

New York State Maritime Technical Working Group (M-TWG)
Meeting Summary
May 12, 2026

Next Steps

- **M-TWG members:** Complete the [post meeting poll](#) to provide feedback on the M-TWG's near term focus areas and the two-year M-TWG meeting plan.
- **New York State Department of State (NYS DOS)/Cadmus:** Update meeting materials with full presentation slides and meeting summary via nymtwg.com/meeting-summaries.

Meeting Purpose

To share member updates, Autonomous Vessel side study on shoreside Remote Operating Centers, learn about recent developments of state initiatives and programs, and outline the M-TWG's two-year meeting plan.

Summary

Welcome:

Introduce Melanie Gárate, a Senior Associate from CBI, as the new M-TWG facilitator. Melaine has a background in marine science, climate change, and coastal zone management. Her other projects consist of facilitating the Environmental Justice Technical Working Group (EJ-TWG), and the Responsible Offshore Science Alliance (ROSA) quarterly meetings.

Member Updates

M-TWG members provided relevant updates:

- United States Coast Guard completed the [programmatic environmental impact statement](#) for their proposed rule on [Shipping Safety Fairways Along the Atlantic Coast](#) on May 5, 2026. Public comments are open until June 22, 2026.
- NY Shipping Association is currently working with the South Brooklyn Marine Terminal to support their labor needs and the New York waterfront commission to get the laborers licensed to support landside operations.
- United States Maritime Administration can assist stakeholders with their pursuit of grants to move large freight by contacting [Amada Rutherford](#). Port Infrastructure Development Program Notice of Funding Opportunity closes June 1, 2026.
- NJ Department of Environmental Protection has final reports from their research and monitoring initiative being completed.
- SUNY Maritime College continues to run their classes and is working on renewing instructors to continue courses with offshore wind and to prepare for new work.
- NY Department of Environmental Conservation continues to work on obtaining permits for the Propel project and monitoring Empire Wind 1 and Sunrise Wind projects.
- NY Maritime Association of the Port of NY & NJ hosted an annual in-person and live meeting and recognized the 70th anniversary of the sailing of the Ideal-X. Plan is to focus on hosting a regional maritime conference, Sail 4th 250, innovation and infrastructure.

- Equinor shared wind turbine components have arrived at the South Brooklyn Marine Terminal. Installation of turbine components will begin this Summer/Fall 2026. Several ships are commissioning and testing offshore substations and ensuring cables are coming online.
- New York City Economic Development Corporation continues work with maritime waterway projects across New York City including [Sail 4th 250](#) and coordinating transmission cables and hosting foreign naval ships.
- Vineyard Wind shared the Vineyard Wind 1 project has reached its half commercial operating date, 400 megawatts produced, 62 turbines and electrical support platform is installed.

Update on the Autonomous Vessel Uses in Offshore Wind Study

Katie Axt from WSP provided an update on a small add-on study on Remote Operating Centers. The purpose of this study is to examine the role of Remote Operating Centers in supporting autonomous vessels for offshore wind infrastructure and evaluate how Remote Operating Centers function as a central hub where most vessel oversight, manning, and operational decision-making occur. This additional study will be a resource for M-TWG members to learn about potential applications and constraints of these technologies in the New York region. A draft will be available for review and comment in Summer 2026.

Key Research Areas include:

- Components, Services, and Capabilities
- Technology, Infrastructure, and Workforce Needs
- Organization and Scalability
- Safety and Security Standards
- Geographic and Port Siting Considerations
- Examples of economic development programs, incentives, or partnerships

State Initiatives and Program Updates

Peter Lion from NYSERDA provided updates on ongoing offshore wind initiatives in New York State. New York State hosted the 2026 International Partnering Forum (IPF) and released a [Request for Information \(RFI\)](#) on offshore wind pre-development work and posted a [Summary of RFI Responses](#). The comments focused on project agnostics the state could do including cable core doors, transmission interconnection, land fall work.

New York State is moving forward with an Offshore Wind Technical Assistance Program (OSW TAP) designed to strengthen New York's offshore wind supply chain by preparing local businesses to complete near- and long-term offshore wind opportunities. Through technical assistance, market intelligence, and strategic industry connections, the program supports supplier readiness, developer engagement, and regional economic growth. The program will run for two years and work with twenty four businesses providing direct technical support through three cohorts. OSW TAP will go public in Summer 2026, with the first cohort being launched in Fall 2026.

Additionally, the State is currently evaluating the first round of the [Ports Infrastructure Request for Proposals \(RFP\) 6041](#). This RFP was focused on advancing the offshore wind industry in New York which requires early investments in multi-use infrastructure to support the future of industry while being resilient to market cycles. The RFP seeks port development and improvement projects at existing ports that will increase the capability for New York to bolster the offshore wind industry while also having multi-use purposes. This RFP includes 5 rounds, round 2 proposal submission date is August 20, 2026 at 3:00 PM ET.

Upcoming Events Include:

- [2026 Waterfront Conference – Museum of Jewish Heritage](#): May 19, 2026
- [New York OceanTech Summit – Brooklyn Army Terminal](#): June 4, 2026
- [2026 State of Science – Stony Brook University](#): June 8 – 11, 2026
- [Offshore Innovation Exchange: Tech Café – Stony Brook University](#): June 10, 2026

Paddy Loughlin from NYSDOS provided an update on the NYSDOS Maritime and Ports Asset Inventory and Needs Assessment. The goal of this study is to create an asset inventory database that catalogues key infrastructure through a geospatial map, develop an economic assessment of ports and the maritime sector's effect on local and regional economies, and create a needs assessment with an emphasis on resilient strategies and supporting implementation. Currently working on targeted outreach for participants to complete the survey and develop and update the maritime asset database with results from outreach. If you are a ports operator, please complete the survey [here](#). The results from the study will be used to support and advocate for the maritime industry.

Core Outcomes and Deliverables include:

- Identify priority infrastructure gaps
- Sequence investments strategically
- Recommend coordination actions
- Highlight funding pathways
- Provide a planning framework

An M-TWG member asked the following question:

- Would you like us to share the survey link on social media with their newsletter release on May 15, 2026?
 - Joel Bernosky responded that while he sees the value in the NY Maritime Association of the Port of NY & NJ sending this out, they do not want to overburden recipients. They will chat offline to discuss further.

Laura McLean from NYSDOS provided an update on the [New York Ocean Action Plan](#) to promote a healthy, resilient ocean through sound stewardship and sustainable human use. This Summer NYSDOS and the New York Department of Environmental Conservation will begin the next ten-year planning horizon. The New York Ocean Action Plan will host a side meeting to the State of the Science on June 8, 2026. To register, please click [here](#).

Additionally, the State of New York and Connecticut are working on the [Long Island Sound Ecological and Use Sensitivity Analysis \(EUSA\) Project](#). The goal of this project is to promote a deeper understanding of Sound-wide priorities and uses by generating publicly available data and resources including weighting system and map products. The project will improve predictability for subsea and shoreside infrastructure development by identifying ecologically sensitive resources earlier in the project planning.

M-TWG's Two Year Meeting Plan

Laura McLean and Joel Bernosky from NYSDOS provided insight into the M-TWG's next two years including cadence and meeting topics. The M-TWG meetings will continue to follow a quarterly cadence with one in-person meeting annually. Based on previous meetings and conversations and leveraging the expertise of the M-TWG to support offshore wind, the M-TWG will be focusing on the following three themes:

- **Working Waterfronts:** Including new federal directions and the [U.S. Maritime Dominance initiative](#), the potential historic [funding increases for port infrastructure & shipyards](#), and diversification is critical for resilient industries, and continued challenges due to land use constraints and redevelopment pressures.
 - Potential Deliverables:
 1. Guest speaker on federal Maritime Action Plan or other federal policies
 2. Case studies on multi-use ports and vessels
 3. Discussions on funding opportunities, key findings from NYS Ports Study
- **Maritime Workforce:** Including federal funding and policy shifts, Centers of Excellence and emphasis on shipbuilding and welding, regional stronghold for maritime training and education, and the recruitment and retention challenges, and collaboration is already occurring.
 - Potential Deliverables:
 1. Inventory of maritime training programs and apprenticeships (with EJ-TWG, Jobs and Supply Chain (JSC) -TWG, HarborOps)
 2. Evaluate shipyard workforce development needs (research project)
- **Offshore Wind Ready:** Including commercial-scale projects are operating and under construction, opportunity to document metrics and benefits, and offshore wind crossover with other development and industries, and updated NYS regulations (RAPID Act's Article VIII)
 - Potential Deliverables:
 1. Fact sheet(s) on industry benefits
 2. Discuss NYS efforts to advance offshore wind pre-development
 3. Learn more about NYS transmission (Article VIII) process & guidance

M-TWG members were asked to provide feedback on M-TWG's near-term focus areas, deliverables, and the two-year M-TWG meeting plan. Members had the following feedback:

- One member stated that one deliverable they see as more time sensitive is having a guest speaker on the federal [Maritime Action Plan](#) or other federal policies. Additionally, they want to include fact sheets on local maritime use under the Offshore Wind Ready Theme to document what ports and vessels projects have been used the most.

- Laura followed up and asked if Equinor are already planning to capture these metrics and statistics on number of vessels used, workers used, and positions created by these projects?
 - The member replied that they can take this topic back to determine what metrics they use and follow up. However, they believe this idea has been siloed and would benefit from a more holistic approach.
 - An additional member responded that Ørsted does track the metric of vessel use and union labor vs nonunion labor but would be interested in the M-TWG's desired format and how Ørsted can match it.
- Another member agreed that obtaining a guest speaker on federal Maritime Action Plan or other federal policies would be beneficial. The member asked what kind of case study would emerge from the deliverable evaluating shipyard workforce development needs?
 - Laura clarified that it would not be a demand study but M-TWG wants to develop case studies of specific facilities or companies on diversification and how they are building in long term resilience.
- A member expressed interest in the discussions on funding opportunities, key findings from NYS Ports Study and evaluating shipyard workforce development needs (research project) deliverables and what capacity there is locally from a shipyard standpoint.
 - Laura asked if the member was interested in a different topic than what is listed?
 - The member clarified they are looking more for a hybrid between the two deliverables which would be funding opportunities for key ports.
 - Laura followed and said the funding opportunities are primarily infrastructure funding, but it seems the member was more interested in maintenance funding, specifically for dredging.

Meeting Participants

Katie	Axt	WSP
Joel	Bernosky	NYSDOS
Rhianna	Bozzi	New York Department of Environmental Conservation
Colleen	Brust	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Mark	Cutter	United States Coast Guard, District 1
Melanie	Gárate	CBI
Katie	Korotky	United States Coast Guard, District 1
Julia	Laskaris	Cadmus
Edward	LeBlanc	Ørsted
Julia	Lewis	Equinor
Peter	Lion	NYSERDA
Paddy	Loughlin	NYSDOS
Stephen	Lyman	NY Maritime Association of the Port of NY & NJ
Laura	McLean	NYSDOS
Rick	Robins	Community Offshore Wind
Amanda	Rutherford	US Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration
Jeannot	Smith	Vineyard Wind
Jeff	Spillane	SUNY Maritime College
Max	Taffet	New York City Economic Development Corporation
Chris	Wescott	NY Shipping Association



Marine Safety Information Bulletin

Commander
Coast Guard Northeast District
Prevention Division
408 Atlantic Ave
Boston, MA 02210

MSIB Number: 26-002
Date: May 8, 2026
Contact: Mark Cutter
E-Mail: Mark.E.Cutter@uscg.mil

Request for Input: Shipping Safety Fairways Along the Atlantic Coast

This bulletin invites public input on the draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) and Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (OEIS) for the Safety Fairways along the Atlantic Coast listed in Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) USCG-2019-0279. The Coast Guard encourages maximum stakeholder input.

1. The Commandant of the Coast Guard released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) proposing a system of shipping safety fairways along the Atlantic Coast in January 2024. This NPRM is posted [USCG-2019-0279](#) and is reopened for comment through June 22, 2026.
2. As per the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Executive Order 12114, a draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) and Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (OEIS) was completed in support of this rulemaking. The DPEIS/OEIS analyzes the potential environmental and economic impacts of this rulemaking.
3. The Coast Guard invites public input on the draft PEIS/OEIS. The draft PEIS/OEIS can be found at [USCG-2023-0928](#). The draft PEIS public review and comment period will be open from May 5, 2026, through June 22, 2026. The draft will also be available via the [EIS database](#) on Friday, May 8, 2026.
4. For information about the documents, call or email Brian Mottel, U. S. Coast Guard, Office of Navigation Systems (206) 815-4657, email David.B.Mottel2@uscg.mil. For questions regarding this Marine Safety Information Bulletin contact Mr. Mark Cutter, Waterways Planning Branch at Coast Guard Northeast District (571) 607-2921, e-mail Mark.E.Cutter@uscg.mil.

Mr. Matthew Stuck, Coast Guard Northeast District, Chief, Waterways Planning Branch, sends