

CALIFORNIA FISHERMEN'S RESILIENCY ASSOCIATION

1118 6th St.
Eureka, CA 95501

CFRA Board Report #17

February 21, 2023

Meeting with Wind Power Developers in Humboldt WEA

On February 14th 2023 at 11:30 am, CFRA Vice President Jake Mitchell, along with Fishermen's Marketing Association President Travis Hunter and Humboldt Fishermen's Marketing Association President, Harrison Ibach, met over lunch with Jim Lanard from Magellan Wind (MW), Elissa Levin (Senior Vice President Government Affairs) with Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP), and Rachel Pachter (Chief Development Officer) with Vineyard Offshore (VO).

Here are a few takeaways:

-CIP won the bid on one of the Wind Energy Area Leases in Humboldt and is co-owner of VO.

-MW is supporting VO in their initial development plans.

-It was noted that CIP is the financier for VO.

- VO is currently constructing an offshore wind farm 15 miles off the coast of Massachusetts. It will be the nation's first utility-scale offshore wind energy project.

-It was acknowledged by both sides that we do not know the full extent of impacts offshore wind will have on commercial fishing yet.

- Rachel and Jim explained that they are still in the very early stages of planning and they do not have all the answers yet.

- In fact, the only thing they could really say for certain was that they would be using floating turbines. They still do not know what foundation will be used for the turbines, where the cable lanes will go, or if they will need an offshore substation, etc.

- Currently they do not even have anyone to buy the power

- They asked us what they could do for us moving forward. Our response was to involve the fisherman in the planning process and stay engaged with us.

- Rachel noted that she did not foresee any turbines being deployed before the year 2030

Overall I felt it was a positive introductory conversation. I left with a little clearer idea of how the process will play out. I look forward to engaging with them again as more details in the planning process emerge.

Round table meeting with Jared Huffman

We followed up this meeting by attending Congressman Jared Huffman's round table discussion on offshore wind. This hour and a half meeting was held at the Wharfinger Building in Eureka. This meeting was well attended by community stakeholders, wind developers, county staff, and BOEM. Most of the questions and statements made were pretty basic and not a whole lot of new information was shared. One thing I did find interesting that was talked about, was the different agencies and their jurisdiction. Out on the Wind Energy Area Lease site, BOEM will/should be the one putting policy in place being its in federal waters. Once inside of three nautical miles that oversight would shift to the State Lands Commission and or the California Coastal Commission. Then, From the tip of the Humboldt Bay entrance to the docks, that oversight falls on the Humboldt Bay Harbor and Recreation District. So there could be three or four sets of policies drafted that these wind developers have to adhere by, if I am understanding this correctly.

Jake Mitchell, Vice-President
California Fishermen's Resiliency Association