# Welcome to the Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW) Pilot and Commercial Project Fisheries Update



- This meeting will start at 6:00 PM EST
- Please reference the following prior to participation in the meeting:
  - Everyone except the presenter should mute their lines.
  - Use the "chat" function (bottom right of WebEx window) to ask questions during the presentation. A Dominion Energy representative will address questions in the chat or during the Q&A session at the end of the meeting.
  - Use the "hand raise" function during the Q&A session to ask a question, at which point you will be unmuted.
  - At the bottom right of the WebEx window, you can click "participants" to access the hand raise function.
  - If you are accessing via phone only, we will specifically ask for comments from participants on the phone.
  - This meeting will be recorded, copies of the presentation will be posted on the website following the meeting.



### **Goals & Objectives**



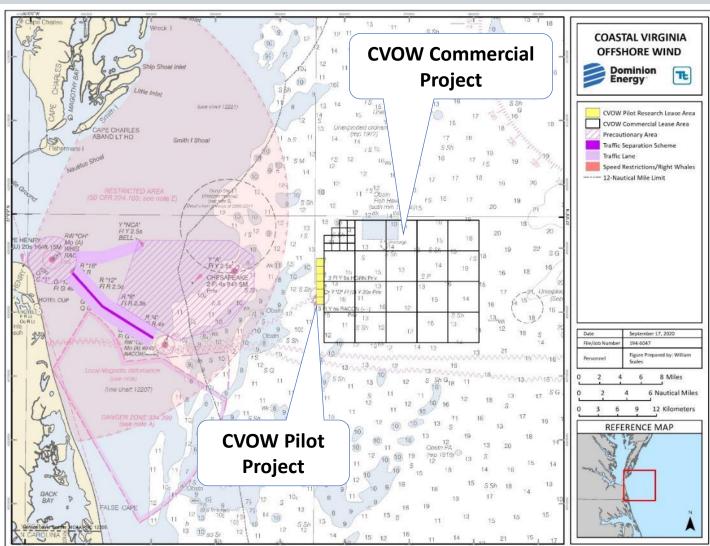
- Provide Project Overview and Status
- Review Fisheries Related Issues
- Lease Area User Inputs/Feedback Q&A
- Maintain pathway for information exchange

# Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW) Overview













#### **CVOW Pilot**



- Two 6-megawatt wind turbines; approximately 600 feet tall
- 12-megawatt total capacity; enough to power up to 3,000 homes
- First offshore wind project installed in federal waters
- Designed to inform development of commercial project and the offshore wind industry as a whole



### CVOW Pilot Research, Studies & Exercises

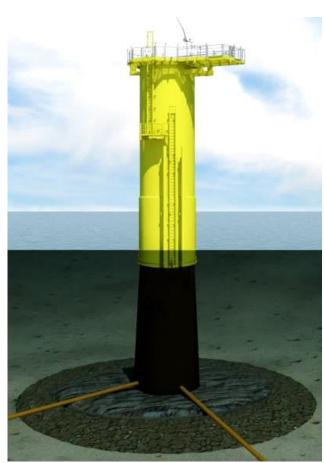


- Monopile Installation Pile Driving Sound Mitigation Study
- Ongoing research activities by BOEM's RODEO program
- USCG Search and Rescue (SAR) training exercises
- Fishermen, divers and recreational mariners of all kinds visiting the turbines

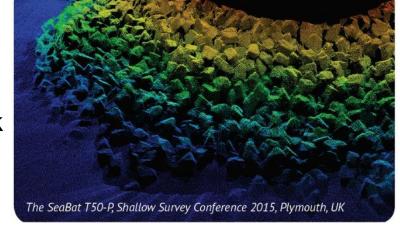


# **CVOW Pilot Foundation Scour Installation & Surveys**





- Initial crushed rock layer, ~72 ft radius
- 2nd layer (armor layer), ~39 ft radius, larger rock deployed over the initial layer after the monopile is installed.
- The armor layer consists of larger rock material (80 to 400 lbs)
- Visual surveys and multibeam sonar surveys are conducted periodically.





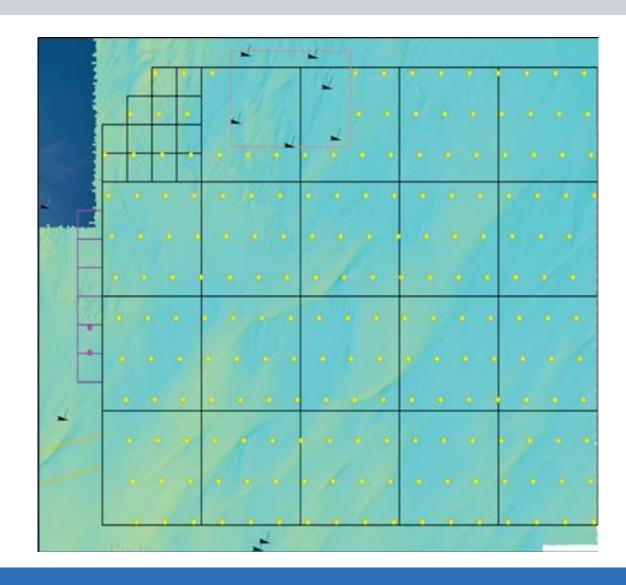




# CVOW Commercial Overview

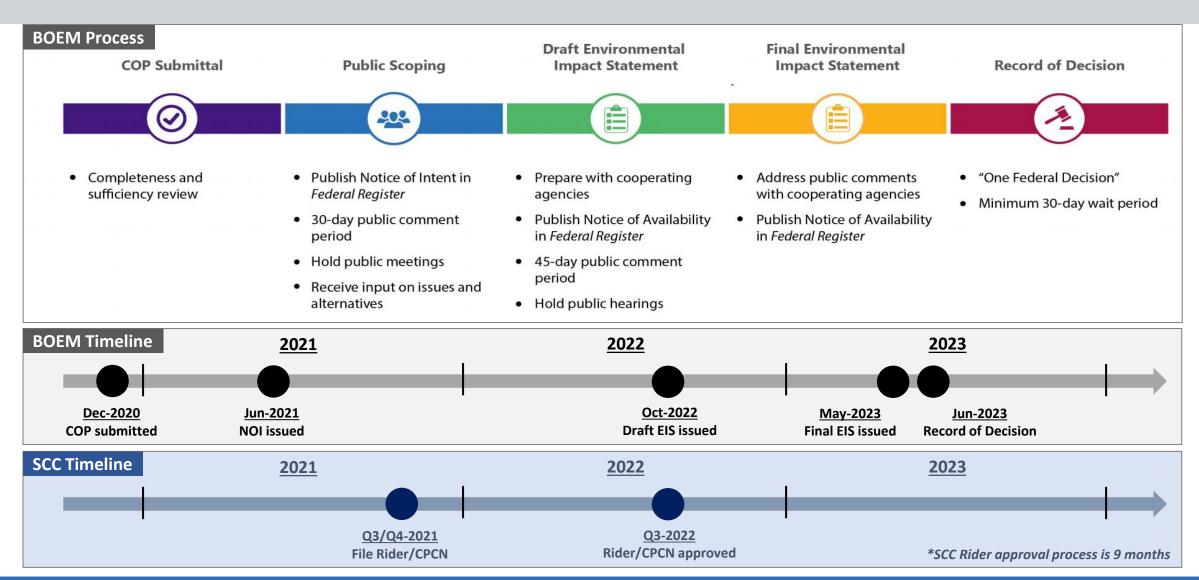


- Lease area is approximately 112,800 acres
- Planning for 188 14-megawatt turbines; total estimated capacity of 2.6-gigawatts, enough to power up to 660,000 homes
- Turbines are ~800 feet tall with spacing currently planned at 0.75 nm x 0.93 nm
- Once complete, it will be the largest offshore wind project in United States



### **CVOW Commercial Regulatory Processes**





### **COP 4.4.6 Commercial and Recreational Fishing**



- Evaluates potential impacts resulting from construction, O&M, and decommissioning of the Project
- Proposed measures and Best Management Practices (BMP) with intent to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate potential impacts
- Other assessments and reports detailed within this COP related to commercial and recreational fishing include:
  - Physical and Oceanographic Conditions (Section 4.1.1)
  - Water Quality (Section 4.1.2)
  - Underwater Acoustic Environment (Section 4.1.5)
  - Benthic Resources, Fishes, Invertebrates, and Essential Fish Habitat (Section 4.2.4)
  - Recreation and Tourism (Section 4.4.5)
  - Marine Transportation and Navigation (Section 4.4.7)
  - Essential Fish Habitat Assessment (Appendix E)
  - Navigation Safety Risk Assessment (Appendix S) and
  - Fisheries Communication Plan (Appendix V)

# Summary of Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation Measures



- Safety Zones will be limited to discrete segments of the Offshore Project Components that would have restricted
  access on a temporary basis while construction is active;
  - Continue to work with fishermen to review operational planning and schedules in order to identity any areas where fishing operations may be temporarily displaced;
  - Work with the United States Coast Guard (USCG) and make notices of area closures publicly available through local notices to mariners (LNTM) posted to Dominion Energy's website and social media;
  - Work with those affected fishermen to minimize any potential impact. Dominion Energy will remain committed to coexistence with the commercial and recreational fishing industries;
- The Fisheries Communications Plan is posted on the project website and contains the Fishing Gear Damage or Loss Claim Procedure.
- Dominion Energy is in the process of establishing partnerships with local and regional experts from institutions, including the Virginia Institute of Marine Science and the Virginia Aquarium to facilitate preparation of pre- and post-construction monitoring plans, driven by stake holder interests and built upon existing data;

https://coastalvawind.com/partnerships/supporting-fisheries.aspx

# **CVOW Commercial Expected 'On-Water' Timeline**





April 2020 to June 2021	Geophysical and Geotechnical (G&G) Surveys
 Summer 2021	Deploy Metocean data collection buoy in lease area
2022 (Dates TBD)	Unexploded Ordinance (UXO) Investigation Survey
2023 (Dates TBD)	Unexploded Ordinance (UXO) Identification Survey
Late 2021 to 2023	Pre-Construction Survey Activity (as required)
May to October 2024	Construction - Monopile Installation
November 2024 to April 2025	Construction – Wind Turbine and Cable Installation
May to October 2025	Construction - Monopile Installation
November 2025 to April 2026	Construction – Wind Turbine and Cable Installation

#### Fisheries Outreach 2009 - 2018

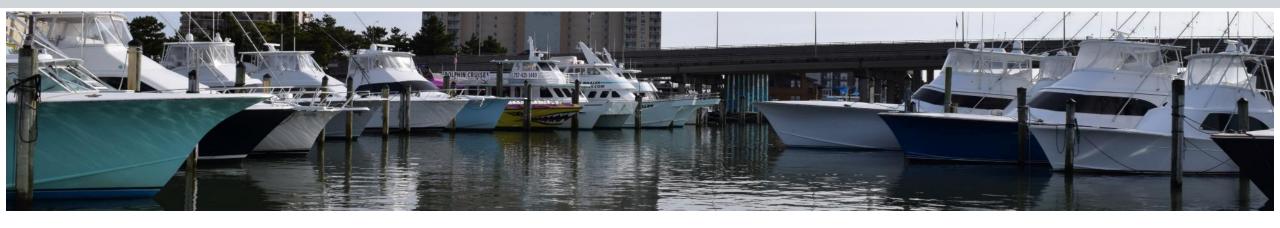


- In 2009 BOEM established the Virginia Intergovernmental Renewable Task Force
- Outreach continued through award of lease to Dominion Energy in NOV 2013
- The VA DMME secured research lease in 2015
- The VA DMME and BOEM funded the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program to develop a process for working with commercial/recreational fisheries
- Dominion Energy engaged Sea Risk Solutions as their Fisheries Liaison Officers (FLO) in 2018



### Fisheries Outreach 2018 - Present





- Maintain contact with fishers from Ocean City, MD to Beaufort, NC; focus on VA ports
- Engage local and regional fishermen's associations and fisheries management bodies
- Provide regular Mariner Update email distributions
- Maintain a Fisheries Engagement webpage
- Contract local fishing vessels for scout work
- Brief survey vessel personnel in the identification local fisheries and recording observations of fishing activity.

### **Commercial Fisheries**



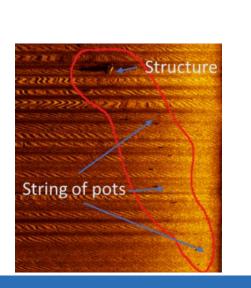
- ➤ With VCU & RODA support, meet with Black Sea Bass and Conch pot fishermen who work the lease area.
- ➤ Maintain regular communications with the fishermen in the area to coordinate survey operations.
- Fishing Gear Damage or Loss Claim Procedure
- ➤ Over 1,400 survey vessel days, only two commercial fishing vessels observed actively fishing in the lease
- No mobile gear fishing has been observed within the lease area.

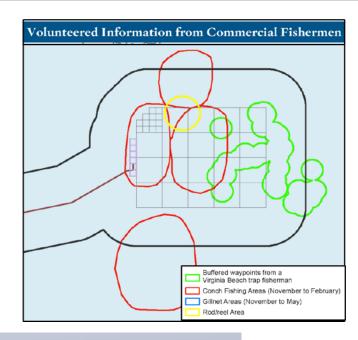


### **Commercial Fisheries**



- Fishing activity observed is consistent with recent data/expectations
  - Nearly year-round BSB activity, survey data shows pots on seabed
  - Conch fishing effort is variable in time/space,
- Fishing activity observed along export cable corridor includes:
  - Conch pot, Spiny Dogfish bottom gillnet & Shrimp trawl





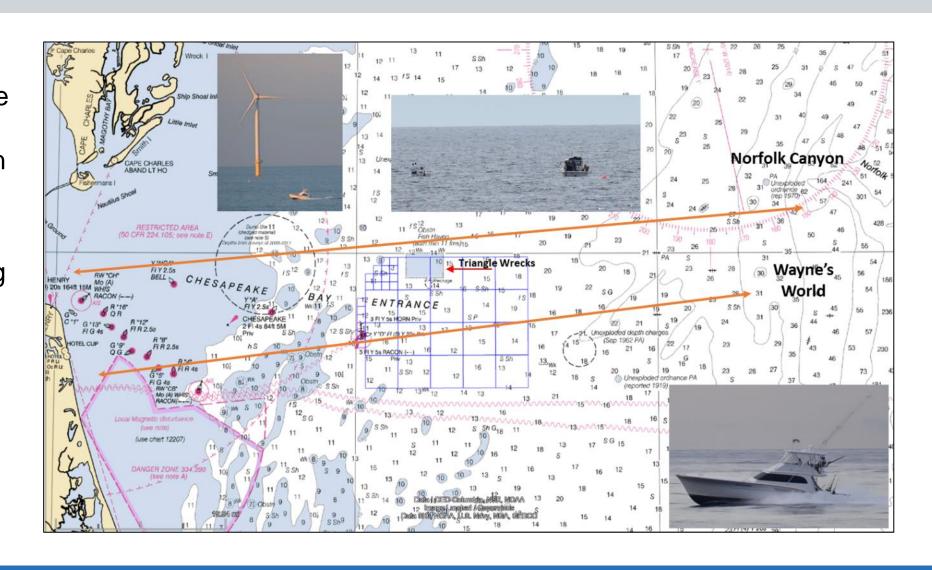




### **Recreational Fisheries Observations**



- Triangle Wrecks and other seabed structure targeted by recreational fishermen
- Transits to offshore
   Highly Migratory
   Species (HMS) fishing
   grounds ~27 nm east
   of lease area
- Recreational SCUBA and free divers have been observed near CVOW Pilot turbines



### **What's Next**



#### Three Month Look Ahead

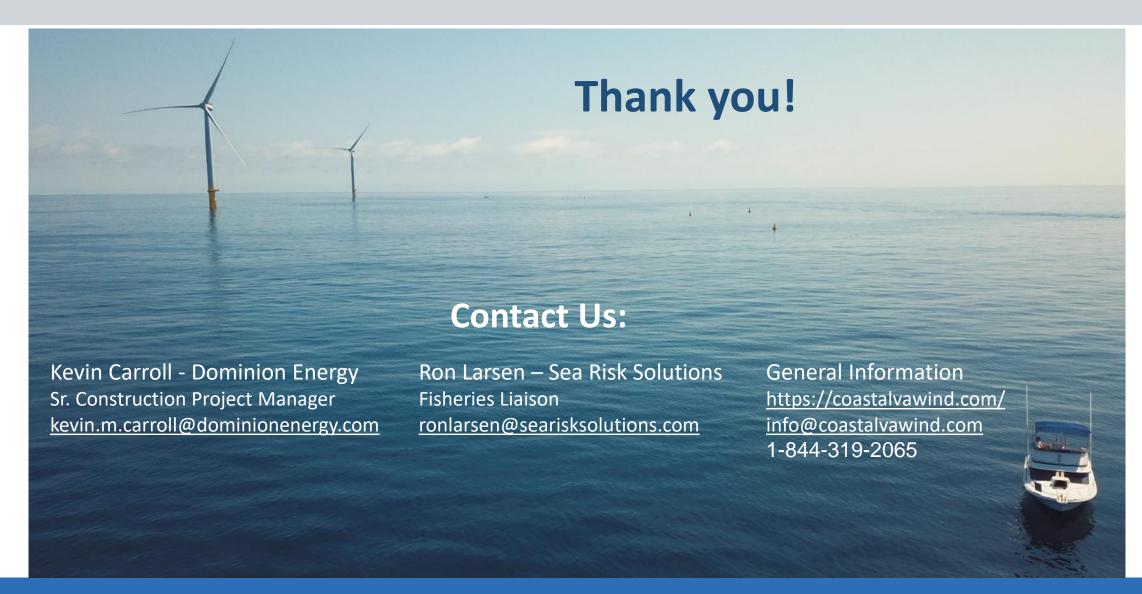
- Research opportunity scoping w/VIMS
- Complete G&G Survey Ops in Commercial Lease
- COP Sufficiency Review Complete
- Pilot Project Monitoring survey(s)

#### > We need your input

- What opportunities for engagement/outreach are we missing?
- What can we do better?

### **Questions & Discussion**





## **Backup** slides



## CVOW Commercial Vessel and Aircraft Clearance



