



NYSERDA

**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

F-TWIG Process Start-ups

November 2, 2018

Will cover:

- Intake Interview Findings
- Mission, Purpose and Objectives Roles and Responsibilities
- Ground Rules and Sideboards
- Communications and Coordination with Members
- Membership

Key Themes from Intake Interviews

Fishermen: Communications and Coordination

- **Supportive** of the F-TWG
- Interest in a **substantial and influential forum** – real, frank and **honest conversation** that leads to action
- Need to **build trust** across stakeholder groups; **have felt sidelined and marginalized** in the past as wind develops off-shore
- Keep this work **connected and not duplicative** to other ongoing conversations in the region; everyone is overwhelmed with meetings and issues

Fishermen: Information Sharing and Research

- Want to **share** data and have data shared
- Information shared and **BMPs** discussed need to cover a full range of topics
- Fisheries data is **complex, multi-species, multi-season, and multi-year**
- Over the last decades, NMFS and fishermen have built up a far more **cooperative research approach** that should be used and modeled – don't reinvent what's working
- **Competitive Concern:** can developers share sufficient information in the face of a competitive industry?
- **Timing concern:** research can take many years and decisions are being made ahead of that timeline

Fishermen: Process

- Allow for **new participants** as needed and upon acceptance of the group.
- Allow for **caucusing** among developers, states, and or fishing interests
- Allow **sufficient time** for members to reach back to their constituents, consult, and bring back full formed and informed opinions.
- Ensure options and issues are **in writing** because that is the easiest way to disseminate and get feedback on information and ideas
- ***Fishermen want to influence***: wind energy area boundaries; best management practices; mitigation plans; research agendas and data gathering

Fishermen: F-TWG Expectations and Success

- Hoping this is **not** a “**check the box**” exercise
- Listen to one another and seek **understanding and respect**
- Opportunity for **honest, intelligent, data driven, thoughtful discussion**
- More clearly identify and plan for wind energy within a reasonable footprint that minimizes impacts on all fisheries & **helps sustain & not harm fishing**
- Fishermen’s multi-generational experience and data is **taken seriously** and put to good and practical use
- Avoid major conflicts via mitigation plans, avoiding high-impact areas, identifying research needs, and establishing good baseline data
- Creating the **real possibility of co-existence** as opposed to fierce competition and “**crowding out**” of fishing interests



Developers: Communications and Coordination

- **Supportive** of the F-TWG
- F-TWG can serve as a **central clearing house for information** in and out between developers, the state, and fisheries
- Develop **best practice guidelines** or **streamlined approaches** for developers and fishermen to work together
- Recognize that having a **consistent approach** among developers is a key component of building trust with fishermen
- Focus discussion on **NY-specific topics the group can influence**
- Focus on **productive and high priority** topics

Developers: Information Sharing and Research

- Ensure **research is not redundant** with completed or current efforts
- Interest in **coordinated regional research**
- **Unified science approach** from the wind lease scale to the regional scale
- Share current data and information on offshore wind and fisheries
- **Can't easily measure before and after impacts** from offshore wind and disaggregate what causes impacts over time
- Some need for additions to existing scientific data, especially **data that can be collected in a shorter period of time**
- Many felt a **focus on technical information** would be more productive

Developers: Process

- Coordinate with other existing meetings; 3-4 meetings a year feels right
- Consider opportunities for **electronic participation**
- **Recreational fishermen** should be engaged/represented in the group
- May need **representatives closer to fishing vessels/day-to-day fishing** activities to provide site-level detail and perspectives
- Group may be too small and **need broader representation** of perspectives from fishermen
- **Concern participants may use “scare tactics”** in their engagement and try to halt any progress or seeking of consensus opinions

Developers: Expectations and Success

- Better understand the concerns of fisheries stakeholders and find ways to **co-exist and build alignment**
- Take a **regional approach** wherever possible and not repeat conversations
- Hear the perspectives of other developers and **understand if developers can work together** and coordinate fisheries engagement
- Establish a productive group with **trust, open, and effective communication**; expect it will take time to build trust
- **Improve coordination** on scientific research and priorities
- Establish a shared mechanism on how to report **compensation issues** and develop **similar protocols** or procedures for compensation
- **Identify problem areas early** on and ways to mitigate problems