

Massachusetts Wind Working Group Meeting

Location: MTC Campus, Westborough, MA

Date: April 1, 2005

Meeting Notes

A. Introductions

A group of approximately 60 people representing a diverse range of organizations and experience (wind educators, developers, students, environmentalists, public officials, and enthusiasts) gathered for the second MA Wind Working Group (MWWG) meeting held at MTC's Westborough headquarters. The list of attendees is at the end of this Some interested parties, such as the Conservation Law Foundation and the Mass. Farm Bureau, were not able to attend this meeting but promised to do so in the future. Regardless, "Quite an impressive display of support for a state with only one commercial-scale wind turbine!"

Future meeting schedule: until momentum and direction is established, the MWWG will meet monthly; afterwards, quarterly or semiannually as needed

B. Wind Energy –What Size?

Participants were informally polled to indicate what size projects were of interest. It was OK to show support for more than one category.

Size	# with interest
100 kW or less	22
>100 kW and < 5 MW	31
5 MW & up	25

C. Mission Statement

Sally Wright (Renewable Energy Research Laboratory, UMass Amherst) chaired the meeting and led the group through its first task which was started during the first meeting-- reaching consensus on the MWWG mission statement. A number of suggestions were made including:

- strike "good" from 3rd bullet
- strike "overcome barriers" from 3rd bullet. Others requested that "barriers" be explicitly retained.
- include language to address sustainability and state RPS goals (this wording had been eliminated as redundant in the previous meeting.)

Other suggestions were made in addition to these, but the group did not reach a consensus. Sally will continue fine-tuning on the mission statement and invites additional comments. A final draft will be distributed via email and finalized.

D. Brain-storm possible action areas

The group identified a number of possible project areas for MWWG (in addition to the items presented with the agenda):

1. Education
 - a) Internal education (workshops within the WWG)
 - Invite John Macleod and/or Malcolm Brown of Hull to share their experience
 - Invite Paul Gipe to educate group on European and Ontario wind experience
 - Invite FPL or other large wind developer: on the wind farm developer perspective
 - Find out what lessons can be learned from other state WWG's
 - b) External education (public education)
 - Invite anti-wind individuals in for discussion
 - Develop a series of educational articles for MWWG distribution
 - Develop educational "MA Wind Energy" video for public broadcast. VT has created its own (with budget of \$29K), and Lawrence Mott could obtain copy for MWWG.
2. Support Policy
 - DEP has begun discussions throughout the Commonwealth to offer stakeholders the opportunity to help develop state guidance for wind energy.
 - Conservation Law Foundation intends to weigh in on "water-dependent use" definition.
 - Programmatic avian impact support, to expedite site-specific avian impact studies
3. Application Support
 - Project Finance
4. State Coordination
 - MA Highway dept.
 - Municipal Airports
 - DEP
5. Federal Coordination
 - FAA (FAA rules may be restrictive of wind turbine siting near airports even when turbines are not in flight paths.)
 - Army Corps of Engineers
6. Other
 - Engage farm groups. DOER has been working with small wind/agricultural lands group. MA Dept. of Agricultural Resources and MA Farm Bureau are partners.

E. First Tasks

1. *Questionnaire*
Sally W. will develop and distribute a questionnaire to determine the best time for MWWG meetings, list issues and gather information to assess MWWG direction, resources, subcommittee development, etc.
2. *State of Wind in MA*
Brian Braginton-Smith volunteered to lead new subcommittee “State of Wind in MA.” Subcommittee will organize and present the “State of Wind in MA” at the next working group meeting. The presentation will serve as an introductory overview of the current status of wind (resources, project developments, industry, issues, etc.) in Massachusetts.
3. *Organize Wind Forum with Environmental Groups*
Can environmental concerns and wind development goals be better coordinated and harmonized than they are currently? MWWG will organize a forum of environmental groups such as MA Audubon, and those currently involved in siting wind projects. This effort could obviate some of the roadblocks that have slowed progress in MA.

F. Announcements

- USDA Farmbill Section 9006 –Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency-- is open
- MIT Enterprise Forum—“Finals of the Clean Energy Technologies Business Presentation” on April 27, 4:30 PM. MIT, Stata Center.
- “Green Home and Business: Focus on Energy”-Wind Power for the Home and Small Business. Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. Falmouth, Cape Cod. April 5. Call 508-457-0495 x 107 for more info.
- “Small Wind Installer Apprentice Workshop,” Cape & Islands Self-Reliance. June 13.
- Next MWWG meeting —Wed. May 11, 100 Cambridge St., Boston. Conference Room B. Time to be announced

Attendees:

Utama Abdulwahid, Renewable Energy Research Lab, UMass Amherst
Steve Barrett, Epsilon Associates, Inc.
Darren Bell, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI)
Glen Berkowitz, Beaufort Power
Nils Bolgen, Mass Renewable Energy Trust, MTC
Brian Braginton-Smith, The Conservation Consortium Foundation, Inc.
John Bzura, National Grid (NGRID) USA Service Company
Paul Cleri, R W Beck, Energy Asset Consulting Group
Rich Costello, Acela Energy Group, Inc.
Jeff Deyette, Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS)
John DiModica, Division of Capital Asset Management (DCAM)
Sara DiPietro, Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA)

Lynn DiTullio, The Wintergreen Group, Inc & Renewable Energy Research Laboratory
Chris Elkinton, Renewable Energy Research Laboratory (RERL), UMass, Amherst
Dick Elrick, Mass Renewable Energy Trust, MTC
Susan Giordano, Second Wind Inc.
Bob Grace, Sustainable Energy Advantage, L.L.C.
Rich Gross, Minuteman Wind, LLC & Richard C. Gross , Inc.
Jan Gudell, Mass Division of Energy Resources, DOER
David Heimann, Sierra Club, Energy Committee,
Richard Lawrence, Cape and Islands Self Reliance
Bob Loebelenz, Lion Spring Farm, Lion Spring Sun Star
Dennis Loria, Loria Consulting/Engineering
Mike Lynch, Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC)
Louis Manfredi
Jim Manwell, Renewable Energy Research Laboratory (RERL), UMass, Amherst
Richard Michaud, Department of Energy, Boston Regional Office
Tom Michelman, Boreal Renewable Energy Development
John TA Miller, CH2M Hill
Lawrence Mott, Northern Power Systems
Joan Muller, Waquoit Bay Reserve, Falmouth Energy Committee
Sam Nutter, Mass Renewable Energy Trust, MTC
Nancy Nysten, Center for Ecological Technology (CET) & Berkshire Renewable Energy
Collaborative
Nubia Perez, Mass Division of Energy Resources, DOER
I Pracash, Reliable Consulting
Dave Publicover, Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC)
Anju Rajani, Clean Energy Design
Heidi Ricci, Mass Audubon
Jon Ricker, Mass Megawatts, Inc.
Michael Roach, Lexington Energy Partners & Arlington Energy Committee
Mark Rodgers, CapeWind Associates
Keren Schlomy, Attorney at law
David Shakespeare
Boris Shapiro, Mass. Dept. of Telecom. & Energy (DTE)
Maria Simoneau, Mass Climate Action Network (MCAN) Sustainable Arlington
Woody Stoddard, Ocean Wind Energy Systems
Jim Sweeney, CCI Energy LLC & Sustainable Resources Group
Joseph Turnbull, CyberNauTech
Steve Walton, ISO New England
Carol Wasserman, ESS Group
Tom Wineman, TJ Design
Sally Wright, Renewable Energy Research Laboratory (RERL), UMass, Amherst
Matt Palmer, Clean Power Now
Robert Murray, Robert Murray Associates
Chris Fisichella, Community Renewables
Adam Owens
Anders Bjarngard, GZA GeoEnvironmental
Jennifer Kiehling, Second Wind Inc.