



*A Viable Marine Renewable Energy Industry:
Solutions to Legal, Economic, and Policy Challenges*

October 23 – 24, 2008

*Roger Williams University School of Law
Bristol, Rhode Island*

AGENDA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2008

8:00 a.m. **Registration Opens**

8:00 – 8:30 a.m. **Continental Breakfast**

8:30 – 8:45 a.m. **Welcome**

David A. Logan, Dean, Roger Williams University School of Law
Donald L. Carcieri, Governor, State of Rhode Island

8:45 – 9:30 a.m. **Introduction: Willett M. Kempton**

Professor, College of Marine & Earth Sciences, and Senior Policy Scientist, Center for Energy and Environmental Policy, University of Delaware

Dr. Kempton will discuss the current state of affairs for the marine renewable energy industry: energy potential; current interest by industry and governments (local, state and Federal); existing permitting regimes; economic incentives; available funding for research and development; and public perception.

9:30 – 11:00 a.m. **Panel I: Marine Renewable Energy: The Current State of Regulatory Affairs**

This panel will examine the current state of regulatory affairs for permitting offshore renewable energy projects from a federal agency perspective. Projects are considered on a case-by-case basis and there is growing interest in establishing a more coordinated and/or regional “ocean management” approach to the siting and permitting of marine renewable energy projects.

Moderator: **Peter J. Schaumberg, Esq.**, Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.

Presenters: **Robert J. DeSista**, Regulatory Division for NE District, U.S. Army
Corps of Engineers

Robert LaBelle, U.S. Minerals Management Service

Edward LeBlanc, Commander, USCG (Ret.), Waterways Management
Specialist, MSO, U.S. Coast Guard

Ralph Lopez, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

Ann F. Miles, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

- 11:00 – 11:15 a.m. **Break**
- 11:15 – 12:45 p.m. **Panel II: Developing Strategies for Marine Renewable Energy Regulation**
 This panel will discuss the current state of permitting marine renewable energy projects and identify paths to a more coordinated process for different permitting structures. Closely related to the general jurisdictional issues described in Panel I by the permitting regimes in the U.S. for marine renewable projects under the Minerals Management Service, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (for OTEC and renewable energy projects within National Marine Sanctuaries), and the U.S. Coast Guard are the roles of states and industry.
- Moderator:** **Carolyn Elefant, Esq.**, Ocean Renewable Energy Coalition
Presenters: **Grover Fugate**, RI Coastal Resources Management Council
 Carolyn Heeps, Fred .Olsen Renewables, Ltd.
 Dennis Duffy, *Cape Wind*
 Steven R. Kopf, Pacific Energy Ventures, LLC
- 12:45 – 2:00 p.m. **Lunch**
Speaker: **Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)** *Room 283*
- 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. **Panel III: Financing/Economic Issues**
 This panel will examine the economic and financial issues to support the rapid development of offshore renewables. The role of tax credits, investment funds, and financial structures needed for venture capitalists to invest in marine renewable energy projects will be the focus. Financial incentives to meet start-up costs for new technologies, competition with more traditional energy sectors and the ability to obtain financing will also be discussed.
- Moderator:** **Edwin F. Feo**, Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP
Presenters: **Chris Brown**, Deepwater Wind
 James F. Duffy, Esq., Nixon Peabody LLP
 Allan MacAskill, SeaEnergy Renewables
 Christopher Stolarski, Mizuho Corporate Bank Ltd.
- 3:30 – 3:45 p.m. **Break**
- 3:45 – 5:00 p.m. **Panel IV: Renewable Energy Integration (Engineering, Market & Policy)**
 Offshore renewables as intermittent sources of electricity pose special challenges from an engineering, policy, and economic point of view. This panel will present how the intermittency of renewable electricity is managed, the associated costs and benefits resulting from penetration of renewable offshore electricity into the grid, and the necessary policy changes needed to facilitate broad integration into the grid.
- Moderator:** **John Norden**, Renewable Resource Integration, ISO New England
Presenters: **Rahim Amerkhail**, Office of Energy Market Regulation, Federal
 Energy Regulatory Commission
 Jessica McIlroy, The Ocean Renewable Energy Group
 George Porter, New Brunswick Systems Operator
 Joseph M. Rossignoli, Transmission Regulatory Policy, National Grid

6:00 – 6:30 p.m. **Reception** *Bristol Harbor Inn, Bristol, RI*

6:30 – 9:00 p.m. **Dinner** *Bristol Harbor Inn, Bristol, RI*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2008

8:00 – 8:30 a.m. **Continental Breakfast**

8:30 – 8:45 a.m. **Welcome Remarks**
Andrew C. Dzykewicz
Commissioner, State of Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources

8:45 – 9:30 a.m. **Keynote Speaker: Steve Sawyer**
Global Wind Energy Council
Mr. Sawyer will discuss the global perspective on marine renewable energy projects.

9:30 – 11:00 a.m. **Panel V: The Human Dimension & Environmental Considerations**
This panel will discuss avenues regarding the human dimension and coastal community resilience component of renewable energy projects (located close to shore) on coastal communities and the public needs to be addressed in tandem with the jurisdictional, permitting and research components. These human dimension components and responses are frequently funneled through non-governmental organizations (NGOs); either nationally recognized or at the grassroots established in response to a specific project.

Moderator: **Wendy Williams**, co-author of *Cape Wind*
Presenters: **Jeremy M. Firestone**, University of Delaware
 Barbara Hill, Clean Power Now
 Lefteris Pavlides, Rhode Island Wind Alliance
 Jack Sterne, Rising Tide Strategies

11:00 – 11:15 a.m. **Break**

11:15 – 12:45 p.m. **Panel VI: International Perspective on Offshore Energy Projects**
This panel will provide an opportunity to learn from and explore marine renewable energy projects in other parts of the world in order to allow better informed actions being taken within the U.S. How were they permitted and installed? How have they performed from an economic and an engineering point of view? What is the level of support or opposition after installation? What are their future plans for further development? Companies who installed and operated offshore renewables from Denmark, Portugal, and the UK will share their experience and future plans.

Moderator: **Steve Sawyer**, Secretary General, Global Wind Energy Council
Presenters: **Jeffrey Hammond**, Acciona Wind Energy USA, LLC
 Taylor Roark, Mainstream Renewable Power (UK)

12:45 – 2:00 p.m. **Lunch**

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Panel VII: Offshore Energy Research & Development Funding

This panel will address the question of how to fund Research & Development for marine offshore wind, wave, tidal and thermal ocean renewable energy by establishing state, federal, and industry support. Members from academic institutions already involved in offshore renewable energy research, officials from state and federal agencies and industry will discuss how to form a multi-university consortium with complimentary areas of expertise to seek significant federal, state, and industry support.

Moderator: **Malcolm L. Spaulding**, University of Rhode Island

Presenters: **John M. Ferland**, Ocean Renewable Power Company, LLC

Patrick Gilman, U.S. Department of Energy

George M. Hagerman, Jr., Virginia Tech Advanced Research Institute

James F. Manwell, University of Massachusetts Amherst

3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Wrap-Up Discussion and Conclusion

Moderator: **Dennis H. Esposito, Esq.**, Adler Pollock & Sheehan, P.C.

4:30 p.m.

Networking Reception & Exhibitor's Hall

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Presentation of the Rhode Island Sea Grant Lifetime Achievement Award to **Grover Fugate**, Executive Director of the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council, by **Senator Jack Reed** (D-RI), followed by brief remarks