



The Maine Composites Alliance

New Roadmaps Available for Ocean Wind, Tidal and Wave Energy Projects

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Following last week's U.S. Department of Energy awards to two Maine offshore wind engineering, site evaluation and planning projects, the **Maine Composites Alliance (MCA)**, **Maine Wind Industry Initiative (MWII)** and **Environmental and Energy Technology Council of Maine (E2Tech)** today released two comprehensive permitting and regulatory roadmaps for developers of offshore wind, wave and tidal projects in Maine.

Jeff Thaler, an energy and environmental attorney presently serving as Visiting Professor of Energy Law and Policy at the University of Maine Schools of Law and Economics, created the *Permitting and Leasing for Maine Marine Hydrokinetic (MHK) Power Projects* and the *Permitting and Leasing for Maine Offshore Wind Energy Projects* to help steer potential developers and interested parties through federal, state and local laws and regulations applicable for ocean energy projects. According to Thaler, "Each roadmap serves as a detailed instructional outline for permitting and licensing in the Gulf of Maine, and as a guide to identify and navigate environmental and energy regulations. By making the path from project planning to development and ultimately to completion as clear and comprehensive as possible, we hope Maine can attract even more economic and energy opportunities to its waters and jobs for its people."

Paul Williamson, MWII Executive Director adds, "Maine not only has considerable natural wind and ocean energy resources, it has exceptional assets in its precision and composites manufacturing, engineering, construction, marine services and trades, applied research and development, and transportation and logistics communities. These roadmaps will help ensure that the state has the expertise available to assist developers and their supply chains through the legal and regulatory waters." **Steve Van Vogt**, MCA Executive Director stated that "Maine's composites industry has been working with the University of Maine and other partners to develop cutting edge materials for the emerging offshore wind industry and these roadmaps are another step to making these efforts pay off for Maine businesses." **Jeff Marks**, E2Tech Executive Director agrees "Maine is already a leader in ocean energy innovation, as evidenced by federal awards to the University of Maine and Statoil for developing offshore wind technologies off the coast of Maine. These roadmaps will help attract more businesses to our shores and deep-water resources."

We are collaborating to help organize, promote and expand Maine's ocean and wind energy cluster through strengthening the industry's supply chain in Maine, fostering collaboration between Maine businesses and global partners, and recruiting major suppliers and/or manufacturers to Maine. MCA is an alliance of composite businesses that work together to promote Maine's leadership in the international composites industry. MWII is a collaborative created to organize Maine wind industry interests, link opportunities to Maine companies, relate industry needs to the state and federal government and act as a communication hub for Maine-based industrial partners in the wind energy industry. E2Tech seeks to build and expand the State's environmental, energy and clean technology sectors through networking and educational events, business development and sustainable job growth projects, and research, development and commercialization initiatives. Please visit www.mainewindindustry.com or <http://www.e2tech.org/projects/wind-energy> for more information and copies of the roadmaps.