# Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind Project Overview

## Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council February 11, 2021

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# **Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW)**

### **Overview**

#### **Pilot Project Details**

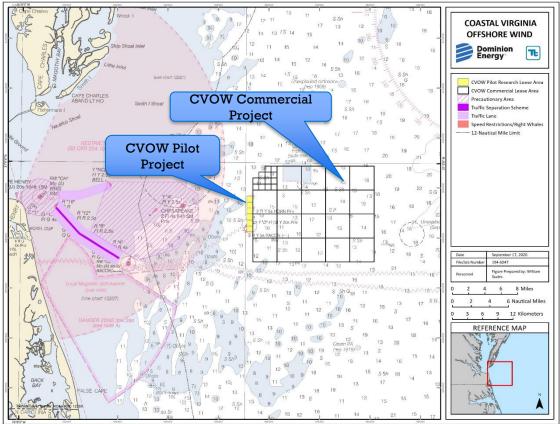
- VA Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy (DMME) as leaseholder; Only research lease in the United States
- > Dominion Energy as operator
- Two 6-MW Wind Turbines
- Located 27 miles off Virginia Beach
- Offshore Installation by Orsted

### **Pilot Project Benefits**

- First Offshore Wind Turbines installed in US Federal Waters
- Permit, design, installation & operations experience
- First project to successfully navigate BOEM permitting and approval process
- Inform larger commercial wind project

### **Commercial Project Details**

- 112,800 acre lease area 27 miles off Virginia Beach
- Interconnect filed for 2,640 MWs, enough to power up to 660,000 homes
- Wind farm planned to consist of 188 14-MW turbines.
- Planned turbine spacing of 0.93 nm along N/S axis and 0.75 nm along E/W axis





## **CVOW Pilot Project**

**Project Highlights** 

- > First offshore wind turbines installed in federal waters
  - First steel in the water May 21, 2020
  - Both turbines mechanically complete June 26, 2020
  - Provisional acceptance achieved October 14, 2020
  - Commercial operations achieved January 11, 2021
- > Only installation 100% owned by an electric utility
- An important first step that will provide valuable experience for the CVOW commercial wind project and to the OSW industry as a whole

The CVOW Pilot project places Virginia on a trajectory to be a regional leader in offshore wind development



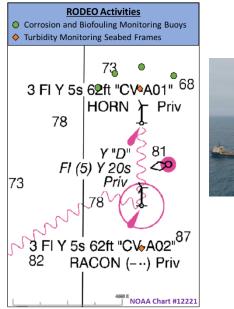


# **CVOW Pilot Project**

Installation and Beyond

- > Dominion Energy ongoing compliance/research
  - Double Big Bubble Curtain sound mitigation study
  - Post-installation foundation video surveys
- Ongoing research activities being conducted by BOEM RODEO program
- > USCG Search and Rescue (SAR) training operations
- Fishermen, divers and recreational mariners of all kinds visiting the turbines



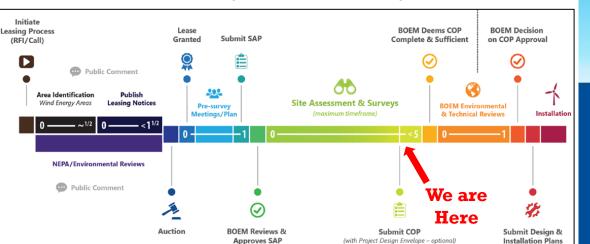








## **CVOW Commercial Project** Timelines



#### **BOEM Renewable Energy Process: Leasing to Operations**

- > Construction and Operations Plan (COP) submitted December 17, 2020
- > Target COP approval by Mid-2023
- Construction and Commissioning 2024 2026

Dominion Energy Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind **Commercial** Timeline 2024-2026 2023 BOEM COP Approval 2022 2021 2020 2020 0) 2019 0) 2019 2016 2013 Contact Us CoastalVAWind@DominionEnergy.com



\*COP = Construction & Operations Plan \*BOEM = Bureau of Ocean Energy Management \*SCC = State Corporation Commission 100020R229

## **CVOW Commercial Project**

**Ongoing Marine Activities** 

- Geotechnical and Geophysical (G&G) survey operations within the lease area and along the export cable route towards Virginia Beach began in April 2020 and will continue into Spring 2021.
- Survey vessels have spent over 1,000 vessel days on the project since April 2020.
- Vessel crew, survey crew and protected species observers (PSOs) are provided briefings regarding regional commercial and recreational fisheries; all fisheries observations in the survey area are recorded.







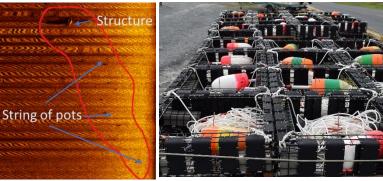


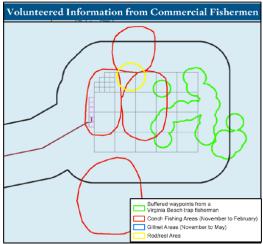


# **Commercial Fisheries Observations**

- In the ~1,000 vessel days that survey vessels have been active on the project from April 2020 through January 2021, only one commercial fishing vessel has been observed operating within the Lease Area
  - A single BSB Pot fisherman is known to work the lease area, observed on multiple occasions
  - A seasonal whelk pot fishery is just now (January) ramping up within the lease area
  - No mobile gear fishing has been observed within the lease area; a minimal amount of commercial vessel transit activity has been observed
- Fishing activity observed along export cable corridor includes:
  - Whelk pot, Spiny Dogfish bottom gillnet & Shrimp trawl
  - Experimental Shrimp beam trawl inside 3-miles and twin-rig trawl just outside 3-miles





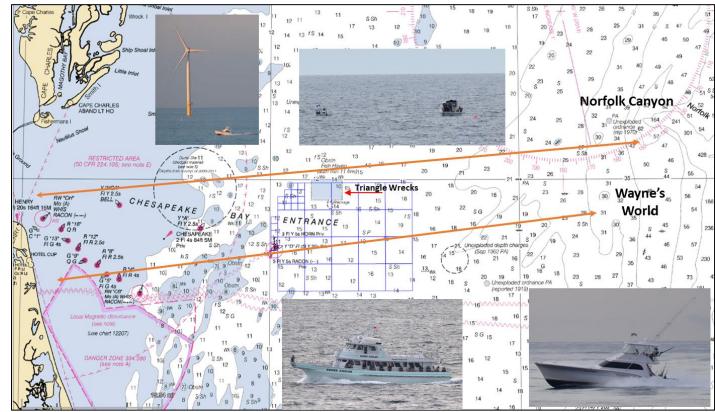


Collaborative Fisheries Planning for Virginia's Offshore Wind Energy Area (Final Report) 2016



# **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





# **Thank you!**

# **Questions & Discussion**

## **Contact Us:**

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