



Responsible Offshore Development Alliance

JOINT INDUSTRY TASK FORCE MEETING

Zoom Meeting

May 14, 2020

Executive Summary:

The Joint Industry Task Force met via webinar on May 14, 2020. New members were introduced including the new associate member RWE. Results from the Navigational Aids Survey were presented and the subcommittee will meet to further interpret the results and decide what to do with the information. The group also gave supportive feedback on the NYSERDA NY Bight transit lane document. RODA reviewed the 2019 budget and scope of work and 2020 budget; budgets will be revisited on an annual basis as necessary on or around late Spring. RODA gave brief updates on the science efforts they are leading with NREL, MARCO/NROC and Dr. John Manderson. Dr. Lyndie Hice-Dunton gave an update on ROSA and the Advisory Council.

Discussion around how/if the Task Force can be most productive started with a short survey. Most respondents thought all the areas were “extremely important” or “very important” for the TF though interestingly addressing hard issues ranked higher than resolving those hard issues, respondents also gave feedback on what success would look like (increased trust and understanding of the other industry, finding common ground on certain topics, finding solutions that work for both industries) and what failure would look like (mistrust, dissolving of the task force). TF members also outlined what they would want to work on in the short, medium and long term - see pages 8-10 for full list.

The next agenda topic focused on public comments on agency actions: developers raised concerns about how RODA’s comment letters were inconsistent with the collaborative spirit of the Task Force, specifically mentioning correspondence on transit issues in the New England wind energy areas. Better clarification is needed to differentiate the work of RODA organization and TF work. Additionally, acknowledging and identifying areas where there may be collaboration but also where there may not be, should be pursued. These conversations will not always be easy but some encouraged the TF to not shy away from hard topics.

TF Educational seminars/webinars should be educational, lead to better informed conversations amongst the TF members, and focus mostly on areas where joint progress is possible. RODA will work to set these up in the coming months.

Meeting Notes

Participants:

Katie Almeida, Rodney Avila, Crista Bank, Bonnie Brady, Beht Casoni, Monique Coombs, Doug Copeland, Tom Dameron, Jen Flood, Eric Hansen, Peter Hughes, Meghan Lapp, Scott L, Fred Mattera, Elizabeth Marchetti, Kate McKeever, John O’Keeffe, Gerry O’Neill, Dan Orchard,

Rachel Patcher, Doug Perkins, Ruth Perry, Eric Reid, Rick Robins, Guy Simmons, Pat Field, Nancy Sopko, Fiona Hogan, Annie Hawkins, Lane Johnston

12:45 RODA and Wind Industry Brief Updates

- New members include Scott Lundin (replacing Martin Goff) from Equinor, Kate McKeever and Doug Perkins from RWE - new associate member. Dan Orchard also introduced himself (existing member but hadn't met many of the TF members)
- Introduced Nancy Sopko, SIOW, as developer coordinator
- Members supportive of Joint Industry Task Force Letterhead - RODA will work to share possible options. Ideas included: incorporating all logos, a header and footer.

1:00 Focused Topic to Advance Joint Action: Navigational Aids

- Subcommittee should reconvene to fully analyze and interpret results from the survey. (Subcommittee: Ruth, John, Rodney, Fred, Crista, Eric H, Bonnie, Beth C)
- Some questions may need follow up or further clarification with mariners. Potential "products" could include: letters to BOEM, USCG or states summarizing findings, report published on RODA's website or elsewhere, small group meeting to discuss findings with USCG, small work groups with mariners to vet final response/get additional insights.
- Consensus that the TF shouldn't be premature with what we do with these results.
- Summary of Survey Results:
 - Not all respondents identified themselves but several fisheries and sectors were reflected in the few that did (both RODA and non-RODA members represented)
 - Consistency between projects should be applied for all of the results
- 1. AIS? Every turbine - Virtual (14), combination of other options with AIS in some fashion (>14), need further analysis
- 2. RACONS? Activated on four corners of array
 - i. Further discussion based on multiple navigational aids (ie. if AIS would RACONS still be needed; preference likely dependent on vessel size)
- 3. Size lettering? Largest feasible visible from 360 degrees
 - i. Need further clarification if this means each letter is 3m tall or combination of the letters/numbers
 - ii. Could benefit from bringing in an expert
- 4. Marking in poor visibility? Not clear results, probably close to IALA recommendations
- 5. Lighting of labels? Downward facing light or IALA recommendations
 - i. Low level lighting important to reduce glare in the wheelhouse
- 6. Markings 50ft above HAT? Yes
- 7. Directional consistency? Numbers increase with distance from shore (consistent with buoyage)
 - i. Need to further clarify the directional consistency of offshore to inshore vs. opening of a channel/bay to up river.
- 8. Transit lanes marked? Yes
 - i. Conversation about preferred directionality in transit lanes - do not mandate it

- ii. This should be a project by project discussion based on the fishing vessels transiting through a specific project (we should not get too prescriptive)
 - 9. Consistency? Yes
 - 10. Lighting on the corners and in the interior of an array? Yes, USCG recommendations sufficient
 - 11. Sound signals? Mixed results: at each corner and along the perimeter
 - i. This is an important safety measure for small vessels without AIS or good radar
 - ii. Best way to know you are out of an array
 - 12. Chart Symbology? Sufficient as is
 - i. Most mariners are using plotters now, expectation that flash drives with updated locations of turbines will be available.
 - ii. Recommendation for shading of a large array/wind farm
 - 13. Chart characters? Sufficient
 - 14. Cell coverage and apps? Yes and several apps listed that would be used
- Other aids to navigation to ask about: vessel activated light, what about floating turbines?

1:45 NY Bight Transit Lanes Update

- Review of NY Bight Transit tool: NYSERDA looking to finish up this report. Report tried to use feedback from all the outreach, workshops, etc. to narrow down some lanes.
 - Support for this discussion before lease sales. (good job NYSERDA)
 - Contiguous lanes between multiple leases/call areas should be done.
 - Concern that the maps from discussions with tug and tow and DOD requests were not included in these maps. (from recollection, tug and barge wanted 6 miles from CM to NB). ACPARS may be addressing this.
 - DOD red-zones have been changed from initial discussions so these areas may not be impacted by that agency.
 - Additional questions or comments should be sent to Lane or Pat to forward to NYSERDA.

2:00 Task Force Budget Update

- Review of 2019 Budget
 - Members came in at various times;
 - Attributed work outlined vs. in-kind work has also been conducted, work setting up ROSA (not funded through TF), communications firm, grant proposals, NYSERDA transit,
 - ROSA has our own tasks that are not TF related, or scope of collaborative work
- Review and Discussion of 2020 Budget
 - \$50,000 special projects - identified by both sectors of task force to do together (another edu forum, etc.)
 - Annual budget likely to be revisited around this time each year
 - Budgets will not be posted but available to TF members.

2:30 Science and Research updates

- RODA/NREL Study
 - Still in contracting phase, have held advisory board meeting already with 3 fishing industry members (Eric H, Tom D, Ron S) & wind industry members (Ruth, Elizabeth, Julia)
 - Project looking at scenarios for fishing vessels entering into WEAs, what might be needed for them to safely enter into an area.
 - 1st white paper: describe factors for fishing vessels working in an array, what are the impediments for working in an array
 - From a safety and access perspective: way to look at joint modeling of all the interactions
- Responsible Offshore Science Alliance – *Lyndie Hice-Dunton*
 - Currently building advisory council (~40 ppl - commercial and rec fishermen, wind industry, Councils/Commission, agencies, states), filling this out with a smaller subset to establish processes to fill this out. Nominations likely going out in early June.
 - Research and monitoring in the meantime? Coordination of plans, NMFS, ROSA, etc. to address this in the meantime (plus state reps, BOEM, RODA, fisheries staff from developers, Industry captains with cooperative research experience, academics who have been doing cooperative and fisheries research)
 - MA Workforce Development Center - announced about a month ago, focused on safety and criteria, should be coordinated with USCG to be consistent across industry.
 - Could understanding of vessel standards and workforce development be addressed by the Task Force?
- Other RODA Research and Science Efforts – *Fiona Hogan*
 - Data Portals: working with NROC and MARCO to improve fishing data on those platforms. Lots of outreach being conducted but that's hard to do in a pandemic
 - Fisheries Knowledge Trust: working with Manderson to look at data that commercial fishermen have that is not currently being used in the regulatory process. RODA is still working with our partners to build the tool.

2:45 Evaluating Task Force Work:

- How important is it that the TF ...?



- Success for the Task Force would look like: *(open-ended)*

Success looks like recognizing the different stages projects are at - planning versus permitting

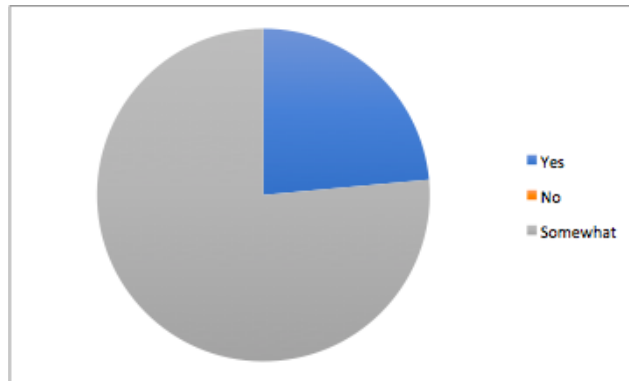
Create a forum to allow for open and honest discussions between industries. Compromise where possible but always allow a place for the conversation to occur.

<i>TF members gain a well developed understanding of each other's interests and concerns. TF works effectively to identify issues that can be addressed by the group to promote coexistence and successful shared use of the project areas.</i>
<i>De-risking items after we conduct technical analysis, i.e. agreement on lighting and marking (closing the book) and tackling other issues</i>
<i>A document outlining the negotiating process regarding Wind Developers and commercial Fisheries, we cannot live with, we hear your concerns but that does not work for us. Who breaks the tie?</i>
<i>Success looks like working towards solutions to problems together, understanding a solution might include compromise</i>
<i>Building joint trust and acceptance of standards that facilitate coexistence</i>
<i>Compromise on navigation and access issues. Positive airing of novel solutions to issues</i>
<i>Initial success will result in both industries better understanding the needs to be financially successful. Medium term success results in adjustments by either groups activities and acknowledgment that adjustments have been made. Long term success results in no need for a task force:-)</i>
<i>Providing solutions for coexistence with the commercial fishing industry and wind energy developers.</i>
<i>Building trust between industries that can provide the foundation for establishing compromise solutions to challenging issues/concerns</i>
<i>Success would look like a group willing to work with each other on common issues with trust; without threats of leaving the group.</i>
<i>taking agreement on easy things (lighting) to build trust so that we can work together on the NY bight without publicly sniping at each other</i>
<i>Producing an outcome being that the need to continue commercial fishing in the region is reflected in wind siting and that transit through areas, even un-leased, can be anticipated</i>
<i>finding common ground on some issues, understanding opposing views and discussing these positions based on science data, and experience on more challenging issues</i>
<i>Success looks like a better understanding from both industries the challenges they each face.</i>
<i>Agreed upon work products and advice to regulators.</i>
<i>A consistent consensus on a regional basis.</i>
<i>finding common ground between industries, identifying opportunities for both and getting to a trusted, collaborative relationship</i>
<i>coming to agreements that both sides can live with</i>

- Failure for the Task Force would look like: *(open-ended)*
 - Lack of trust and communication, refusal to work together or towards cooperation

<i>Lack of open communication; key/controversial issues are avoided instead of being addressed, even if no resolution works well for both sides</i>
<i>Fishing Industry economic losses causing reduction in fleet, impacting port infrastructure along coastal communities due to lack of communication.</i>
<i>Significant, inter-generational economic harm to the seafood industry in the region, with sky-high electric rates from ocean-sited wind energy sources</i>
<i>Giving up on working collaboratively</i>
<i>not minimizing misunderstandings</i>
<i>Loss of trust to prevent work to be done in good faith</i>
<i>no trust due to seen or perceived actions counter to collaboration</i>
<i>Communications breakdown, stalemate.</i>
<i>The group fails to identify those issues that can be addressed to promote a successful outcome.</i>
<i>refusal to base consensus decisions on science and data</i>
<i>Retreat from cooperation.</i>
<i>Members leave the Task Force out of frustration that progress is not being made or members are not acting in good faith</i>
<i>disbanding the task force and preventing work to be completed jointly by both industries</i>
<i>Failure to compromise</i>
<i>dissolving the task force..ending of constructive, collaborate communications and a forum where concerns and issues can be discussed from all sides</i>
<i>Not setting goals.</i>
<i>erosion of trust and nothing agreed upon</i>
<i>People / developers backing out of the task force</i>
<i>RODA or developers are perceived that we cannot collaborate with one another</i>
<i>Not trusting one another and working towards and accomplishing any goals</i>

- Do you think the Task Force has improved the dialogue and relationships between the two industries? *(multiple choice: Yes, No, Somewhat)*



- Cognizant that we're not going to achieve 100% transparency, due to understandable concerns around privacy and proprietary information.
- What do you want to work in the next 12 months? (*open-ended; up/down voting*)

<i>Education to developers of different fisheries</i>
<i>Education on technical aspects of cable laying, geophysical and geotechnical surveys</i>
<i>Science and research</i>
<i>Achieve some tangible outcomes/deliverables early in the process--e.g. work to refine and finalize lighting and marking recommendations. Continue to work together to identify common (not site-specific) issues that need to be addressed.</i>
<i>Establish a list of common beliefs that both industries agree with (e.g. safety is a key issue that must be considered at all times)</i>
<i>Radar issues and possible solutions</i>
<i>Develop a work plan</i>
<i>practical solutions, like the lighting and marking work and many others</i>
<i>Improving communication</i>
<i>Trust</i>
<i>Vessel access.</i>
<i>Science and research.</i>
<i>better definitions of success</i>

<i>Collaborate and publicly respond (feedback to agencies) on an item (e.g. lighting/markings)</i>
<i>Need to address transit issues</i>
<i>project specific facilitated meetings</i>
<i>Show public that collaboration can happen</i>
<i>Rules of negotiation</i>

- 3 years? (open-ended; up/down voting)

<i>Continue to identify and integrate best practices to deconflict offshore wind and fisheries.</i>
<i>Why are we blending RODA TF with ROSA? I see TF as dealing with more operational, technical issues</i>
<i>Establish common principles for appropriate mitigation</i>
<i>Collaboration and consensus!</i>
<i>Opportunities between industries</i>
<i>project agreements</i>
<i>Improving BOEM's process</i>
<i>Making sure both industries can succeed/survive. Tweaking things if necessary. Learning from mistakes and fixing them.</i>
<i>Improved understanding of how fisheries and wind projects interact</i>
<i>short-term impact research</i>
<i>Science and research...I don't see the issues changing fundamentally within a 3 year timeframe</i>
<i>Developing fishing industry and offshore wind industry trust and communication</i>
<i>Best practice documents for lighting, marking, radar, AIS etc. that accepted by agencies</i>
<i>Develop clear list of research projects and work together on them</i>
<i>Mitigation and disruption agreements</i>

<i>overall ocean stewardship/sustainability</i>
<i>Longer term impact studies</i>
<i>Standard monitoring plans (in collaboration with ROSA)</i>
<i>Trust between industries</i>
<i>Science and Research</i>

- 6 years? (open-ended; up/down voting)

<i>Create more opportunities for the fishing industry to be involved in different aspects of offshore wind planning, science and research, and decision making - needs to start now and in 6 years the paths are clear</i>
<i>Establish a forum to share lessons learned between industries as more projects come on line and have honest discussions about "what we expected" vs. "what we have experienced"</i>
<i>fishing vessels engaged in monitoring</i>
<i>Hard to predict. The intra-industry agreements about grids and transit being discussed today will help guide us through the future to include many, many more windmills being sited with the potential for the seafood industry to decline further than it may within a 3 year timeframe.</i>
<i>understanding where we can add opportunities for, but not replace, for the fishing industry</i>
<i>Long term employment opportunities offshore for both industries. Vital and successful waterfront and port operations for both industries. Helping to bring down costs and increase employment in both.</i>
<i>Mitigation and conflict agreements</i>
<i>analyzing the effects of changes from development and operation, biologically and economically.</i>
<i>Short term and long term impacts be they positive or negative</i>
<i>understanding impacts to fisheries from longer-term issues like climate change, and analyzing those separately</i>
<i>Review post construction stock surveys baseline results</i>
<i>ways to share resources - vessels, S&R, future planning for projects further offshore</i>

<i>Testing out our recommendations on the first WFs in construction along MA-RI</i>
<i>Science and monitoring framework</i>
<i>medium to long-term impacts</i>
<i>analyzing changes in fishing patterns after wind farms have been built</i>

Discussion:

- Outlining short, medium and long term goals might be presumptive as we may identify different things to work on once an array has been built.
- Potentially TF needs to be told what to work on and what issues to tackle as a group.
- Concern that conversations about mitigation and compensation will cause the TF to fall apart.
- Need to ensure we have a good understanding of how science plays into, or doesn't, the work of the TF. Science from ROSA may be able to inform best practices and recommendations from TF
- Project specific meetings among individual developers and fishermen should continue
- We should start with education, better understanding will inform solutions
- Fishermen can't go to a million meetings, or keep track of things happening in every state and TF should work within that space.
- Revenue sharing bill for states is in Congress and should be looked at more by this group.
- Still need to address the issues with FRs and FLOs.

3:30 Agency and Regulatory Releases for Comment: The TF Role

- Proactive vs. reactive role of TF?
- Concern that public action that allows for comment and ROSA comes out with commenting that should be fact and evidence based (not broad conjectures), hard to address critical issues, undermines what we want to do collaboratively together, and makes developers question the funding they are providing.
 - Would like better recognition of where developers or agencies got something right.
 - Would like comments to be more specific rather than broad.
 - Potential for ground rules that show "public" that spirit of collaboration is not eroded.
- Fishing industry would like better examples of where we have not provided fact based comments. For the transit lanes issue:
 - Both sides had been working hard on this for a while. Fishermen were surprised. however, when the developers unilaterally came up with the 1x1nm grid without transit lanes.

- Developers cited as a specific that the representative figure in RODA comments had a mistake in the transit lane width depicted. The developers expressed concern that the initial figure did not show full impact to wind energy resource loss with 4nm wide spacing (i.e, would have made the leases financially untenable). RODA noted that they did not have GIS capability to be specific and did caveat their comment as such. RODA also noted that the figure has been corrected in the FR.
- Some noted that transit lanes in SE NE did not have common resolution and should be outside of the scope of the TF at this point (i.e, let's not spend time on things already passed or not reconcilable).
- Recommendations:
 1. evidence based specific comments,
 2. acknowledging when things are right and when things are wrong,
 3. identify areas where collaboration is possible.
- RODA notes that it answers to its members and not the TF. As shown in the budget conversation, money to fund the TF is only spent on work for the collaborative space for the TF and not for writing comment letters, contracting studies requested by RODA members or internal RODA operations.
- There are some things the TF can tackle, some things that should be taken off the table, and some things that are better discussed in smaller project specific conversations with a smaller subset of fishermen that will be directly impacted.
 - Possible areas to take on: BOEM process, role of FLOs and FRs.
- The issue of safety and risk was raised by one member who questioned the mutual commitment of both industries to fishermen's safety. Another member responded that they as a company and developers in general are extremely committed first and foremost to safety.
- To summarize:
 - Important for the TF to define what is on the table and what is not,
 - Forum to talk, have hard conversations, not everything will be fixed
 - Competition and cooperation still stand
 - Better outline of roles

4:00 Upcoming Task Force Webinars

- Support for this idea to help identify areas of collaboration, with the understanding that some will be purely informative because TF is limited in its ability to change large regulatory things.
- Other topics:
 - How safety vessels are staffed and what are the vessel requirements
 - Radar interference - maybe TF can fund a study to work on addressing this issues since WTRIM isn't really doing it. Others questioned whether this would be a useful topic.
 - Status of NMFS fisheries survey methods and better understanding of impacts to assessments

4:15

Quick “End of Meeting” Polling

Did you gain more understanding?

- Yes (2)
- Somewhat (5)
- No (0)

Did you gain more understanding of the other industry’s perspective?

- Yes (4)
- Somewhat (3)
- No (0)

Did the agenda cover issues important to you?

- Yes (6)
- Somewhat (1)
- No (0)