

Offshore Wind Technologies and Siting Strategies

Breakout Session Summary Report
Mary Hallisey Hunt



Major Findings

- ✦ By end of 2008, approximately 2,000 MW of offshore will be installed globally
- ✦ Referencing “40% higher costs than land-based wind” is not appropriate
 - Costs are heavily site-specific
 - Saying “generally higher than land-based wind” is OK
 - Comparing offshore to land based PLUS transmission costs to reach coastal load centers may change these costs
- ✦ Mentioning 40-50% capacity factors may set expectations too high
- ✦ 28 coastal states use 78% of U.S. electricity
- ✦ Offshore wind may be only opportunity for significant renewable energy for some states
 - Local economic development issues
- ✦ Many additional barriers/challenges identified specific to offshore wind



Top Eight Priority Needs

- ▶ Create comprehensive offshore R&D program focused on cost reduction and optimization of components and full system design
- ▶ Articulate why offshore wind is critical to achieving the 20% by 2030 goal
- ▶ Develop approaches for grid interconnection for offshore wind
- ▶ Conduct full-scale offshore pilot program with Federal support to buy down costs
- ▶ Improve collaboration among MMS, DOE, and Army Corps of Engineers
- ▶ Prioritize and coordinate environmental research needs; address needs via state-federal collaborative
- ▶ Developed comprehensive offshore database with layered information
- ▶ Create supportive incentives and policies for offshore wind



Top Priority Action Agenda

✦ **Description of Need:**

- Improve collaboration among MMS, DOE, Army Corps, and States

✦ **Key Tasks and Deliverables:**

- MOU between interested agencies
- Develop strategies for addressing challenges and achieving success
- Regular coordination meetings

✦ **Resources:**

- Commitment to participate by agencies with mandates and/or interest
- Minimal resources to support federal and state organizations

✦ **Funding:**

- \$1-5 million

✦ **Immediate Next Steps:**

- Bring players together for initial meetings on structuring a collaborative process (DOE)
- Draft MOU and conduct outreach