



**Connecticut Equity and Environmental Justice Advisory Council
(CEEJAC)**

Wednesday, Sept 25, 2024, 3:00-4:00 PM

Energy & Technology Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

[Link to Meeting Recording](#)

Disclaimer: Please note this is not a word for word translation

1. Welcome
2. Presentation about Huntsbrook Offshore Wind Hub w/ Eversource
Ben D'Antonio
 - Transmission needed for clean energy resources are needed in the state and across New England.
 - GRIP – Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnership (GRIP) Program which is a partnership with states and was successful for a \$389 million grant from DOE under the Power Up New England proposal.
 - 6 New England states and 2 largest utility companies in the region
 - i. Offshore Wind Hub – Eversource
 1. On a site that already has existing infrastructure. Attractive site for offshore wind capability because it's on the shoreline. This site prepares the onshore grid.
 2. Diversifying energy mix – we can help with supply and costs. Part of a bigger initiative for electrification and decarbonization. Improves region's reliability.
- Samantha Buonafede
 - Huntsbrook is the switching station or a new point of interconnection. Offshore wind interconnection – requires all these other components
 - GRIP funding required: technical volume, community benefits plan, budget justification workbooks
 - i. Community Benefits Plan – labor and community engagement, investment in workforce, DEIA, and 40% of overall benefits flow to disadvantaged communities (Justice40 Initiative)
- Kyle Chabot
 - What does the representation look like for Local Community Working Groups? who are the community leaders?
3. Q&A
 - Dr. Mitchell – Can you talk about the number of jobs during construction and long term and are there community groups that you are engaging with?
 - i. Ben - UConn did analysis for the project – construction and in-service. According to analysis, 334,000 jobs as a part of the process for the state. On average annual basis, 72 jobs support annually. During construction phase there will be 50 jobs, and life of project will also include maintenance and operations.

- ii. Kyle – kept engagement at a high-level because we weren’t sure about funding award. Worked with elected officials and state reps and town leaders. We talked with Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan tribes in this process. This was our starting point.
- Dr. Mitchell – Will you be building on the Mohegan reservation?
 - i. Sam – property is currently owned by Eversource, Huntsbrook Junction. Both federal tribes are located further north and east of this land.
- Desen Ozkan – offshore substation, will that be a part of this project?
 - i. Sam – anything in the water would be an offshore developer. An onshore converter station would also need to be built. Eversource would work closely with developers to develop the converter station and routing the Offshore Wind Hub.
- Denise Savageau – interested in how this fits into a modern grid. We're not going to get to a modern grid by replacing fossil fuel with large scale generation. Where are your plans for distributed generation? With opportunities for microgrids?
 - i. Ben – there will be distributed sources within this system and that is driving investment. Amount of electrification demand over the next 20 years. It’s asking to double our industry. Use traditional technologies to balance the system. Thinking that this will fit within the scheme for distributed and centralized to adapt to changing system conditions. Concern that there is a big grid, but not seeing investment in the distributed generation.
 - ii. Kyle – regulatory construct is reactive and cost prohibitive. We’re working on developing a “build it and they will come” model in MA.
- Alycia Jenkins – federal designations include federally recognized tribes and areas of New London and Groton. Think that you should include black folks in these areas.
 - i. Kyle – based on our current projects, we take seriously trying to understand the communities that we are working in.
- Fleur Delacroix – What good is a switching station if nothing comes in?
 - i. Ben – Our analysis thinks that there is more coming to the region. There are a number of wind farm parcels that are open and looking to come.
- Theresa Hopkins-Staten – as we collectively identify innovative solutions, this partnership demonstrates what collaboration can look like for our state. Compliments to DEEP and all the other state partners. Lots of comments raised that we could continue the conversation on.
- Dr. Mitchell – learned a lot and also like the idea of having an offshore wind certificate program, that there could be a pathway to train people for other jobs in the offshore wind sector particularly for people of color. Distressed municipalities definition looks at other socioeconomic indicators, but does not include race. What about Norwich for engagement?
 - i. Sam – talked with Norwich Public Utilities, but will add them to our list for greater outreach.

Registration List:

Sarah Huang
 Terry Adams
 Adrian Huq
 Josh Lohr

Brendon Dukett
 Julianna McVeigh
 Niles Dookie
 Ian McDonald

Kay Lehoux
 Kay Lehoux
 Natalie Diaz
 Noah Schwartz

David Wilson
David Krochko
Jelani Fletcher
Ryan Ensling
Adrienne Houel
renata bertotti
Paul Aresta
Dustin Kach
Emma Cimino
Pallavi Mande
Allison Pilcher
Emily Bigl
Mark Mitchell MD
margaret kane
Stephen Lecco
Dr Bud McAllister
Alycia Jenkins
CARA WARDLEY
Halle Lisette Pierce
Michael Icart

Sheila Barney
Janice EhleMeyer
Jocelyn Phung
Jeffery Duigou
Fleur Delacroix
Matthew Glunt
Deb Roe
Judith de Graffenried
rick baldwin
Hank Webster
alicine francois
Suzanne Damron
Caitlin Daddona
Claire Stadtmueller
patty marks
Desen Ozkan
Ben D'Antonio
Claire Sickinger
Maritza Bond
Kyle Chabot

Ryan Boggio
Danielle Russell
Tenaya Taylor
Killian Duborg
Josh Walters
Denise Savageau
Eric Hammerling
Omar Green
Joseph DeNicola
Ben North
Jacquelyn Torres
Doris Johnson
Liz Pietrantuono
Lissette Andino
Aziz Dehkan
Samantha Buonafede
Theresa Hopkins-Staten
Diane Lauricella
Edith Pestana
Blizzard Sharod