MINUTES
Ocean DCPC: Renewable Energy Workgroup Meeting 1
August 25, 2010
Cape Cod Commission – Barnstable, MA

Attendees: Nils Bolgen, Mass Clean Energy Center, Dan MacDonald, UMass Dartmouth, Joe Soares, Senior Power Supply Planner, Cape Light Compact, Geoff Cowles, SMAST/UMass Dartmouth, Jack Wiggin, UMass Boston, Urban Harbors Institute, Ryan Christenberry, Planner, Cape Cod Commission, Heather McElroy, Natural Resource Specialist, Cape Cod Commission, Andrew Walsh, Coastal Resource Specialist, Cape Cod Commission.

The first meeting of the Ocean DCPC Renewable Energy Workgroup began with a round of introductions and a brief discussion of the DCPC planning process. Discussion of the tasks the renewable energy workgroup is charged followed, including the expectation for deliverables by the workgroup, which include; A chapter in the final report to the Policy Committee regarding wind siting needs/constraints in the ocean waters off Cape Cod, a potential map of "go/no go areas" for wind turbines, and recommendations on thresholds and/or regulations that pertain to the siting analysis for wind and other renewable energy projects (such as wave or tidal).

The group was in general agreement about using the Mass Ocean Management Plan (OMP) data as a baseline, and to further refine that information specific to Cape Cod and the DCPC through the inclusion of additional data, where possible. These data resources may include, but are not limited to; seabed topography, airspace constraints (FAA), wind resources, ferries and other commercial traffic, visual preferences, and wind financials for other proposed ocean based projects (where available).

Questions arose on a variety of issues, specifically;

- ✓ Will municipal ocean boundaries be defined?
- ✓ How will "community" wind be defined? What are the economies of scale threshold for "community" wind? How do existing financial incentives (i.e. net-metering) combine to impact other ocean wind siting considerations, such as deep water siting and transmission distance?
- ✓ What is the basis for 24 turbines?
- ✓ Can "community" scale be defined with a minimum-to-maximum range (i.e. 660 KW to 2 MW)?

Several members of the group with expertise in other forms of ocean based renewable energy, such as wave and tidal) will provide a brief subsection in the chapter about the current states of those technologies, their potential application and scale to help inform the Policy Committee of the viability of other forms of renewable energy technologies at present.

The meeting ended with a discussion of mid-September as a potential date for a 2nd meeting, as well as an opportunity for a cross-coordination session with the other workgroups (visual and natural resources).