

DIRECTION

THE FUTURE OF WIND



US Wind's Sparrows Point Steel has the potential to be one of the largest offshore wind staging ports in the U.S. (Courtesy: US Wind)

Maryland looks to expand offshore wind-energy goal to 8.5 GW

Baltimore-based US Wind and other Maryland leaders applauded Maryland Gov. Wes Moore's announcement of major offshore wind-energy initiatives during the 2023 International Partnering Forum in Baltimore.

"Our administration is serious about offshore wind, and Maryland is ready to lead," Moore said. "We need all hands on deck in this crucial moment — so we can strengthen Maryland's supply chain, leverage our state's assets, and put Marylanders to work in clean-energy jobs centered on logistics and manufacturing. If we join together in partnership, we can make Maryland the offshore wind capital of the United States."

Moore announced Maryland will aim to quadruple the amount of energy produced by offshore wind from about 2 GW to 8.5 GW, which is enough to power nearly 3 million homes. The governor said the state has plans to increase its offshore wind output and prioritize wind energy partnerships, creating significant economic and job creation opportunities in the state.

"Governor Moore's announcement is a homerun for the people of Maryland," said Jeff Grybowski, US Wind CEO. "He has a big and bold vision that aims to make Maryland the national leader in this new industry and will create thousands of jobs in the process. Governor Moore is the person we need right now to achieve a clean-energy future for Maryland."

"Maryland can — and will be — a national leader for offshore wind and Governor Moore's announcement is a major win for Baltimore County as we continue transforming into a premier hub for renewable energy projects," said Baltimore County executive Johnny Olszewski. "These projects will help combat climate change while creating hundreds of high-quality jobs in our communities, and we look forward to working with our partners at the State, US Wind, Tradepoint Atlantic, and beyond to ensure the future of America's

green economy continues to be built — literally — at Sparrows Point."

"Governor Moore's record-shattering announcement means so much to so many across the state, especially minority-owned businesses like Strum Contracting," said Teera Strum, CEO of Strum Contracting Company, Inc. "Offshore wind will not only improve air quality and combat climate change but also uplift under-served communities while creating career opportunities and economic vitality. Strum Contracting is thrilled for Governor Moore's leadership and for US Wind's commitment to delivering offshore wind and good paying jobs to Marylanders."

"The Steelworkers couldn't be happier to hear Governor Moore's commitment to make Maryland a leader in offshore wind manufacturing," said Jim Strong, United Steelworkers offshore wind assistant. "Sparrows Point Steel, Maryland's first permanent offshore wind facility, is being built on Steelworkers' hallowed ground at the site of the former Bethlehem Steel. Our partnership with US Wind will create good union jobs for this new renewable energy industry right here in Baltimore County. Governor Moore's announcement and the work of the Maryland state legislature will position Maryland as a leader in offshore wind manufacturing for decades to come."

"The future of offshore wind energy presents an incredible opportunity for minorities to get into the energy industry and make a difference in their communities," said Pamela Minor, president of the Southern Maryland Minority Chamber of Commerce. "The potential of offshore wind power is immense, with massive potential for job creation and economic growth. As we move forward in achieving Governor Moore's history-making goal of 8.5 GW for Maryland, it is essential that we work together to ensure that all people have access to the opportunities presented by offshore wind energy. We're

proud to be working with US Wind on this effort."

"IBEW Local 24 is thrilled to hear Governor Moore's new offshore wind goal for Maryland," said Mike McHale, business manager, Local 24. "Our partnership with US Wind is a top priority for our union. This announcement solidifies the governor's commitment, along with the commitment of the Maryland state legislature, to clean energy and union jobs in the state."

The governor also announced the administration is working to establish new lease areas and strengthen the offshore wind supply chain in the state. Meanwhile, the Maryland General Assembly is set to pass the complementary Promoting Offshore Wind Energy Resources (POWER) Act of 2023, which also calls for Maryland to boost its offshore wind generation goals to 8.5 GW, improve its transmission infrastructure, and provide a pathway to future procurement of offshore wind energy in the state.

MORE INFO uswindinc.com

Clir Renewables on list of fastest growing companies

Clir Renewables, the market intelligence platform for wind and solar, has secured a ranking of 210 in a list of the fastest growing companies in the Americas, published by the Financial Times. Clir's absolute growth rate was 274 percent between 2018 and 2021.

To be eligible for inclusion in the list, companies must be headquartered on the continents of North or South America, have generated a revenue of at least \$100,000 in 2018 and \$1.5 million in 2021. The business must be independent, and revenue growth between both 2018 and 2021 must be primarily organic.

Clir combines the world's largest renewable energy operational dataset



Clir detects market-wide, project-related, and site-specific issues for wind and solar projects. (Courtesy: Clir Renewables)

with software and analytics to provide renewable energy power generators, investors, and asset managers with actionable insights into the production, health, risk, and financing of assets.

Over the last four years, Clir has secured more than 200 GW of project data, 29 new clients including Glenmont Partners and Northleaf Capital Partners, and expanded into 12 new territories. The business supports the fundamentals of renewable energy project growth and development, working with developers, lenders, and investors through project development, operations, and subsequent mergers and acquisitions.

Leveraging advanced AI and 200-plus GW of data from decades of project experience, Clir detects market-wide, project-related, and site-specific issues for wind and solar projects.

“To be recognized by The Financial Times as one of the Americas’ fastest growing companies is an achievement we’re all hugely proud of,” said Gareth

Brown, Clir’s chief executive and founder. “Over the past six years since our formation, we’ve been able to grow rapidly by continually listening to and recognizing the needs of the market. As the industry increases in competition, we’re looking forward to the continued growth of our company, and to further incentivizing the shift toward clean energy through deeper intelligence into performance and risk.”

MORE INFO www.clir.eco

Business Network for Offshore Wind celebrates 10 years

The Business Network for Offshore Wind, a nonprofit working to accelerate offshore wind development and build a dedicated manufacturing supply chain in the United States, is marking its 10th anniversary by launching a campaign that celebrates the remark-

able growth of the American offshore wind industry over the last decade.

The Business Network for Offshore Wind works to unlock opportunities to harness the potential of offshore wind energy and grow America’s domestic supply chain capacity.

What began in 2013 as a small group of Maryland businesses with a shared vision has transformed into a diverse coalition of nearly 600 member groups and businesses working collectively to increase coordination and reduce barriers to offshore wind deployment.

The Network brings together businesses, developers, policymakers, international experts, and economic development agencies to increase coordination and reduce barriers to offshore wind deployment for the benefit of America’s economy, environment, and workforce. From the International Offshore Wind Partnering Forum, the Network’s annual signature event and the largest offshore wind conference in the Americas, taking place in Baltimore, to creating critical industry products such as the Supply Chain Connect registry, OSW Market Dashboard, and Foundation 2 Blade trainings, the Network is committed to meeting the dynamic needs of a fast-evolving industry.

“Ten years ago, we started the Business Network for Offshore Wind with the shared mission to break down the barriers that have held back the U.S. offshore wind industry for far too long,” said Liz Burdock, President and CEO of Business Network for Offshore Wind. “Today, we are at an inflection point as the market transitions from demonstration to commercialization-at-scale, and we have a visible pipeline of construction-ready projects for the first time. Offshore wind is the tip of the spear for renewable ocean energy — not only can it power our homes and businesses, but it can be the foundation for new technologies, new innovations, and breakthrough climate solutions. As we celebrate the progress we have made, we also have an opportunity to reflect on how far we have come and look forward to the next 10 years because our work is far

from complete — we know that working together, a future powered by offshore wind is possible.”

MORE INFO www.offshorewindus.org/10th-anniversary

Crowley names new VP of project management

Crowley recently named Mark Coplen as vice president of project management for Crowley Wind Services, where he will be a key leader in advancing the company’s growth and market leadership in the offshore wind industry.

In his role, Coplen will expand Crowley Wind Services’ project management capabilities to support customers in its offering of engineering, procurement, and construction management for the offshore wind market. Coplen joins Crowley with extensive expertise in the sustainable energy

sector leading offshore wind services, operations, and technology. “Mark has decades of leadership experience in complex operational environments,” said Bob Karl, senior vice president and general manager of Crowley Wind Services.

Crowley is under way with development and planning for wind terminals in California, Louisiana, and Massachusetts. In addition, the company’s CREST Wind joint venture with ESVAGT recently announced the construction of a service operations vessel for Coastal Virginia’s major wind-energy project, in addition to Crowley providing feeder vessel services and other supply chain solutions. The company’s growth in wind-energy solutions led to the launch of Wind Services as a stand-alone business unit in 2021.

Coplen previously served as president of Ventolines, an offshore wind consulting company, and as vice president of AdBm Technologies, a company that patented an underwater noise

abatement solution for the foundations of fixed-base turbines to reduce impacts on marine life.

Coplen also served as a colonel in the U.S. Army. He is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in engineering and holds a master’s in business administration from the Texas McCombs School of Business.

Crowley is a privately held, U.S.-owned maritime, energy, and logistics solutions company serving commercial and government sectors with \$3.4 billion in annual revenues, more than 170 vessels mostly in the Jones Act fleet and about 7,000 employees around the world. The company serves customers in 36 nations and island territories through five business units: Crowley Logistics, Crowley Shipping, Crowley Solutions, Crowley Wind Services, and Crowley Fuels. ✈

MORE INFO www.crowley.com



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