

New York State Maritime Technical Working Group (M-TWG)
Meeting Summary
October 23, 2024

Next Steps

- **M-TWG members:** Complete the post-meeting survey.
- **NYSDOS/Cadmus:** Coordinate with NYSERDA to provide instructions for M-TWG members to submit feedback on supply chain database updates.
- **NYSDOS/Cadmus:** Update meeting materials with full presentation slides and meeting summary via nymtwg.com/meeting-summaries.

Meeting Purpose

To share State and member updates and discuss challenges and opportunities on port investments and maritime workforce development for offshore wind projects.

Summary

Member Updates:

M-TWG members provided relevant updates:

- State University of New York (SUNY) Maritime provided its first basic safety training and basic technical training courses in September and plans to hold the next round of training in December.
- The Hudson River Safety, Navigation & Operations Committee recently elected Ray Fusco as the new human-powered boating representative on the steering committee.
- Equinor began construction on Empire Wind 1 this year and is currently wrapping up its marine construction campaign for the 2024 season, specifically focused on cable preparation. Foundation installation is expected to begin May 1, 2025.
- Ørsted has begun construction on its Revolution Wind project and is ramping up efforts for Sunrise Wind. It is also assembling secondary steel components at Port of Coeymans, which are expected to be transferred from the port in the spring.
- Laura McLean shared that the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) recently made available the final programmatic environmental impact statement (PEIS) for the six New York Bight lease areas. For more information, visit [BOEM's New York Bight website](#).
- The New Jersey and New York Offshore Wind Supplier Forum will be held on October 28, 2024, in Atlantic City, New Jersey. For more information, visit the [event website](#).

- American Clean Power (ACP) has been tracking all the new United States vessels for OSW. For more information, see the [full list of flagged vessels](#).
- The Department of Energy National Renewable Energy Laboratory is creating a list of OSW job titles that align with the Standard Occupational Classification System and is seeking input until the end of the month. For additional information, visit [OpenEI's OSW energy occupational maps website](#).
- Equinor is seeking the public's assistance in naming its new hybrid SOV. To submit ideas or to learn more, visit [this post](#) by the Offshore Wind Innovation Hub.

Additional Topics of Conversation:

- A member asked how many people attended SUNY's recent training classes and if SUNY knew where the graduates went for jobs.
 - A representative from SUNY responded that attendees included constructors, SUNY students, members of painter's unions, and individuals using the course to satisfy requirements for other sectors.

State Updates:

Sherryll Huber from NYSERDA provided updates on recent State activities related to offshore wind (OSW), including updates on OSW and supply chain investment plan solicitations and Master Plan 2.0. Track 1 of the Master Plan 2.0 studies will be published as a whole; the Track 2 studies will be published as they are finalized.

Port Investments:

Thomas Morkan of MARAD provided an overview of current port development efforts on the east coast. The administration has a goal of 30 gigawatts by 2030. Locally, South Brooklyn Marine Terminal is currently under construction, and Arthur Kill Terminal and Crowley's Wind Terminal Service are pursuing federal permitting. For further information on construction progress at South Brooklyn Marine Terminal, see [Equinor's fall update](#). One common issue throughout the northeast is that ports with bridges tend to hinder the movement of turbine components to the staging areas because the components are so large.

Peter Lion of NYSERDA shared an update on the growth of the OSW supply chain. MARAD has a variety of support programs available, ranging from large port infrastructure grants to small shipyard grants. For additional information on these programs, visit [MARAD's grants and finances website](#). South Fork Wind, developed by Ørsted and contracted by the Long Island Power Authority, is the first utility-scale project to be operational in the U.S. These turbines will be serviced out of Long Island and exemplify the national workforce and supply chain opportunities associated with OSW projects. New York currently has five ports under active development. Additional activities at the State level include a joint procurement with New Jersey for a technical contractor to support small businesses looking to engage in OSW

development, as well as updates to the State’s OSW supply chain database. M-TWG members will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the supply chain database updates.

Maritime Workforce Development Panel:

Max Taffet of New York City Economic Development Coordination (EDC) provided an overview of EDC’s maritime employment efforts. In 2021, EDC announced an OSW vision plan focusing on sites and infrastructure, workforce and business support, and research and innovation. This plan is accompanied by \$191 million of city capital to advance efforts to expand OSW in New York City. As part of this strategy, recent workforce development activities include allocating funds to the City University of New York (CUNY) for the creation of facilities, establishing an OSW advisory network across CUNY campuses, a “Summer of Offshore Wind” community engagement effort, hosting events for high school students at the Brooklyn and Manhattan cruise terminals, and a pre-apprenticeship program with Kingsborough Community College.

Stephen Lyman of the Maritime Association of the Port of NY & NJ shared an overview of the Workforce Development Implementation Team. This team was created in 2017 by the Council on Port Performance to help address concerns about the aging workforce in the supply chain industry and includes representatives from the City of Newark, the City of Elizabeth, New York City, terminal operators, and the trucking industry. In order to increase awareness around the port industry, the Workforce Development Implementation Team hosted an event for local community members to visit the port and learn about the various job opportunities available throughout all aspects of the industry. The team is planning a career awareness event later this month. For more information about the event, visit the [Maritime Transportation Logistics and Distribution Job Fair website](#).

Joseph St. Pierre of Salem Wind Terminal provided an overview of Salem Wind Terminal’s ongoing workforce activities. Salem Wind Terminal has a community benefits agreement with the City of Salem, Massachusetts that includes stipulations about supporting opportunities for access to the OSW industry for residents of environmental justice neighborhoods. As part of this effort, Salem Wind Terminal is focused on supporting general trades education in Salem and surrounding towns. Essex Tech, a local technical school, has partnered with General Electric (GE) to create an advanced manufacturing program to assist in filling manufacturing positions at the nearby GE plant and to increase awareness of career opportunities in this field. Salem Wind Terminal intends to use the success of this program as a baseline for supporting workforce development in the OSW industry. Salem Wind Terminal also partners with MassHire; this organization recently received grant money from Massachusetts Clean Energy Center to run a pre-apprenticeship program focused on renewable energy and sustainability.

Additional Discussion:

A member shared that the US Department of Energy National Renewable Energy Laboratory is creating a list of OSW job titles that align with the Standard Occupational Classification System and is seeking input until the end of the month. For additional information, visit [OpenEI’s OSW energy occupational maps website](#).

The following questions were posed to the Workforce Development Panelists and opened for discussion among all M-TWG members:

What do you anticipate being the next big barriers to workforce development in the maritime and OSW industries? What barriers may require partnerships to address?

- Joseph St. Pierre responded that there is a significant lack of skilled tradespeople in Salem and across the state of Massachusetts. Additionally, the aging workforce likely means that skilled laborers will be uninterested in pivoting to a career in OSW by the time project phases move to turbine installation. Partnering with community-based organizations, maritime colleges, and career technical education centers could be one way to generate more interest in the trades, eventually bolstering the maritime and OSW workforces.

What are some other ways to address skill gaps in the industry?

- Stephen Lyman added that marketing efforts to increase community awareness is needed. Such efforts to promote career opportunities should not only focus on the communities that ports operate in, but also within the maritime sector.
- Max Taffet stated that helping current and potential members of the workforce find the right career path is also important. There is a wide range of jobs within the sector, and individuals not wanting the traditional lifestyle of a mariner might not be aware of other opportunities.
- A member added that seafarer recruitment is a global issue. Promotion of the industry, as well as the variety of different jobs and lifestyles, could be one way to alleviate workforce concerns.
- A member representing SUNY stated that awareness efforts targeting students should start as early as possible; SUNY recently hosted an “Offshore Wind Day” for kindergarten students to get them acclimated with the topic. One solution may be promoting the high salaries that can be available in the OSW sector and the various lifestyles associated with working in the industry through the education system.

What suggestions do you have for filling workforce gaps in the supply chain?

- A member noted that the training needed for the maritime environment is expensive and can be a significant barrier to entering the workforce. Additionally, companies may be put off by the liabilities of having inexperienced students aboard their vessels.
- Another member agreed that many students may be able to afford tuition at a maritime academy but cannot afford the extra expenses associated with becoming a third engineer or a third mate. This is a recognized problem within the industry, exemplified by a maritime bill that is being introduced to New York State Senator William Kelly’s office. The bill includes a section regarding a fund to cover fuel costs and the costs associated with post-graduate training and licensing programs.

Meeting Participants

Alicia	Artesa	New York Offshore Wind Alliance (NYOWA)
Katie	Axt	WSP
Joel	Bernosky	NYSDOS
Colleen	Brust	NJ Marine Resources
Ian	Corcoran	Hudson River Pilots HRSNOC
Mark	Cutter	United States Coast Guard, District 1
Jessica	Dealy	NYSERDA
Stephanie	Finch	WSP
Rachel	Freed	CBI
Nick	Guariglia	New York Offshore Wind Alliance (NYOWA)
Sherryll	Huber	NYSERDA
Pauline	Huet Le Bertre	NYSERDA
Sean	Kline	Chamber of Shipping America
Kate	Korotky	United States Coast Guard, District 1
Brian	LeFebvre	Attentive Energy
Julia	Lewis	Equinor
Peter	Lion	NYSERDA
Stephen	Lyman	Maritime Association of the Port of NY & NJ
Erin	Maloney	Cadmus
EJ	Marohn	Invenergy
Laura	McLean	NYSDOS
Thomas	Morkan	US DOT MARAD
Claire	Richer	ACP
Scott	Salmon	Vineyard Wind
Lauren	Sidor	NYSDEC
Bill	Smith	Invenergy
Jeannot	Smith	Vineyard Wind
James	Spear	SUNY Maritime College / Harbor Operations Committee Port of NY
Jeff	Spillane	SUNY Maritime College
Joseph	St. Pierre	Salem Wind Terminal
Max	Taffet	New York City Economic Development Corporation
Hannah	Van Hemmen	Orsted
Michelle	Villafane	United States Coast Guard, Sector NY
Susan	Winfrey	NY Shipping Association
Chris	Wescott	NY Shipping Association