



Project: Maine Offshore Wind Port
Subject: Informational Public Meeting Summary
Date: October 25, 2023
Location: Searsport Community Center, 42 Prospect Street, Searsport, Maine

Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) hosted an Informational Public Meeting from 11 am to 7 pm on Wednesday October 25, 2023, at the Searsport Community Center. The purpose of the Informational Public Meeting was to introduce the public to the Offshore Wind Port (OSW) project, correct misinformation in the public domain to the extent practical and gather feedback and input from the public for the State to incorporate into project development. Staff and consultants representing Maine Port Authority (MPA) and MaineDOT were present to discuss information and answer questions from the public.

In conjunction with the Informational Public Meeting, MaineDOT launched a Virtual Public Involvement (VPI) page for the OSW project on October 10, 2023 (link included in footer). The VPI page includes an introductory video recording that covers the materials presented at the Informational Public Meeting and serves as an On-Demand Informational Public Meeting option.

MaineDOT issued a Public Notice on October 11, 2023, to announce the VPI and the Informational Public Meeting in local newspapers and on MaineDOT social media networks (e.g., Facebook) (Attachment 1). Additionally, MaineDOT mailed 1,596 postcards one week prior to the meeting date (Attachment 2).

The Informational Public Meeting was an informal open house format; there was no formal presentation. Public attendees were greeted at the door, asked to sign in, provided a Project Fact Sheet and Comment Form (Attachment 3), and invited to review the information in the room and ask questions. Additional handouts produced separately by the Alliance for Sears Island (Attachment 4) and Sprague Energy (Attachment 5) were also available.

Several informational boards (Attachment 6) were placed around the room and covered the following topics:

- Welcome and purpose of the meeting,
- State of Maine Governor's Energy Office (GEO) Offshore Wind Initiative and Roadmap,
- Maine Offshore Wind Research Array,
- What makes up a floating OSW wind turbine generator (WTG),
- How a commercial floating OSW farms work,
- Example OSW ports,
- Five stages of OSW foundation fabrication and WTG installation,
- Wind port design criteria
- Maine OSW Port Alternatives (Mack Point, Sears Island, Hybrid-Mack Point and Sears Island),
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and permitting,
- OSW port project purpose and need,
- Key issues and potential impacts,
- Confined Aquatic Disposal (CAD Cell)



The State of Maine OFFSHORE WIND PORT

- Preliminary OSW port project timeline,
- Next steps, and
- Project contacts.

The public was encouraged to provide comments in writing by leaving them with staff the day of the meeting, submitting them by mail or email after, or by submitting comments via MaineDOT's VPI page. Three laptop computers with headphones were provided at the Informational Public Meeting to access the VPI page where people could watch an informational video about the project and/or provide comments online.

One hundred twenty-six people signed in at the public meeting (Attachment 7) and twenty-five comments were submitted at the meeting. An additional forty-seven comments were received before the comment period closed on November 22, 2023.



The open house format, informational public meeting included several boards and stations with laptop computers and headphones for the public to watch and listen to MaineDOT's Offshore Wind Port Project Presentation available on the project's Virtual Public Involvement (VPI) page. The public was also encouraged to leave comments via the VPI page. Comments forms were also provided and collected at the meeting.



The public were greeted at the door, asked to sign in, and provided handouts. They were oriented to the purpose of the informational public meeting, the room arrangement, and the meeting format. Individuals were encouraged to review the print materials in the room, watch the introductory video, ask questions of MaineDOT, MPA, and consultants, and submit comments by November 22, 2023.



Informational Public Meeting Summary
Attachment 1
Public Notice (October 11, 2023)



**Notice of Searsport Offshore Wind Port
PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING
October 25, 2023, 11 am to 7 pm (Open House Format)
Searsport Community Building, 42 Prospect Street**

To discuss preliminary design and analysis for an offshore wind port in Searsport to support floating offshore wind development in Maine.

Access to this and all other active public meetings is available at our Public Meetings Page located at bit.ly/mainedot-meetings

MaineDOT is currently in the preliminary design and environmental assessment phase for an offshore wind port. MaineDOT will host an informal, open house style Public Informational Meeting on Wednesday, October 25 from 11 am to 7 pm at the Searsport Community Building located at 42 Prospect Street in Searsport. The public is welcome to drop in at any time during this time frame to learn about the project status and speak with representatives from MaineDOT and the Maine Port Authority. Materials and personnel will be available to review and discuss the project, preliminary project alternatives, some key issues to be resolved, and an anticipated project schedule. The public can provide written comments during the in person open house and/or online. A formal presentation will not be made.

A web based on-demand presentation is available and provides information about the proposed project, including video presentations and other project information. This on-demand presentation allows for convenient viewing at any time. The website provides the ability for online comments and questions.



This public meeting is to inform and invite public comments. We are particularly interested in learning local views, discovering local resources, and identifying local concerns and issues. Anyone interested can view the presentation at the above website or scan the QR Code with their smartphone for access.

MaineDOT invites you to review the content and share your thoughts on this project during the comment period from October 11, 2023 to November 22, 2023. Your comments will be reviewed and considered in the development of the offshore wind port project. A formal Public Hearing with an opportunity for verbal public comments will be provided at a future date, following environmental assessments and identification of a preferred alternative. A Public Hearing is tentatively expected in the fall of 2024.

Reasonable accommodations have been made to provide access to these meetings. Please see the Accessibility/Accommodation document on our [Public Involvement Background Information Page](#) for more information about requesting accommodations. For specific accommodation needs, a written request can be made through the comment section of the website.



Informational Public Meeting Summary
Attachment 2
Postcard Notice

MaineDOT

16 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0016

ECRWSS	PRSR STD ECRWSS
Local	U.S. POSTAGE
Postal Customer	PAID
	AUGUSTA, MAINE
	PERMIT NO. 8

You're Invited

SEARSPORT

Maine Offshore Wind Port

Open House Public Informational Meeting

Wednesday, October 25

11 AM to 7 PM

Hosted by

MaineDOT

Searsport Community Building, 42 Prospect Street, Searsport, ME



MaineDOT is currently in the preliminary design and environmental assessment phase for an offshore wind port. MaineDOT will host an informal, open house style Public Informational Meeting on Wednesday, October 25 from 11 am to 7 pm at the Searsport Community Building located at 42 Prospect Street in Searsport. The public is welcome to drop in at any time during this time frame to learn about the project status and speak with representatives from MaineDOT and the Maine Port Authority. Materials and personnel will be available to review and discuss the project, preliminary project alternatives, some key issues to be resolved, and an anticipated project schedule. The public can provide written comments during the in person open house and/or online. A formal presentation will not be made.

SCAN QR Code

A web based on-demand presentation is available and provides information about the proposed project, including video presentations and other project information.

COMMENTS

Submit written comments at the public informational meeting or online by November 22nd, 2023

PROJECT CONTACTS

Matt Burns – Executive Director: Maine Port Authority
Nate Benoit – MaineDOT Multimodal Program





Informational Public Meeting Summary
Attachment 3
Project Fact Sheet and Comment Form



PROJECT FACTSHEET

Project	Maine Offshore Wind Port
Date	October 25, 2023

Project:

The proposed Wind Port Project would support a single port approach for the construction, deployment, and operation of offshore wind (OSW) farms in Maine. The proposed project must meet minimum performance criteria (see Design Criteria on page 2) and meet Maine’s OSW port long term needs for commercialization.

The proposed Offshore Wind Port Project is currently in the preliminary stage. MaineDOT has not decided on the proposed Port location. MaineDOT is completing design evaluations and environmental studies that will be documented in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The draft environmental document will identify a preferred alternative and will be published for public review and comment. MaineDOT will host a formal Public Hearing following selection of a preferred alternative, currently targeted for the fall of 2024.

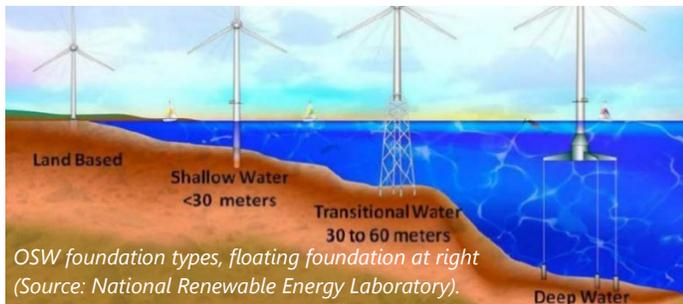
Purpose and Need

Purpose Statement: The purpose of the proposed action is to construct a marshalling port facility in Maine that supports the development of the floating offshore wind industry at a commercial scale.

Need Statement: The State of Maine does not have a marshalling port facility with sufficient space to support the construction, operation, and maintenance of offshore wind turbines.

Floating Offshore Wind

Fixed-bottom turbines have met the needs of the east coast U.S. OSW market to date because the water along most of the eastern seaboard is shallow enough to allow the construction of this type of turbine foundation.



The depth of Maine’s coastal waters, which are routinely over 250 feet deep at distances of 10 nautical miles (nm) from the shoreline, rule out the economical use of fixed-bottom foundations.

Floating OSW turbines have emerged as a solution for deep water. Though maximum depth limits for this technology have not been established, there are currently installations in water depths greater than 328 feet.

Port requirements for floating OSW turbines differ considerably from fixed-bottom turbines. There are currently no purpose-built floating OSW port facilities in the world. Because the floating OSW turbines are assembled in water, the proposed Port needs to include a large flat area immediately adjacent to deep water with no overhead restrictions between the port and the OSW farm installation site, like bridges or overhead utilities (see Design Criteria on page 2).

Visit the Governor’s Energy Office to learn about [Maine’s Offshore Wind Roadmap](#)

Offshore Wind Port Design Criteria

Contiguous Upland Area	100 acres of level uplands in a usable configuration
Water Frontage	Greater than or equal to 1,500 feet
Federally Maintained Navigation Channel Access	Channel greater than or equal to 35 feet deep
No Air Draft and Direct Access to Open Water	No overhead obstructions between port and open water
Quay Accessibility at High Tide and Flood	Quay (or wharf) access in all tide and flood conditions

Offshore Wind Port Operations

- **Marshalling**—Synonymous with “staging,” the OSW Port would handle marine cargo delivery, cargo storage, and WTG assembly and construction.
- **Factory**—The OSW Port would accommodate production facilities for WTG components (foundations, blades, nacelles, tower sections).
- **Operation & Maintenance**—The OSW Port may accommodate long-term operations and maintenance (O&M) services to support future OSW power-generating projects. This function would include transporting smaller pieces of equipment and personnel. This function may be conducted at a separate facility.
- **SOV Home Port**—The OSW Port may accommodate Service Operation Vessels (SOV) (e.g., vessels that refuel and restock) that would be used in the long-term O&M functions. SOVs would handle larger WTG components. This function may be conducted at a separate facility.

Permits Required

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Section 404 Clean Water Act
	Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act
	Natural Resources Protection Act
Maine Department of Environmental Protection	Section 401 Water Quality Certification
	Submerged Land Lease
	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System

Preliminary Schedule for Completion (Best Case Scenario)

 Informational Public Meeting	Fall 2023
Concept Alternatives Analysis	Winter 2023/2024
Scoping	Winter 2023/2024
Environmental Assessments	Spring 2024
Draft Environmental Document	Fall 2024
Formal Public Hearing	Winter 2024/2025
Final Environmental Document, Decision	Winter 2025/2026
Permitting	Spring 2026

Visit the On-Demand Informational Public Meeting at any time to review project information and [Leave a Comment!](#)





| Comment Form

Project	Searsport Offshore Wind Port
Date	October 25, 2023

MaineDOT welcomes your comments for the Searsport Wind Port Project. All comments will be considered in the development of the Wind Port Project.

Fill in a Comment Form online by using the QR Code and selecting “Leave a Comment!”. Alternately, leave a written comment with us today using the form below or mail it to the Project Manager before **November 22, 2023**.



Name: _____

Email: _____

Comment: _____

Mail comments before **November 22, 2023** to:
ATTN: Nate Benoit
16 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0016



Informational Public Meeting Summary

Attachment 4

Alliance for Sears Island Handout

Representatives from the Alliance for Sears Island produced the attached handout and brought copies to the Informational Open Meeting. These handouts were placed on the sign in table for attendees to take with a note that the material was provided by Alliance for Sears Island.

The Alliance for Sears Island supports the development of an offshore wind facility at Mack Point, and opposes development of that facility on Sears Island, if any such facility is built in Penobscot Bay

Key Advantages for Mack Point:

- Build-out at Mack Point furthers Maine's *Offshore Wind Roadmap* and is consistent with new offshore wind (OSW) legislation supported by the Governor and praised by President Biden.
- MDOT and IIT consultants determined that Maine's OSW manufacturing, assembling, and launching needs can be fulfilled at Mack Point.
- **Construction costs are estimated to be essentially equal for Mack Point and Sears Island.** A lease fee would be a cost of operating a wind port wherever it is built. Total operating costs to run the wind port at SI would likely be greater than operating costs at Mack Point because there is no rail delivery at Sears Island. In addition, substantial mitigation costs for filling wetlands, streams and vernal pools at Sears Island have not yet been factored into projected construction costs.
- Built-out at Mack Point consolidates industry in one location, economizes on existing infrastructure and replaces and remediates Mack Point's past outdated coal and oil history, likely making it eligible for additional federal funding from EPA's RE-Power Program (<https://www.epa.gov/re-powering>).
- Sprague Energy's engineered Mack Point preferred alternative:
 - repurposes a portion of Sprague's industrial site into a 100-acre segregated ocean wind facility,
 - limits dredging to less than 15% of earlier estimates,
 - significantly decreases soil extraction,
 - avoids freshwater wetlands,
 - alleviates impacts from prevailing winds (fetch),
 - expands use of the existing rail system, and
 - preserves current Mack Point product capacity while allowing for potential expansion.
- Dredging for this new terminal can be accomplished with no or very limited impacts to water quality using turbidity curtains, timing to avoid fish in the area, environmental closed bucket, controlled bucket cycles, no scow overfill, limited bucket loss, monitoring, and upland disposal (probably beneficial use).
- Build out at Mack Point complies with the Sears Island Planning Initiative's Consensus Agreement signed by Maine Department of Transportation during the Baldacci administration.

Sears Island Key Disadvantages:

- Buildout at Sears Island opens the door to industrialization of up to 330 acres, a Maine Department of Transportation goal for more than forty years, forever changing the entire Penobscot Bay. For example, a 2017 MDOT study says, “Sears Island ... could be used for project cargo, specialized production or assembly of offshore wind components, or neo-bulk cargoes.”
- Sears Island’s current undeveloped, natural condition, provides important ecological services to the region and state, especially for fisheries, carbon sequestration and publicly accessible recreation. Mack Point does not provide these ecological services.
- Sears Island in its current undeveloped state supports several Maine Climate Council objectives. Two examples from the Maine Climate Council:
 - “Protecting natural and working lands from development maintains their potential to draw back carbon from the atmosphere, as well as provide important co-benefits. Maine’s coastal and marine areas also store carbon, while supporting our fishing, aquaculture, and tourism industries.”
 - “Develop policies by 2022 to ensure renewable energy project siting is streamlined and transparent while seeking to minimize impacts on natural and working lands and engaging key stakeholders.”
- Literally removing all vegetation from approximately 100 acres on Sears Island and then harvesting well over one million cubic yards of soil represent **permanent, irreparable ecological damage**, forever eliminating current upland and marine environmental benefits.
- Acquiring federal, state, and local permits for an offshore wind facility at Sears Island would be highly controversial, compared to readily securing those permits for Mack Point, and provoke protracted intervention and litigation during Site Location Law, NEPA, Clean Water Act and other permitting reviews as happened during other Sears Island proposals, such as a cargo port, LNG terminal and oil refinery.
- A groundswell of public opinion supports protecting Sears Island’s ecological resources.
- Federal agencies have long recognized the value of Sears Island’s undeveloped condition.
- Buildout at Sears Island is inconsistent with the Sears Island Planning Initiative’s Consensus Agreement.

Building an OSW facility in Penobscot Bay must:

1. Pursue the least environmentally damaging plan,
2. Favor repurposing outdated and unused industrial energy sites,
3. Avoid damaging undeveloped and ecologically significant locations, and
4. Evaluate thoroughly the impacts on climate change, wildlife and fisheries.

If Maine pursues building an OSW facility in Penobscot Bay, Mack Point is the preferred alternative because that location is best for business, best for the environment and best for the State of Maine.



Informational Public Meeting Summary

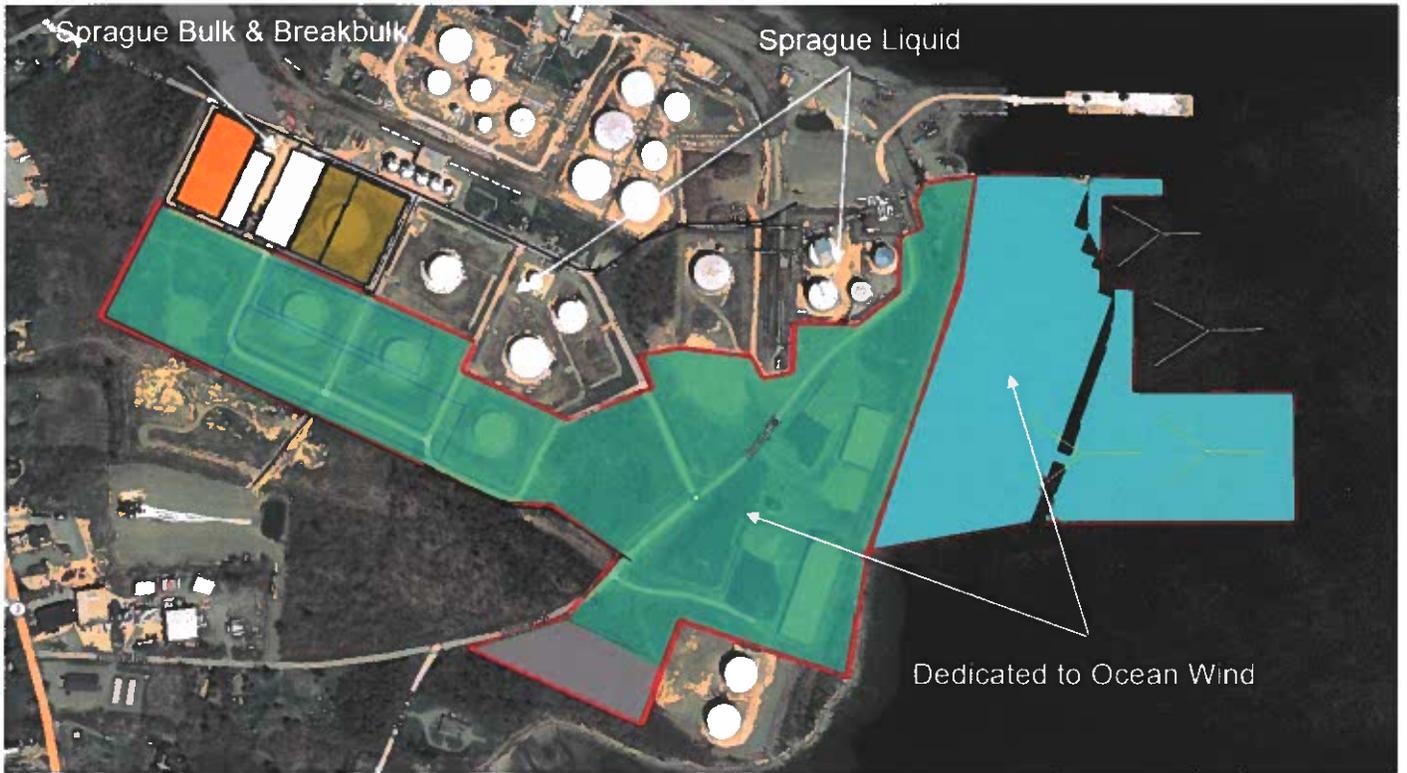
Attachment 5

Sprague Energy Handout

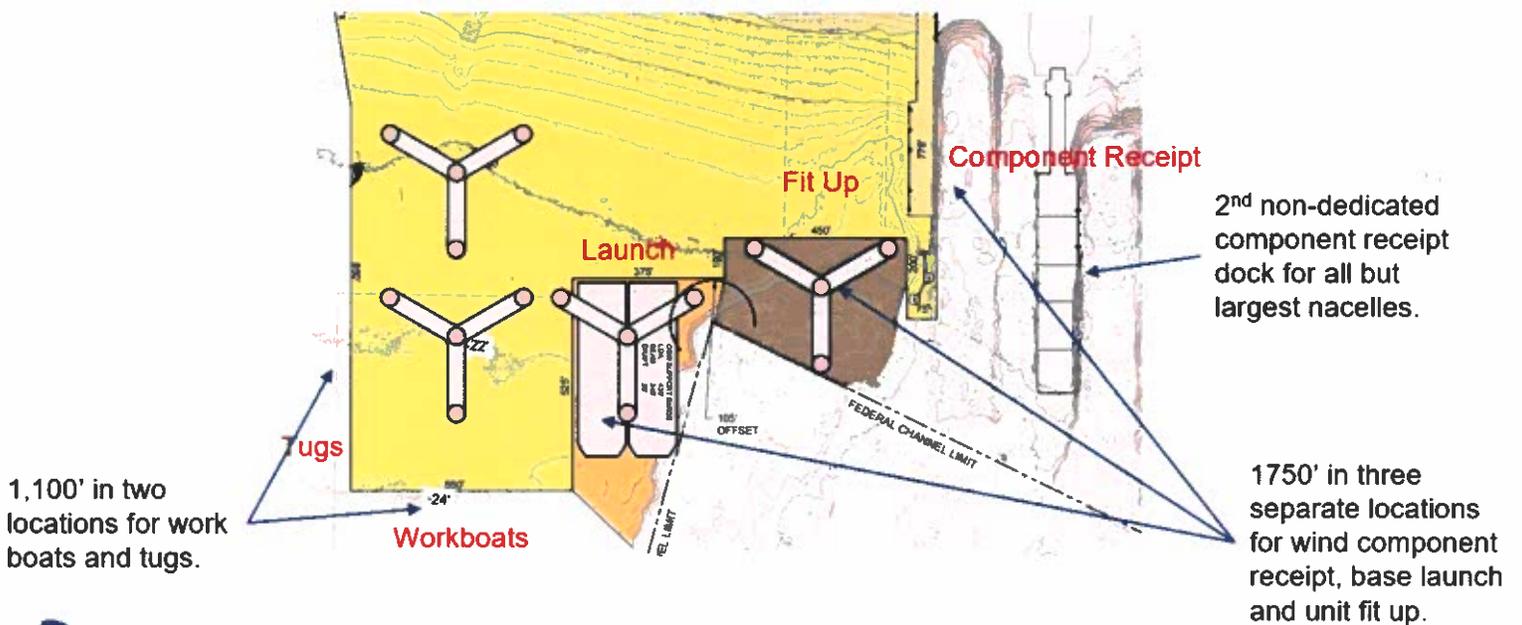
Representatives from Sprague Energy produced the attached handout and brought copies to the Informational Open Meeting. These handouts were placed on the sign in table for attendees to take with a note that the material was provided by Sprague Energy.

Alternative Terminal Layout

100 acres dedicated to ocean wind while preserving current capabilities



Greatly Increased Unit/Vessel Docking Capability, including workboat, tug, and backup receipt docks



Facility Comparisons

Facility	Total Size (acres)	Over Water Fill Area (acres)	Dredge Amount (Cu. Yds.)	Large units dock total length (feet)	Smaller vessel Dock length (feet)	Type of Property	Existing Road and utilities	Existing Rail	Fresh Open Water Impacted (acres)
Moffat & Nichols Mack Point	100	35	500,000	1,500	0	Industrial	Yes	Yes	6
Sears Island	100	25	0	1,500	0	Greenfield	No	No	0
Sprague Low Impact Alternative	100	35	61,000	1,750	1,000	Industrial	Yes	Yes	<1

Recent Northern New England Dredges

Project	Year	Cubic Yards
Boston Harbor Deepening	2022	12,000,000
Portland Maintenance	2014	500,000
Portsmouth Turning Basin	2022	275,000
Portland Harbor Maintenance	Planning	245,000
Scarborough River Maintenance	Nov 2023	130,000
Scarborough River Maintenance	2014	91,500
Moffat & Nichols Layout	2026	500,000
Sprague Mack Point Layout		61,000

Enhancements from Original Concept

- Greatly reduced dredging requirement
- Increased vessel docking capability
- Reduced wetland impact
- Reduced need for soil extractions
- Avoids potential problem areas
- Mitigates impact of fetch and southwest winds
- Provides for a stand-alone 100-acre wind terminal
- Provides a lower impact repurposing of an industrial site with very minimal green area use
- Preserves all current terminal handling capability



Informational Public Meeting Summary

Attachment 6

Display Boards



WELCOME TO THE MAINE OFFSHORE WIND PORT PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Purpose of Wind Port Public Informational Meeting

Provide an opportunity for you to:

- Meet State of Maine Representatives and Consultant Staff
- Learn about offshore wind in the State of Maine
- Learn about the wind port project and why it is needed
- Hear about the next steps
- Ask questions
- Submit comments



Maine Offshore Wind Initiative

Offshore Wind Supports Maine's Climate and Clean Energy Targets:

- 100% Clean Energy by 2040
- Carbon Neutral by 2045
- 30,000 Clean Energy Jobs by 2030

Maine Offshore Wind Initiative:

- Planning & Stakeholder Engagement
- Research & Innovation
- Policy and Legislation
- Partnerships



Roadmap Overview

A visual guide to the roadmap's development and objectives.

Maine's Offshore Wind *Roadmap* identifies five key objectives to responsibly advance offshore wind in Maine. Each objective contains a set of specific strategies recommended by the expert members of the Roadmap's Working Groups and endorsed by the Roadmap Advisory Committee.

Objectives



Pursue Offshore Wind Supply Chain, Infrastructure, and Workforce Investments to Support Economic Growth and Resiliency



Harness Abundant Renewable Energy to Reduce Long-Term Costs, Reliance on Fossil Fuels, and Fight Climate Change



Advance Maine-Based Innovation to Compete in Emerging National and Global Offshore Wind Industry



Support Maine's Vital and Thriving Seafood Industries and Coastal Communities ⁴



Protect the Environment, Wildlife, & Fisheries Ecosystem in the Gulf of Maine

Cross-Cutting Themes

At the inception and throughout the *Roadmap* development, four cross-cutting themes were deemed essential to the process of creating a *Roadmap* purpose-built for Maine and offshore:

- Stakeholder Engagement & Communications
- Equity
- Transparency & Data-Driven Decision Making
- Regional Collaboration & Coordination



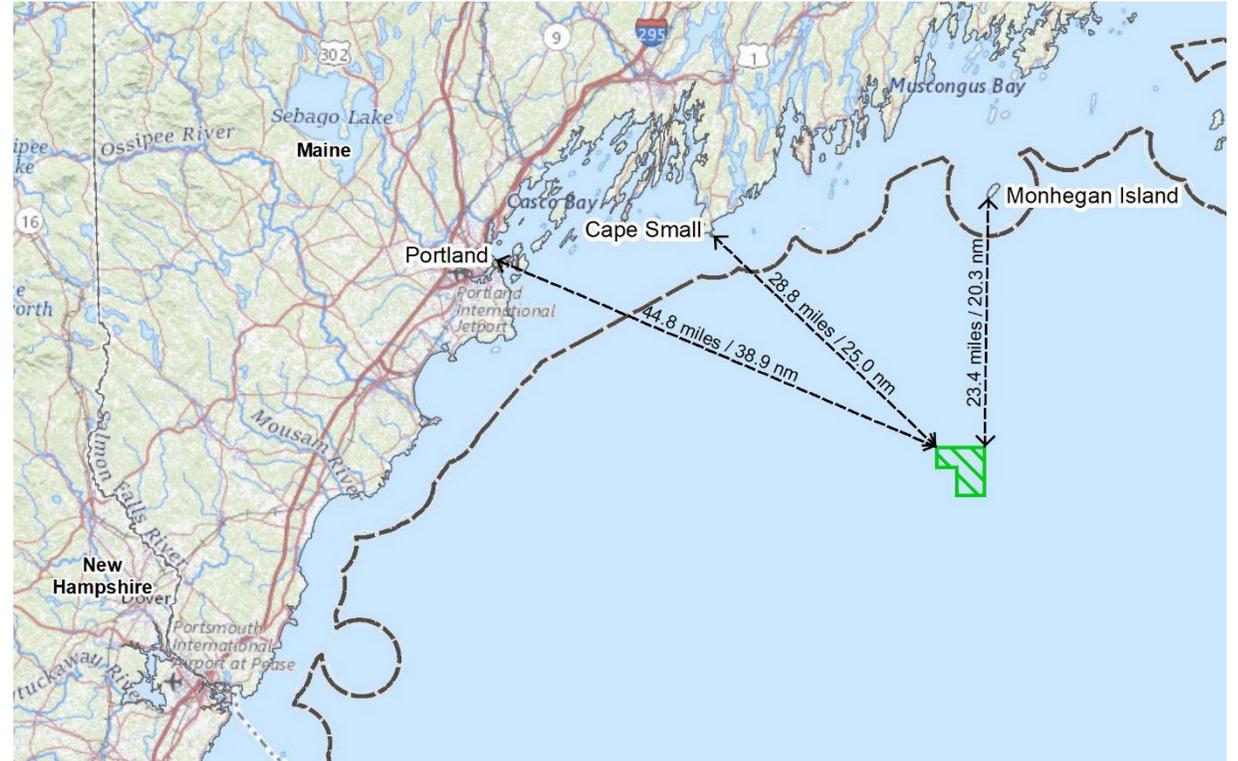
LD 1895 - Authorizing Maine Offshore Wind Renewable Energy and Economic Development Program

- Authorizes procurement of at least 3,000 MW of offshore wind energy – installed in federal waters by Dec. 31, 2040;
- Supports critical port development;
- Creates opportunity for all Maine workers and businesses in the emerging offshore wind industry; and
- Incentivizes OSW development that protects the Gulf of Maine ecosystem, including critical lobstering areas.



Maine Offshore Wind Research Array

- **Advance** phased approach to floating technology as seen worldwide
- **Research** the effects of multiple floating turbines on marine life, fishing and more
- **Maximize** research and innovation in floating offshore wind to help grow U.S. floating supply chain
- **Support** UMaine's public-private partnership
- **Work** with fishing, environmental and other marine interests to answer important questions
- **Use** the experience to inform the work of the offshore wind roadmap and future projects, including lowering the cost of floating wind in the Gulf of Maine



Research Array By The Numbers

Distance from mainland: **30 miles/25 nm**

Size of array: **12 turbines or fewer**

Power potential: **144 MW**

Size of proposed lease area: **15.2 square miles**



What makes up a floating OSW turbine?

Nacelle – The outer covering that houses all the energy generating components including the gearbox and drivetrain.

Tower – Column that elevates the nacelle to the proper hub height to capture the optimal wind speeds. Towers typically come in two to three sections.

Blades – Used to capture the wind energy and transfer it to the wind turbine.

Foundation/Hull – Provides a platform for the tower, turbine and blades



Component	Length (ft)	Width (ft)	Height (ft)	Diameter (ft)	Weight (T)
Blade	404	N/A	N/A	21	77
Nacelle	80	36	43	NA	917
Tower 1 (T1)	101	N/A	N/A	30	315
Tower 2 (T2)	155	N/A	N/A	26	324
Tower 3 (T3)	164	N/A	N/A	23	272

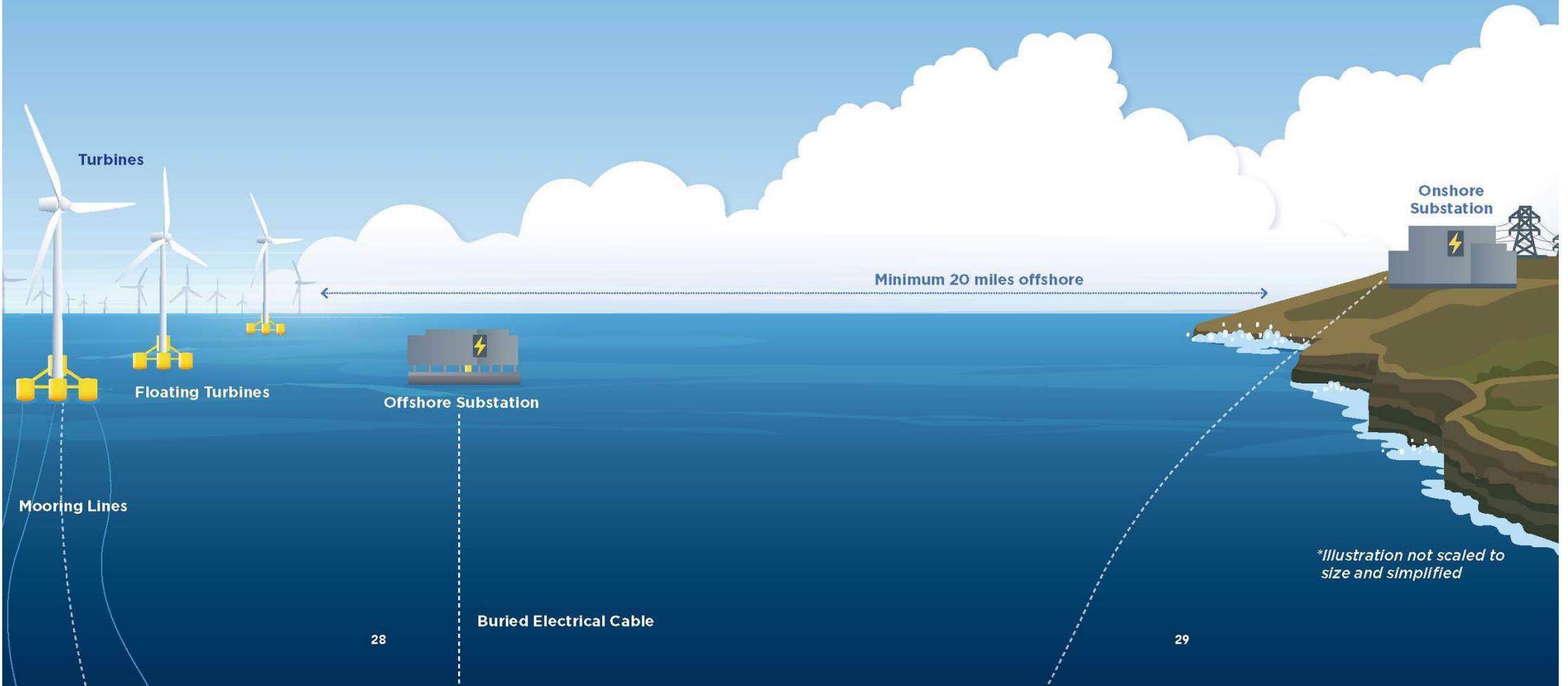


How Commercial Floating Wind Farms Would Work

Floating wind turbines are configured in an array to optimize the capture of wind energy and other requirements.

Energy captured by the turbines is conveyed through a transmission line to likely a floating platform substation for commercial projects.

A buried transmission cable transmits the power from the floating substation to the shore, where it is connected to the existing onshore electrical grid.



Other Wind Port Examples for Fixed Bottom WTGs (not Floating WTGs)



Siemens Gamesa Blade Manufacturing, Hull, UK, ~80 acres



Esbjerg Denmark – Denmark’s Energy Metropolis, OSW terminal is about 150 acres. Esbjerg has become Europe’s leading OSW port.



Five Stages of OSW Foundation Fabrication and WTG Installation



Fabrication



Loadout



Float Off



WTG Installation at Berth



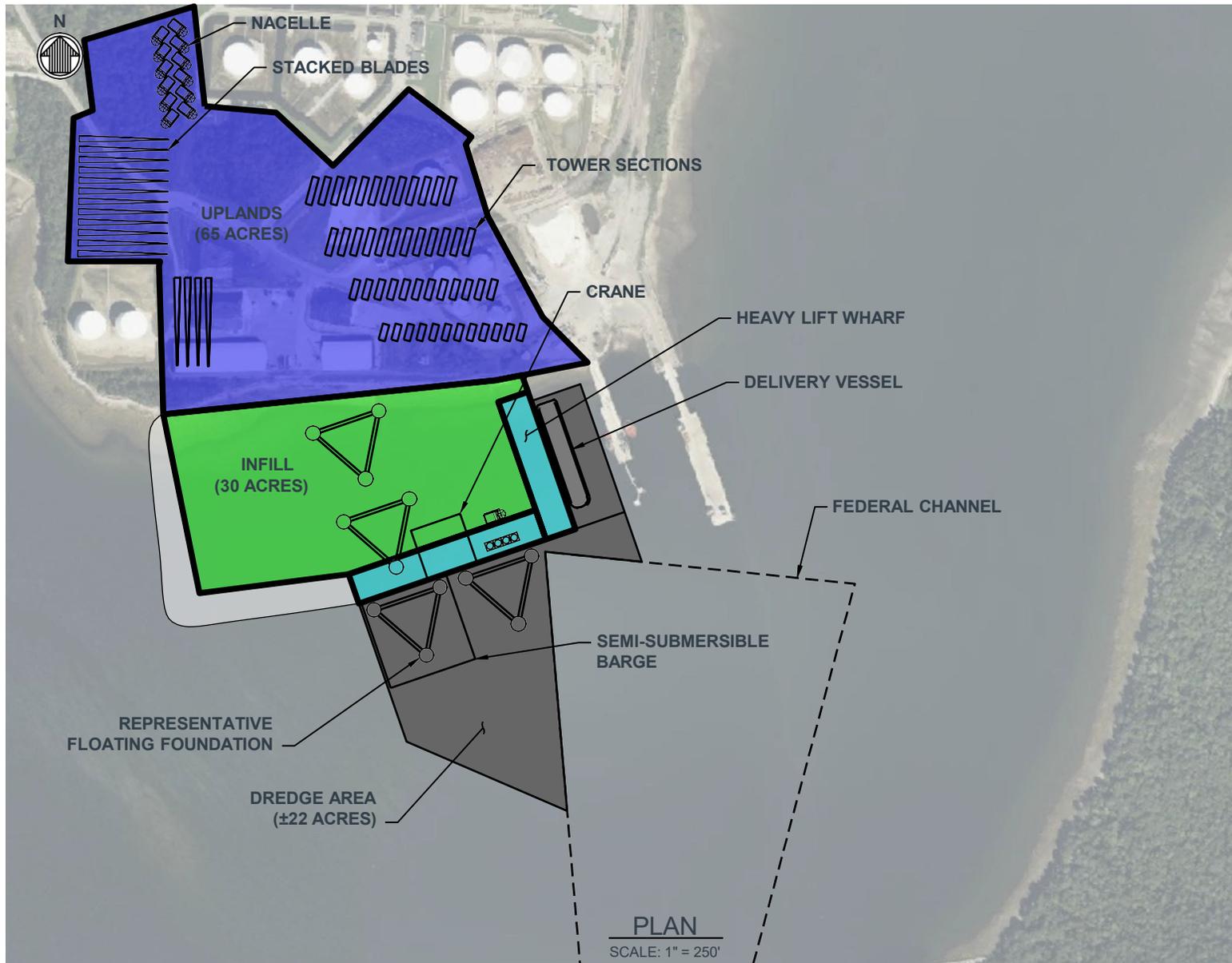
Tow to Installation Site



Wind Port Design Criteria

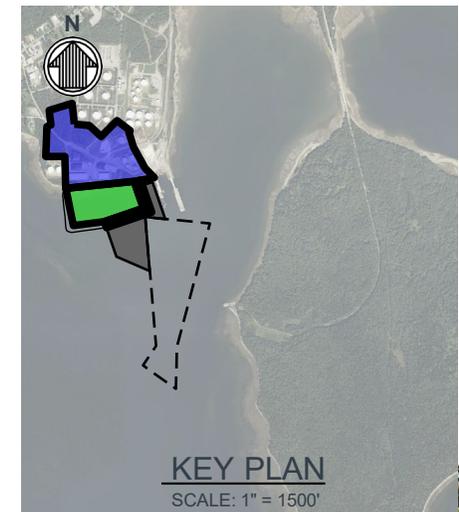
Contiguous Upland Area	≥100 acres of uplands in a usable configuration
Water Frontage	≥1,500 ft
Federally Maintained Navigation Channel Access	Depth of channel ≥35 ft mean lower low water (MLLW)
No Air Draft and Direct Access to Open Water	Unlimited air draft with direct access to open water
Quay Accessibility at High Tide and Flood	Quay accessible at all stages of tidal cycle & flood conditions

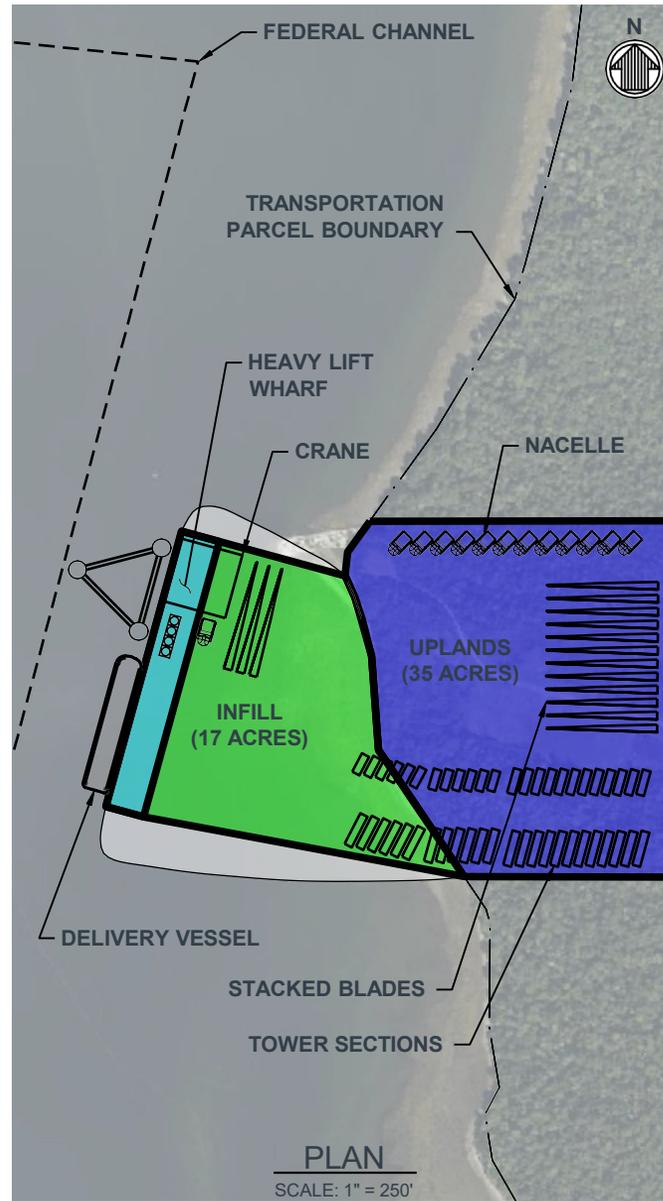
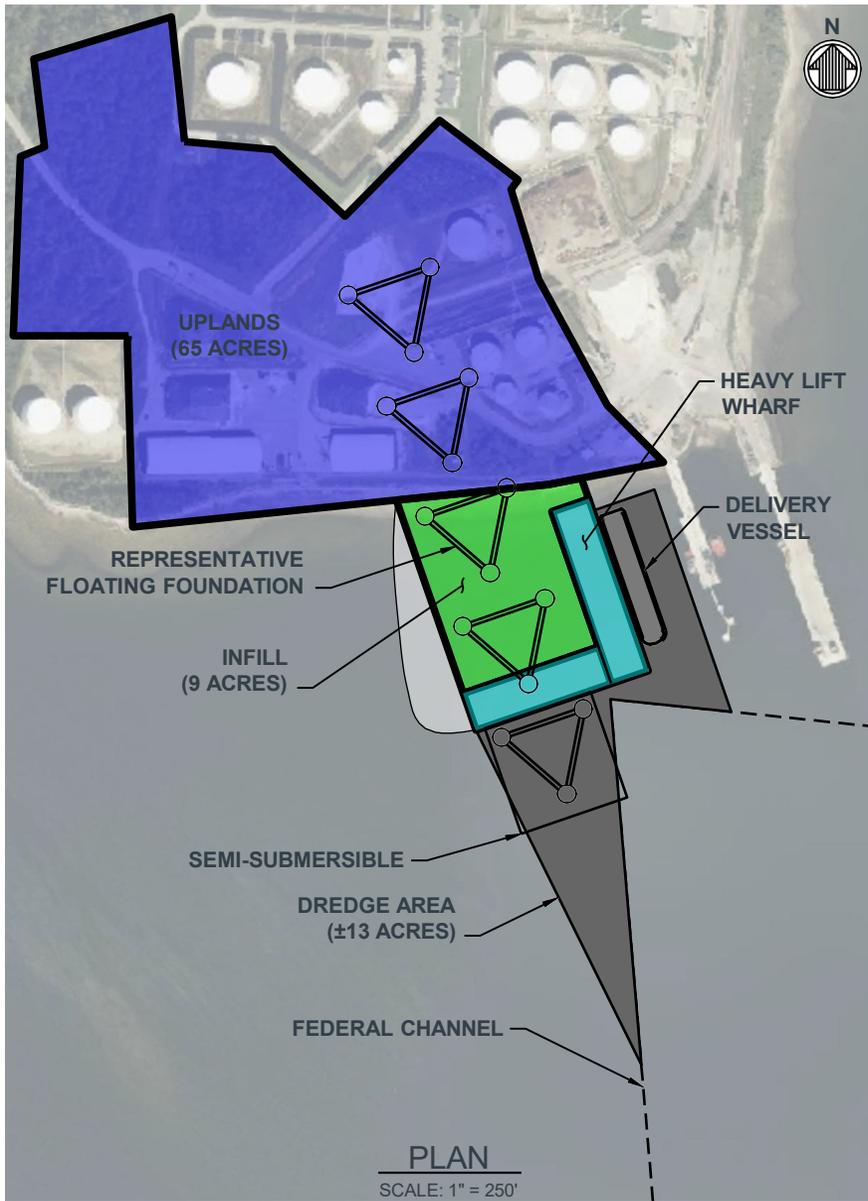




NOTES:

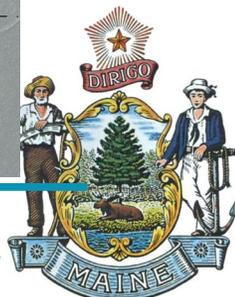
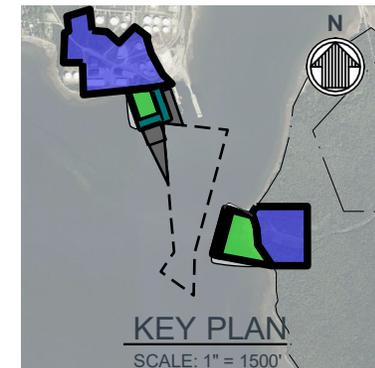
1. Three owners: Sprague, Canadian Pacific Rail, Maine Port Authority.
2. Lease payment required to use Sprague's land.
3. Preliminary figures: 65 acres upland and ±30 acres of ocean fill.
4. Dredging required, amount will vary with design; preliminary concept has ±500,000 CY (22 acres in plan view).
5. Multiple purpose port including: offshore wind, liquid and dry cargo, and rail cargo

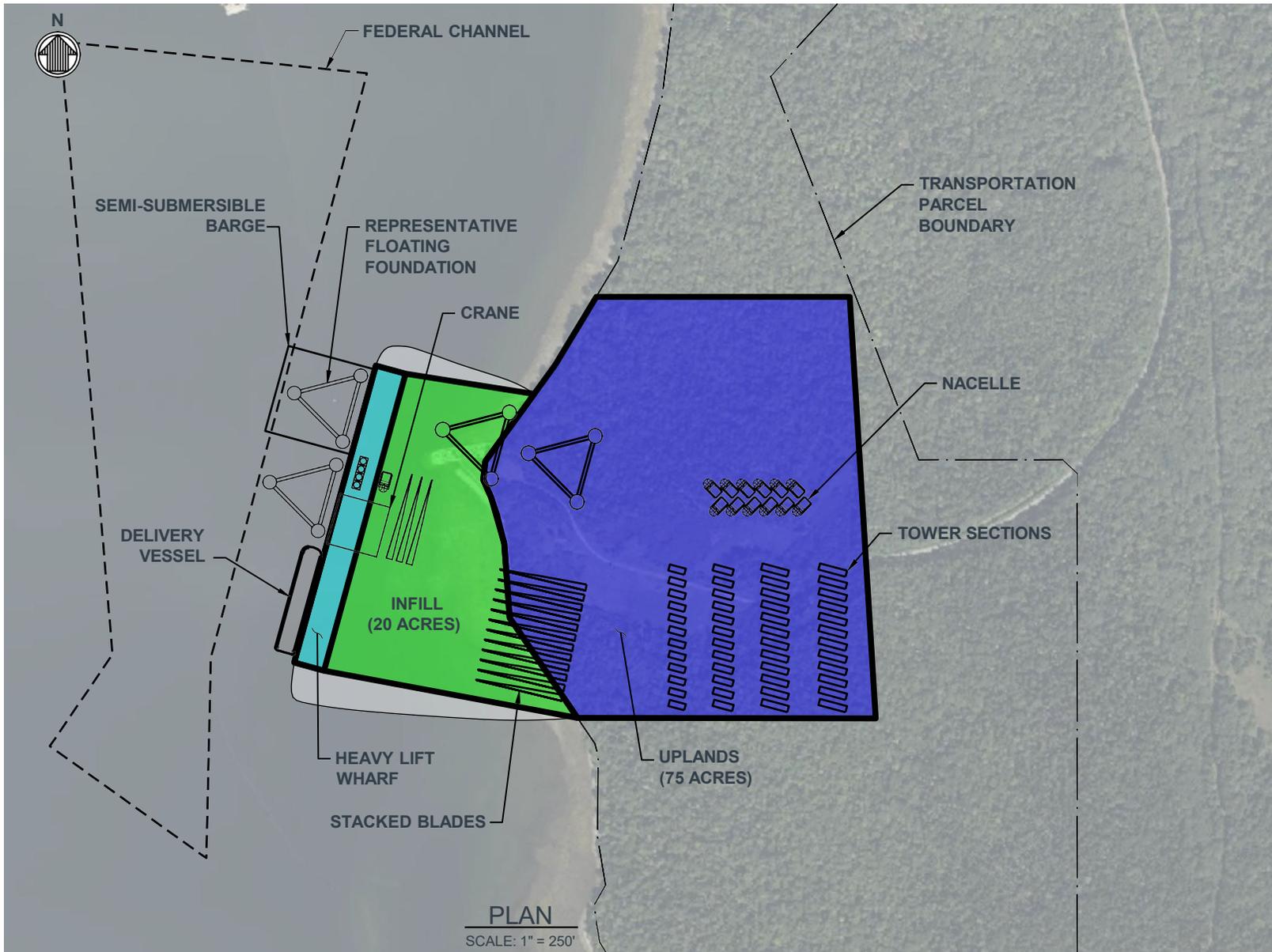




NOTES:

1. Mack Point (MP) used for foundation fabrication; Sears Island (SI) used for staging and integration.
2. Two ports constructed: permits needed for both MP and SI.
3. Ocean fill: ±9 acres at MP and ±17 acres at SI.
4. Dredging required at MP; preliminary concept has ±320,000 CY (13 acres in plan view).
5. Three owners at MP: Sprague, Canadian Pacific Rail, Maine Port Authority.
6. Higher construction cost: total wharf length is longer in hybrid option.





PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 250'

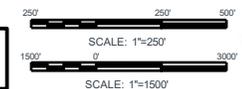
NOTES:

1. Transportation parcel owned by MaineDOT - no lease payment.
2. No dredge required.
3. ±20 acres of ocean fill needed to access deep water.
4. Dedicated wind port facility
5. Greenfield site; constructed to optimize port efficiencies.



KEY PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 1500'

CONCEPTUAL DRAWING
NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION



Key Issues & Potential Impacts to be Resolved for Wind Port Construction

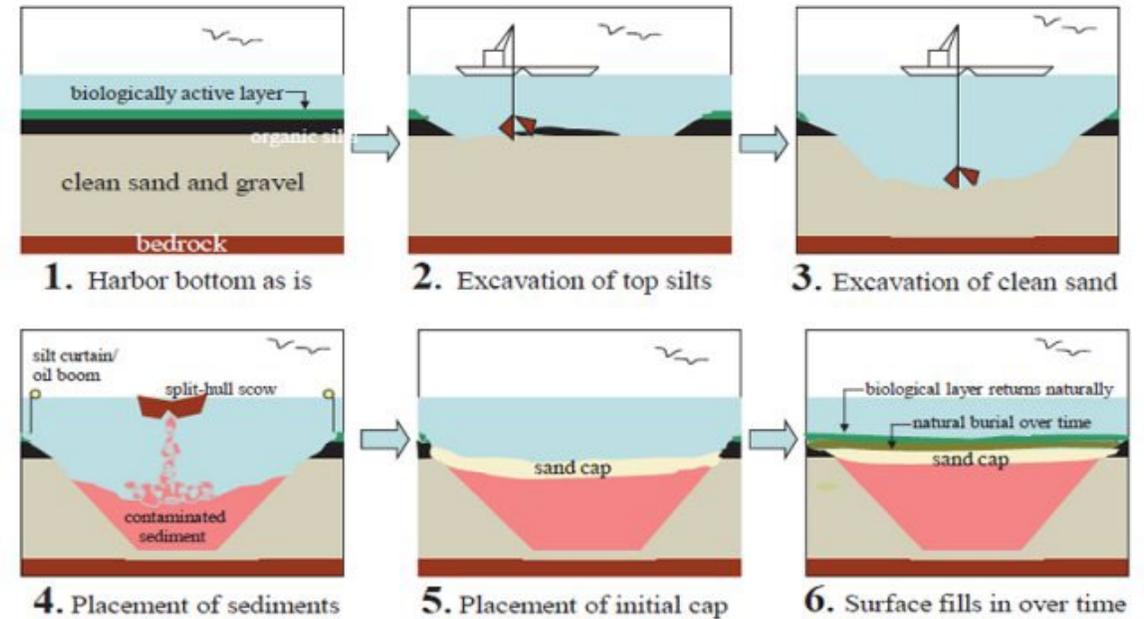
- **Natural Resources**
 - Marine species and habitat
 - Upland species and habitat
- **Cultural Resources**
 - Tribal interests
 - Visual resources
- **Community Resources**
 - Existing land uses
 - Tax revenue
- **Permitting**
 - Upland wetlands
 - Dredge
 - Ocean fill
- **Funding**
 - Construction
 - Lease payment



Dredge Disposal Methods

- **CAD cell – Confined Aquatic Disposal**
Lowest cost with best environmental practice; constructed near dredge site, Ocean landfill with dredge material buried and topped with clean sand
- **Ocean Disposal:** Medium cost; location and haul distance directly impacts costs. Finding an approved location to accept the material is challenging
- **Upland Disposal** Highest cost at 3x to 5x the cost of a CAD cell. There is risk of relocating contaminants into a different water resource or contaminating abutting properties

CAD Cell – EPA website



For illustrative purposes only – NOT TO SCALE



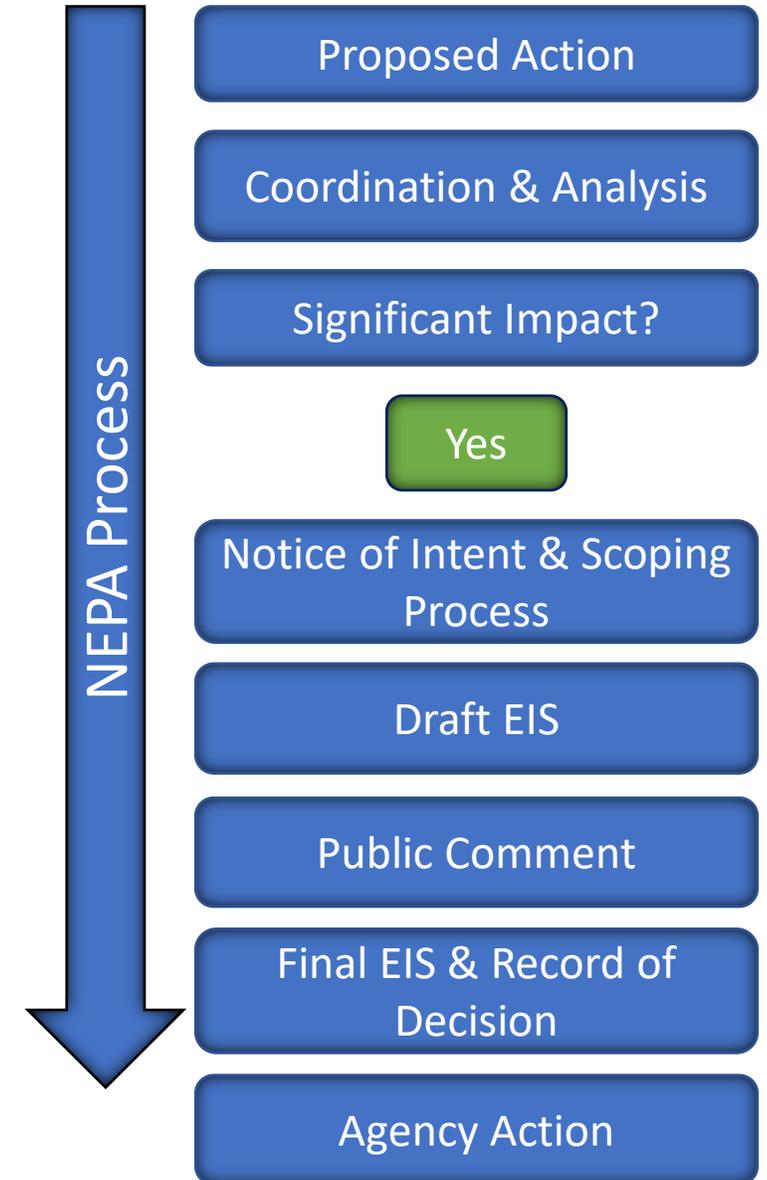
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Permitting

NEPA promotes better decisions. It requires MaineDOT to:

- Take a hard look at potential project impacts
- Engage the public throughout the process
- Fully disclose potential impacts *and* the decision-making process

Permit authorizations will be needed from:

Agency	Authorization
US Army Corps of Engineers	Section 404 Clean Water Act
	Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act
Maine Department of Environmental Protection	Natural Resources Protection Act
	Section 404 Water Quality Certification
	Submerged Lands Lease



Wind Port Project Purpose and Need

▪ **Purpose**

- The purpose of the proposed action is to construct a marshalling port facility in Maine that supports the development of the floating offshore wind industry at a commercial scale.

▪ **Need**

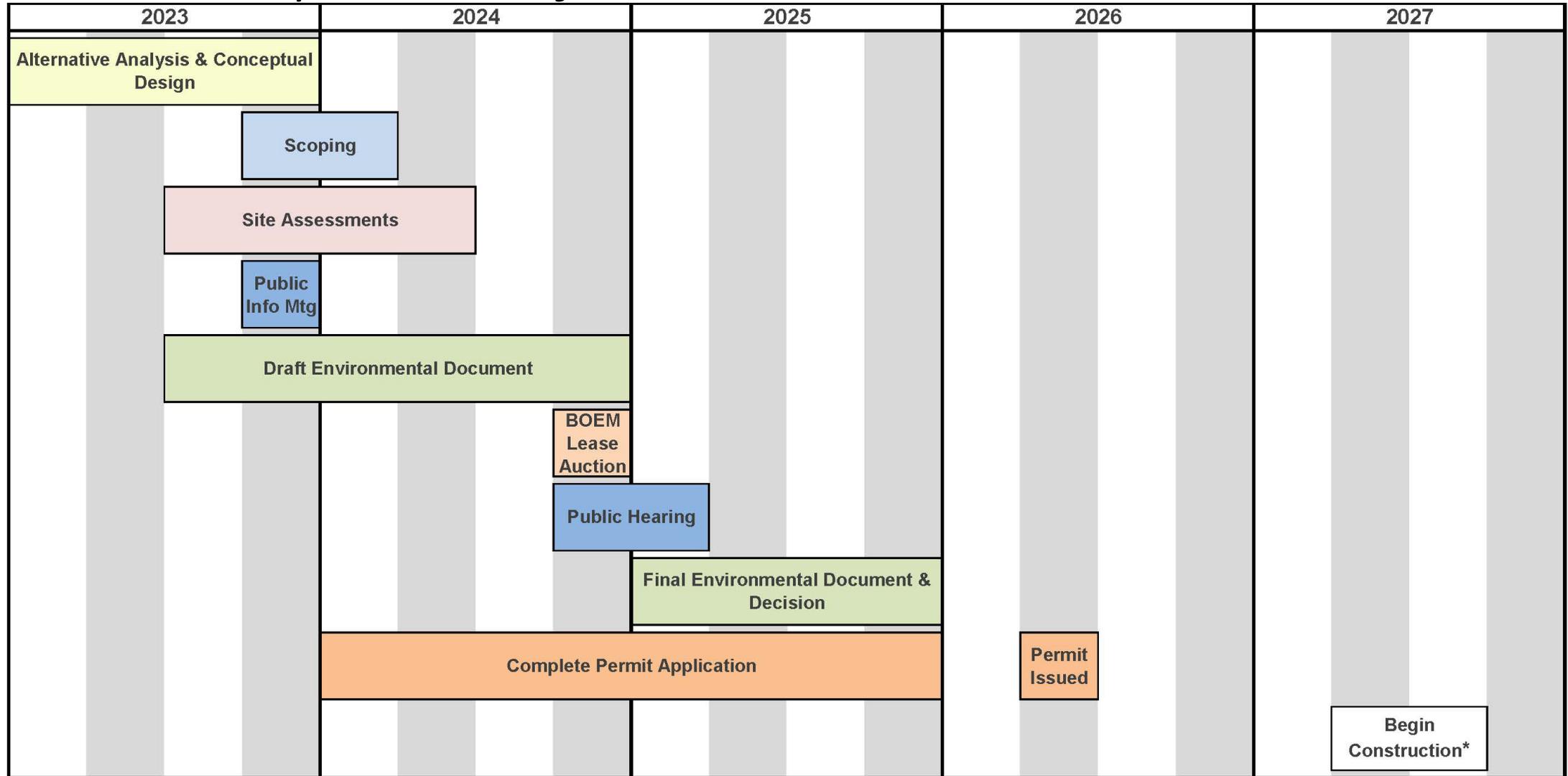
- The State of Maine does not have a marshalling port facility with sufficient space to support the construction, operation, and maintenance of offshore wind turbines.

Definitions

Proposed action – Wind Port

Marshalling – Marine cargo delivery, cargo storage, WTG assembly and construction. Synonymous with “staging.”

Preliminary Port Project Timeline–Best Case Scenario



**Construction is expected to last about three years. Port to open in 2030.*

Next Steps

- Identify Lead Federal Agency–November 2023
- Issue a Notice of Intent in Federal Register–Winter 2023/2024
- Environmental Assessments–Spring 2024
- Draft Environmental Document–Fall 2024
- Public Hearing–Winter 2024/2025

Questions & Comments

Submit written comments at the public informational meeting or online
by **November 22nd, 2023**



Project Contact(s)

Matt Burns – Executive Director: Maine Port Authority

Nate Benoit – MaineDOT Multimodal Program



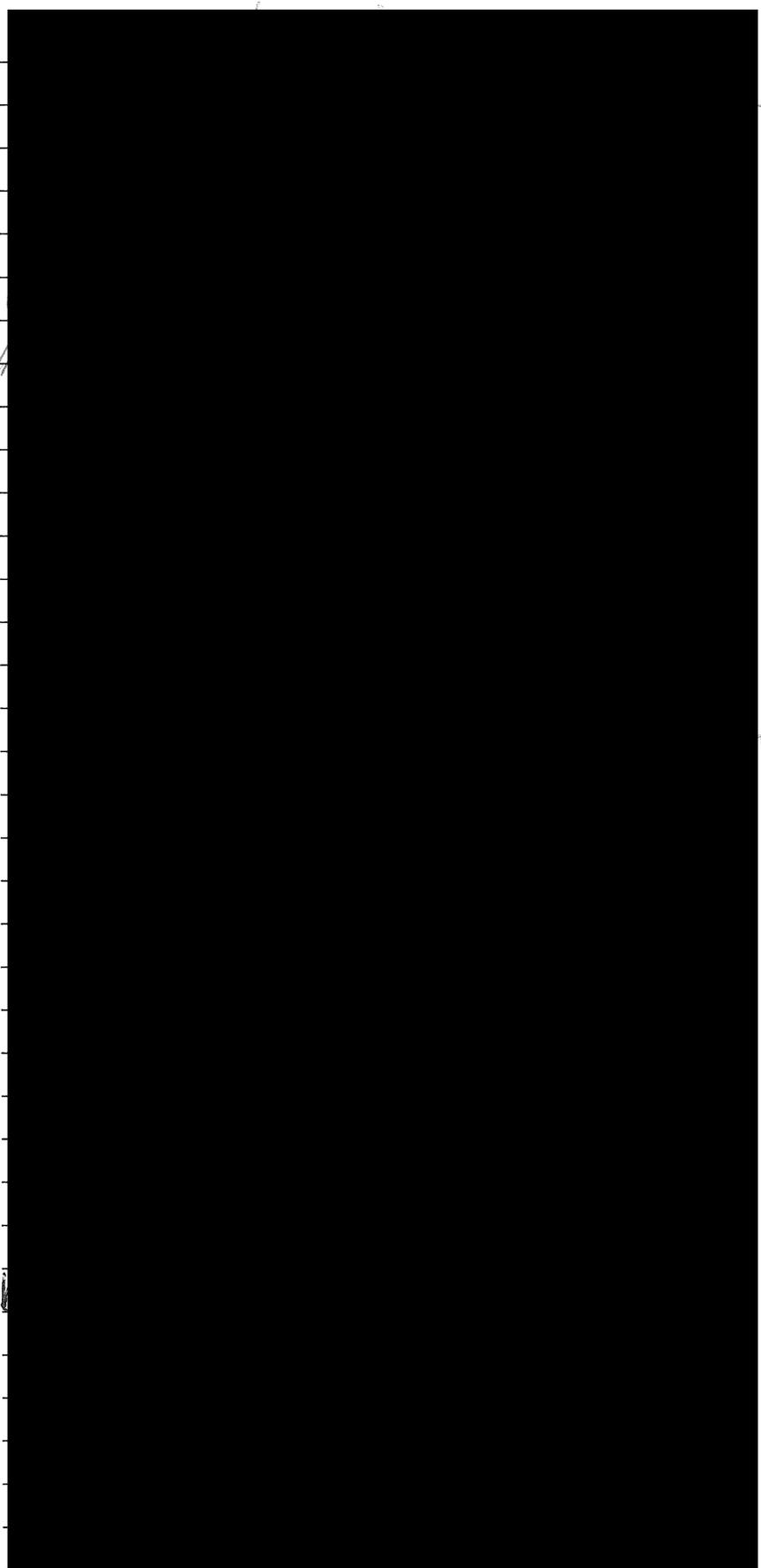
Informational Public Meeting Summary Attachment 7 Sign in Sheets

Searsport Wind Port Informational Public Meeting 10/25/2023

Name:

Email Address:

Nate Benoit
Jim Tarrant
Nick Skally
Tim NEELIGAN
Adam Archuel
SCOTT DICKERSON
M. R. Kilah
Kerry Dougherty
Jon M. Gilbert
Jim Gilbert
Jack Shapiro
Derek Dondar
Drew Laughland
John Krueger
Rolf Olsen
Steve Miller
Josh Singer
David ITORIGANDER
SCOTT RICHMAN
Janet Williams
Dan Mahns
Amy Eshoo
JOHN LEVITA
ERNIE JOHNSON
Janet Flint
dill Kuibe
William Kuibe
Morris & Judy Staples
E. JOANNE WHITEHEAD
BEVERLY ROXBY
~~BEVERLY~~ BARTONIS
Sally Jones
Kay Rand
Greg Biddinger
TERESA TOOLE
Gary Stuckey



Searsport Wind Port Informational Public Meeting 10/25/2023

Name:

Email Address:

RICK BRASCON

Rutham Bienwas

LUDOLF BIENWAS

LARRY HODER

MARK RAYMER

Norman Beldor

DAVID WELTON

Katie Giddings

Scott Dorman

Mike Cole

JOHN E. WYATT

Deb Friel

Shane Cyr

Chery E. King

David Gelinas

David Westworth

Margie Knutzi

JAYSON TURNER

Nancy Blanchard

Peter & Kim Yesis

2 people (wouldn't sign in)

Jeff Hawley

Wayne Ryan

Rachel Herbener

Kenneth Kazelski

Mike Ames

Keith G. Ritchie

Paul Tibbette

Bill Handrahan

Sybil Handrahan

Fern Morylone

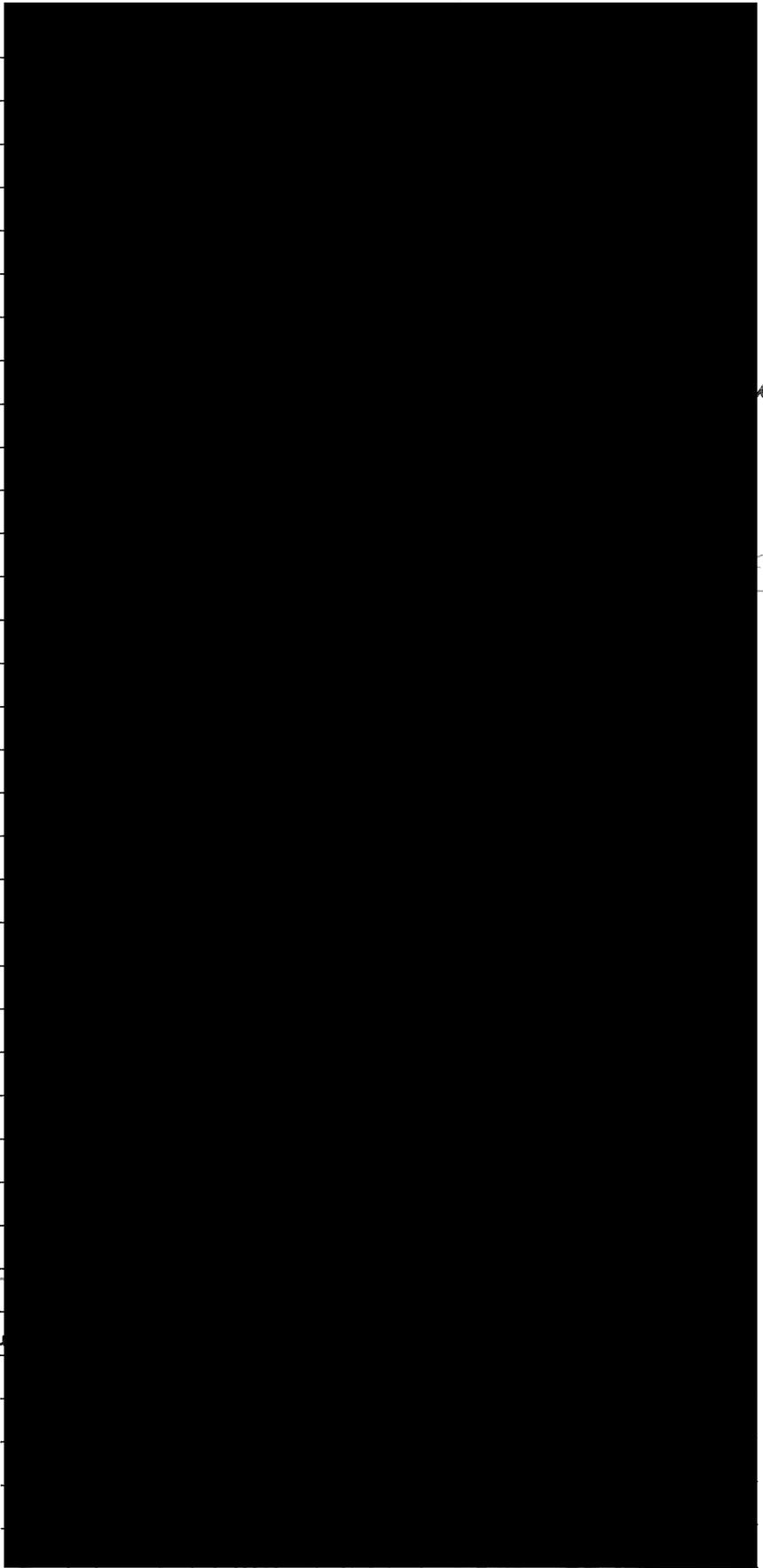
Jill Howell

Donna Throck

KEN THEOBALD

(2 people wouldn't sign in)

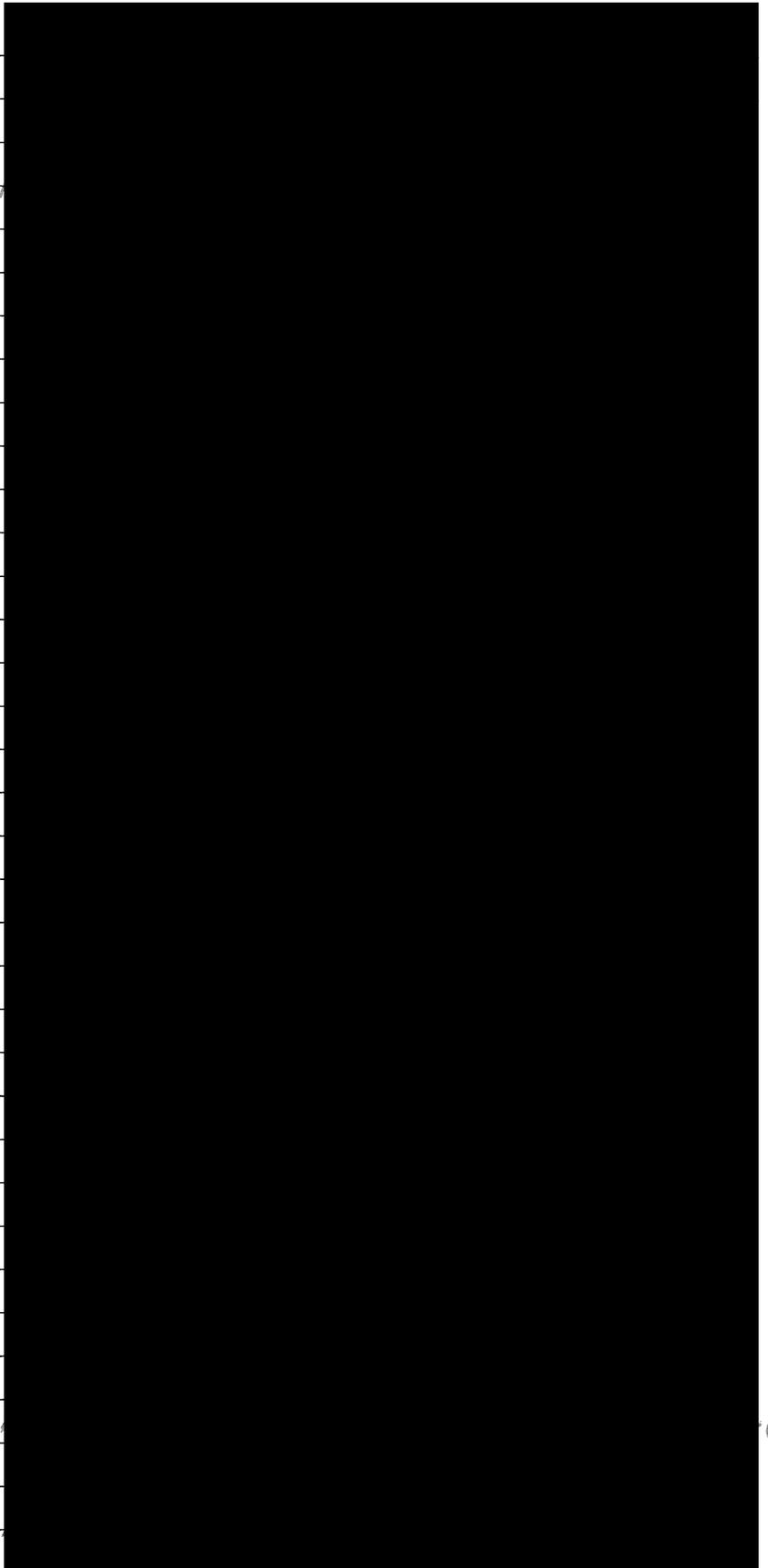
Donald A. Cole



Name:

Email Address:

Nathan Gould
 Jim Guerehe
 Linda Payson
 Doug Norman
 Scott Cuddy
 Cindy Gallant
 Barbara Cann
 Joe Calista
 Zach Schmesser
 Lynn Cottrell
 Dale Cottrell
 Doug Oliver
 Diane Oliver
 Jim Davis
 ROLAND LAREAD
 Jewel Rayner
 Carolyn Hearne
 Mark E Bradstreet
 WALTER P SIAMACKI
 RICHARD HERO
 Meredith Brust
 Mary Brann
 Patsy (Loren) Baldus
 Ann M Stearns
 Alfred & Marie M Monagle
 Maureen Horan
 LINDA EARLS
 PAUL C. WOOD
 Brad Salfon + Chlor Squibb
 Krystal Finkbeiner
 Mark Dittrick
 Stephanie Williams
 PETER NEEDELL
 Robert Martineau

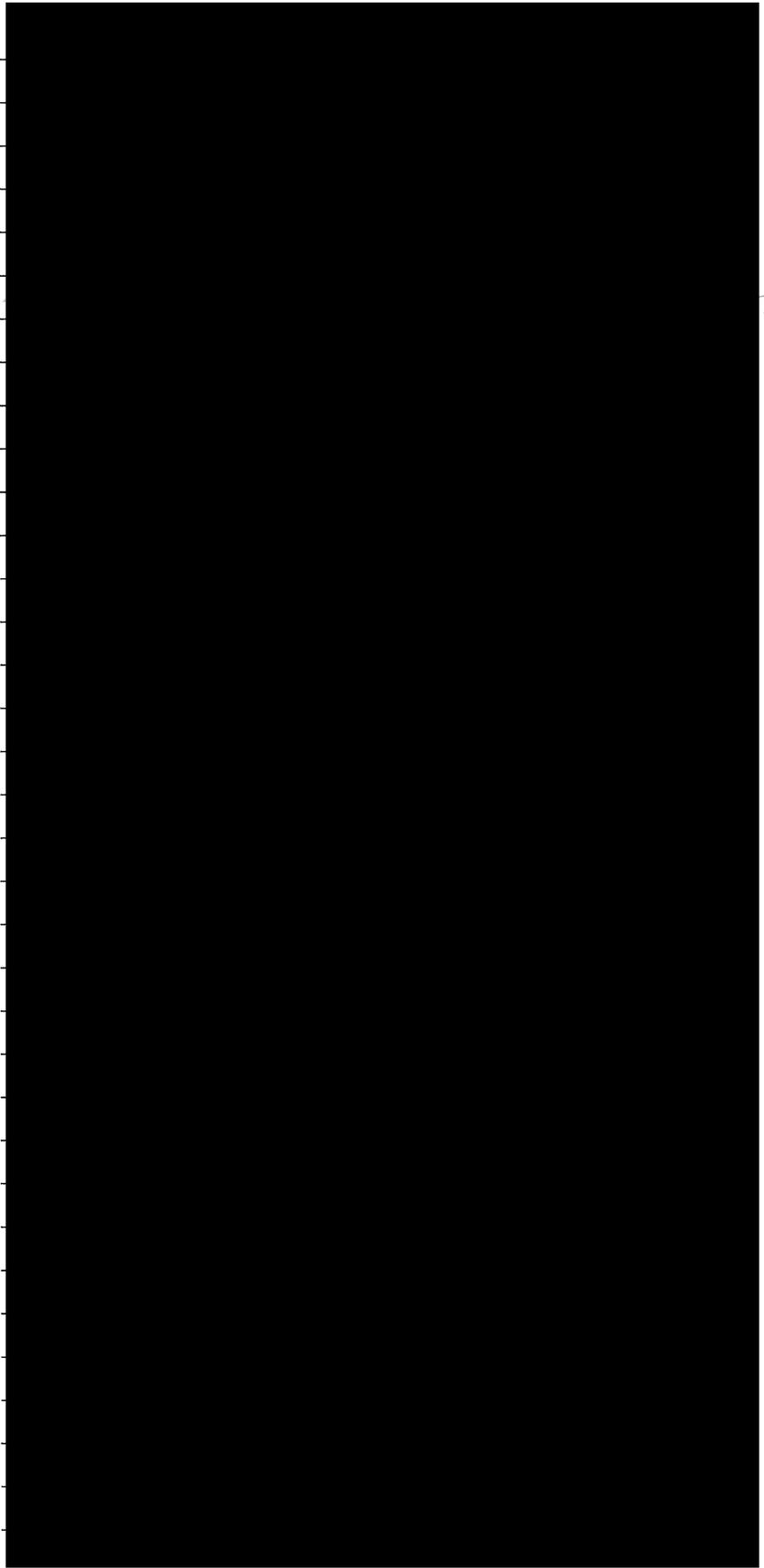


Searsport Wind Port Informational Public Meeting 10/25/2023

Name:

Email Address:

Margaret Klotzle
Julia Andrews
Aaron Coughlin
Mary Curtis
Ray Hearne
Benjamin Leavenworth
Julie Baker
Scott Baker
Jennifer Vinunt
Fross Vincent
B. Piper
B. Rocconella



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