

Governor's Ocean Energy Task Force

Sub-Committee #3 Grid Access, Transmission and Utility Incentives Meeting Agenda

January 23rd, 2009

Discuss following Scope of Work for the Sub-Committee and assign research projects.

Utility Regulatory Environment:

- Identify any existing market structure, utility regulation or other impediments to development of ocean renewable energy resources.
- Recommend changes to market and utility policy to promote the development of ocean renewable energy resources in Maine

Transmission Capacity:

- Identify the current available capacity for transmitting energy from or through Maine to the New England market and the amount available for incremental North to South transmission through Maine.
- Recommend changes to market and utility policy to promote the development of ocean renewable energy resources in Maine.

Interconnection:

- Identify potential points for physical interconnection of offshore wind and tidal projects.

Offshore Wind System Characteristics:

- How do tidal and offshore wind energy generation compare to peak load requirements in New England?
- What challenges does the grid face with integration of several hundred or several thousand megawatts of ocean renewable energy in Maine and New England and how are those challenges being addressed.
- How is wind integration and system stability affected by the end uses of wind power (i.e. for transportation/home heating as opposed to historic electric grid uses)?
- Would adoption of "smart grid" technology or the installation of residential TOU meters on a wide scale basis help spur the development of a market for and

penetration of use of electricity in home heating and transportation sectors? Are there any plans in Maine to promote these practices, and if so when and at what cost?

Discussed how wind is an intermittent resource and reserves are needed. Automatic voltage regulators do not moderate load and cannot store power. With current technology only 20% of the total amount of power generated can be used and needs to be balanced, which can be done with new technologies through electric heating, transportation (plug-in hybrids).

Economics:

- Quantify the cost of adding transmission capacity in Maine to support development of reasonably foreseeable amount of ocean renewable energy resources and identify how the costs of adding such capacity would be allocated.
- Identify the costs of leasing submerged lands for construction of underwater transmission facilities and recommend any changes to submerged land leasing policies or practices.

Quantifying and Capturing and Tangible State Benefits of Ocean Energy Development:

- Identify the tangible benefits of renewable ocean energy development for local communities impacted directly and the State of Maine generally.
- What regulations/incentives should be put in place in Maine to retain economic benefits for local communities, other impacted stakeholders and state?