurred with respect to the Project do not exceed those set forth in the budget contained in the Proposal, or defined in the MOU.

Please make payment to: ***The University of Rhode Island***

Sincerely,

RHODE ISLAND COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGMENT COUNCIL

By: _____

It's: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

By: _____

It's: _____

of any provision of this Agreement or to exercise any right or remedy set forth herein shall not constitute a waiver of that provision or relinquishment of said right or remedy.

13. This MOU, including all exhibits and attachments hereto, contains the entire agreement and understanding between the Parties and supercedes all prior agreements, understandings, arrangements, negotiations or communications, either oral or written.

14. This MOU shall be governed by the laws of the State of Rhode Island.

In witness whereof, the undersigned have executed this MOU as of the date first above written.

RHODE ISLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

By: _____

Its: Executive Director

RHODE ISLAND COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

By: _____

Its: Executive Director

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

By: _____
Robert A. Weygand

Its: Vice President for Administration

46550_1.doc

EXHIBIT B

SCHEDULE OF MILESTONES AND CASH FLOW

The University of Rhode Island, Graduate School of Oceanography
The Ocean/Offshore Renewable Energy Special Area Management Plan

PROJECT:	*Milestones	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	Total
Policy & Outreach Strategy	1,2,3,4	*$87,009.58*	*$63,629.28*	*$61,777.10*	*$58,174.60*	*$78,608.35*	*$73,474.60*	*$41,852.60*	*$50,094.60*	*$44,022.10*	*$42,419.60*	*$38,478.59*	*$40,125.81*	*$679,666.78*
Technological Assessment	1,2	*$11,128.00*	*$1,473.54*	*$1,473.54*	*$1,473.54*	*$1,473.54*	*$4,333.36*	*$4,333.36*	*$2,859.82*	*$2,859.82*	*$2,859.82*	*$27,434.83*	*$2,859.83*	*$64,563.00*
Temperature & Salinity Review & Analysis	1,2	*$490.00*	*$7,736.13*	*$10,810.63*	*$7,735.63*	*$5,910.63*	*$9,946.88*	*$5,470.63*	*$5,461.88*	$-	$-	$-	$-	*$53,562.38*
Sight Screening Mapping Study	1,2,3,4	*$11,380.00*	*$11,378.75*	*$11,378.75*	*$11,254.17*	*$11,254.17*	*$11,254.17*	$-	$-	$-	$-	$-	$-	*$67,900.00*
Project Management & Coordination	1,2,3,4	*$4,094.54*	*$4,991.04*	*$4,093.54*	*$4,093.54*	*$4,093.54*	*$4,093.54*	*$4,093.54*	*$4,093.54*	*$4,093.54*	*$4,093.54*	*$4,093.54*	*$4,093.54*	*$50,020.95*
Marine Mammel Analysis	1,2	$-	*$2,806.99*	*$2,806.99*	*$2,806.99*	*$2,806.99*	*$2,806.99*	*$2,806.99*	*$2,237.83*	*$2,237.83*	$-	$-	$-	*$21,317.58*
Geophysical, Geological, Biological & Transportation Analysis	1,2	*$36,524.63*	*$36,524.61*	*$36,524.60*	*$14,738.37*	*$14,738.37*	*$14,738.36*	*$1,916.68*	*$1,916.66*	*$1,916.66*	*$5,692.02*	*$5,692.00*	*$5,691.98*	*$176,614.95*
Wind, Storm Occurrence & Precipitation Analysis	1,2	*$4,605.00*	*$500.00*	*$625.00*	*$375.00*	*$270.00*	*$268.75*	*$125.00*	$-	$-	$-	$-	$-	*$6,768.75*
Acoustic Noise & Electromagnetic Effects Analysis	1,2	$-	$-	*$21,001.75*	*$17,170.50*	*$10,773.74*	*$4,375.50*	*$2,494.04*	$-	$-	$-	*$17,657.85*	$-	*$73,473.38*

PROJECT:	*Milestones	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	Total
Wind Source, Wave and Storm Surge Characterization & Sight Analysis	1,2,3,4	*$30,662.81*	*$24,991.15*	*$9,856.15*	*$9,856.14*	*$7,117.81*	*$7,117.81*	*$7,117.81*	*$7,117.81*	*$7,117.81*	*$7,117.81*	*$18,780.31*	*$7,117.81*	*$143,971.25*
Avian Study	1,2,3,4	*$5,937.50*	*$-*	*$35,401.25*	*$27,114.25*	*$24,681.50*	*$23,431.50*	*$23,431.50*	*$23,430.25*	*$24,678.00*	*$24,678.00*	*$24,678.00*	*$24,679.25*	*$262,141.00*
TOTAL MONTHLY CASH		*$191,832.06*	*$154,031.49*	*$195,749.29*	*$154,792.71*	*$161,728.63*	*$155,841.44*	*$93,642.13*	*$97,212.38*	*$86,925.75*	*$86,860.79*	*$136,815.12*	*$84,568.21*	*$1,600,000.00*

OCEAN SAMP MILESTONES

Year One (August 1st, 2008 to July 31, 2009):

1.) Complete the mapping of existing uses and critical zones, including transportation corridors, military use, and essential habitats, etc.

2.) Provide draft profiles of all these aspects to complement the maps.

3.) Develop and implement a communication and outreach strategy, including the organization of technical and citizen advisory committees to engage the public throughout the process.

4.) Complete a draft zoning map and draft regulatory standards for guiding renewable energy infrastructure for public review and comment.

CRMC Ocean SAMP Standards for Information Sharing and Release

The Ocean SAMP project has begun and, as most of you know, the Governor has announced the private company that was selected to develop the first wind turbine farm in Rhode Island waters. The Ocean SAMP is a highly visible university research project, and it is very important that we avoid even the appearance of conflict of interest. We are writing to remind you of the "rules of the road" associated with your work as part of the Ocean SAMP team.

Hence, we ask that you strictly follow both the University policy and CRMC's requirements in conducting your Ocean SAMP work. The reputation of our research effort depends on it.

The “rules of the road” are as follows:

1) Conflict of Interest

The work you are charged with conducting under the Ocean SAMP is funded by the State of Rhode Island and the agreement stipulates that it is managed by the Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC). Similar to all other University research projects and based on university policy, you cannot conduct any outside consulting work, for example with the State's selected developer, that is directly related or similar to your Ocean SAMP activities until that project has been completed. In addition, CRMC has directed the Ocean SAMP team to work with them in maintaining a clear and clean separation of activities between those that are conducted as part of the Ocean SAMP and those conducted by the private developer.

2) Communicating with individuals/organizations that are not part of the Ocean SAMP project team:

In the event that you are contacted by an individual or organization (including the media) regarding your research, you may describe your scope of work. Please, however, refrain from discussing potential research results or speculating on policy/management implications. In order to ensure these responses are accurate and fairly communicated to <u>all</u> audiences, direct these individuals/organizations to either Jen McCann or Sam DeBow (RI Ocean SAMP PIs).

Please inform the Ocean SAMP project’s communications director, Monica Allard Cox (874-6937) of any contact you have with the media concerning this project. This will allow the project team to better coordinate the media relations.

3) Use of information generated for the Ocean SAMP project.

In order to ensure that information is fairly communicated to <u>all</u> audiences, such work products as data sets, data reports, GIS layers, interim progress reports, cruise reports, or other material should not be provided to individuals/organizations not on the Ocean SAMP project team. If you would like to share this information either in

publications and/or presentations, please contact the Jen McCann or Sam DeBow to ascertain if this will comply with the project's policies.

4) Review of final products

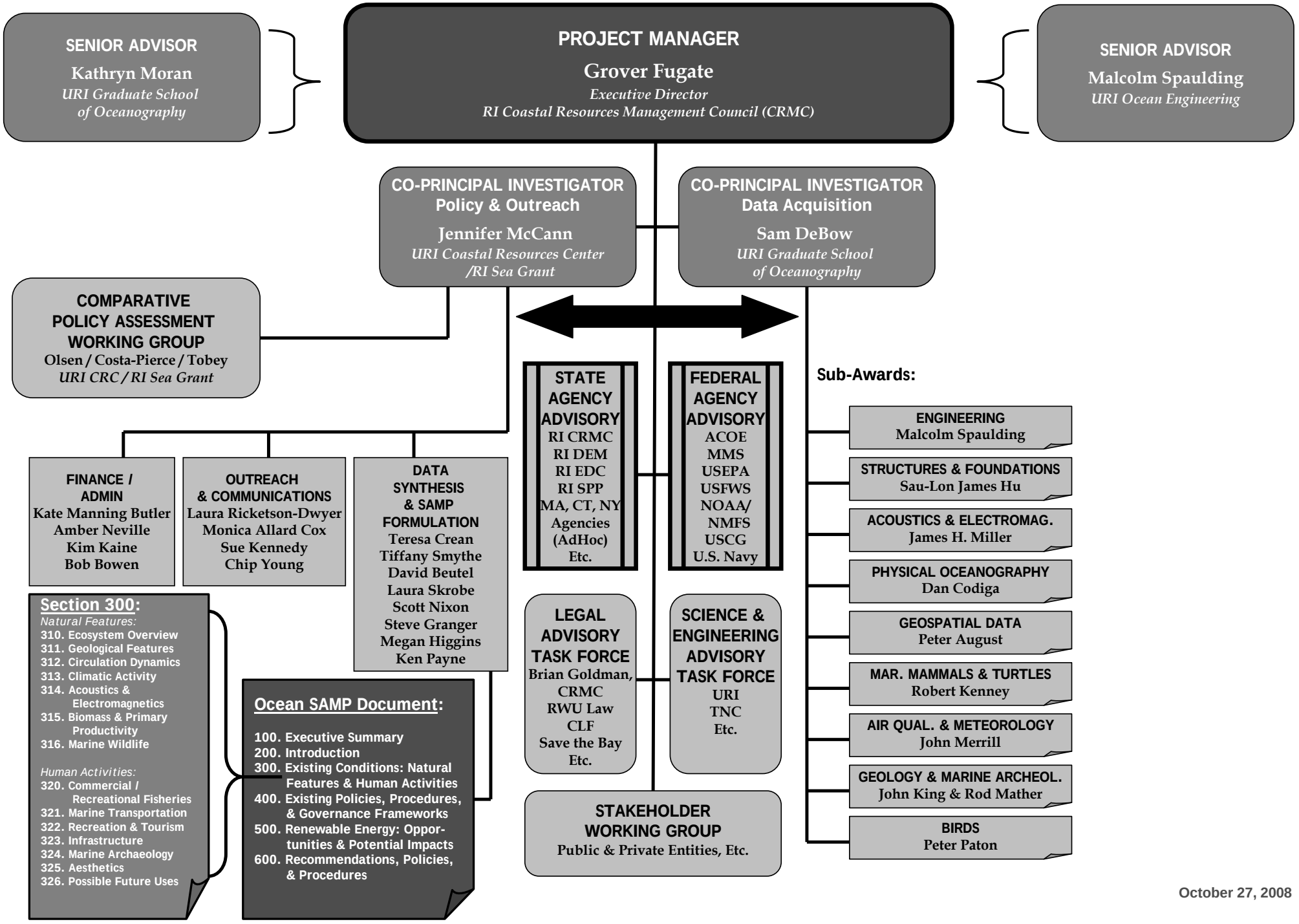
Once the final product has been completed, it should be forwarded to the URI Ocean SAMP PIs for review. Please provide the names of three independent reviewers. The SAMP Co-PIs will send the work product to several (number dependent on type of work product) independent reviewers. These will be selected from the list provided by the PIs, as well as those recommended by others. At least one of the reviews will be provided by a member of Ocean SAMP Science and Engineering Advisory Task Force Committee.

The PIs will be provided with the review comments and asked to revise their work product and to provide responses to the reviews, as appropriate. The PIs will submit their revised report to the Ocean SAMP Co-PIs who will forward to all members of the Ocean SAMP management team. The management team will perform the final internal URI review and make a recommendation to the Ocean SAMP Program Manager (G. Fugate) regarding public release of the material. The Ocean SAMP Program Manager will have the final decision about public release of the material and the associated timing of the release.

DRAFT

CRMC (Michael Tikoian, Chair) Ocean Special Area Management Plan (Ocean SAMP)
Project Organizational Chart

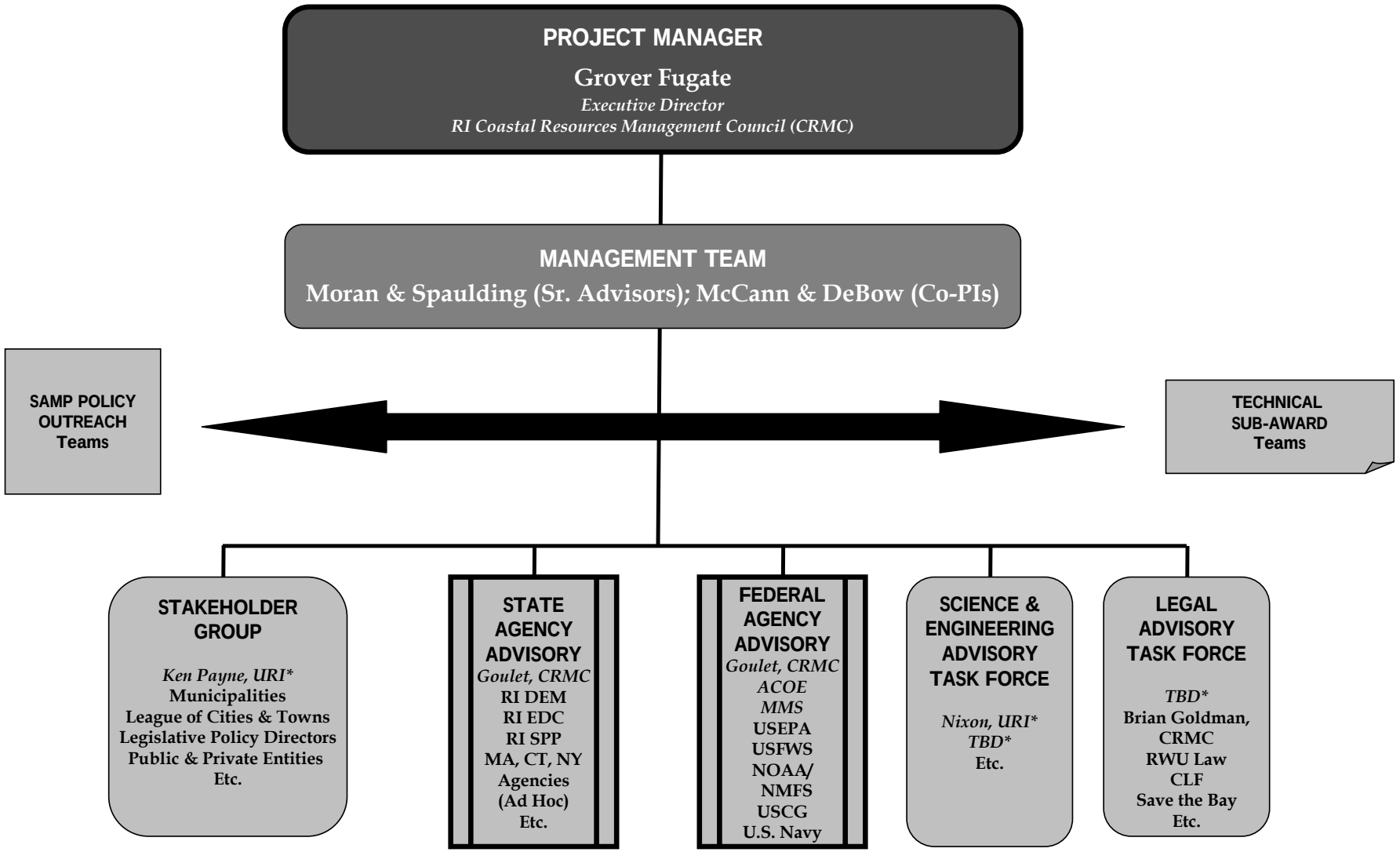
DRAFT



October 27, 2008

CRMC (Michael Tikoian, Chair) Ocean Special Area Management Plan (Ocean SAMP)
INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAM MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

DRAFT



**Proposed Task Force Co-Chair*

General Contact Information:
Telephone: 401.874.6015 Fax: 401.874.6817
Email oceansamp@gso.uri.edu
Website seagrant.gso.uri.edu/oceansamp

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Name	Role	Affiliation / Dept.	Phone (401)	Fax (401)	e-mail
Grover Fugate	Project Manager	RI CRMC	783-3370	783-3767	GFugate@crmc.ri.gov
Jennifer McCann	Co-Principal Investigator	URI CRC/RI Sea Grant	874-6127	874-6920	mccann@crc.uri.edu
Sam DeBow	Co-Principal Investigator	URI GSO	874-6165	874-6931	sam.debow@gso.uri.edu
Malcolm Spaulding	Senior Advisor	URI Ocean Engineering	874-6666	874-6837	spaulding@oce.uri.edu
Kathryn Moran	Senior Advisor	URI GSO	874-6421	874-6931	kate.moran@gso.uri.edu
POLICY & OUTREACH					
Jennifer McCann	Policy & Outreach Lead	URI CRC / RI Sea Grant	874-6127	874-6920	mccann@crc.uri.edu
Stephen Olsen	Senior Staff	URI CRC	874-6501	874-6920	sbo@crc.uri.edu
Barry Costa-Pierce	Senior Staff	RI Sea Grant	874- 6802	789-8340	bcp@gso.uri.edu
Jim Tobey	Project Monitor & Eval.	URI CRC / RI Sea Grant	874- 6411	874-6920	tobey@crc.uri.edu
Data Collection, Synthesis & Policy					
Teresa Crean	Lead Data Synth. & Policy	URI CRC / RI Sea Grant	874-6626	874-6920	tcrean@crc.uri.edu
Tiffany Smythe	Data Synthesis	URI CRC / RI Sea Grant	874-6224	874-6920	tcsmythe@mail.uri.edu
Dave Beutel	Fisheries	URI CELS / Fisheries	874-7152	874-9360	dbeutel@uri.edu
Laura Skrobe	Fisheries	URI CELS / Fisheries	874-9360	789-8930	lskrobe@uri.edu
Stephen Granger	Water Quality	URI Oceanography	874-6618	985-6207	granger@gso.uri.edu
Kenneth Payne	State Policy	URI	874-4524		kenneth_payne@mail.uri.edu
Megan Higgins	Legal	Marine Affairs / RISG	254-5734	254-5735	mhiggins@rwu.edu
Outreach & Communications					
Monica Allard-Cox	Communications Lead	RI Sea Grant	874-6937	874-6817	allard@gso.uri.edu
Sue Kennedy	Outreach	URI CRC / RI Sea Gran5t	874-6107	874-6920	skennedy@crc.uri.edu
Chip Young	Media	URI GSO	874-6630	874-6920	cyoung@gso.uri.edu
Laura Ricketson-Dwyer	CRMC Public Relations	RI CRMC	783-3370	783-3767	lricketson@crmc.ri.gov
Finance & Administration					
Kate Manning	Finance / Admin Lead	URI CRC / RI Sea Grant	874-6027	874-6920	kmanning@crc.uri.edu
Amber Neville	Info. Mgmt.	URI CRC / RI Sea Grant	874-6106	874-6920	amber@crc.uri.edu
Kim Kaine	Events	URI Coastal Resource Cntr.	874-6823	874-6920	kkaine@crc.uri.edu
Bob Bowen	MIS	URI Coastal Resource Cntr.	874-6623	874-6920	bob@crc.uri.edu

General Contact Information:
Telephone: 401.874.6015 Fax: 401.874.6817
Email oceansamp@gso.uri.edu
Website seagrant.gso.uri.edu/oceansamp

DATA ACQUISITION

Name	Role	Affiliation / Dept.	Phone (401)	Fax (401)	e-mail
Sam DeBow	Data Acquisition Lead	URI GSO	874-6165	874-6931	sam.debow@gso.uri.edu
Engineering					
Malcolm Spaulding	Engineering Lead	URI Ocean Engineering	874-6666	874-6837	spaulding@oce.uri.edu
Stephan Grilli	Engineering	URI Ocean Engineering	874-6636	874-6837	grilli@uri.edu
Annette Grilli	Engineering	URI Ocean Engineering	874-6139	874-6837	annette_grilli@mail.uri.edu
Gail Paolino	Fiscal Contact	URI Ocean Engineering	874-6139	874-6837	gpaolino@oce.uri.edu
Structures & Foundation					
Sau-Lon James Hu	Struc. & Found. Lead	URI Ocean Engineering	874-6688	874-6837	hu@oce.uri.edu
Christopher Baxter	Struc. & Found. Lead	URI Ocean Engineering	874-6575	874-6837	baxter@uri.edu
Gail Paolino	Fiscal Contact	URI Ocean Engineering	874-6139	874-6837	gpaolino@oce.uri.edu
Acoustics & Electromag.					
James Miller	Acoustics & Elec. Lead	URI Ocean Engineering	874-6540	874-6837	miller@uri.edu
Roberta Pascale	Fiscal Contact	URI Oceanography	**874-6719**	**874-6898**	roberta@gso.uri.edu
Physical Oceanography					
Dan Codiga	Physical Ocean. Lead	URI Oceanography	874-6212	874-6728	d.codiga@gso.uri.edu
Dave Ullman	Physical Ocean	URI Oceanography	874-6138		
Sharon Clements	Fiscal Contact	URI Oceangraphy	874-6177		sclements@gso.uri.edu
Geospatial Data					
Peter August	Geospatial Lead	URI NRS	874-4794	874-4561	pva@uri.edu
Christopher Damon	Geospatial	URI NRS	874-2930	874-4561	cdamon@edc.uri.edu
Charles LaBash	Fiscal Contact	URI NRS	874-2198	874-4561	labash@uri.edu
Marine Mammals & Turtles					
Robert Kenney	Marine Mam. Lead	URI Oceangraphy	874-6664		rkennedy@gso.uri.edu
Air Quality & Meteorology					
John Merrill	Air & Meter. Lead	Oceanography	874-6715	874-6898	jmerrill@gso.uri.edu
Brian Heikes	Siting	URI Oceanography	874-6638	874-6898	bheikes@gso.uri.edu
Gail Paolino	Fiscal Contact	URI Ocean Engineering	874-6139	874-6837	gpaolino@oce.uri.edu

General Contact Information:
Telephone: 401.874.6015 Fax: 401.874.6817
Email oceansamp@gso.uri.edu
Website seagrant.gso.uri.edu/oceansamp

DATA ACQUISITION CONTINUED

Name	Role	Affiliation / Dept.	Phone (401)	Fax (401)	e-mail
Siting Study & Geology					
John King	Siting Lead	URI Oceanography	874-6182	874-6811	jking@gso.uri.edu
Rob Pockalny	Siting	URI Oceanography	874-6926	874-6811	robp@gso.uri.edu
Sheldon Pratt	Siting	URI Oceanography	874-6699		spratt@gso.uri.edu
Chris Roman	Siting	URI Oceanography	874-6115		cnr@gso.uri.edu
Jon Boothroyd	Siting	URI CELS / GEO	874-2191	874-2190	jon_boothroyd@uri.edu
Rod Mather	Siting	URI History / Under. Arch.	874-4093		roderick@uri.edu
John Jensen	Siting	URI Underwater Archaeology	829-9664		jensenheritage@cox.net
Rhonda Kenny	Fiscal Contact	URI Oceanography	874-6709		rhondak@gso.uri.edu
Marine & Coastal Birds					
Peter Paton	Birds Lead	URI NRS	874-4561	874-4561	ppaton@uri.edu
Scott McWilliams	Birds	URI CELS / NRS	874-7531	874-4561	srmcwilliams@uri.edu
David Mizrahi	Birds	NJ Audubon Society	609-861-0700		david.mizrahi@njaudubon.org
Kim Peters	Birds	NJ Audubon Society	609-861-0700		kim.peters@njaudubon.org
Patty Harrington	Fiscal Contact	URI CELS / NRS	874-2026	874-4561	pharring@mail.uri.edu

Ocean SAMP
DRAFT CRC/RISG Work Plan
August 2008 – July 2010

SUMMARY: Work Plan Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Assemble background *information on the project boundary's natural features, human activities, and policy and procedures to assist in the understanding of this Ocean SAMP region.*

> **Objective 1:** Engage state, federal and regional agencies to ensure project is collecting appropriate and necessary information to meet state/federal requirements and to create a forum for information exchange, coordinated coastal and ocean management, and learning.
>
> **Objective 2:** In coordination and with support from Ocean SAMP researchers, develop background information on existing conditions for major human activities.
>
> **Objective 3:** Create consistent background papers on existing conditions for major natural features based on technical information created by Ocean SAMP researchers.
>
> **Objective 4:** Research and provide information on existing policies, procedures and governance frameworks for natural features and human activities within the Ocean SAMP

Goal 2. Identify best practices *and strategies for overcoming obstacles in planning, policy, and implementation of marine renewable energy that can be transferred to the Ocean SAMP initiative based on a comparative assessment of lessons learned from other initiatives in the United States and worldwide. Evaluate what works and what does not work in the Ocean SAMP initiative so that this model effort can be used as a case study for future efforts.*

Goal 3. Engage a well informed and well represented constituency *that understands the Ocean SAMP issues and is involved in the creation of the Ocean SAMP.*

> **Objective 1:** Develop a formal process to ensure that all stakeholders and citizens have an opportunity to engage in the process.
>
> **Objective 2:** Organize and/or support existing events that offer project team and stakeholders an opportunity to better understand issues including ocean zoning, impacts of renewable energy activities on existing human activities and natural features and other related topics.
>
> **Objective 3:** Develop communication tools that will provide up-to date information for all interested citizens and interest groups.

Goal 4: Develop a SAMP for Rhode Island's Coastal waters *that serves as a tool to encourage regulatory and management coordination and consistency among Rhode Island state agencies (CRMC, OER, DEM), federal agencies (U.S. Department of Energy, ACOE, MMS, and the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission), neighboring states (MA, CT, NY) and other public entities, developers, and environmentalists within this project area.*

> **Objective 1:** Develop siting criteria that will serve as a mechanism to promote the identification of appropriate sites for the installation of permanent structures.
>
> **Objective 2:** Develop new policies and procedures for renewable energy activities
>
> **Objective 3:** Develop the SAMP document as described in the Ocean SAMP outline

STAFF TEAM LEADS	**POLICY & OUTREACH ROLE**
Jennifer McCann	**Co-Principal Investigator**
Teresa Crean	**Data Synthesis SAMP Formulation**
Sue Kennedy	Policy & Outreach Liaison
Tiffany Smythe	Human Activities, Data Synthesis
Dave Beutel & Laura Skrobe	Human Activities, Fisheries
Scott Nixon & Steve Granger	Natural Features, Ecology
Megan Higgins	Policy & Governance, Legal
Kenneth Payne	Policy & Governance, State Policy
Monica Allard Cox	**Outreach & Communications**
Sue Kennedy	Outreach
Chip Young	Media
Laura Ricketson-Dwyer	CRMC Public Relations
Kate Manning Butler	**Finance & Administration**
Amber Neville	Information Management
Kim Kaine	Special Events
Bob Bowen	Management Information Systems (MIS)

Goals, Objectives, and Tasks

***Goal 1: Assemble background** information on the project boundary's natural features, human activities, and policy and procedures to assist in the understanding of this Ocean SAMP region.*

Objective 1: Engage state, federal and regional agencies to ensure project is collecting appropriate and necessary information to meet state/federal requirements and to create a forum for information exchange, coordinated coastal and ocean management, and learning.

Tasks, G1.O1.	Activity	Outcome	Staff Lead	End Date
Develop the State agency Advisory Committee	Organize a committee made up of RI state agencies engaged in coastal/ocean management related issues to ensure there is a formal mechanism to engage these entities into the effort. Engage CT, MA, and NY state agencies on an ad hoc basis to ensure their involvement.	State agencies are engaging in the process to ensure that state policies are coordinated	**Fugate, Goulet** McCann	Sep 2008
Develop the Federal agency Advisory Committee	Organize a committee made up of federal agencies, including MMS, ACE, NMFS, EPA, etc. to ensure that there is a formal mechanism to engage these entities into the effort.	Federal agencies are engaging in the process to ensure that state policies are coordinated	**Fugate, Goulet** McCann	Aug-Sep 2008

Objective 2: In coordination and with support from Ocean SAMP researchers, develop background information on existing conditions for major human activities.

Tasks, G1.O2.	Activity	Outcome	Staff Lead	End Date
Develop a table of contents for the presentation of each topic	This table of contents will ensure that all researchers are presenting their data in a consistent format. This will assist project team in the synthesis of this information.	Consistently presented information	**Crean**, McCann, Management team	Sept 2008
Develop SAMP questions	These questions will be presented to all researchers to encourage them to think about the SAMP as an ecosystem and how it relates to their topic.	Topic information is integrated into discussions about the ecosystem.	**McCann** Nixon, Olsen	Oct 2008
Commercial and Recreational Fisheries	Meet with key fisheries organizations and review appropriate plans to identify: 1) existing and potential future recreational activities; 2) issues of concern with existing activities; and 3) potential conflicts/ enhancements concerning renewable energy activity.	Background document with maps and text. Updated commercial and	**Beutel**, Skrobe, Crean, Smythe Damon	Mar 2009

		recreational usage maps. Fisheries sector formally engaged in process		
Tasks, G1.O2.	**Activity**	**Outcome**	**Staff Lead**	**End Date**
Recreational Activities	Meet with key recreational organizations (public/private) and review appropriate state/federal recreation plans to identify: 1) existing and potential future recreational activities; 2) issues of concern with existing activities; and 3) potential conflicts/ enhancements concerning renewable energy activity.	Background document with maps and text. Recreational sector formally engaged in process	**Crean**, Smythe Kennedy McCann Damon	Mar 2009
Marine Transportation	Work with Spaulding et. al. to summarize this issue. If necessary, meet with key organizations (public/private) and review appropriate state/federal marine transportation plans to identify: 1) existing and potential future activities; 2) issues of concern with existing activities; and 3) potential conflicts/ enhancements concerning renewable energy activity.	Background document with maps and text. Marine Transportation sector formally engaged in process	**Crean**, Smythe, Kennedy McCann Spaulding, Grilli, Grilli Damon	Mar 2009
Military uses	Meet with federal agencies to identify: 1) existing and potential future activities; 2) issues of concern with existing/future activities; and 3) potential conflicts/ enhancements concerning renewable energy activity.	Background document with maps and text.	**Crean**, Smythe, Kennedy McCann Damon	Jul 2009
Installed infrastructure (cables	Meet with federal/state agencies to identify: 1) existing and potential future infrastructure and activities; 2) issues of concern with existing/future activities; and 3) potential conflicts/ enhancements concerning renewable energy activity.	Background document with maps and text.	**Crean**, Smythe, Kennedy McCann Damon	Jul 2009
Dredged material disposal sites	Meet with federal/state agencies to identify: 1) existing and potential future infrastructure and activities; 2) issues of concern with existing/future activities; and 3) potential conflicts/ enhancements concerning renewable energy activity.	Background document with maps and text.	**Crean**, Smythe, Kennedy McCann Damon	Jul 2009
Aesthetic values	Meet with interested organizations (public/private) and review appropriate plans to identify: 1) issues of concern with existing activities; and 3) potential conflicts/ enhancements concerning renewable energy activity.	Background document with maps and text.	**Crean**, Smythe, Kennedy McCann	Jul 2009
Acoustic Noise and	Work with researchers to format and synthesize information for appropriate incorporation into	Background document	**Miller**, Potty,	Jul 2009

Electromagnetic Effects	the SAMP document.	with maps and text.	Raposa, **Crean**, Smythe, Kennedy McCann, Damon	

Tasks, G1.O2.	**Activity**	**Outcome**	**Staff Lead**	**End Date**
Cultural resources	Meet with federal/state agencies and others to identify: 1) cultural resources; 2) issues of concern with existing/future activities; and 3) potential conflicts/ enhancements concerning renewable energy activity.	Background document with maps and text.	**Crean**, Smythe, Kennedy McCann Damon	Jul 2009
Marine Archeology	Work with Mather to summarize this issue. If necessary, meet with key organizations (public/private) and review appropriate state/federal marine transportation plans to identify: 1) existing and potential future activities; 2) issues of concern with existing activities; and 3) potential conflicts/ enhancements concerning renewable energy activity.	Background document with maps and text.	**Crean**, Smythe, Kennedy McCann, Mather Damon	Jul 2009
Other possible uses	If necessary present information on other potential future activities, including: 1) issues of concern with existing activities; and 2) potential conflicts/ enhancements concerning renewable energy activity.	Background document with maps and text.	**Crean**, Smythe, Kennedy McCann Damon	Jul 2009
Interdisciplinary solutions	Review the possibilities of interdisciplinary solutions to address SAMP issues to: 1) Realize economic value-add; and 2) Emphasize the connections among and interrelatedness of SAMP issues.	Background document with maps and text.	**Crean**, **Mangment team,** Smythe, Kennedy McCann Damon	Jul 2009

Objective 3: Create consistent background papers on existing conditions for major natural features based on technical information created by Ocean SAMP researchers.

Tasks, G1.O3.	**Activity**	**Outcome**	**Staff Lead**	**End Date**
Develop a table of contents for the presentation of each topic	This table of contents will ensure that all researchers are presenting their data in a consistent format. This will assist project team in the synthesis of this information.	Consistently presented information	**Crean**, McCann, Damon, Management team	Sept 2008
Marine Mammals	Work with researchers to format and synthesize information for appropriate incorporation into the SAMP document.	Background document with maps and text.	**Crean**, Smythe, Kenney, Damon	Jul 2009
Sea Turtles	Work with researchers to format and synthesize information for appropriate incorporation into the SAMP document.	Background document with maps and text.	**Crean**, Smythe, Kenney, Damon	Jul 2009

Tasks, G1.O3.	**Activity**	**Outcome**	**Staff Lead**	**End Date**
Avian Species	Work with researchers to format and synthesize information for appropriate incorporation into the SAMP document.	Background document with maps and text.	**Crean**, Smythe, Paton, McWilliams, Mizrahi, Peters, Damon	Jul 2009
Fishery resources	Work with researchers to format and synthesize information for appropriate incorporation into the SAMP document.	Background document with maps and text.	Beutel, **Skrobe**, Crean, Smythe Damon	Jul 2009
Bottom Characteristics	Work with researchers to format and synthesize information for appropriate incorporation into the SAMP document.	Background document with maps and text.	**Crean**, Smythe, Kennedy, McCann, King, Pockalny, Pratt, Boothroyd, Damon	Jul 2009
Physical Oceanography	Work with researchers to format and synthesize information for appropriate incorporation into the SAMP document	Background document with maps and text.	**Crean**, Smythe, Kennedy, McCann Codiga, Ullman Damon	Jul 2009
Water Productivity/Ecology	Work with researchers to format and synthesize information for appropriate incorporation into the SAMP document.	Background document with maps and text.	**Crean**, Smythe, Kennedy, McCann, Nixon, Granger, Damon	Jul 2009
Winds, Waves and currents	Work with researchers to format and synthesize information for appropriate incorporation into the SAMP document.	Background document with maps and text.	**Crean**, Smythe, Kennedy, McCann, Spaulding, Grilli, Grilli, Damon	Jul 2009
Storms and hurricanes	Work with researchers to format and synthesize information for appropriate incorporation into the SAMP document.	Background document with maps and text.	**Crean**, Smythe, Kennedy, McCann, Spaulding, Damon	Jul 2009

Tasks, G1.O3.	**Activity**	**Outcome**	**Staff Lead**	**End Date**
Air Quality and meteorology	Work with researchers to format and synthesize information for appropriate incorporation into the SAMP document.	Background document with maps and text.	**Crean**, Smythe, Kennedy, McCann, Merrill, Heikes, Damon	Jul 2009

Objective 4: Research and provide information on existing policies, procedures and governance frameworks for natural features and human activities within the Ocean SAMP

Tasks, G1.O4.	**Activity**	**Outcome**	**Staff Lead**	**End Date**
State Policy Assessment	Review State Guide Plan elements & other relevant local plans; Prepare detailed summary of policy-related issues.	Document that presents this research and analysis	**Payne,** Crean	Mar 2009
Legal – permitting processes	Analyze the state and federal permitting process and other state and federal agency policies and procedures for marine renewable energy projects. Highlight legal and policy challenges and solutions for implementing renewable energy in Rhode Island.	Document that describes this information and provides recommendations	**Higgins**, student, Crean	Feb 2009
Legal – relevant issues	Provide legal research and analysis of ocean zoning and other relevant issues including commercial and recreational fisheries to support the development of policies and regulations for the SAMP.	Document that presents this research and analysis	**Higgins**, student, Crean	Feb 2009

Goal 2. Identify best practices *and strategies for overcoming obstacles in planning, policy, and implementation of marine renewable energy that can be transferred to the Ocean SAMP initiative based on a comparative assessment of lessons learned from other initiatives in the United States and worldwide. Evaluate what works and what does not work in the Ocean SAMP initiative so that this model effort can be used as a case study for future efforts.*

Tasks, G2.	**Activity**	**Outcome**	**Staff Lead**	**End Date**
Comparative policy assessment	Compare and contrast experience and lessons learned from other initiatives in the United States and worldwide with the aim of capturing good practices transferable to Rhode Island	Comparative assessment report	**Tobey,** Olsen, Costa-Pierce	May 2009
Baseline public opinion survey	Implement a public opinion survey of the general public's understanding and concerns for an Ocean SAMP and offshore energy production	Public opinion survey results	**Tobey**, McCann, Crean	Nov 2008
Second public opinion survey	Implement a second public opinion survey targeted at the same general public on their understanding and concerns for an Ocean SAMP and offshore energy production	Public opinion survey results	**Tobey** McCann, Crean	July 2010
Best practices assessment	Articulate the principles and strategies of the Ocean SAMP and summarize key outcomes so that the project leaves behind for others a case study to learn from	Summative assessment report	**Tobey**, Olsen, Costa-Pierce	Apr 2010

Goal 3. Engage a well informed and well represented constituency that understands the Ocean SAMP issues and is involved in the creation of the Ocean SAMP.

Objective 1: Develop a formal process to ensure that all stakeholders and citizens have an opportunity to engage in the process.

Tasks, G3.O1.	**Activity**	**Outcome**	**Staff Lead**	**End Date**
Establish the Ocean SAMP stakeholder working group	Convene a committee that represents key community and civic organizations in the state to: 1) Ensure a wide range of stakeholders reflecting Rhode Island's diverse ethnic and economic backgrounds participate in SAMP dialogue.	Periodic meetings for present information and hear responses	McCann, **Crean,** Neville	Sep/ Oct 2008
Engage CRMC into the process	Ensure that CRMC members are informed of progress and opportunities for input.	Meetings	**Ricketson,** Allard Cox	Ongoing
Organize formal presentations in diverse locations of the State	In coordination with key partners (e.g. WCRPC, AIPC, Blackstone Valley) organize meetings to present the project as well as query their concerns and interest.	Public Outreach Events	**Kennedy,** Neville	Feb 2009

Tasks, G3.O1.	Activity	Outcome	Staff Lead	End Date
Special meetings with key stakeholders	Meet with key RI leaders to explain the SAMP process and input	meetings	**Young,** Allard Cox, Ricketson, Neville, McCann, Fugate	Oct 2008
MOU signing	State & Federal leaders to convene and formally kick off the SAMP effort.	Public Event	**Young,** Kaine, Kennedy	Sep 2008
Develop a televised forum	To report on SAMP progress	Public Outreach Event	**Young,** Ricketson, Allard Cox, Kaine	Apr 2009

Objective 2: Organize and/or support existing events that offer project team and stakeholders an opportunity to better understand issues including ocean zoning, impacts of renewable energy activities on existing human activities and natural features and other related topics.

Tasks, G3.O2.	Activity	Outcome	Staff Lead	End Date
Baird Symposium	"Sound Connections: The Science of Rhode Island and Block Island Sounds" The meeting will focus on Block Island Sound and Rhode Island Sound and their interfaces with waters to their north, south, east, and west. The symposium will explore the physical oceanography and living marine environments of the Sounds region, ecological trends, ocean-atmosphere interactions, and the geological landscape of the area. Both observational and model results will be included.	Proceedings?	**Costa Pierce,** Allard Cox, McCann, Crean	Oct 2008
Roger Williams University Marine Law Symposium	This two-day Symposium will explore means to achieve a viable marine renewable energy industry for the United States with a focus on offshore wind, hydrokinetics (wave, current and tidal), and ocean thermal energy conversion. Its panels will discuss a range of solutions for the nascent U.S. marine renewable energy sector's current legal, economic and policy challenges.	Roger Williams Law Review Publication	**Costa Pierce,** Allard Cox, McCann, Crean	Oct 2008
RINHS monthly events			Allard Cox	Ongoing
RINHS conference.	The Rhode Island Natural History Survey's conferences provide the state's environmental and life scientists with a forum to discuss key issues related to the state's biota and habitats. In addition to scientists, the conferences are attended by policy-makers, land managers, representatives from nonprofit organizations, amateur naturalists, educators, students, and interested citizens.		Allard Cox	Mar 2009

Tasks, G3.O2.	**Activity**	**Outcome**	**Staff Lead**	**End Date**
Newspaper series	That introduces key SAMP issues and describes SAMP progress		**Young**	Ongoing
Develop articles on SAMP for 41 north			Allard Cox, Ricketson	Apr 2009

Objective 3: Develop communication tools that will provide up-to date information for all interested citizens and interest groups.

Tasks, G3.O3.	**Activity**	**Outcome**	**Staff Lead**	**End Date**
Develop project web site, phone, e-mail			**Allard Cox**	Jul 2008
Develop project fact sheet			**Allard Cox**	Aug 2008
Establish external listserve/mailing list			**Allard Cox**, Kennedy, Neville	Aug 2008
Ferry display			Nixon, Granger, **Allard Cox**	Apr 2009

Goal 4: Develop a SAMP for Rhode Island's Coastal waters that serves as a tool to encourage regulatory and management coordination and consistency among Rhode Island state agencies (CRMC, OER, DEM), federal agencies (U.S. Department of Energy, ACOE, MMS, and the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission), neighboring states (MA, CT) and other public entities, developers, and environmentalists within this project area.

Objective 1: Develop siting criteria that will serve as a mechanism to promote the identification of appropriate sites for the installation of permanent structures.

Tasks, G4.O1.	**Activity**	**Outcome**	**Staff Lead**	**End Date**
Develop characteristics or performance measures for the Ocean Samp	Based on the revised wind farm site screening analysis (Spaulding) and the information collected and created by the Ocean SAMP effort, develop the criteria to guide CRMC and others to identify appropriate locations for siting wind farm activities. This will build on work developed for the ATM study. Physical and biological characteristics include those necessary for the installation of structures, including structures that support alternative energy activities. Characteristics would also include locations where these structures would not be appropriate (e.g. inside a navigational channel).		**Mangmnt team (McCann),** Olsen, Costa Pierce, Nixon, Crean, Grilli, Damon	Jul 2009

Objective 2: Develop new policies and procedures for renewable energy activities

Tasks, G4.O2.	**Activity**	**Outcome**	**Staff Lead**	**End Date**
Develop new policies and procedures	Based on the results and learning from all other aspects of this project, develop policies and procedures for the construction, operation, and decommissioning of renewable infrastructure.		**Mangmnt team (McCann),** Olsen, Costa Pierce, Nixon, Payne, Crean	Jun 2010

Objective 3: Develop the SAMP document as described in the Ocean SAMP outline

Tasks, G4.O3.	**Activity**	**Outcome**	**Staff Lead**	**End Date**
Develop the Executive Summary (100)	Summarize SAMP document	Section 100	**McCann,** Crean, Smythe, Kennedy,	Jun 2010 2009
Develop the Introduction (200)	Describe intent and purpose, project boundary, how the SAMP will be used	Section 200	**McCann**, Crean, Smythe, Kennedy, Damon	Jun 2010

Tasks, G4.O3.	**Activity**	**Outcome**	**Staff Lead**	**End Date**
Summarize the Existing Conditions section (300)	Present this information, highlighting fisheries (likely its own chapter). This section will present an overview of the existing natural features and human activities. Aspects that make this a high energy system it unique qualities will be highlighted.	Section 300	Crean, Smythe, Kennedy, **McCann, Nixon**, Damon	Nov 2010
Summarize Existing Policies (400)	Discuss CRMC's policies/procedures etc.	Section 400	Crean, Smythe, Kennedy, **McCann,** Higgins	Nov 2010
Summarize Renewable Energy Activities (500)	Describe renewable energy activity, including the physical process constructing, operation, and decommissioning renewable energy infrastructure, existing/proposed technologies, siting requirements and potential impacts. And lessons learned from elsewhere	Section 500	Hu, Baxter, Crean, Tobey, Crean, Smythe, Kennedy, **McCann,**	Nov 2010
Present sites and new policies (600)	This includes state, federal, interstate policies and procedures for the construction, operation and decommissioning of renewable infrastructure.	Section 600	Mangmnt team **(McCann),** Olsen, Costa Pierce, Nixon, Crean	Jun 2010
Submit draft SAMP to CRMC formal process			**Fugate** with assistance from URI	Jul 2010

Milestone 1

OCEAN SAMP RESEARCH

- Home
- Calendar of Events
- Fact Sheet
- Maps
- Research
- Stakeholders
- Presentations
- Project Timeline
- Publications
- Management Team
- Contact Us

Endeavor embarks on Ocean SAMP research (click here to read more)

Below are descriptions of the Ocean SAMP research projects.

1. Engineering Studies in Support of the Rhode Island Ocean SAMP

Malcolm L. Spaulding, URI Ocean Engineering
Stephan Grilli, URI Ocean Engineering
Annette Grilli, URI Ocean Engineering

This study is divided into three separate components: (1) *wave and storm surge characterization for Rhode Island coastal waters*; (2) *marine transportation paths based on Automatic Identification System (AIS) data*, and (3) *Phase II/revised wind farm site screening analysis*. The wave and storm surge characterization will include analysis of wind data to assess Rhode Island's wind resources, and estimate wave and storm surge conditions at potential alternate energy development sites. The analysis of marine transportation paths will include spatial and temporal analysis of AIS data showing commercial ship traffic patterns, and comparing this data with U.S. Coast Guard-regulated marine transport areas and routine ferry transportation corridors. The Phase II/revised wind farm site screening analysis will include a detailed review of the Phase I site screening analysis employed in the 2007 *RI Winds* study and a new Phase II/refined site screening analysis based on data collected as part of the Ocean SAMP that will result in a list of sites for potential energy development. This three-part study will result in final reports as well as Geographic Information Systems (GIS) maps showing study findings.

2. Rhode Island Wind Farm Structures/Foundations Study: Support Structures and Foundations for Offshore Wind Turbines

Sau-Lon James Hu, URI Ocean Engineering
Christopher D.P. Baxter, URI Ocean/Civil Engineering

This study analyzes the various technologies, relevant parameters, and costs associated with the support structures and foundations for offshore wind turbines. First, the researchers will perform a detailed assessment of the technology used for offshore wind turbine support structures and foundations. This will include a literature review with a focus on learning from the implementation of those technologies in areas such as the United Kingdom, Germany, and Denmark. Next, researchers will identify and evaluate important environmental parameters (such as water depth, wave height and period, and depth to bedrock) that govern the selection of which technology should be used in a given location. Finally, researchers will estimate the relative costs of the different technologies based on known site conditions in Rhode Island coastal waters, and will identify the systems to be recommended for the proposed sites. This study will conclude with a final report as well as GIS maps illustrating study findings.

3. Rhode Island Wind Farm Siting Study: Acoustic Noise and Electromagnetic Effects

James H. Miller, URI Ocean Engineering/Graduate School of Oceanography
Gopu Potty, URI Ocean Engineering
Kathleen Vigness-Raposa, URI Graduate School of Oceanography, Office of Marine Programs

This study analyzes the noise and electromagnetic field conditions associated with offshore wind structures, and assesses the potential impact of these conditions on marine mammals, turtles, and other living marine resources. Researchers will collect and analyze acoustic data at the candidate locations in order to perform a detailed analysis of the present atmospheric and underwater noise conditions in these locations. They will then build and implement a noise-prediction model for the wind farm during construction and operation phases. Researchers will also collect and analyze electromagnetic field data at the candidate locations to assess present conditions and predict future increases due to the wind farm and associated cabling. Finally, researchers will quantify the potential effects of the added noise and electromagnetic exposure on marine mammals, turtles, and other

native animals. This study will result in a final report and GIS maps illustrating study findings.

4. Characterizing Physical Oceanography of the Rhode Island Coastal Ocean

Dan Codiga, URI Graduate School of Oceanography
Dave Ullman, URI Graduate School of Oceanography

This study will characterize the physical oceanography of Rhode Island's coastal waters. The researchers will summarize the sparse existing observations, and describe representative hydrodynamic model simulations that have been demonstrated to capture observations while providing additional spatial coverage. Annual-mean and seasonal-mean currents, non-tidal current variations due wind forcing and estuarine outflow, tidal currents, and the structure of annual- and seasonal-mean temperature, salinity, density, and density stratification will be described. Using estimates of extreme winds provided by other researchers, extreme currents will be estimated. This study will result in a final report as well as GIS maps illustrating the study findings.

5. Geospatial Data Support for a Revised Wind Farm Site Screening Analysis (Phase II)

Peter August, URI Department of Natural Resources Science
Charles LaBash, URI Department of Natural Resources Science
Christopher Damon, URI Department of Natural Resources Science

This project will provide mapping support for the analytical, visualization, outreach, and communication needs of the Ocean SAMP assessment process. The researchers will consolidate all relevant and available geospatial data and metadata, convert them to a common geography, and make the data accessible over the Internet. They will also take the new data emerging from the SAMP process and create new maps and other cartographic and analytic products. All of these materials will be available online via the www.narrbay.org web portal.

6. Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Analysis for the Rhode Island Ocean SAMP

Robert Kenney, URI Graduate School of Oceanography
Kathleen Vigness Raposa, URI Dept. of Natural Resources Science

This study will use existing data to perform detailed analyses and mapping of the spatial and temporal distributions and relative abundances of the 30-plus species of marine mammals and four species of sea turtles known to occur in Rhode Island coastal waters or nearby. Using all available sighting and stranding data, the researchers will create GIS maps showing the seasonal occurrence of each species. Then, the researchers will address potential bias in the raw data by quantifying and analyzing sightings per unit effort (SPUE), which corrects sighting frequencies for differences in survey effort. The SPUE data will be used to create more refined GIS maps showing seasonal relative abundances for all species with sufficient sightings. This study will result in a background paper that includes an account for each marine mammal and sea turtle species present. Each account will include all of the GIS maps produced for that species.

7. Air Quality and Meteorology Studies in Support of the Rhode Island Ocean SAMP

John Merrill, URI Graduate School of Oceanography
Brian Heikes, URI Graduate School of Oceanography

This study will analyze meteorological and air quality data for Rhode Island coastal waters and nearby areas. The researchers will use climatological data to analyze prevailing winds, storm occurrence, and precipitation distributions. Using these data sets, they will determine the intensity, duration, and frequency of fog and other obstructions to visibility for mariners, as well as the probability of icing conditions in offshore areas. Researchers will also use weather-balloon and ozone-vertical-profile data to characterize the meteorological environment in the context of air pollution outbreaks. Finally, researchers will compile and summarize applicable Environmental Protection Agency air pollution regulations and nonattainment data, in order to consider potential beneficial reductions in pollutants. This study will result in a final report as well as a series of figures and tables showing study findings.

8. Sediment, Benthic Habitat Distribution, and Cultural Resources

John W. King, URI Graduate School of Oceanography
Rob Pockalny, URI Graduate School of Oceanography
Sheldon Pratt, URI Graduate School of Oceanography
Jon Boothroyd, URI Department of Geology
Rod Mather, URI Department of History
John Jensen, URI Department of History

This study will review the sediment, benthic habitat, and cultural resources of the prospective wind farm sites. Researchers will conduct coarse resolution geophysical, geological, biological surveys and ground-truthing studies of prospective sites. They will then develop GIS data layers of regional subsurface geology, geologic habitat, and biological habitat. Next, researchers will use historic, archaeological, and environmental data to identify and assess the potential for submerged historic and prehistoric archaeological sites and properties within the study area. They will then augment these cultural assessments using existing and newly-acquired geophysical survey data. This study will result in a final report summarizing the study findings, as well as GIS data layers and geological, biological, and archaeological supporting information for the GIS data.

9. Spatial Distribution and Abundance and Flight Ecology of Marine and Coastal Birds off Coastal Rhode Island

Peter Paton, URI Department of Natural Resources Science
Scott McWilliams, URI Department of Natural Resources Science
David Mizrahi, New Jersey Audubon Society
Kim Peters, New Jersey Audubon Society

This study will assess the current spatial and temporal patterns of bird abundance in Rhode Island coastal waters. Researchers will compile existing data and conduct land-based, sea-based, and radar surveys to determine current avian distribution and abundance, to assess diel (daily cycle) patterns of avian use, and to quantify flight ecology for birds and bats (i.e., flock size, flight elevation, and flight behavior). Researchers will also determine foraging and roosting sites for roseate terns, which are federally listed as an endangered species. GIS maps will be produced showing current and historic seasonal distribution and abundance for each bird species, spatially and temporally explicit flight pathways, and the distribution and abundance of roseate tern roost and foraging sites. In addition to these maps, this study will result in a final report summarizing study findings.

10. Ecosystems

Scott Nixon, URI Graduate School of Oceanography
Stephan Granger, URI Graduate School of Oceanography

This study will develop a fundamental knowledge base of the ecology of the Ocean SAMP area and integrate that knowledge into the formulation of the SAMP. Researchers will gather data to measure and describe previously unstudied aspects of Rhode Island and Block Island Sounds, including the spatial and seasonal distribution of the phytoplankton that provide the energy for food chains, the rate at which these phytoplankton fix carbon and energy, and the supply and distribution of the inorganic nutrients that make this productivity possible. To do this, researchers will gather phytoplankton chlorophyll, incident light, and vertical light attenuation data. They will use these and other datasets to estimate primary production and phytoplankton standing crops over an annual cycle, as well as the role of wind and tides in stimulating phytoplankton blooms. The study will result in a series of maps, datasets, and graphs, as well as a written assessment summarizing study findings.

11. Commercial and Recreational Fisheries

David Beutel, University of Rhode Island/Rhode Island Sea Grant
Laura Skrobe, University of Rhode Island/Rhode Island Sea Grant

This study will evaluate the commercial and recreational fishing uses of the Ocean SAMP area. The researchers will hold regular informational meetings with Rhode Island commercial and recreational fishing associations about the Ocean SAMP. The researchers will then work with commercial and recreational fishing association members, as well as with unaffiliated fishers, to delineate on nautical charts current fisheries usage areas within the SAMP boundary. Using this input, the researchers will develop updated commercial and recreational fisheries usage maps for the SAMP area. In addition, researchers will prepare descriptions of commercial and recreational fishing activities within the study area. These

maps and related documentation will be used to identify potential challenges in managing SAMP area uses and resources. This study will result in an updated commercial fisheries usage map, an updated recreational fisheries usage map, and descriptions of fishing activities within the SAMP area.

12. Policy & Governance

a. State Policy and the Rhode Island Ocean SAMP

Kenneth Payne, URI College of Environment and Life Sciences

This study will provide a means for the contextual integration of the Ocean SAMP in executive branch planning and decision-making processes in Rhode Island. The researcher will both inform the SAMP development regarding intergovernmental and interagency matters, and work to create a favorable context beyond the Coastal Resources Management Council for recognition and use of the Ocean SAMP. To do this, the researcher will review State Guide Plan elements and other relevant plans and regulatory regimes to identify issues that may have a potential bearing on the preparation of the Ocean SAMP. The researcher will also make revisions to State Guide Plan Element 781, *Rhode Island Energy Plan 2002*, to facilitate consistency with the analysis being done on the SAMP. In addition, the researcher will offer guidance throughout the process of writing the official SAMP document. This study will conclude with a written report summarizing study findings.

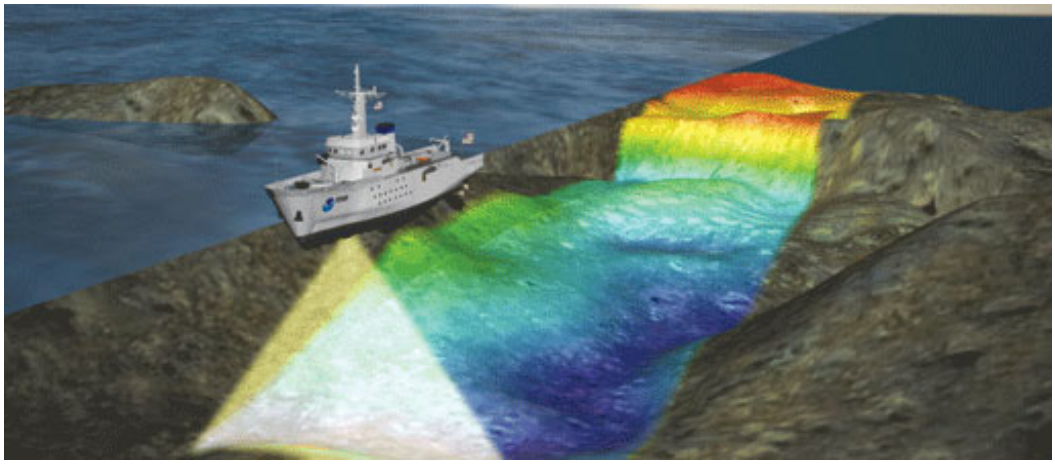
b. Legal Aspects of the Ocean SAMP

Megan Higgins, Roger Williams University School of Law/RI Sea Grant Legal Program

This study will analyze legal and regulatory issues relating to the siting of marine renewable energy projects within the Ocean SAMP area. Researchers will conduct legal research at the local, state, national, and international levels to draft a regulatory framework for siting projects within the SAMP boundary. Researchers will then distribute this information to members of the legal community, members of the marine renewable energy community, and constituents of the Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program/Roger Williams University School of Law Marine Affairs Institute. Much of this information will be shared through Sea Grant Legal Program's 2008 Marine Law Symposium, *A Viable Marine Renewable Energy Industry: Solutions to Legal, Economic, and Policy Challenges*. This study will generate a Marine Law Symposium Proceedings document as well as a set of draft regulatory standards for guiding development and protecting ocean resources in the SAMP area as part of the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Plan.

For more information or to receive updates via e-mail, contact Monica Allard Cox, Ocean SAMP outreach and communications leader, at (401) 874-6015 or e-mail oceansamp@gso.uri.edu.

RI Ocean SAMP Cruise Plan
R/V Endeavor
Cruise EN 455



September 30 - October 10, 2008

Introduction

In September and October of 2008, scientists from the University of Rhode Island plan to conduct a 10 day geophysical seafloor study in Block Island sound that will be used in support of the development of the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council's (CRMC) Ocean Special Area Management Plan. The R/V Endeavor, owned by the National Science Foundation and operated by the University of Rhode Island, will conduct the study using RI Endeavor Program (RIEP) funding. The purpose of RIEP is to provide Rhode Islanders with direct access to the scientific research and educational capabilities of an ocean-going research vessel.

Figure 1: Shows the three potential areas determined by the Ocean SAMP Tier 1 screening analysis that are possibilities for alternative energy facilities. The yellow border defines RI state waters; the purple dashed line indicate the limit of the Ocean SAMP study area. The dark gray area indicates known vessel travel patterns and existing precautionary areas. The red lines bound areas that were identified in the RI Winds study prepared for the RI Energy Office in 2007.

Personnel

The following personnel will take part in the cruise:

Science Staff	***Responsibility***	***Affiliation***
Sam De Bow*	Chief Scientist	GSO
Robert Pockalny	Watch Leader	GSO
Fred Hegg*	Sonar Engineer	GSO
Monique La France*	Data Analyst	GSO
Steven Smith	Data Acquisition Watch	GSO
Russell Miller*	Data Acquisition Watch	OE
Travis Barao	Data Acquisition Watch	OE
Dave Nelson*	Oceanographic Technician	GSO
Kris Winiarski	Avian Observer	URI
Tiffany Smythe	Data Acquisition Watch	CRC
Andreas Nunez	Data Acquisition Watch	GSO
Teresa Creen	Data Acquisition Watch	CRC
Rachel Dapp	Data Acquisition Watch	
Tania Lado	Data Acquisition Watch	GSO
Brittany Wright	Data Acquisition Watch	
Jonus Hensel	Data Acquisition Watch	GSO
Danni Goulet	RI CRMC	CRMC

* Crew on both legs of trip

Instruments

Data for the cruise will be collected by using a towfish, which enclosed a Teledyne Benthos C3D-LPM side scan and bathymetric sensor as well as a sub-bottom profiler module. The system is designed for vessel operations in water depths to greater

than 50 meters below the transducer. The C3D-LPM system comes with two 6-array transducers with a one degree horizontal beam width for receiving simultaneous acoustic signals on both port and starboard. The system generates high-resolution side scan imagery, bathymetry and amplitude data from the raw received data producing a three dimensional image of the seafloor. The C3D-LPM was integrated Teledyne Benthos Chirp III Sub-Bottom Profiler. The Chirp III was operated at 2-7KHz. This choice of frequency was selected to optimize the system configuration for sediment penetration and layer/object resolution. The towfish is attached to a pole that was lowered over the side of the ship and then mounted to the deck. The C3D-LPM uses a technique call Computed Angle of Arrival Transient Imaging, which calculates a range and angle for thousands of points across a track to produce high resolution bathymetry layers.

Figure 2: Scientists look over the towfish before putting its top case on and preparing it for the cruise.

Figure 3: Image of the towfish from the company's website.

Figure 4: Science members and ship's crew loading and mounting pole and instrument to ship.

Figure 5: Picture showing pole mounting system secured to ship’s deck.

Figure 6: Picture of Leg 1 Scientific party and C3D stowed on deck.

Avian Observations

Avian and mammal observations will be conducted throughout the cruise.

Acoustic Moorings

Two Acoustic buoys to measure the ambient underwater noise will be deployed. These data are being acquired with Passive Aquatic Listeners (PALs) that were developed and acquired from Applied Physics Laboratory, University of Washington.

Milestone 2

Milestone 3

Ocean SAMP Outreach Efforts

As of October 2008

Ocean SAMP Public Outreach Goal: Engage a well informed and well represented constituency that understands the Ocean SAMP issues and is involved in the creation of the Ocean SAMP.

Objective 1: Develop a formal process to ensure that all stakeholders and citizens have an opportunity to engage in the process.

a) **Ocean SAMP Stakeholder Group:** 40 participants, meets monthly, a public forum to engage existing organizations that abut or use the SAMP area.

b) **State Agency Advisory Group:** A forum for Rhode Island and neighboring state agencies to share expertise, priorities, and review proposed Ocean SAMP actions.

c) Federal Agency Advisory Group: A forum for Federal agencies to formally engage in the Ocean SAMP process to provide feedback and advice.

d) **Science and Engineering Advisory Task Force:** Review and provide input on all research created by the SAMP process. Help to take individual research to help team understand the overall ecosystem.

e) **Legal Advisory Task Force:** Provide SAMP team with legal advice on possible policies and regulations and an understanding of existing federal, regional and state policies related to the SAMP issues.

f) **Commercial and Recreational Fisheries Involvement:** Ocean SAMP staff will hold regular meetings with Rhode Island commercial and recreational fishing associations about the Ocean SAMP.

Objective 2: Organize and/or support existing events that offer project team and stakeholders an opportunity to better understand issues including ocean zoning, impacts of renewable energy activities on existing human activities and natural features and other related topics.

a) **Ronald C. Baird 7th Annual Science Symposium: *Sound Connections: The Science of Rhode Island and Block Island Sounds.*** This event will explore the physical oceanography and living marine environments of the Sounds region, ecological trends, ocean-atmosphere interactions, and the geological landscape of the area. (October 19 – 21, 2008)

b) **Roger Williams University School of Law 7th MARINE LAW SYMPOSIUM: *A Viable Marine Renewable Energy Industry: Solutions to Legal, Economic, and Policy Challenges.*** This two-day Symposium will explore means to achieve a viable marine renewable energy industry for the United States with a focus on offshore wind, hydrokinetics (wave, current and tidal), and ocean thermal energy conversion. Its panels will discuss a range of solutions for the nascent U.S. marine renewable energy sector's current legal, economic and policy challenges.(October 23-24, 2008)

c) **Rhode Island Natural History Survey Lecture Series and Conference.** These events focus on the impacts and interrelationships between energy and natural resources (Fall 2008 – Spring 2009).

d) **Round table Event: Learning from the United Kingdom Crown Estate Modeling Effort.** This event will provide project team with a better understanding of the U.K.'s efforts to develop and manage offshore renewable energy and to identify lessons learned that can be applied to the Rhode Island Ocean SAMP effort (October 22, 2008).

Objective 3: Develop communication tools that provide up-to date information for all interested citizens and interest groups.

a) Ocean SAMP web page. The site provides the public with a better understanding of the process, the research and the timeline for the SAMP process.

b) Ocean SAMP fact sheets. This hand-out provides the public with an overview of the project.

c) Listserve. Informs the public of events and new research taking place.

d) Ocean SAMP presentation series. Present the Ocean SAMP project at community, state, national and international events.

e) Media and publications: Engage the newspapers, newsletters, and appropriate magazines to assist in communicating the Ocean SAMP project.

f) Ocean SAMP exhibits: These displays will be placed at local libraries, ferries and other public places, including conferences.

CRMC Ocean Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) stakeholder group 10/30/2008

Chair: Dr. Kenneth Payne, University of Rhode Island College of the Environment & Life Sciences

Mr. Dan Beardsley	Executive Director, Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns
Mr. Jeff Broadhead	Executive Director, Washington County Regional Planning Council
Mr. John Brown	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Narragansett Indian Tribe
Mr. Chris Brown	President, Rhode Island Commercial Fishermen's Association
Ms. Alison Buckser	Rhode Island Chapter Chair, Sierra Club
Mr. Charlie Cannon	Landscape Architecture Faculty, Rhode Island School of Design
Mr. Jeffry Ceasrine	Town Manager, Town of Narragansett
Ms. Janet Coit	Director of Government Relations, The Nature Conservancy
Mr. Ken Court	Rhode Island Party & Charter Boat Association
Ms. Vicki deAngeli	President, Jamestown Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Lanny Dellinger	President, Rhode Island Lobstermen's Association
Mr. Julio DiGiando	Town Council President, Jamestown Town Council
Ms. Mary Jane DiMaio	Town Council President, Westerly Town Council
Ms. Tina Dolen	Executive Director, Aquidneck Island Planning Commission
Dr. Robin Schutt	Director of Administrative Services, Town of South Kingstown
Mr. Bernard Fishman	Executive Director, Rhode Island Historical Society
Mr. Richard Fuka	President, Rhode Island Fishermen's Alliance
Ms. Kimberly Gaffett	First Warden, Town of New Shoreham (Block Island)
Ms. Myrna George	President, South County Tourism
Mr. Michael Gerhardt	Acting Executive Director, Save the Bay
Ms. Cynthia Giles	Vice President of RI Advocacy Conservation Law Foundation
Mr. T. Brian Handrigan	Town Council President, Narragansett Town Council
Mr. Doug Harris	Deputy, Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Ms. Debbie Kelso	Executive Director, Narragansett Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Michael Keyworth	Director, Rhode Island Marine Trades Association
Ms. Karina Lutz	Director of Development and Advocacy, People's Power & Light
Mr. James Mageau	Acting President, Charlestown Town Council
Capt. E. Howard McVey	Captain, Northeast Marine Pilots
Mr. Steve Medeiros	President, Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association
Mr. Robert Mushen	Town Council President, Town of Little Compton
Dr. Eleftherios Pavlides	Director, Professor, Wind Power RI Project, Roger Williams University
Ms. Margaret Petruny-Parker	Executive Director, Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation
Mr. Ted Platz	Fisherman, Rhode Island Monkfishermen's Association
Mr. Paul Rodrigues	Town Council President, Town of Middletown
Mr. Michael Ryan	President of Rhode Island Distribution, National Grid
Mr. Paul Sanroma	Administrator Rhode Island Wind Alliance
Ms. Evan Smith	President and CEO, Newport County Convention and Visitors Bureau
Mr. David Spencer	Member, Atlantic Offshore Lobster Association
Mr. Keith Stokes	Executive Director, Newport County Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Larry Taft	Executive Director, Audubon Society of Rhode Island
Ms. Darlene Towne Evans	President, South Kingstown Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Russell Wallis	President, Ocean State Fishermen's Association
Mr. Stephen C. Waluk	City Council Mayor, City of Newport
Ms. Laurie White	President, Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce

rhode island ocean special area management plan

WHAT IS THE OCEAN SAMP?

The Rhode Island Ocean SAMP, or Ocean Special Area Management Plan, will define use zones for Rhode Island's offshore waters through a research and planning process that integrates the best available science with open public input and involvement.

WHY

Global warming is perhaps the most critical issue of the 21st century. It is already accelerating sea level rise, leading to beach erosion, property losses, and increasing Rhode Island's vulnerability to hurricanes and floods. Climate change may adversely affect food supply, public health, and the economy. Rhode Island is committed to reducing its carbon footprint by using renewable energy resources, primarily offshore wind farms, to meet 15 percent of its energy needs.

From 2008 to 2010, through a public policy process that includes scientific research and stakeholder involvement, the Ocean SAMP will make Rhode Island the first state in the nation to zone its offshore waters for diverse activities including renewable energy development. This process will also protect current uses and habitats through zones for commercial fishing; critical habitats for fish, marine animals, and birds; marine transport; and more.

WHO

Leading this project is the R.I. Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC), the state's coastal management agency. Among other responsibilities, CRMC is charged with managing the state's submerged lands. CRMC has already zoned Rhode Island's near-shore waters for a variety of uses, from industrial ports to conservation areas.

CRMC is leading the SAMP effort with the support of the University of Rhode Island (URI). Federal agencies such as the Minerals Management Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which have authority in federal waters, will participate, as will state agencies including the R.I. Department of Environmental Management.

RESEARCH

Research projects undertaken by URI scientists will provide the essential scientific basis for Ocean SAMP policy development. These projects assess wind speeds, appropriate technologies, marine life, geology, meteorology, and more. Information about each project is available on the Ocean SAMP web site.

STAKEHOLDERS

Public involvement will help shape the policy and is crucial to the success of the Ocean SAMP. All Rhode Islanders are invited to share their insights and concerns about offshore renewable energy and the Ocean SAMP with the project management team through the contact information below.

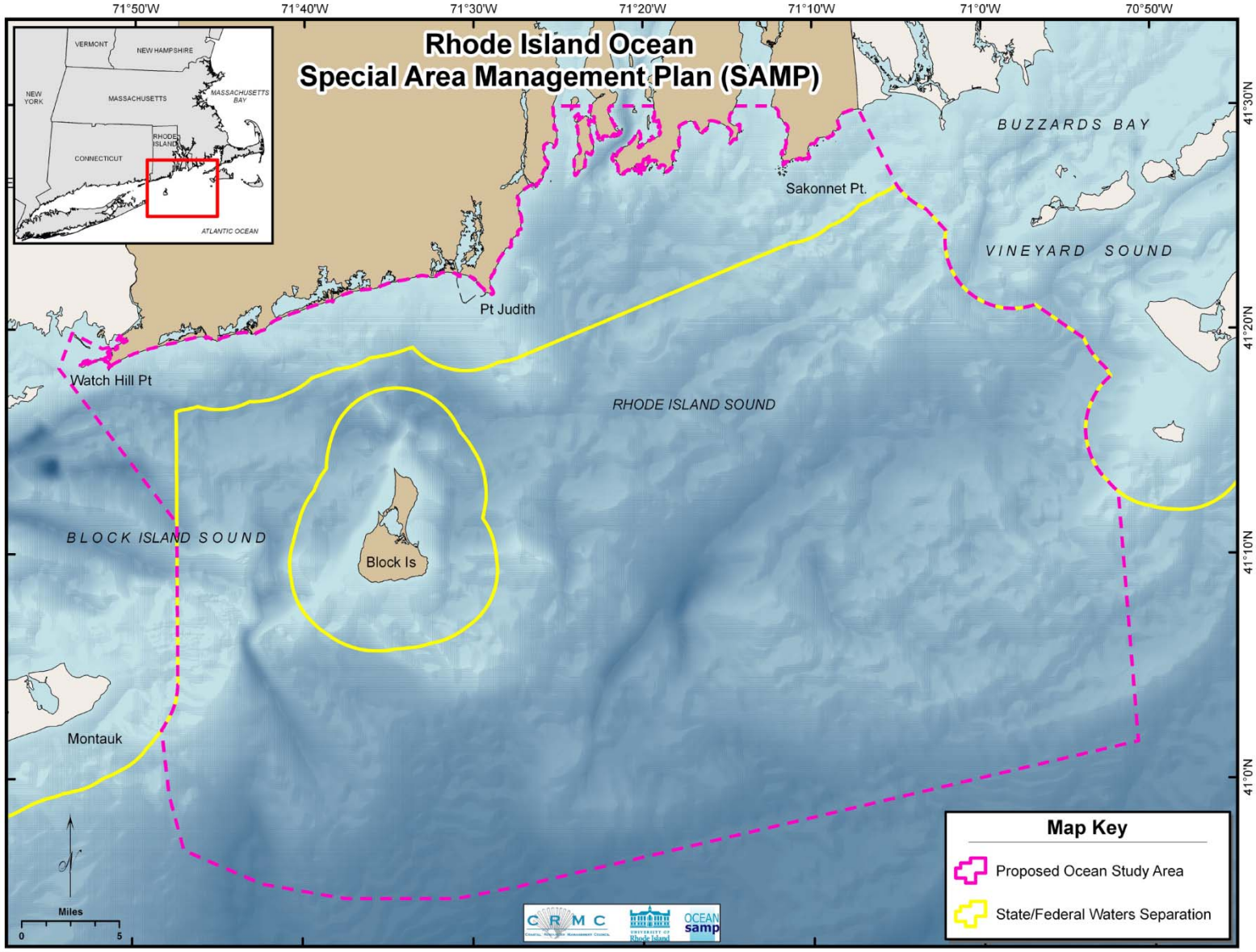
CONTACT

For more information about the project, contact Monica Allard Cox, Ocean SAMP outreach and communications leader, at (401) 874-6015, e-mail oceansamp@gso.uri.edu, or visit seagrant.gso.uri.edu/oceansamp. For CRMC regulatory questions, contact Laura Ricketson-Dwyer, CRMC public educator and information coordinator, at (401) 783-7886, or lricketson@crmc.ri.gov.

Rhode Island OCEAN samp

CRMC Coastal Resources Management Council

University of Rhode Island



October 6, 2008

Ocean SAMP Press
August 1, 2008 to September 30th, 2008

Press Releases

July 1, 2008.
State of Rhode Island Office of the Governor, Donald L. Carcieri. *Governor's Renewable Energy Plan Gains Momentum: Funding Approved for SAMP.*

July 18, 2008.
State of Rhode Island Office of the Governor, Donald L. Carcieri. *Governor Steers Right Course for Renewable Energy.*

September 24, 2008.
State of Rhode Island Office of the Governor, Donald L. Carcieri. *Governor Carcieri to Announce Successful Developer For Rhode Island's Off-Shore Wind Farm.*
http://www.ri.gov/GOVERNOR/view.php?id=7197

September 25, 2008
State of Rhode Island Office of the Governor, Donald L. Carcieri. *Carcieri Names Deepwater Wind as Developer for Rhode Island's Off-Shore Wind Farm*
http://www.ri.gov/GOVERNOR/view.php?id=7202

Local News

July 21, 2008
Providence Business News. *Wind power in Newport is not a good energy solution*

July 21, 2008
Block Island Times. *Offshore mapping to begin August 1*
http://www.blockislandtimes.com/articles/2008/07/21/news/news4.txt

July 21, 2008
Providence Business News R.I. *Moving forward with ocean-zoning plan*
http://www.pbn.com/stories/33804.html

July 24, 2008
The Providence Journal. *Mapping the ocean: SAMP will target areas for renewable energy projects*
http://www.projo.com/business/content/bz_ocean_samp18_07-24-08_8BAT7HN_v13.31a3bbf.html

July 27, 2008
Providence Business News. *Carcieri vetoes key renewable-energy measure*
http://www.pbn.com/stories/33132.html

July 30, 2008
The Providence Journal. *Carcieri vetoed raid on ratepayers*
http://www.projo.com/opinion/contributors/content/CT_andy30_07-30-08_8TB07PP_v11.411d881.html

September 05, 2008
The Providence Journal. *New energy trend: Rooftop wind turbines*
http://www.projo.com/business/content/BZ_smallwind05_09-05-08_2JBF23Q_v11.ae1665.html

September 18, 2008
South County Independent. *Ocean plan would delineate areas for energy projects*
S:\SO1_Field\Ocean SAMP\3_communications\Press\Stories\Local News 091808_SoCoIndependent_OceanPlan

September 24, 2008
The Providence Journal. *R.I. sets course to map its waters for wind farms*
http://www.projo.com/news/content/ocean_wind_mapping_09-23-08_RJBJJ9R_v21.17c1d58.html

September 25, 2008
Associated Press. *RI awards offshore wind farm rights to NJ firm*
http://www.boston.com/news/local/rhode_island/articles/2008/09/25/ri_awards_offshore_wind_farm_rights_to_nj_firm/

September 25, 2008
Bloomberg. *Ospraie, D.E. Shaw, Developer to Build Rhode Island Wind Farm*
http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601103&sid=a_iLNJiO0VBU&refer=us

September 25, 2008
Providence Business News. *R.I. picks developer for $1.5B wind farm*
http://www.pbn.com/stories/35343.html

September 25, 2008
The Providence Journal. *N.J. firm picked to build Rhode Island's wind farm*
http://www.projo.com/news/environment/content/wind_developer_selected_09-25-08_AOBN21P_v27.1b2a512.html

September 25, 2008

Reuters. *Deepwater to build Rhode Island offshore wind farm*
http://www.reuters.com/article/environmentNews/idUSTRE48O88U20080925

September 26, 2008
Mass High Tech: The Journal of New England Technology. *First Wind spinoff to build RI offshore wind project*
http://www.masshightech.com/stories/2008/09/22/daily59-First-Wind-spinoff-to-build-RI-offshore-wind-project.html

September 26, 2008
The Providence Journal. *Off-shore wind farm to be N.J. business's first*
http://www.projo.com/news/content/bz_deepwater26_09-26-08_AOBNLEB_v9.ae1206.html

Donald L. Carcieri

Governor

NEWS

Office of the Governor

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, State House, Providence, RI 02903

www.governor.ri.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Amy Kempe

Tuesday, July 1, 2008 222-8290

Governor's Renewable Energy Plan Gains Momentum

Funding Approved for SAMP

Governor Donald L. Carcieri today announced that the Rhode Island Renewable Energy Fund Board of Trustees approved funding for the work of the University of Rhode Island pursuant to development of a Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) covering Rhode Island's offshore waters.

"The SAMP will expedite the permitting of an offshore wind farm capable of supplying 15% of Rhode Island's electric energy usage, fulfilling my goal to reduce the State's dependence on fossil fuels and foreign sources of oil and natural gas" declared Governor Carcieri.

Under the federal Coastal Zone Management Act, preparation of a SAMP enables permitting of projects within the area covered by the SAMP to proceed on the basis of an Environmental Assessment in lieu of an Environmental Impact Statement.

"The SAMP will be executed in two phases over a period of two years" said the Governor. "The first phase will develop a zoning map for Rhode Island's offshore waters, determining, among other things, defined areas where energy facilities may be constructed, taking into account not only environmental issues, but also resolving potential use conflicts. The second phase will develop design and construction rules for offshore energy projects."

Monies will come from the Rhode Island Renewable Energy Fund (REF). The University has submitted a proposal to accomplish the work. The proposal is in the amount of $3,200,000 and the work will be performed under the terms of a memorandum of understanding executed between the University, through the URI Partnership for Energy, and the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources. Cooperative efforts between the URI Energy Partnership and the OER were contemplated by the MOU.

The recent request for proposals designed to select the private partner to work with the State on developing a wind farm contained a requirement that the selected developer will reimburse the State for SAMP-related expenditures. Acceptance of this RFP provision will be a condition of selection.

###

Subject: Governor Steers Right Course for Renewable Energy
From: "Governor Donald L. Carcieri" <e-news@gov.state.ri.us>
Date: Fri, 18 Jul 2008 11:04:35 -0400 (EDT)
To: cyoung@gso.uri.edu

July 18, 2008 Vol 1, Issue 15

More Informal Gov

Direct from the Governor

Governor Steers Right Course for Renewable Energy

Two recent editorials, one by Representatives Ehrhardt and Gorham (read their editorial) and another by Andrew Dzykewicz, Commissioner, RI Office of Energy Resources (read his editorial), re-affirm the wisdom of Governor Carcieri's course of action in pursuing Renewable Energy for Rhode Island.

The Governor supports whatever will facilitate the development of renewable energy that:

- is cost-effective, that is, shrinks energy costs
- is beneficial to Rhode Islanders
- does not reward special interests
- is environmentally sound
- is mindful of the concerns of all stakeholders

With the review of bids and the development of a Special Area Management Plan for the potential wind farm sites, the Governor is moving ahead with an innovative approach that will bring the nation's first off-shore wind farm to Rhode Island.

Looking Ahead: Saving on Energy

With energy prices soaring and high heating costs on the horizon, it is not too early for every household to review its energy use and make some changes to reduce costs.

The Governor recommends these tips from the US Department of Energy as a start:

Energy Saving Recommendations

Governor Meets with Advisory Panel

Governor Carcieri met with the Panel that he formed to act as a channel of communication to him about any unintended consequences resulting from his Executive Order on Illegal Immigration.

After being charged by the Governor with this task, the Panel members heard updates on the implementation of the Executive Order by the State Police, the Department of Corrections, and the Department of Administration which is responsible for using E-Verify for new state worker hires and overseeing the requirement that all contractors with the State use E-Verify to confirm that their workers are authorized to work in the United

In This Issue

Quick Links

Governor's Website

RI Office of Energy Resources

More people need better information about what is going on in our State

Forward to a Friend

Share this e-mail with your family, friends, and associates and ask them to join our mailing list.

Join our Mailing List!

Bay Day!
July 27th

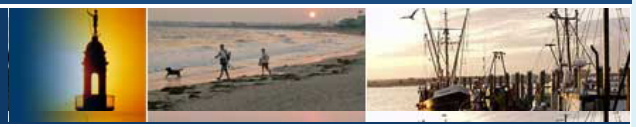
Bay Day 2007 B

Read Governor's Bay Day News Release

Check Out Governor's Bay Day Schedule

Forward email

Office of the Governor, State of Rhode Island | State House | Providence | RI | 02903



Home

Accomplishments

Boards & Commissions

Events

Executive Orders

Week in Review

Video

Contact

Home > Press Releases

Governor Carcieri to Announce Successful Developer For Rhode Island's Off-Shore Wind Farm

09-24-2008

1:00 p.m. Thursday, September 25, 2008 Port of Davisville Quonset Business Park

Governor Donald L. Carcieri will announce the successful developer for Rhode Island's off-shore wind farm at a press conference at the Port of Davisville on Thursday, September 25, 2008.

The successful developer will be chosen to construct a wind energy project off the shores of Rhode Island that will provide 1.3 million megawatt hours per year of renewable energy – 15 percent of all electricity used in the state.

"This announcement marks a major step to bring wind power to Rhode Island and to reach our goal of at least 15 percent of all electricity in the state be renewable energy," said Governor Donald L. Carcieri. "Of the many forms of renewable energy alternatives available, wind is the proven leader. Wind power is clean, green power that is not subject to variations and increases in fuel price. Rhode Island's is uniquely positioned to lead the nation with the development of this country's first off shore wind farm."

Exact Location and directions: Davisville South Bulkhead Enclave, adjacent to Pier One of the Port of Davisville at the Quonset Business Park

95South- Rte 4South -take exit 7a (Rte 403East) take Davisville Road exit. Follow 2.5 miles to end of Davisville Road.

Related links

Department or agency: Office of the Governor
Online: http://www.governor.ri.gov

Browse press releases

2008

- November
- October
- September
- August
- July
- June
- May
- April
- March
- February
- January

2007

- December
- November
- October
- September
- August
- July
- June
- May
- April
- March
- February
- January

2006

- December
- November
- October
- September
- August
- July
- June
- May
- April
- March
- February
- January

2005

- December
- November
- October
- September
- August
- July
- June
- May
- April
- March
- February
- January

2004

- December
- November
- October
- September
- August
- July
- June
- May
- April
- March
- February
- January

2003

- December
- November
- October
- September
- August
- July
- June
- May
- April
- March
- February
- January

Press Releases

Carcieri Names Deepwater Wind as Developer for Rhode Island's Off-Shore Wind Farm

Governor Donald L. Carcieri today announced that Deepwater Wind was chosen as the successful developer to construct a wind energy project off the shores of Rhode Island that will provide 1.3 million megawatt hours per year of renewable energy – 15 percent of all electricity used in the state. It is expected that the project will cost in excess of $1 billion to construct – all from private investment sources. A team of experts assembled by Governor Carcieri spent several months evaluating the detailed proposals submitted by seven development groups.

Deepwater Wind was established to develop utility-scale offshore wind projects in the northeastern part of the United States. The company's major investors are FirstWind, a major developer of on-shore wind projects in the United States, DE Shaw & Co., a capital investment firm with deep experience in the energy sector, and Ospraie Management, a leading asset management firm with a focus on alternative energy markets.

"Today marks a major step to bring wind power to Rhode Island and to reach our goal of at least 15 percent of all electricity in the state be renewable energy," said Governor Donald L. Carcieri. "Of the many forms of renewable energy alternatives available, wind is the proven leader. Wind power is clean, green power that is not subject to variations and increases in fuel price. Rhode Island is uniquely positioned to lead the nation with the development of this country's first off shore wind farm."

"This is much more than an energy project. This is about creating a new industry in Rhode Island; an industry that puts Rhode Island at the epicenter of the emerging alternative energy market. Deepwater Wind will help bring new economic activity, jobs and opportunity to Rhode Island. From construction through operation, Deepwater Wind projects will provide high-quality, green collar jobs. Further, Deepwater Wind's jacket foundations are the ideal cost-effective solution for the deeper waters in our region," continued Carcieri.

"Deepwater Wind is excited to partner with the State of Rhode Island at the cutting-edge of the drive towards energy independence for our nation," said Deepwater Wind CEO Chris Brown. "Off-shore wind power is a critical piece of the national energy solution. We can reduce carbon emissions, stabilize energy prices, and create good jobs right here in the Ocean State. We can make Rhode Island a center of the emerging green collar industry in the northeast by making it the manufacturing hub for offshore wind projects. It is very exciting that a state with a rich maritime history will once again look to the ocean as a source of industrial development."

Deepwater Wind has pledged a significant private investment in Rhode Island of approximately $1.5 billion with the construction of a regional manufacturing facility in Quonset, and creating up to 800 direct jobs, with annual wages of $60 million. The Quonset facility will manufacture support structures upon which the turbine and its tower are based and will serve the entire northeast.

"Our vision is to develop multiple utility-scale wind farms in deep water in the northeast. Quonset will be the base of those manufacturing operations," added Brown.

The exact location of the wind project will determined from the results of the Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) permitting process led by the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council in partnership with URI's Graduate School of Oceanography.

"When the Governor started us down this path two years ago, we had expectations that we could find a partner who would provide us with a clean source of energy that would be competitive with the electric market and help stabilize electric prices for Rhode Island consumers long into the future. This RFP process has shown us that this can be a reality. The frosting on the cake is that Deepwater has committed to help us start a new industry here as well," commented Andrew Dzykewicz, Commissioner of the Office of Energy Resources.

"Deepwater offers us a compelling and credible vision to help Rhode Island develop one of the country's first off shore wind farms. Beyond accelerating our state's move toward energy independence, Deepwater's plan will also strengthen Rhode Island's economy by creating more than 800 new jobs at Quonset," said Saul Kaplan, executive director of the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation and member of the selection team responsible for making the wind farm award. "We will also partner with Deepwater to attract a wind turbine manufacturer and additional high wage manufacturing jobs to the state. By establishing ourselves as an early leader in off shore wind energy production, Rhode Island gains an important competitive advantage in attracting alternative energy companies to the state and in creating new high wage, green energy jobs across Rhode Island."

The state and Deepwater Wind will now enter a 90-day period to negotiate a formal development agreement. The final agreement will include the total commitment to Rhode Island made by Deepwater Wind, including the establishment of a manufacturing headquarters in the State and the reimbursement of the cost of the SAMP to the Renewable Energy Fund. In addition, the agreement will outline the preferred developer status for Deepwater Wind in the permitting process.

Final approval of the project is contingent on multiple regulatory approvals from both the state and federal governments.

Seven bids were received by the Wind Energy Proposal Evaluation Team. Bids were evaluated on the basis of total cost to Rhode Island ratepayers, the qualification and experience of the bidder in constructing wind projects, and the number of jobs and the amount of tax dollars to be created. The Evaluation Team was assisted by independent consultants in the area of energy economics and engineering technology, including the National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

The State's Path Towards 20 Percent Renewable Energy

In 2006, Governor Carcieri announced an ambitious plan to increase the use of renewable sources of energy to generate 20 percent of the state's electricity needs. It was expected that approximately 15 percent would be derived from wind energy.

In June 2007, the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources received the results of a report it had commissioned to determine the best locations for the development of wind energy projects. The report ranked ten sites according to the amount and cost of producible energy, whether or not the sites were in federal or state waters, and the visibility of the projects from shore. Factors highlighted in the report would guide the selection of sites. Most importantly, the report projected that 15 percent of Rhode Island's average energy demand at a competitive cost could be achieved by establishing a wind farm using areas identified as J and K in the study.

Last fall, an extensive stakeholder process was organized to evaluate the study. Participants in the four stakeholder meetings including city and town representatives, environmental organizations, local economic development organizations, commercial and recreational fishing interests, state government agencies, the U.S. Coast Guard, area university representatives, National Grid officials, and consultants to the RI Office of Energy Resources.

In April, the State issued a formal RFP seeking bids from private companies to construct and operate an off-shore wind farm. In June, Governor Carcieri announced the team of individuals responsible for selecting the contractor to develop and construct a wind energy project off the shores of Rhode Island.

- Secretary of State, Office of the
- State Police of Rhode Island
- Transportation, Department of

The Wind Energy Proposal Evaluation Team included several state energy and economic development officials, as well as the Dean of the URI Graduate School of Oceanography, Dr. David Farmer. Seven bids were received.

In July 2008, the Rhode Island Renewable Energy Fund Board of Trustees approved funding for the development of a SAMP covering Rhode Island's offshore waters, executed by a joint partnership between the Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) and the University of Rhode Island (URI). URI will provide data to the CRMC, who will execute the regulatory framework of the SAMP.

Under the federal Coastal Zone Management Act, preparation of a SAMP enables permitting of projects within the area covered by the SAMP to proceed on the basis of an Environmental Assessment in lieu of an Environmental Impact Statement. The SAMP process is expected to be completed in two years.

Most recently, Governor Carcieri urged the Public Utilities Commission to mandate that National Grid enter into long-term energy contracts with renewable energy generators for the Company's standard offer supply. The PUC has such authority under Title 39, which gives the Commission broad powers to guarantee that ratepayers' costs are minimized.

"By moving forward with an expedited process, Rhode Island is setting the stage to be leader for the emerging renewable energy industry in the Northeast," continued Governor Carcieri.

About First Wind

First Wind, based in Newton, Massachusetts, is a leading developer of onshore wind projects in the United States. First Wind's portfolio of wind energy projects includes 5,507 MW of capacity of which 92 MW were operating and 182 MW were under construction. Their projects now in operation include projects done in cooperation with government regulators and the community in environmentally sensitive areas of Hawaii, New York, and Maine. For more information, visit www.firstwind.com.

About DE Shaw & CO

D.E. Shaw, based in New York, New York, is a global investment and technology development firm with more than 1,300 employees; approximately $39 billion in aggregate investment capital; and offices in North America, Europe and Asia. Since its organization in 1988, D.E. Shaw has earned an international reputation for financial innovation, technological leadership and an extraordinarily distinguished staff. D.E. Shaw has a successful history of investing and growing companies in the energy sector and is a national leader in investing in alternative energies.

Related links

Department or agency: Office of the Governor

Online: http://www.governor.ri.gov

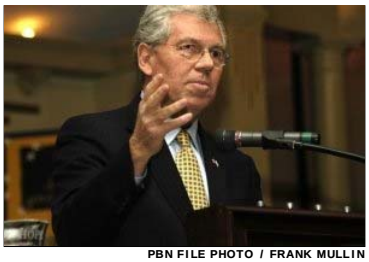
Release date: 09-25-2008

Posted Jun 27, 2008

GOVERNMENT

Carcieri vetoes key renewable-energy measure

By Susan A. Baird
PBN Web Editor



PBN FILE PHOTO / FRANK MULLIN

"WE CAN AND WILL balance the needs of our environment, our economy and our rate-payers – but not with this legislation," Gov. Donald L. Carcieri wrote in vetoing the bill.

PROVIDENCE – Gov. Donald L. Carcieri today vetoed a measure that was the centerpiece of a package of renewable-energy legislation approved by the General Assembly.

The measure – An Act Relating to Public Utilities and Carriers (2008 S 2849Aaa, sponsored by Senate President Joseph A. Montalbano, D-North Providence, Lincoln and Pawtucket; and 2008 H 7916Aaa, sponsored by House Majority Leader Gordon D. Fox, D-Providence) – aims to promote large-scale renewable-energy projects by setting conditions under which utility company National Grid would enter into long-term contracts for renewable energy. (READ MORE)

Some critics have charged that the measure would increase local electrical rates. But in a June 3 statement, Montalbano said that, "in this volatile era of energy prices, stabilizing the market will benefit consumers – and actively, aggressively facilitating the development and use of renewable energy will benefit the planet."

Environmental action groups have praised the measure, which also has drawn support from labor unions and energy developers, installers, marketers and distributors. "National Grid and Rhode Island's General Assembly are to be complimented for the constructive approach they have adopted on renewable energy," Jerry Elmer, a Providence lawyer for the Conservation Law Foundation, a New England environmental group, had told Providence Business News earlier this month. The legislation "will spark a new generation of renewable energy projects that will play a significant role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions in our region," Elmer said. (READ MORE)

The measure cleared the Senate by a resounding 34 to 1, and the House by a vote of 53 to 11.

In his veto message this morning, Carcieri wrote: "It is with much regret that I find it necessary to veto this legislation.

"Renewable energy has great potential for powering our homes and businesses as well as our economy. Rhode Island is poised to be a pioneer in emerging technologies of wind and wave energy, and I'm confident that in due time, we will fulfill my goal of securing at least 20 percent of our energy from renewable resources."

But, he added, "unfortunately, I believe the legislation before me today fails to balans our desire to invest in renewable energy with the realities that rate-payers currently endure."

He faulted the measure for the 3-percent incentive it would pay National Grid on its large-scale purchases of renewable energy. "Normally, regulated returns are earned by companies as either a return for investing capital or taking a risk … In this case, National Grid does neither, thus rendering any bonus unnecessary and unearned."

He also faulted the legislation for not requiring "does not require that projects funded by our ratepayers be located in Rhode Island. … I'm confident that our state can and will produce renewable energy at competitive market prices, and I'm sure that projects located here will provide more jobs and more opportunity for our citizens."

His third complaint was about "perhaps the most troubling provision … the guaranteed set-aside for a Rhode Island-based solar energy project(s). While it's encouraging to see a Rhode Island project get priority, it's unfortunate that the General Assembly picked perhaps the costliest renewable technology … [for] preferential treatment."

The state "can come up with a better way to support investment in renewable energy," Carcieri said, adding: "We can and will balance the needs of our environment, our economy and our ratepayers – but not with this legislation."

The measure was one of three vetoed today by Gov. Carcieri. The others were a measure that would build an $88 million courthouse in the Blackstone Valley; a bill that would extend to three years the statute of limitation for claims under the Civil Rights Act of 1990; and a measure that would bar the use of radio-frequency identification (RFID) tags to track students in schools or on school buses or other transportation.

The energy-bill veto drew a joint response today from Assembly leaders Montalbano and Fox.

"I am deeply disappointed that Governor Carcieri has decided to veto legislation five years in the making that would have put Rhode Island at the forefront of the renewable energy economy," wrote Fox, the House majority leader. "The clean energy sector is one of the few bright spots in today's economy and is well-positioned to grow exponentially over the next decade.

"Rising fossil fuel prices, the economic downturn, the threat of global warming and our dependence on foreign energy is creating a perfect storm that is impacting the life of everyone in Rhode Island. … Wind, solar and other renewable energies can create jobs and increase our energy independence. … Sadly, Governor Carcieri has decided today that the energy status quo is acceptable, and that his office knows

PR Database National News

Blackhawks to play at Wrigley Jan. 1
Crain's Chicago Business | 3:16 PM, Wednesday, 7/16

U.S. Marshall's Capture Wanted Fugitive
The State Journal | 3:09 PM, Wednesday, 7/16

Drug Busts Yields Arrests, Cars in Brooke And Hancock Counties
The State Journal | 2:47 PM, Wednesday, 7/16

MORE NATIONAL NEWS >

PBN Videos

BUSINESS TALK

Every Monday morning on NBC 10 News Sunrise, Frank Coletta talks with PBN Editor Mark Murphy about the latest business news.

SMALL BUSINESS SCHOOL

Hattie Bryant invites you to watch a one- to four-minute video tip each day about best business practices from the weekly television show, Small Business School.

News

Printable Version | Email This Story | 1 comment(s)

Offshore mapping to begin August 1

By Peter Voskamp • Monday, July 21, 2008 1:37 PM EDT

With the $3.2 million coming from the Rhode Island Renewable Energy Fund, Coastal Resources Management Council Executive Director Grover Fugate said Tuesday that August 1 will officially kick off the development of a Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) to map Rhode Island's offshore waters for alternative energy uses, such as a wind farm strongly pushed by Gov. Donald L. Carcieri.

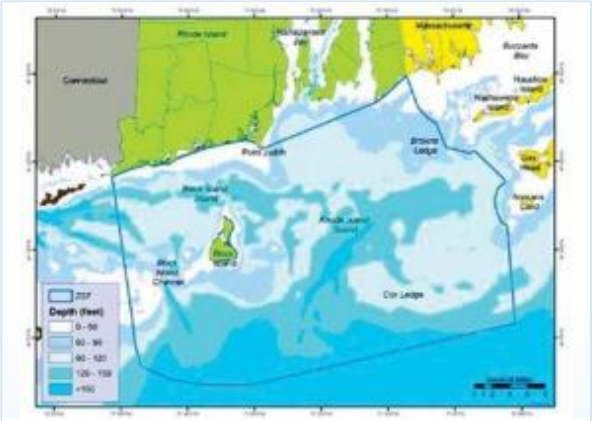
The SAMP effort will be a joint partnership between the CRMC and the University of Rhode Island (URI). URI will provide data to the CRMC, which will create the regulatory framework of the SAMP.

The plan will also include input from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Mineral Management Service within the federal Department of the Interior.

Fugate explained that the state controls a three-mile band off the coast. In the case of Block Island, there are segments of federally controlled water between the island and the mainland, which is a major reason the federal agencies are part of the planning.

He expects the study to take two years to complete, and it will involve a lot steps taking place simultaneously.

The first effort will be to reaffirm the data collected in the initial Rhode Island Wind study that determined optimal areas for potential wind farms. The mappers will also compile data on fishing grounds, shipping lanes and other potential "deal



Watery Map - The map above shows the boundaries of the Special Area Management Plan mapping project that the University of Rhode Island and Coastal Resources Management Council will undertake during the next two years to determine optimal locations for wind farms in Rhode Island waters.

Check out our photo gallery for more images »

Previous Headlines

breakers," and create a layered Geographical Information System map using that information. Fugate said they will also consider marine mammal migration, as well as sea turtles and birds.

Fugate said would have preferred the state had already erected a Met (meteorological) tower to begin collecting baseline date on weather and wind conditions.

A group selected by the governor plans to choose one of seven developers who submitted proposals for a wind farm next month. Per the state's bid request, the winning developer will reimburse the state's $3.2 used to create the SAMP. The developer will also select its own sites for Met towers.

Fugate cautioned the public not to misconstrue the siting of such a tower to be indicative of the final selection of an eventual farm site.

Fugate said that any bank financing the proposed wind farm — with a cost estimated to be at least $1 billion — would require a developer to bring at least three years of meteorological information.

Fugate said the need for such a farm will become ever more obvious "as people understand climate change."

"It's alarming," said Fugate. "We have to do something."

Reacting to the SAMP funding, Gov. Carcieri said it would "expedite the permitting of an offshore wind farm capable of supplying 15 percent of Rhode Island's electric energy usage, fulfilling my goal to reduce the State's dependence on fossil fuels and foreign sources of oil and natural gas." (See related story at right).

He said the SAMP would move Rhode Island ahead of similar projects in other states that are pursuing more traditional permitting processes.

Reader Comments

jerome wrote on Jul 22, 2008 7:53 AM:

" Let's not be "alarmed". I remember the windmills at the electric company back in the 80's. What were the findings back then and where did they go? Who paid for them? Get on with it! "

Leave Your Comments

Name:

Email: (optional)

Comments:

Current Word Count: 0

Image Verification: wjpv2

Post Comment

Comments posted here do not necessarily represent the views of the Block Island Times.

Comments may be rejected by our staff at their discretion.

If you would like to report an offensive post, please contact us.

PBN.com PROVIDENCE BUSINESS NEWS

Posted Jul 21, 2008
Public Policy

R.I. moving forward with ocean-zoning plan

By Ted Nesi <mailto:Nesi@pbn.com>
PBN Staff Writer

Work is slated to begin next month on a complete zoning blueprint for the state's ocean waters, which could clear the way for a private developer to eventually build an offshore wind-energy farm.

A team of scientists, engineers and other researchers will collaborate on the Ocean/Offshore Renewable Energy Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) starting Aug. 1. Created by Congress in 1972, a SAMP is a comprehensive set of detailed regulations that lay out how a coastal area can be used.

"The SAMP will expedite the permitting of an offshore wind farm capable of supplying 15 percent of Rhode Island's electric energy usage, fulfilling my goal to reduce the state's dependence on fossil fuels and foreign sources of oil and natural gas," Gov. Donald L. Carcieri said in a statement.

The Ocean SAMP project will create the equivalent of municipal land-use zoning for the ocean. Instead of commercial, residential and industrial property zones, the SAMP will designate zones for things like marine fisheries, cable cords, protected habitats, shipping lanes and ferry routes, as well as wind farms.

"What, in essence, you're coming up with is an allocation plan for our offshore resources," said Grover Fugate, executive director of the R.I. Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC), who is leading the project.

Earlier this month, the trustees of the Rhode Island Renewable Energy Fund, which is funded by an electricity-bill surcharge, agreed to provide $3.2 million in funding for the two-year project, which will be a joint partnership between the CRMC and the University of Rhode Island. Fugate said he will seek further financial assistance from private foundations and possibly the federal government. The money will be used to pay for salaries, studies and other costs.

The development of the Ocean SAMP is "the fastest, most efficient and cost-effective way to approve and site offshore renewable energy projects," according to a report to the Office of Energy Resources, because it will proactively tackle the huge assortment of state and federal regulations that impact the Rhode Island coast.

Businesses will be able to begin the permitting process for a wind farm during the second year of the SAMP's development, according to the report.

The alternative would be the development of an Environmental Impact Statement, which "could optimistically take at least five to seven years," as opposed to the two-year timeline to create the SAMP, the report said.

Wrangling over an Environmental Impact Statement has resulted in years of delays for Cape Wind, the controversial wind farm development proposed for nearby Nantucket Sound.

Rhode Island, unlike most states, has had water-based zoning since 1983, and the CRMC has won international recognition for its work in implementing it. That gives Rhode Island a leg up over other states and also puts it in the forefront of wind farm development, Fugate said.

"We're the first one off the block with this process," he said. "The whole country is watching this."

Until now, the state's offshore waters have been designated as "multipurpose," a catch-all category encompassing all the current uses for the coastal zone. But with wind farms looming and other mounting pressures on the coast, Fugate said, "It's clear to us that what we need to do is start to get a little more fine-grained in our approach to the ocean waters."

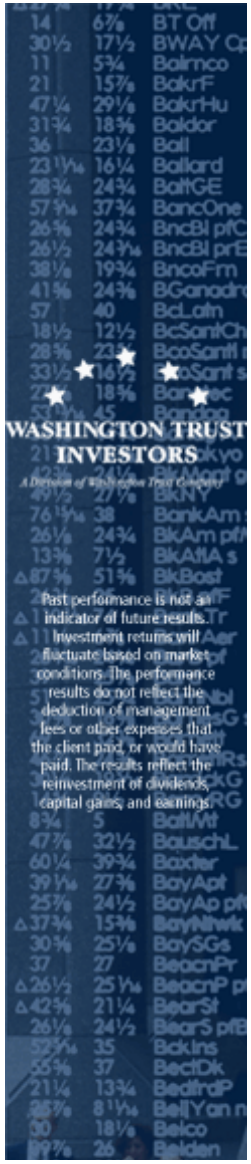
Although previous studies have suggested the best place to locate a wind farm would be off Block Island, Fugate said his team plans to conduct new research to make sure that's really the case.

Environmentalists expressed guarded optimism about the SAMP process, despite their frustration with the governor's recent veto of renewable energy legislation.

"Our interest is in getting an offshore wind farm developed in an environmentally friendly way," said Matt Auten, an advocate for Environment Rhode Island. •

PBN .com PROVIDENCE BUSINESS NEWS

Last Update: Jul 29 @ 10:09 AM



Posted Jul 21, 2008

Opinion

Wind power in Newport is not a good energy solution

Guest Column: Anthony G. Spiratos

A wise man once said, "To build may have to be the slow and laborious task of years. To destroy can be the thoughtless act of a single day."

Today, Newport brings in more than $2 billion of Rhode Island's $5 billion tourist economy. Newport has more than 3 million visitors a year. We are arguably the yachting capital of the world. But this is only the tip of the iceberg. We have bountiful fishing and lobster supplies off our coastline. We have an enormous population of different bird species that flourish around the coastal areas and magnificent beaches.

Yet this year, our city's historic and natural heritage is in jeopardy of disappearing forever.

Gov. Donald L. Carcieri's offshore wind farm is not the answer to our current rising energy crisis. It is not the answer to helping protect our environment and closing down polluting power plants. However, it is the right answer for industrial wind farm developers who stand to make hundreds of millions of dollars at our expense while we see our energy bills rise by as much as five times. For instance, Denmark and other European countries with wind power arrays still have some of the most expensive electricity rates in all of Europe.

PR Database | National News

From the PR Newswire View all

Hitachi Communication Technologies and ...

Latest Local Press Releases View/Post

Gail Cavanaugh's Business Solutions is ›

Youth in Action named Champion in Action

Mastermind Group to Begin August 18

PBN Videos

Business talk

Every Monday morning on NBC 10 News Sunrise, Frank Coletta talks with PBN Editor Mark Murphy about the latest business news.

Small Business School

Hattie Bryant invites you to watch a one- to four-minute video tip each day about best business practices from the weekly television show, Small Business School.

People travel from all over the world to see the preserved, historic beauty we have to offer. They do not come here to see hundreds of 400-foot wind turbines a short distance off our coastline. Each turbine will have foghorns and red flashing lights that can be seen and heard for miles away.

Around the world, residents where wind farms are being constructed are being lied to by their elected officials, wind farm developers and special-interest groups. They have found their fishing and lobster supplies gone, the areas where they used to sail closed off and, in cases where wind farms lie right off the shoreline, their beaches closed. Ask yourself this very fundamental question: When is the last time you remember the General Assembly and the governor doing anything intelligent on our behalf? For instance, passing gambling-hour expansions when we voted no?

Recent reports from scientists and doctors across the world have pointed toward negative health effects. Dr. Nina Pierpont, whose resume includes the likes of the John Hopkins University School of Medicine, Yale University and Princeton University, has come to the conclusion − one in which she is not alone − that many people get sick when they are too close to industrial wind-power installations. Based on her reading of the research, too close can be up to 3 miles away, but at a minimum, there should be a 1.5-mile setback from people's homes.

So, instead of forcing large-scale, wind-power projects down the throats of our citizens, we could offer energy independence through alternative means that would actually cause Rhode Islanders to pay less for their electricity, while reviving the failing manufacturing sector of the state.

If, for example, every citizen in America switched to LED or CFL lighting, we could shut down 80 major polluting power plants overnight. Rhode Island could lead the way and could be the largest LED and CFL manufacturer in this country.

We could tap into the solar market − as much solar energy falls on the planet each hour as the total human population uses in one year. We also could mass produce small rooftop wind turbines and utilize the wind without harming the environment.

Just as the governor says, the time is now. But our blindfolds must come off. We must be able to see clearly what our governor and our General Assembly are really trying to do to us.

Always question the authority that intends to lead you. And since this is an election year, keep your vote in the foreground of your hearts and minds. •

Anthony G. Spiratos is president of the Rhode Island Alliance for Clean Energy (SaveOurStateRI.org).

Comments

1 comment on this story

Posted by **Don** from **Middletown, RI** at 2:20 PM, 7/23/2008

Mr. Spiratos didn't mention that he owns a house overlooking one of the possible wind farm sites.

Classic NIMBY. He strikes me as the "Ted Kennedy of the Joe six pack set."

Report inappropriate comment

Post a comment

Mapping the ocean: SAMP will target areas for renewable energy projects

01:00 AM EDT on Thursday, July 24, 2008

By Timothy C. Barmann

Journal Staff Writer

An aerial view of Block Island from 2003 shows the shoreline and area adjacent to a proposed wind farm. *The Providence Journal/ John Freidah*

State regulators and researchers from the University of Rhode Island are about to begin a two-year project to map out sections of nearby ocean waters to identify suitable spots for renewable-energy developments.

The effort, which will cost $3.2 million, is expected to expedite the permitting process for such projects as the offshore wind farm being sought by Governor Carcieri, his office said.

The governor has proposed that a private company construct, operate and finance a wind facility that would produce enough power to supply 15 percent of the state's electricity. Cost estimates have run as high as $1.9 billion for the project. Seven companies have submitted proposals, and state officials are now evaluating them.

The Special Area Management Plan project is being carried out by the Coastal Resources Management Council, the state agency that regulates coastal development, along with data provided by URI. Work will begin in earnest in early August, said CRMC spokeswoman Laura Ricketson-Dwyer.

The result will be a SAMP for a rectangular swath of ocean off Rhode Island's coast. The area, according to a map in a project description on the CRMC Web site, appears to be about 36 nautical miles by 25 nautical miles, and includes both state and federal waters. However, Ricketson-Dwyer cautioned that the map is several months old and the boundaries may change as the work proceeds.

A SAMP is essentially a planning tool that addresses environmental management issues in a particular area. It is developed in cooperation with cities, towns and other government agencies, Ricketson-Dwyer said. Once adopted, the SAMP contains standards and regulations that apply to any development within that area.

The CRMC has adopted four SAMPs in various parts of the state and is working on two others, Ricketson-Dwyer said. Each addresses the unique aspects of a particular site, she said.

Developing the wind farm SAMP will be done in two phases, according to the governor's office. During the first phase, a zoning map for the state's offshore waters will be prepared that will determine, among other things, where energy facilities may be constructed. The map will take into account environmental issues and potential conflicts with other uses for the area.

During the second phase, design and construction rules for offshore energy projects will be written. The SAMP is expected to be completed by the end of May 2010.

Having these rules in place will eliminate the need for an Environmental Impact Statement, which is typically a more lengthy process, the governor's office said. Instead, a project could be permitted to proceed on the basis of an Environmental Assessment, the office said, allowing a wind farm developer to receive the necessary permits faster.

The $3.2 million to pay for the SAMP will come from the Rhode Island Renewable Energy Fund, a pool of money from a surcharge on the bills of all electricity customers in the state.

The company that wins the bid to construct the wind farm will be required to reimburse the state for SAMP-related expenses, the governor's office said.

tbarmann@projo.com

Carcieri vetoed raid on ratepayers

01:00 AM EDT on Wednesday, July 30, 2008

The Providence Journal
Opinion – Contributors
ANDREW C. DZYKEWICZ

I FOUND Jim Bush's July 24 cartoon about Governor Carcieri's veto of the long-term contracting bill extremely disturbing.

The cartoon leads readers to believe that the governor is against renewable energy. The misleading caption adopts the spin of the legislation's proponents that it was a renewable energy bill.

In reality, the legislation was merely a long-term contracting bill, one that would have allowed utilities to reap substantial bonuses, to provide business for developers of projects not even located in Rhode Island, and to obtain energy from extravagantly overpriced generation technologies to take more of what is left of ratepayers' money.

Maybe I'm missing something, but I get the distinct impression that our high energy prices are already causing extreme hardship to those of us who pay the bills. We cannot allow prices to increase unnecessarily.

I suggest that a more appropriate cartoon would show these developers and our utility company picking the almost empty pockets of the ratepayers. It could be captioned: "Governor rejects electric-company excesses."

Recent newspaper accounts lead readers to believe that I supported the legislation vetoed by Governor Carcieri. Nothing could be further from the truth. With the governor, the Division of Public Utilities and others, I expressed serious concerns throughout the process. I testified about these concerns at least four times at hearings.

A properly conceived statute would facilitate the development of cost-effective renewable energy. I support that concept, as does the governor. It is not necessary to load a bill with provisions that do nothing but add to the cost of renewable-energy projects, and hike our electric bills. Make no mistake: A vote for the legislation as passed was a vote to raise electric prices unnecessarily. With utility prices rising rapidly, it is difficult to justify the unnecessary surcharges the legislation provided.

The governor was spot-on in his veto message. There were three egregious flaws in the bill:

First, while the state has abundant resources to tap for the production of renewable energy, the legislation did not require that projects for which the ratepayers would have been held at risk even be located in Rhode Island. Under this legislation, we would have paid for contracts with projects virtually anywhere. While one can stretch the notion of potential economic development benefits to projects in Massachusetts, it is hard to do so to projects in Maine or New York. On the other hand, projects in our own state clearly have economic-development benefits.

Second, there really is no reason to pay a bonus to National Grid to enter into long-term contracts. The way the legislation was structured, ratepayers would have taken all the risk for the contracts National Grid would have executed, without including ratepayers in the decisions. The specious argument that there would be financial impacts from National Grid's contracting was disproved by our Division of Public Utilities and Carriers. Regulated utilities enjoy the benefits of monopoly status and cost recovery in exchange for their providing the lowest cost energy available. They need no further incentive to do their jobs.

It is difficult enough for many Rhode Island residents, especially the poor and the elderly, to pay for the rapidly escalating costs of electricity and natural gas. All too often, the excuse for these types of cost add-ons is that they are inconsequential. The problem is that each of these small increments adds up over time, and the total eventually becomes a significant increase.

Two other, secondary concerns arose from this provision.

Under this legislation, the utility bonus was a percentage of the contract value. The higher the contract price, the greater the bonus to the utility. In other words, the more pain for the ratepayer, the more gain for the utility.

The test of whether a contact is a good one under this legislation was whether the utility could find a consultant to testify that the contract was "commercially reasonable." I suspect that this is not a difficult threshold to meet. In light of National Grid's past experience with long-term renewable energy contracts, it needs to be held to a much higher level of scrutiny.

While National Grid does not talk about it much, it has had a contract in place for renewable energy since 1998. TransCanada provides power from numerous hydroelectric plants across New England. Under that contract, TransCanada gets a price increase every time natural gas or oil prices increase. The last time I checked, hydroelectric plants do not suffer fuel-price increases — only the ratepayers do.

Third, the legislation provided a huge subsidy for a developer to build a commercial solar-generating facility. National Grid would buy the output and pass the cost on to us. The cost would be somewhere between four and six times the cost of power generated by other means.

Massachusetts just enacted a comprehensive energy statute, one section of which dealt with this same issue. Let's compare. The Massachusetts statute requires projects to be in Massachusetts. It requires projects to be cost-effective. Projects must provide for increased electric reliability within Massachusetts. They must contribute to cuts in peak load, a provision that will lower electric prices generally. Projects must show eligibility to provide renewable energy credits. While the Massachusetts statute does provide a 4 percent bonus to the utilities, at least there is a guarantee of benefits to the Commonwealth in return.

It is my hope that we can work with the legislature to craft a statute that has as much guaranteed benefit to the ratepayer as it does for developers and utility companies. Meanwhile, legislation that unnecessarily increases customer bills must be rejected in these times of extremely high energy prices.

Andrew C. Dzykewicz is commissioner of energy for Rhode Island.

Business

New energy trend: Rooftop wind turbines

01:00 AM EDT on Friday, September 5, 2008

By KATE GALBRAITH

The New York Times

Scott Milnes, left, a partner in Rhode Island Wind Power, helps install a wind turbine on a Middletown house earlier this year.

The Providence Journal / Mary Murphy

SAN FRANCISCO — With the California blackouts of 2001 still a painful memory, Chris Beaudoin wants to generate some of his own electricity. He marveled the other day at how close he is to that goal, gazing at two new wind turbines atop his garage roof. They will soon be hooked to the power grid.

“I don’t care about how much it costs,” said Beaudoin, a flight attendant with United Airlines. That would be $5,000 a turbine, an expense Beaudoin is unlikely to recoup in electricity savings anytime soon.

No matter. After shoring up the roof and installing the two 300-pound, steel-poled turbines in January, Beaudoin found himself at the leading edge of a trend in renewable energy.

Fascination with wind turbines small enough to mount on a roof is spreading from coast to coast. Small turbines have already appeared atop an office building at Logan International Airport in Boston, at the Brooklyn Navy Yard and even on a utility pole in the small New Hampshire town of Hampton. New York Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg last month proposed dotting the city with them.

Yet these tiny turbines generate so little electricity that some energy experts are not sure the economics will ever make sense. By contrast, the turbines being installed at wind farms are getting ever larger and more powerful, lowering the unit cost of electricity to the point that they are becoming competitive with electricity generated from natural gas.

The spread of the big turbines and a general fascination with all things green are helping to spur interest in rooftop microturbines, creating a movement somewhere on the border between a hobby and an environmental fashion statement.

Some people have long stuck relatively modest turbines on towers in the countryside. Those are capable of generating enough electricity on a windy day to provide a fair portion of a home's needs and can eventually pay for themselves. The new rooftop turbines are much smaller, however, and few statistics are available yet on their performance.

Beaudoin says he hopes to get 30 percent of his electricity from the turbines on a windy day, but whether that will happen remains to be seen.

Jay Leno, the host of TV's The Tonight Show, recently installed a prototype wind turbine (as well as solar panels) atop a garage in Burbank, Calif., where he works on his car collection. He senses public interest in small-scale wind power that does not have much to do with dollars-and-cents analysis.

"People seem fascinated by the turbines," Leno said. "You go, 'Look! It's spinning!' "

Perched high above a building, wind turbines serve as a far more visible clean-energy credential than solar panels, which are often hard to see. At least a dozen small manufacturers have sprouted up to supply the market, although rooftop turbines still account for only 1 percent or so of the 10,000 small wind turbines that are sold each year in the country, according to Ron Stimmel, an advocate of small wind systems at the American Wind Energy Association.

That number seems poised to grow, given the recent interest.

"We're prebleeding-edge early," said Todd Pelman, founder of Blue Green Pacific, the maker of Beaudoin's turbine. The technology, he conceded, is not yet "something that would be bought at Home Depot."

Pelman has sunk $200,000 of his own money into the startup, which has just three turbines in operation — Beaudoin's pair, and one above Pelman's own bedroom in a Victorian house in San Francisco.

In accordance with urban sensibilities, many of the new designs are stylish. The six turbines peeping over the edge of a building in the Brooklyn Navy Yard, installed this summer, look as if they are covered with dainty white parasols, a design touch that doubles as a bird shield. The French designer Philippe Starck has plans to introduce an elegant plastic turbine in Europe this fall.

Bloomberg's proposal calls for wind turbines on the city's skyscrapers and bridges, although unclear is how big they will be and just where they will go.

"It's the Wild West out there in small wind these days," said David Rabkin, director of innovation, strategic partnerships and sustainability at the Museum of Science in Boston. Aided by a $300,000 state grant, the museum plans to put a total of nine turbines, of five types, on its roof by April as an educational project.

Harvard also plans to put some atop its Holyoke Center office complex and on a parking garage. Harvard views the experimental installations as "outward symbols of our commitment to renewable energy and sustainability here on campus," said Jim Gray, associate vice president for Harvard real estate services.

In San Francisco, another coastal city with abundant wind, the local government is considering introducing incentives to increase urban wind power.

"You're seeing the birth of a movement," said Jared Blumenfeld, director of the San Francisco Department of Environment, who says he hopes to put a turbine on his own home. "Ten years from now, you could probably see 2,000 to 3,000 rooftops with wind."

But many experts caution that rooftops, while abundant, are usually poor places to harness the breeze. Not only are cities less windy than the countryside, but the air is choppier because of trees and the variation in heights in buildings. Turbulence can wear down a turbine and make it operate less efficiently. This is particularly problematic for houses with pitched roofs.

"In an urban environment, more times than not you're better off with a solar panel," said Stimmel, of the wind industry association.

A recent British study of wind on home roofs found that turbines generated less power than installers projected because of lower-than-expected wind speeds. Ian Woofenden, a senior editor at Home Power magazine who teaches wind workshops, estimates that electricity from rooftop turbines may cost $1.50 a kilowatt hour or more. (That is enough electricity to run a hair dryer for an hour, roughly.)

By comparison, he said, power from a well-sited, tower-mounted turbine would cost 10 cents to 50 cents a kilowatt hour, and power from utility-scale wind farms costs less than 10 cents a kilowatt hour.

“Rooftop wind economics are abysmal, since the resource just isn’t there,” he said in an e-mail message.

Rooftop wind advocates argue that output will turn out to be healthy in windy areas, and they also think that prices for small turbines will come down as the market grows, altering the economics.

The most established company selling rooftop turbines is AeroVironment, a California company better known for making unmanned aerial vehicles. It has installed demonstration projects on about a dozen commercial rooftops, including those at Logan airport in Boston and the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

According to Paul Glenney, director of the company’s clean energy technology center, the edge of a long, flat roof (above, say, a big-box store or warehouse) can experience up to 40 percent extra wind, much like the stiff breeze at the edge of a cliff.

Demand for AeroVironment’s rooftop turbines, which it sells for about $6,500 each, is strong, he said. “We’ve hidden our Web site very carefully, and yet people find us,” Glenney said.

AeroVironment officials say that rooftop turbines at windy sites in states with costly electricity could wind up paying for themselves in four to eight years, but acknowledge that in places with low power prices, the turbines may never recoup their costs.

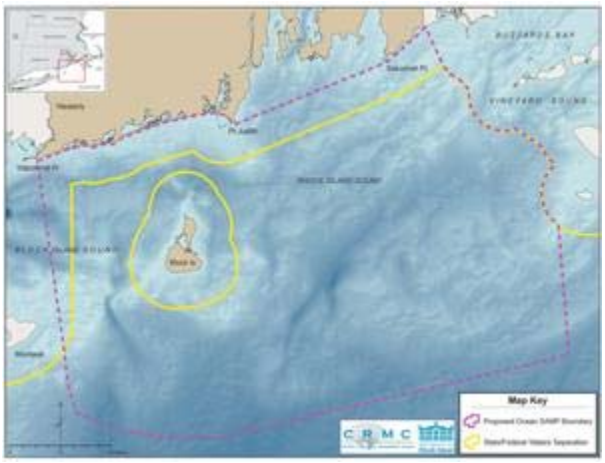
In May and June, the 20 Logan turbines combined produced just 1,430 kilowatt hours — less than the average home would use over that time. Airport authorities said, however, that the Boston winds pick up in the fall and winter. Leno says his turbine has generated about 725 kilowatt hours in six months of operation.

“You can say, ‘That’s not a lot,’ or ‘Every bit helps,’ ” Leno said.

Ocean plan would delineate areas for energy projects

South County Independent. Thursday, September 18, 2008.

By Mark N. Schieldrop
Independent Staff Writer



This graphic shows the proposed area of an ocean special area management plan. The plan would help regulators discern the appropriate areas for wind and wave energy proposals. (Image courtesy: CRMC)

As plans for wind farms off Rhode Island's coast gain momentum, the state Coastal Resources Management Council is ready to begin public hearings on its ocean special area management plan.

The plan will establish a set of zones to regulate how local waters can be used for energy production, such as wind and wave energy projects, as well as identify where critical fishing sites and sensitive marine habitats will be protected.

Rhode Island would be the first state in the country to develop a comprehensive special area management plan, or SAMP, for offshore activities. Once approved, it is expected to streamline the regulatory process for wind farm proposals. By differentiating between zones that can support large fields of turbines and zones limited to fishing or fish habitat, the CRMC hopes to avoid the complications that have plagued and stalled proposed wind projects around the country, such as the Cape Wind proposal in Massachusetts.

CRMC officials unveiled an early draft of the plan to the media last week, and the formal kickoff for the public input and hearing process will begin either at the end of this month or early next month. The event will be held at the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Oceanography on the Narragansett Bay Campus in Narragansett.

The Ocean SAMP covers a rectangular area of water that stretches from Watch Hill south

to a point beyond Montauk, east and north toward Vineyard Sound, then up toward Sakonnet and Point Judith and along the entire coast. The SAMP would exclude Narragansett Bay, waters south of Narrow River past Beavertail Point, the southern tip of Aquidneck Island and Sakonnet Point, Rhode Island salt ponds, Narragansett Bay and Narrow River in its entirety.

The public policy process will involve scientific research and regular meetings attended by CRMC and URI officials and representatives of the Army Corps of Engineers – which has authority over federal waters – and state agencies, including the state Department of Environmental Management. In addition, wildlife experts and fishermen will be involved in the planning.

Scientists will use wind speeds, sea floor maps, marine life population figures, meteorology and geological data to determine where turbines can be installed and whether potential sites would have a negative impact on wildlife and fishery uses.

CRMC officials said that conducting extensive studies and building a regulatory framework now will mean fewer questions once proposals enter the application process. Governor Carcieri is calling for the state to produce 15 percent of its energy through renewable resources, and that call is expected to generate several proposals.

Earlier this year, CRMC called for a moratorium on wind and wave projects until the SAMP is drafted.

According to a report by CRMC Executive Director Grover Fugate, the ocean SAMP is being developed in response to a "surge of interest in [the] offshore environment" and to meet federal standards. It also will eliminate confusion and conflict during hearings for wind project proposals.

"Cape Wind tried economizing on the bird studies," Fugate said. "The results were such that Cape Wind had to do the studies over with a final cost for the bird studies alone of $4 million."

Seven companies have submitted proposals in response to the state's call for partners to develop offshore wind parks earlier this year. One of the companies, Bluewater Wind, will present a description of the oceanographic studies needed to design offshore wind energy turbines and their support structures as well as engineering challenges of offshore wind technology at Corless Auditorium on the URI Narragansett Bay Campus today at 11 a.m. The presentation is part of URI's Ocean Engineering Seminar Series.

Laura Ricketson-Dwyer, spokeswoman for CRMC, said that many eyes from around the world are on CRMC's ocean SAMP proposal. As the first state to designate ocean zoning areas, CRMC will be setting a benchmark for other states to follow, she said.

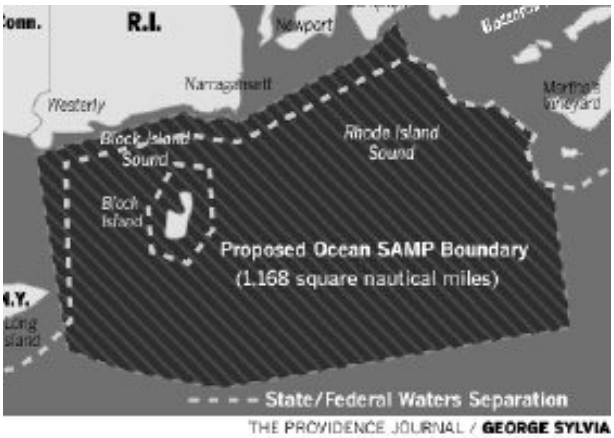
"Grover is in Delaware this week to speak at an energy conference and he was asked to present it there," Ricketson-Dwyer said last week. "People from around the world are

asking us to present this, which is awesome.”

Mark Schieldrop can be reached at Schieldrop@scindependent.com

The Providence Journal

R.I. sets course to map its waters for wind farms



01:00 AM EDT on Tuesday, September 23, 2008Pr
BY PETER B. LORD

Journal Environment Writer

As coastal states race to build the country's first offshore wind farms, it is clear that Rhode Island is following a unique path.

The state has recruited a battery of oceanographers, engineers and other experts at the University of Rhode Island in an unprecedented $3.2-million effort to map and zone state and federal coastal waters to determine the best locations for turbines.

Nearly 50 people from URI's College of the Environment and Life Sciences, the Graduate School of Oceanography, Coastal Resources Center, Ocean Engineering Department and Department of Natural Resources Science have been drafted.

Also scheduled to take part is the 185-foot research vessel Endeavor. For the wind-power project, it is scheduled to take local researchers around Rhode Island's coastal waters for 10 days this fall.

Soon, the state is scheduled to select one of seven companies that have submitted proposals to build and operate wind turbines designed to meet Governor Carcieri's goal of providing enough power to supply 15 percent of the state's electricity. Cost estimates have run as high as $1.9 billion.

Rhode Island's plan is to have the state's Ocean Special Area Management Plan find the most suitable sites for wind turbines so Rhode Island can avoid the lengthy and costly controversy that has surrounded the Cape Wind project proposed for waters off Nantucket. Most other states have their energy offices or economic development personnel leading their wind-farm siting efforts. Massachusetts just enacted a law this year to plan uses of its coastal waters, but Rhode Island officials believe they are ahead because they have been doing such planning for decades.

"From our standpoint, this is a real innovation. It puts us out ahead in the race of achieving the governor's objective," said Saul Kaplan, executive director of the state's Economic Development Council, w! hich is financing the studies.

Kaplan said he is excited that the process will provide a "fact base" for making good decisions and at the same time require a lot of public input.

"This is getting us national attention and it will continue to get national attention," Kaplan said of the zoning process. At the same time, he said he's encouraged by the quality of proposals from companies that generate electricity from wind. "I'm more and more convinced that this is a feasible project, and it makes us competitive nationally."

Laurie Jodziewicz, manager of siting policy for the American Wind Energy Association, a trade group, confirmed that no other state is following Rhode Island's approach. But she also said she thinks wind companies are probably in the best position to identify the best sites for their turbines.

She said her chief concern about the Rhode Island process is: "We'd hate to see a planning process that only identifies those areas that are not feasible to develop."

Jodziewicz said she thinks Delaware is the furthest along in developing offshore wind power because it has signed a contract. Still, her industry is happy to see states vying to be out front, and there is no single model for what will work.

The new state planning project is being led by Grover Fugate, executive director of the Coastal Resources Management Council, the agency that regulates the state's coastline and state waters, which extend three miles offshore.

The federal Minerals Management Agency is drafting regulations that will allow it to open up federal waters off Rhode Island to wind farms.

But Fugate maintains that federal consistency doctrine outlined in the federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 requires that federal actions such as permitting of wind farms must be consistent with state coastal policies. That, he argues, means Rhode Island will have major input over permitting in nearby federal waters too. The Rhode Island plan will investigate coastal waters to about 20 miles offshore.

The EDC earlier this! year ap proved $1.6 million for this year's work on the planning project and plans to set aside the same amount for next year.

Fugate said the decision to hire URI coastal experts was made fairly quickly.

"When we started to look, we said, "Who in the community is best?' Some of these folks at URI are world-class experts. We have the best and brightest right here. If we hired a consulting firm, they would probably come in from out of state and have to catch up. Many of these URI people have 30 years of experience, and this is their backyard."

By next July, the team plans to map some 1,547 square miles of coastal waters and all the uses that are important, such as transportation corridors and essential habitats. It plans to develop a strategy to communicate with Rhode Islanders and complete a draft zoning map.

By July 2010, the team plans to develop regulatory standards and complete its ocean plan.

One precedent for the project is the massive Army Corps of Engineer studies that helped the agency select a site off Block Island to dispose of clean dredge spoils from the Providence River. The original study by consultants took years. An updated study cost $5 million and took another five years.

Grover said his team will use the dredge studies and other URI studies, some unpublished, to speed its work.

A large part of this year's budget, nearly $700,000, is going to the Coastal Resources Center at URI's Bay Campus. This small think tank was created in 1971 as the state began a concerted effort to regulate its coastline. The director, Stephen Olsen, helped write the regulations that created the CRMC. Since then Olsen and his staff have been teaching coastal management skills to governments around the world.

The CRC staff has also done much of the research for CRMC as it has created policies and developed six other management plans for specific waters around Rhode Island. It is currently updating the management plan for the metropolitan area waters.

The CRC staff will study ocean zoning strategies us! ed in ot her countries, Fugate said. It also will collect and manage the data gathered by other researchers and prepare reports and the final plan.

Fugate said he's been fielding inquiries from around the country about Rhode Island's planning process.

"We possess a very simple structure so it's easy for us to move quickly," he said. "And we've been doing zoning of coastal waters since 1983."

Also, he emphasized, he is keeping a wall between the scientists and all the other interests involved in the siting process.

plord@projo.com

http://www.projo.com/news/content/ocean_wind_mapping_09-23-08_RJBJJ9R_v21.17c1d58.html

Forbes.com

Associated Press
AP Associated Press

RI awards offshore wind farm rights to NJ firm

By RAY HENRY 09.25.08, 8:19 AM ET

PROVIDENCE, R.I. -

Rhode Island has granted a New Jersey-based renewable energy firm the right to develop a wind farm in Narragansett Bay that would generate 15 percent of the state's electricity needs in the coming decade, officials said.

DeepwaterWind LLC estimates the project, being formally announced Thursday, will cost $1 billion to $2 billion and benefit New England, which pays some of the most expensive electricity bills in the nation because it is heavily dependent on natural gas.

No offshore wind farms have been built in the United States, although they have been proposed off Delaware, New Jersey, New York and in the Gulf of Mexico. DeepwaterWind must still surmount multiple regulatory and financial challenges before construction could start on a project that could take up to seven years to complete. Feuds over wind turbine aesthetics have long bogged down a wind farm proposed off Cape Cod in Massachusetts.

DeepwaterWind CEO Chris Brown said his firm builds turbines on large platforms originally designed for offshore drilling rigs, which means they can operate in deep waters and ideally out of sight of land. He expects to build around 100 turbines in Narragansett Bay.

"What we've really focused on is that we want to be beyond the horizon," Brown said in an interview. "We don't think that you have to choose between, kind of, the view and the environment."

DeepwaterWind is backed by three partners: First Wind, DE Shaw & Co. and Ospraie Management, LLC. Besides Rhode Island, it has recently proposed projects in New Jersey and New York. If those plans come to fruition, the company has agreed to locate its manufacturing headquarters at an industrial park in North Kingstown. The firm now employs 15 full-time staffers, but hopes to eventually employ 800 people in the state.

Gov. Don Carcieri previously set a goal of getting 15 percent of Rhode Island's electricity from wind, a timeline his administration now acknowledges it cannot meet. State energy officials studied Narragansett Bay in April 2007 and identified possible sites for more than 300 turbines.

The strongest winds blow south of Block Island, an affluent resort area where residents pay high rates because their electric plant burns pricey diesel fuel. Several island business owners have even threatened to reduce costs by starting their own power company. As part of the development, DeepwaterWind has proposed powering Block Island with electricity from the wind turbines, which could lower prices.

Several obstacles remain before building could begin.

DeepwaterWind will now pay $3 million so Rhode Island environmental officials can study how the state should utilize its sea floor, just as cities and towns designate certain zones for homes, business and industrial use.

"Think of it as a clear roadmap for development," said Saul Kaplan, executive director of Rhode Island's Economic Development Corp.

The firm must also secure more than 100 permits from a host of state and federal agencies, a process that could take two to four years. Afterward, it must gather enough money to build the project.

Carcieri, a Republican, and lawmakers in the Democratic-dominated General Assembly are still fighting over who will buy the electricity. Without dedicated, long-term buyers, experts fear renewable energy developers will be reluctant to build.

Rhode Island lawmakers passed a bill this year requiring National Grid, the state's dominant power company, to buy electricity from renewable energy projects for at least 10 years at a time. In return, National Grid would have received a payment equal to 3 percent of the renewable energy it bought.

Carcieri vetoed the bill, calling it overly generous to the utility. Instead, he has asked the state Public Utilities Commission to force National Grid to do the same thing but without compensation.

Bloomberg.com

Ospraie, D.E. Shaw, Developer to Build Rhode Island Wind Farm

By Jim Polson

Sept. 25 (Bloomberg) -- Ospraie Management LLC, D.E. Shaw & Co. and a development company were selected to build a $1 billion offshore wind farm that will provide 15 percent of Rhode Island's power.

Construction is dependent on negotiation of a formal agreement and approval by state and federal regulators, Governor Donald L. Carcieri said today in a statement. Deepwater Wind, a venture owned by Ospraie, Shaw and a development firm called First Wind, was selected from among seven groups that proposed doing the project.

The state put the project out for bids in April. Deepwater Wind plans to build the wind farm without state funding, the governor said.

First Wind, based in Newton, Massachusetts, has 92 megawatts of wind turbines in operation, according to the statement. First Wind's backers include investment firms Madison Dearborn Partners LLC and Shaw, according to its Web site.

Ospraie is the New York investment firm that shut down its biggest hedge fund this month because of losses on commodities investments.

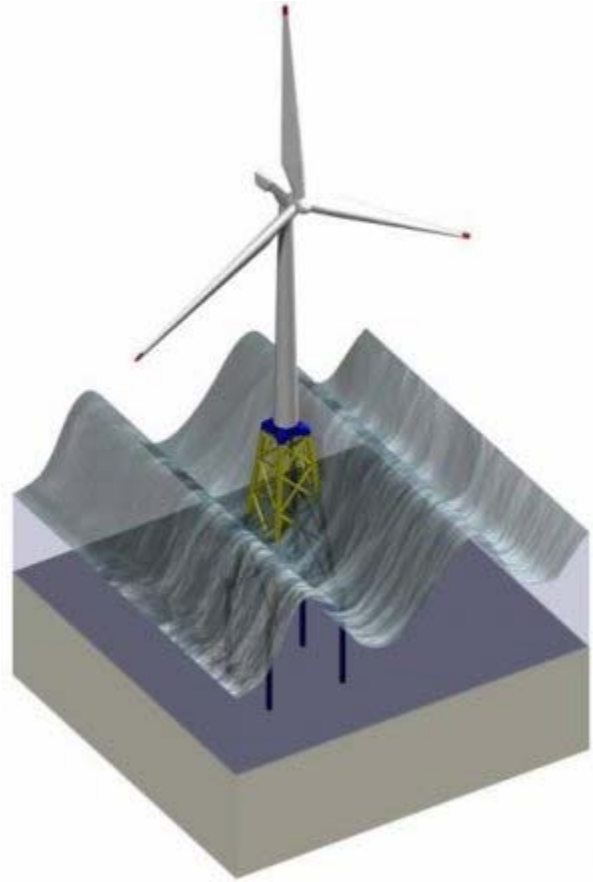
To contact the reporter on this story: Jim Polson in New York at jpolson@bloomberg.net.

Last Updated: September 25, 2008 15:22 EDT

PBN.com PROVIDENCE BUSINESS NEWS

Posted Sep 25, 2008
Energy

R.I. picks developer for $1.5B wind farm



COURTESY DEEPWATER WIND
DEEPWATER WIND has been selected by Rhode Island officials to build a 100-turbine wind farm in offshore waters. The company will use oil-platform-style "jackets" as foundations for the turbines, as shown in the rendering above.

PROVIDENCE – The state has selected Deepwater Wind to build a 100-turbine wind farm off the coast of Rhode Island that the developer says will not be visible from land, Gov. Donald L. Carcieri announced at a news conference this afternoon, where he was joined by Deepwater CEO Chris Brown.

State officials hope the project will eventually generate 15 percent of the state's electricity.

Deepwater has committed to basing its corporate manufacturing headquarters at Quonset Point, where it expects to hire about 800 employees over the next few years, the company said.

Carcieri's announcement that Deepwater Wind is the state's "preferred developer" came this afternoon in North Kingstown, at a 1 o'clock news conference at the Port of Davisville in Quonset Business Park.

"This is an exciting day for us," Carcieri declared. In an apparent reference to the state's high unemployment rate, the governor added: "And Lord knows we need jobs right know, all we could get."

"We're excited about the Deepwater selection and what it means for Rhode Island," said Saul Kaplan, executive director of the R.I. Economic Development Corporation and one of the five officials who vetted the wind-farm proposals.

Deepwater and the state are now set to enter into a 90-day negotiation period, during which details of the agreement for the wind farm will be hammered out. Andrew C. Dzykewicz, the governor's chief energy adviser and the commissioner of the R.I. Office of Energy Resources, said he expects the Deepwater wind farm to be generating electricity at a cost of 7 to 9 cents per kilowatt-hour by 2012 if the regulatory process stays on track. (National Grid's current rate base calls for a 12.5-cent rate.)

"We thought, early on, that the only way this is going to really happen is for the state to partner with a private developer," Dzykewicz said. "I honestly couldn't be more pleased."

Kaplan called Deepwater's proposal "a double win for the state."

"Not only do we position ourselves as potentially being the first in the country to site an offshore wind farm and make a meaningful step toward energy independence, but we also win in the economic development area," he said.

In addition to the 800 jobs Deepwater says the wind farm will create, the project sets the stage for "a significant additional number of jobs, as Deepwater aggressively looks to do additional projects up and down the Eastern Seaboard," Kaplan said. The company, which also hopes to attract a turbine manufacturer to the area, says it has been in talks with a number of major players in the industry.

Deepwater Wind is a five-month-old firm backed by Newton, Mass.-based wind-energy developer First Wind; investment firm D.E. Shaw & Co.; and hedge fund Ospraie Management LLC. (First Wind was previously known as UPC Wind, but changed its name in May.) Deepwater also has acquired the offshore wind projects of another firm, Winergy Power LLC.

Deepwater has offices in Hoboken, N.J., New York and Houston. Its staff includes former employees of Winergy and First Wind, who have experience building onshore wind farms in other parts of the country.

PROJECT FUNDING will be "all private," Chris Brown, Deepwater's CEO, said of the planned Rhode Island wind project. "It's all private. We're getting no public support. This is us, and our sources of capital."

Deepwater CEO Chris Brown said industrial wind power is poised to become a major business as the country looks for ways to deal with both climate change and the nation's dependence on foreign sources of energy. "We're addressing some of the nation's highest priorities right now," he said in an interview.

Studies have found that Northeast states could get a significant portion of their energy if they harnessed ocean winds. (READ MORE) And unlike natural gas and coal, two key sources of electricity generation in the region, wind has no commodity costs.

However, large-scale offshore wind farm projects have been stymied by technological constraints and aesthetic concerns – the best-known example being the long-running battle over Cape Wind in Massachusetts, which has dragged on since 2001. "We've created a solution, and that solution is around Deepwater technology," Brown said.

"We don't believe that communities need to choose between the environment – solving the greenhouse gas issue – and their view," he continued. "Hence, what we've decided is, we want to be beyond the horizon."

A precise location for the wind farm will not be decided until 2010, when scientists at the R.I. Coastal Resources Management Council and the University of Rhode Island complete the Ocean/Offshore Renewable Energy Special Area Management Plan (SAMP), a comprehensive set of detailed regulations that will lay out how the coast can be used. (READ MORE)

The SAMP process will streamline the eventual permitting process for the wind farm because creating the SAMP will force state and federal officials to tackle the huge assortment of state and federal regulations that may affect development along the Rhode Island coast. The researchers are also studying which areas would generate the largest amount of wind power.

Deepwater is proposing to build about 100 turbines, which could provide 385 megawatts of electricity – meeting Carcieri's goal of obtain 15 percent of the state's electricity energy from renewable sources. A state law mandates that the state must be getting 16 percent of its energy from renewables by 2019.

The wind farm would serve both Block Island and the mainland. Deepwater also has initiated talks with ISO New England, which runs the regional electricity grid, about ensuring the wind farm's power can be used.

The company says it has patented a new technology of building drilling "jackets" – the scaffolding-like steel structure that holds up an oil platform – and using them to hold up wind turbines instead.

Brown said those jackets will provide a sturdier foundation than the monopile foundations currently favored for wind turbines. "This is the next generation of technology."

The oil and gas industries have been using jackets since around 1945, Brown said, and there are more than 7,000 in the U.S. today. "We're using the proven foundation system from this business and [giving it] a new application."

The jackets serving as foundations for Deepwater's turbines would be buried 60 to 100 feet deep in the ocean, and capable of withstanding extreme winds and waves.

Deepwater has licensed technology from OWEC Tower, a Norwegian manufacturer whose products already are in use at wind-turbine installations off the coast of Great Britain. The turbines would be about 558 feet high at their highest point, company renderings show.

Brown estimated the cost of the project as between $1.5 billion and $1.6 billion. No taxpayer dollars will be expended, he added. "It's all private. We're getting no public support. This is us, and our sources of capital."

The project's financing is secure despite the recent upheaval in the credit markets, Brown said. Deeprock has "bedrock" commitments from D.E. Shaw and Ospraie Management.

Kaplan added: "This is a situation where the taxpayers are not being asked to make the investment in the development, and the taxpayers will benefit when we get a new alternative energy source coming on stream."

State officials are also enthusiastic about Deepwater's plans to build its corporate manufacturing headquarters at Quonset Point.

Brown said the site had already been under consideration by Winergy and First Wind when they were contemplating projects. "It's really set up for it," he said. "It's got a great infrastructure."

Deepwater would use the Quonset facility to complete the turbine-manufacturing process. Some of the equipment would be bought from other vendors, but the final steps, as well as staging for the wind farm, would take place in North Kingstown.

"You're building a new, 'green collar' industry where Rhode Island can benefit," Brown said, adding that Deepwater is involved in projects in Massachusetts, New Jersey and off Long Island, as well.

Kaplan echoed his comments. "We're industry building here," he said. "It's an important green industry that not only solves an energy issue that we're dealing with, but creates really good, high-wage jobs for citizens."

Europe is far ahead of the United States when it comes to wind technology, Brown said, partly because federal officials are still finalizing the rules that will govern offshore wind construction here. But, he said, "We can catch up."

Deepwater was one of seven developers that submitted bids this May to build the wind farm. Four of those proposals were vetted extensively by a five-member panel appointed by Carcieri. (READ MORE)

Along with Kaplan and Dzykewicz, the other panel members were David Farmer, dean of the Graduate School of Oceanography at URI; Thomas F. Ahern, administrator of the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers; and Christopher Long, a policy aide to Carcieri.

Deepwater Wind is a wind-energy firm – backed by energy developer First Wind (formerly UPC Wind) of Newton, Mass., and New York investors D.E. Shaw & Co. LP and Ospraie Management LLC – that has acquired the offshore wind projects of Winergy Power LLC. Founded in the spring of 2008, Deepwater has offices in Hoboken, N.J., and Houston. For more information, visit www.dwwind.com.

Additional information about energy programs in Rhode Island is available from the R.I. Office of Energy Resources at www.energy.ri.gov.

Quonset Business Park in North Kingstown is managed by he Quonset Development Corporation, a special-purpose subsidiary of the R.I. Economic Development Corporation. Additional information is available at QuonsetPointRI.com.

Correction: Sept. 25, 2008

The original version of this article incorrectly stated that Deepwater Wind is headquartered in Ann Arbor, Mich. The company does not have offices there, although Chris Brown lives in Ann Arbor. The article has been corrected.

N.J. firm picked to build Rhode Island's wind farm

10:45 AM EDT on Thursday, September 25, 2008

By Timothy C. Barmann
Journal Staff Writer

Deepwater Wind, a New Jersey-based firm, has been selected by state officials to finance and build a massive wind farm off the coast of Rhode Island, Governor Carcieri plans to announce today.

The project, expected to cost about $1.5 billion, would be one of the largest private development projects ever in the state.

The winning developer said its anchoring technology would allow the 100-turbine wind project to be located 15 to 20 miles off the coast, a distance that would make the wind turbines practically invisible from shore.

Deepwater, a three-year-old company, beat out six other wind farm developers who had submitted proposals to build a wind-energy project large enough to generate 15 percent of Rhode Island's electricity usage. A development of that size would be comparable to the proposed Cape Wind project and produce 385 megawatts of electricity. That's about three-quarters of the capacity of the natural-gas fired power plant at Dominion Energy's Manchester Street Station in Providence.

As the state's "selected partner," Deepwater will get the state's "full support in getting the project done," said Andrew Dzykewicz, the governor's chief energy adviser. The company will have the exclusive rights to develop a wind farm off the Rhode Island coast, he said.

He said that depending on the length of the permitting process, it would take four to five years before the project could be completed.

Deepwater will sell the electricity to the state at between 7 cents and 9 cents per kilowatt-hour, Dzykewicz said. By comparison, National Grid charges its customers 12.4 cents per kilowatt-hour.

The project would not require the passage of any new legislation, and the company has agreed not to seek any new tax breaks that are not already part of state law, Dzykewicz said.

Deepwater edged out its competitors, Dzykewicz said, with its proposal to build a facility at Quonset Business Park in North Kingstown that would serve as its manufacturing headquarters for the East Coast.

Over the course of several years, Deepwater would hire up to 800 people, said Saul Kaplan, executive director of the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, and one of the five people who comprised the selection team.

The facility would be used to manufacture the structures that would support the wind turbines. It would serve the Rhode Island wind farm and any other project that Deepwater wins along the Eastern Seaboard, he said. The jobs will pay a total of $60 million in annual wages, he said.

One of the key details — where the project would be located — is still undecided. The Coastal Resources Management Council has just embarked on a two-year endeavor to map the ocean floor off the coast of Rhode Island to identify the best locations for a wind farm.

Chris Brown, chief executive officer of Deepwater, said the company's proposal included a possible site near Block Island. But Brown said the company could also build the wind farm 15 to 20 miles beyond the shoreline. That would address one of the principal concerns about offshore energy projects — that they mar the visual seascape for coastal dwellers.

Brown said the company will work with the governor's energy office and the CRMC to determine the site's location. If the Block Island site is selected, the project would be located entirely in state waters. If it's farther offshore, it would require a permit from the federal government. The U.S. Interior Department is currently developing offshore wind lease regulations. Deepwater said the Rhode Island project would consist of 100 wind turbines, each capable of producing 3 to 4 megawatts of power. Deepwater has agreed to supply electricity to Block Island, where rates are among the highest in the nation. The rest of the power would travel by undersea cable to the mainland that would tie into the regional power grid.

Brown said that the total cost of the project will likely be about $1.5 billion. The company will arrange the financing with three primary investors: First Wind Holdings Inc., a Newton, Mass.-based wind energy company; D.E. Shaw & Co., L.P. of New York, a global investment and technology development firm with more than 1,500 employees and $39 billion in investment and committed capital as of July 1, 2008; and Ospraie Management LLC of New York, one of the largest commodity hedge fund firms.

Brown said that the way Deepwater plans to anchor the wind turbines to the ocean floor is fundamentally different from the technology used by its competitors.

Traditionally, offshore wind turbines have rested atop a huge steel pole pounded deep into the sea floor. This "monopole" technology is limited to depths of about 75 feet or

less, he said. But Deepwater's turbines will rest on a "jacket" foundation — a tower-like framework that resembles an oil derrick or an elongated lifeguard's chair. The four-legged structures can be place in water up to 150 feet deep, he said. Jacket technology has been in the oil and gas drilling industries for years.

Deepwater is officially based in Hoboken, N.J., Brown said. But the 15-employee company really has no headquarters as of yet, he said. The Rhode Island development would be the company's first major wind project. Deepwater is among the bidders for another offshore project, off the coast of New Jersey. The company is also seeking permission to build a small-scale research, development and demonstration project in the waters just beyond the northeastern tip of the North Fork of Long Island, New York. The Plum Island Wind Park would consist of three wind turbines.

tbarmann@projo.com

REUTERS UK

Deepwater to build Rhode Island offshore wind farm

Thu Sep 25, 2008 8:39pm BST

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Rhode Island picked Deepwater Wind to develop an offshore wind farm expected to cost more than $1 billion and provide about 15 percent of the state's electricity, state Gov. Donald Carcieri said in a release Thursday.

The wind farm was expected to generate about 1.3 million megawatt-hours a year. The governor did not say when the project would start delivering electricity.

Rhode Island selected Deepwater after reviewing seven bids on its April request for proposals to build an offshore wind farm.

Deepwater was established to develop utility-scale offshore wind projects in the northeast United States.

To help seal the deal, Deepwater pledged to make a significant investment in the state of about $1.5 billion with the construction of a regional manufacturing facility in Quonset and creating up to 800 direct jobs with annual wages of $60 million. The Quonset facility will manufacture support structures upon which the turbine and its tower are based that will serve the entire northeast.

To help pay for the project, the governor recently urged the state Public Utilities Commission to require the state's power company, National Grid, to enter into long-term energy contracts with renewable generators, like Deepwater.

In 2006, Gov. Carcieri said he wanted to increase the use of renewable sources of energy to 20 percent with wind energy making up about 15 percent.

The exact location of the wind project will be determined by the Special Area Management Plan permitting process led by the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council in partnership with the University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Oceanography. That process is expected to take about two years, according to the governor's release.

Deepwater will now enter a 90-day period to negotiate a formal development agreement with the state. The final agreement will include Deepwater Wind's total commitment to

Rhode Island, including the establishment of a manufacturing headquarters in the state and the reimbursement of the cost of the permitting process.

Final approval of the project is contingent on multiple regulatory approvals from both the state and federal governments.

The major investors in Deepwater are Newton, Massachusetts-based FirstWind, a developer of onshore wind projects in the United States, New York-based capital investment firm D.E. Shaw & Co and New York-based Ospraie Management, an asset management firm with a focus on alternative energy.

(Reporting by Scott DiSavino; Editing by Marguerita Choy)

First Wind spinoff to build RI offshore wind project

Friday, September 26, 2008

By Mass High Tech Staff

The office of Rhode Island Governor Donald Carcieri announced today it has chosen Deepwater Wind to lead the development and construction of the state's $1 billion offshore wind energy project. Deepwater Wind is an offshore wind development company formed by Newton-based First Wind Holdings Inc. and other investors.

While the project is still dependent on state and federal regulator approvals, it is expected to provide 1.3 million megawatt hours per year of wind power, equalling 15 percent of all electricity used in the state. The billion-dollar project is also expected to be funded using all private investment sources. The project is part of the governor's plan announced in 2006 to generate 20 percent of the state's energy from renewable power sources.

Deepwater Wind was established to develop utility-scale offshore wind projects in the northeastern part of the United States. The company's major investors are First Wind, New York investment firm D.E. Shaw & Co. and asset management firm Ospraie Management, also based in New York.

First Wind, which filed a federal S-1 statement with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in June announcing its intention to execute a $450 million initial public offering of stock, is responsible for the development of several land-bound wind projects in New England, including the 42-megawatt Mars Hill Wind Farm in Maine.

Deepwater Wind has pledged a private investment of $1.5 billion in Rhode Island, including the construction of a regional manufacturing facility in Quonset, and the creation of up to 800 direct jobs, with annual wages of $60 million. The Quonset facility will manufacture support structures upon which the turbine and its tower are based and will serve the entire northeast.

The exact location of the wind project will be determined from the results of a Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) permitting process led by the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council in partnership with URI's Graduate School of Oceanography.

The state and Deepwater Wind will now enter a 90-day period to negotiate a formal development agreement. The final agreement will include the total commitment to Rhode Island made by Deepwater Wind, including the establishment of a manufacturing

headquarters in the state and the reimbursement of the cost of the SAMP to the Renewable Energy Fund. In addition, the agreement will outline the preferred developer status for Deepwater Wind in the permitting process.

In a statement, Governor Carcieri called the effort more than just an energy project, but a step in the creation of a new, alternative energy industry in Rhode Island.

Off-shore wind farm to be N.J. business's first

01:00 AM EDT on Friday, September 26, 2008

By Timothy C. Barmann
Journal Staff Writer

Governor Carcieri signs a contract with Christopher Brown, CEO of Deepwater Wind, whose company will construct a wind energy project off the coast of Rhode Island. The Providence Journal / Steve Szydlowski

NORTH KINGSTOWN — The company selected to build a $1.5-billion wind farm off the coast of Rhode Island has never constructed an offshore project.

But yesterday, Governor Carcieri said he was confident that Deepwater Wind, the three-year-old New Jersey firm chosen to build the privately financed project, had the experience and the financial backing to get the job done.

"They've done projects, not offshore, but they've done projects in Hawaii, Maine and New York so they know how to do wind, they know what's involved," Carcieri said yesterday during the official announcement that Deepwater had beat six other bidders competing for the project.

In an interview after the event, held in a tent next to Narragansett Bay at the Quonset Business Park, the governor elaborated.

"There's nobody other than in Europe that's got any experience doing offshore here. They've got so much work in Europe there's nobody rushing to come here right now."

He said that one of the company's three partners, First Wind Holdings of Newton, Mass., does have a lot of experience in developing land-based wind projects.

In addition, “they’ve got a financing partner that is very strong and is committed to a number of these projects. So I think you have the pieces here. When our team looked at all of them, this one came out head and shoulders.”

Rhode Island Democratic Party Chairman Bill Lynch, a political opponent of Carcieri, a Republican, issued a statement yesterday questioning Deepwater’s experience.

“Deepwater Wind has never developed an offshore wind farm or an onshore wind farm to my knowledge,” Lynch said.

According to a 10-page memo prepared by Andrew Dzykewicz, who headed the five-person selection committee, the companies were given scores based on three criteria: experience, price of electricity to be sold, and economic development impact on Rhode Island. Experience and price were each to account for 40 percent of the score, and the economic development aspect was to account for 20 percent.

Deepwater Wind outscored its six competitors in all three categories with a total score of 385 points. The runner-up was Bluewater Wind, also of New Jersey, with 322 points. (The memo did not explain how many points were possible.)

Much of Deepwater’s experience is attributed to its partnership with First Wind.

Chris Brown, chief executive officer of Deepwater Wind, declined to say what percentage of Deepwater was owned by First Wind. He described the company as a “strategic sponsor.”

First Wind is seeking to become a publicly traded company. It plans to raise money by selling its shares to pay down debt and to fund part of its expected capital expenditures this year and next year, according to its registration document filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Its total debt as of March 31 was $597 million.

The company has completed three relatively small wind projects: a 30-megawatt development in Maui, Hawaii; a 42-megawatt development in Mars Hill, Maine; and a 20-megawatt development in Lackawanna, N.Y. The proposed Rhode Island project would have a total capacity of 385 megawatts, about 15 percent of the state’s electricity usage.

However, First Wind has dozens of projects in various stages of completion. Those that the company expects to complete either next year or in 2010 are in New York, Vermont, Maine, Utah, Hawaii and Canada, and will have a total capacity of 720 megawatts, the company said in the filing.

In total, the company’s projects, both completed and in development, will have a capacity of 5,564 megawatts.

Last year, First Wind had total revenues of $12.3 million, and recorded a net loss of $68.1 million for the year, the company said in the filing.

The other two companies partnering with Deepwater are D. E. Shaw & Co., L.P. of New York, a global investment and technology development firm with more than 1,500 employees and $39 billion in investment and committed capital as of July 1; and Ospraie Management LLC of New York, one of the largest commodity hedge-fund firms.

Ospraie was in the news earlier this month after it announced it would close its biggest hedge fund after it fell 38.6 percent this year because of bad bets on commodity stocks, Bloomberg business news reported. The closing of the Ospraie Fund, which opened in 1999 and managed $2.8 billion at the start of August, leaves the firm with three funds, overseeing more than $4 billion of assets, down from $9 billion in March, Bloomberg said.

tbarmann@projo.com

Milestone 4

Ocean Special Area Management Plan (SAMP)

DRAFT Table of Contents

300. Existing Conditions: Natural Features & Human Activities of Ocean SAMP Study Area

Each Chapter listed below will present:

- Findings
- Issues of Concern
- Policies & Recommendations

Natural Features Chapters

310. Overview of the RI Ocean SAMP Natural Ecosystem

311. Geological Features

- Physical oceanography
- Bottom characteristics (subsurface geology, sediment, benthic habitat)

312. Circulation Dynamics

- Winds, waves and currents

313. Climatic Activity

- Natural hazards: storms, hurricanes, & storm surge

314. Acoustics & electromagnetic conditions

315. Biomass & Primary Productivity

316. Marine Wildlife

- Avian species – migratory, coastal, and offshore
- Marine mammals
- Sea turtles

Human Activity Chapters:

320. Commercial fishery activities and fishery resources

321. Marine Transportation

322. Recreational and Tourism Activities

323. Infrastructure (dredge material disposal sites ,cables, etc and military uses)

324. Marine archeology and cultural resources

325. Aesthetic values

326. Possible future uses

400. Existing Policies, Procedures and Governance Frameworks

410. CRMC Policies and Procedures

410.1 CRMC Jurisdiction

410.2 Federal Consistency

410.3 Interstate Consistency

420. State of RI Policies and Procedures

420.1 Relevant Legislation

420.2 Jurisdiction of Other RI State Agencies

420.3 Policy Considerations

430. Federal Policies and Procedures

430.1 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

430.2 U.S. Department of Interior, Minerals Management Service (MMS)

430.3 Other Federal Agencies

500. Renewable Energy Activities: Overview of Siting Requirements & Potential Impacts

510. General Description of the Renewable Energy Activities

510.1 Overview of Renewable Energy Generation: Wind, Wave, Tidal, Geothermal

510.2 Favorable Site Characteristics for Wind Infrastructure

510.3 Construction Requirements

510.4 Operation & Maintenance Requirements

510.5 Transmission Requirements to

520. Existing & Proposed Technologies Relevant to Ocean SAMP Study Area

520.1 Overview of Available Technologies

520.2 Support Structures & Foundations

530. Siting Requirements for the Ocean SAMP Study Area

530.1 Parameters Applied for Ocean SAMP Study Area

530.2 Identification & Description of Possible Sites
(SAVE THIS FOR SECTION 600.?)

540. Potential Impacts during the construction, operation and decommissioning of renewable infrastructure

540.1 Potential Impacts upon Existing Human Activities – fisheries, marine transportation, & infrastructure

540.2 Potential Impacts on Natural Features - air/water pollution, acoustics & electromagnetics, habitat, wildlife, fish, benthic communities, marine mammals, turtles, etc.

540.3 Potential Impacts on Aesthetics – visual, noise, quality of life, & cultural resources

540.4 Potential Impacts from Natural Hazards - on proposed energy facilities

540.5 Potential Cumulative Impacts

550. Case Studies & Lessons Learned from Similar Projects

600. Appropriate sites and new policies and procedures for Renewable Energy Infrastructure

610. Floating Zone site map or Siting Criteria for choosing appropriate sites

610.1 Wind farm site screening analysis

620. Recommended Actions & Future Research Needs

630. Regulations, Policies & Procedures for Renewable Energy Infrastructure

630.1 State Policies

630.2 Federal Policies

630.3 Procedures for the construction, operation and decommissioning of renewable energy infrastructure