SPRING 2023

LONG ISLAND ROAD WARRIORS

A PUBLICATION OF THE LONG ISLAND CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION

ALANNA RUSSO

Working behind the scenes to lead Long Island down its path to become an energy hub

INSIDE:

Equinor Connects Suppliers with Offshore Wind Projects and The Renewable Energy Industry

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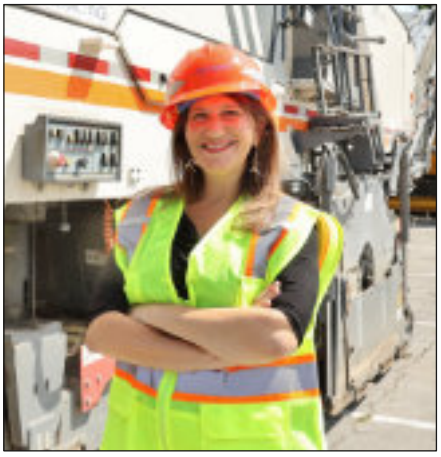
WELCOME TO THE SPRING EDITION OF *ROAD WARRIORS*!

BY JAIME FRANCHI



Little darlins, it has surely been a long, cold, lonely winter. The frigid temps, even though they were sporadic, ran roughshod throughout our roadways causing much-needed repairs. Springtime is the best time for our friends in labor to spring into action, paving our way to safer, better highways.

As the weather warms and the blossoms bloom, I find myself pondering the state of Long Island, particularly how we meet the rigorous renewable energy goals set by the governor, while harnessing the natural resources we have on this island, situated as we are surrounded by water. The answer, my friends, is blowin' in the offshore wind. In fact, you can't seem to be able to take two steps in any direction without catching wind of Long Island's industry-leading proposed offshore wind projects. If the word of 2020 was "pivot," then 2023 can claim the word "transformational." However, it is not hyperbole to posit that the offshore wind industry touches so many facets of Long Island's economy, from science, education and engineering to environment, labor, energy and energy storage. Long Island sits at the helm of another leg of the industrial revolution where it will make generational impact on our way of life.

In this issue of *Road Warriors*, we delve deeply into the Long Island offshore wind industry. In our cover article, meet the illustrious **Alanna Russo**, who heads up Community Offshore Wind for National Grid Ventures. Alanna discusses being a woman in the male-dominated energy field, how she is led by her curious instincts and how taking risks in her career have taken her to ever-more interesting places. **Katherine Zimmerman** of Haugland Group talks about the onshore contracting work the company is working on for the South Fork Wind Project. **Sammy Chu**, Chairman of the Green Building Council of Long Island weighs in on the adoption of green hydrogen. **John R. Durso**, **Matty Aracich** and **Lou Petrizz**o discuss the new National Offshore Wind Training Center (NOWTC) on the Suffolk County Community College campus in Brentwood. LICA Executive Director speaks to the government's tendency to legislate at a faster rate than technology can develop—and suggests that maybe we reconsider doing that. Finally, **Don Clavin**, the Supervisor of the Town of Hempstead discusses renewable energy initiatives that are currently being implemented in Hempstead Town.

As always, we thank you for the work you do to keep Long Island running. We look forward to the kickoff of the spring letting season and urge everyone to stay safe out there.

Thank you,

Jaime

IN THE BEGINNING, A NEW CREATION

BY MARC HERBST

IN THE BEGINNING, WHEN GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH, THE EARTH WAS A FORMLESS VOID AND DARKNESS COVERED THE FACELESS DEEP, WHILE THE WIND OF GOD SWEPT OVER THE FACE OF THE WATER. (GENESIS 1:1-2)

Our Judeo-Christian culture is familiar with the above opening verses of the Bible's creation story. However, many other creation stories from antiquity exist across different cultures and civilizations. Most involve water and wind. The creation stories are often interpreted symbolically as the shaping of the universe and the emergence of life from chaos. The concept of creation also involves the idea of stewardship or our responsibility to care for the earth and all its creatures.

The Hebrew word *Ruach* is found in the Old Testament more than 400 times. Its Greek comparison, *pneuma*, is used 254 times in the New Testament. These words are used interchangeably to mean "wind," "breath," and "spirit."

Today, we turn our attention to *ruach* – the wind, the spirit, the breath – sweeping across the face of the water. For our community, we are welcoming a new creation, offshore wind power production. We can see the turbines as modern-day examples of stewardship. They harness the wind's power, a form of natural energy, to produce electricity without emitting harmful pollutants. This helps to preserve the environment for future generations and promotes sustainability. The wind turbines themselves could be thought of as modern-day creations, shaped and designed by human ingenuity to help us care for the earth in sustainable ways.

The amount of electricity generated on Long Island varies depending on factors such as demand, time of year, and the availability of different energy sources. However, much of the electricity on Long Island is now generated through a combination of natural gas, nuclear power, and renewable energy sources like wind and solar power. In 2020, Long Island's peak electricity demand reached 5,243 MW, with around 60% of that electricity coming from natural gas-fired power plants, 28% from nuclear power, and about 12% from renewable energy sources. Long Island has set a goal to achieve 100% renewable energy by 2040, which is expected to significantly increase the amount of electricity generated by wind and solar power on the island.

Long Island's heavy construction industry is filled with a spirit of excitement as we navigate the tailwinds of change toward renewable energy production. Yet, while we advance in this direction, industry proponents will face chaotic waters of opposition and unrealistic regulations. For example, the mystical Leviathon from Biblical times seems to appear with opponents blaming recent beached whales on offshore wind turbines (yet to be installed). Regulators are also enthusiastically passing rules that ambitiously exceed anticipated technological advantages. New York State's "Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, adopted in 2019, as an example, has goals many professionals predict are unachievable. We continue to pursue the spirit of the laws but worry many provisions are simply hot air.

Nonetheless, we know that there is something blowing in the wind. The spirit of change in our energy production is exciting. We look forward to welcoming the construction opportunities in this new endeavor as we breathe successfully.

ALANNA RUSSO'S GOT BIG, BIG ENERGY

As Director of Strategic Engagement and Business Development for National Grid Ventures, Alanna Russo is helping to put Long Island's renewable energy projects on the map.

New York State enjoys its notoriety as a leader. We build the tallest buildings, adopt the most aggressive laws and employ the loudest political officials. Our reputation as a state reflects the substance of who we are as people: ambitious, daring and not prone to siting in the back of the room.

Consistently, Governor Hochul, on the heels of the former governor, has laid out a nation-leading climate agenda, which has an offshore wind goal of 9,000 megawatts by 2035. New York now has five offshore wind projects in active development – the largest offshore wind pipeline in the nation totaling more than 4,300 megawatts and representing nearly 50 percent of the capacity needed. Long Island, being a long island surrounded by wind-generating water on all sides, sits at the head of this table.

Alanna Russo, Director of Strategic Engagement and Business Development of National Grid Ventures, is one of the Long Islanders working behind the scenes to lead Long Island down its path to become a renewable energy hub the likes that will be duplicated around the state, nation, and quite possibly, the world. Alanna herself is the personification of New York: glittery, commanding and sharp. Alanna lives our state motto—Excelsior, meaning "ever upward," in both her personal and professional life: she is always on the lookout for an opportunity for growth.

Alanna's professional path was non-traditional: she began her undergraduate degree after high school but took a pause to marry and have children. She finished her bachelor's degree in her thirties and completed her MBA in 2021. "It was important for me to set an example for my children to always continue to educate yourself. Go after your goals and your dreams," she said. "I knew I wanted to be a leader at National Grid, so I worked to get my MBA, which put me in a better position to take on that role."

Being a woman in the male dominated field of energy, Alanna is always cognizant that she needs to work hard for her success. "As a woman in energy, I work to make sure I have all the skills and knowledge that my male counterparts would potentially have."

She credits her parents with instilling in her both her drive and her self-reliance. Alanna fostered deep roots in the village of Huntington being raised by hardworking divorced parents who each carved their own professional paths there: her mother a sales associate for more than 40 years at Mitchell's (formally Marsh's), her father a bar/restaurant owner of The Shamrock since 1979.

"Both of my parents worked full time while raising two strong, young women together. Female empowerment was always promoted in our house. My parents taught my sister and I to have confidence, know our worth, educate ourselves and not rely on others for substance of well-being."

That foundation gave Alanna the impetus to take risks, embrace ever-growing responsibilities, and keep her eyes on the horizon for ever more opportunities. While her children were small, she began her career at the Huntington YMCA in community relations/fundraising. Alanna always had a strong pull to give back to her community and was able to channel that interest working with individuals within the Huntington Township who maybe wouldn't have access to our wellness facilities, aftercare, summer camp or swim lessons. Being able to be a part of their fundraising team or member service team and allowing that access made her feel good knowing she was making an impact on people in her very own community. But it was also paving a way for her next opportunity: National Grid.

She came about a career in the energy sector through a sense of curiosity. Through Leadership Huntington, an organization that brings together community leaders in the town to educate and connect them. Alanna toured National Grid's Northport power plant. There her curiosity was piqued, and her future was paved.

"The experience enlightened me," she said. "I knew that when I turned my lights or gas stove on, or heated my home, I took for granted that this power was just there for me at my fingertips. This program helped me realize that my electricity was generated from this facility that I've seen my whole life from Crab Meadow Beach. Coming to the control center and being able to see how it works and the people behind the work stirred something in me. I started educating myself on energy, something I never learned about in school."

Curiosity led to research. Research on the National Grid website led to job postings, which in turn, led to her entryway into the company as Community Coordinator, where she served as National Grid's liaison to the non-profit community and worked on community impact goals and corporate giving.

A position opened in National Grid Ventures, which sits outside the regulated National Grid utility business. They operate outside of National Grid's core regulated business in the US and UK where they develop and operate large-scale clean energy projects. It was an area of the business that Alanna hadn't been involved with before. In May 2021, she took over the role of Director of Strategic Engagement for National Grid Ventures, Northeast. In this role, her primary focus now is their offshore wind project, Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture between RWE and National Grid.

"This spoke to me because I didn't know much about offshore wind, but knew it would be an important part of a clean energy future. I knew it was more prevalent in Europe and China, but not here in the states, so there was an opportunity and I wanted to be a part of that."

National Grid, through their joint venture, submitted a proposal to NYSERDA in January for building an offshore wind farm in the New York Bight to serve New Yorkers, which will make multi-billion-dollar investments in economic development.

"The economic benefits package is what excites me most about our proposal. We are offering benefits like a $10 million childcare program to support parents working in or training for offshore wind and investing in workforce programs designed to favor disadvantaged communities and minority and women-owned businesses. Our proposal also focuses on localizing the supply chain and building a project with parts made in New York. This gives us an opportunity to bring good-paying jobs to the state and invest in disadvantaged communities that have traditionally been left behind. This piece spoke to my roots. At the heart of what I do, I want to make a difference in communities.

There's no better job in the world than being able to make money and invest that money back into communities." she concludes.

With that much energy coming into Long Island from offshore wind, what does that mean as far as relieving us of our reliance on fossil fuels?

Right now, the source for that electricity is from our power plants and generation facilities which is generated by burning natural gas. By bringing in offshore wind, needed infrastructure is battery storage so as the wind turbines are spinning and electricity is being generated, it can be stored for efficient later use. Additionally, the transmission system on Long Island is dated and needs efficiencies and updates, particularly to connect more renewables. New York State Electric Infrastructure System Operator (NYSEISO) identified a weakness in our transmission so there will be an award given to a project for updating and modernizing our transmission system, which will help with our consumption of electric.

For that piece, National Grid is a partner in NY Transco, which is a joint venture with other utilities that has submitted a proposal for that project as well: https://www.propelnyenergy.com In September, in conjunction with climate week, they issued our Northeast Clean Energy Vision, which posits Long Island as a perfect example to be the clean energy hub for the future—and a template to be replicated nation- and world-wide: https://www.nationalgrid.com/us/northeast-clean-energy-vision

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture between RWE Renewables and National Grid, today submitted a proposal to the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) to provide New York State with clean energy from 1.3 GW of offshore wind capacity to power nearly 500,000 homes. The bid submission was in response to the State's third competitive offshore wind solicitation, adding to their current portfolio of five offshore wind projects. NYSERDA is expected to announce the winning clean energy suppliers in early spring 2023.

The key components of the proposal support Governor Hochul's leadership in the creation of a sustainable clean energy economy that delivers robust economic development and jobs to New Yorkers, including, but not limited to:

- Creating over 4,600 good-paying jobs through the year 2033, across the supply chain in New York, prioritizing those from disadvantaged communities, local companies and the union workforce.
- Delivering over $3 billion in economic benefits to New York. The project will support the state in reaching its goal of directing 40 percent of overall benefits of clean energy spending to disadvantaged communities.
- Offering cutting edge agreements with suppliers that establish New York as the premier East Coast offshore wind supply chain hub. These include:
  - Collaborating with General Electric (GE) to deliver a nation-leading opportunity to localize both blade and nacelle facilities.
  - Bringing steel fabrication and processing to Orange County, creating union jobs and exceeding the solicitation's target for US steel.
  - Investing in a Staten Island port facility for staging and assembly of wind turbines, which will contribute to good-paying jobs in the borough.
- Developing a $100 million package of economic development and workforce programs designed to favor disadvantaged communities, New York Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE) and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOB) businesses.
- Supporting parents who are working in and training for offshore wind careers with $10 million in childcare services, in partnership with United Way of New York State.
- Investing in a just energy transition at National Grid's E.F. Barrett Clean Energy Center on Long Island, including energy storage and an ambitious opportunity to support the community by retraining existing, local workers for clean energy jobs.

"Our Northeast Clean Energy Vision is that clean energy hubs will populate the Northeast. Within these hubs, clean energy technologies like solar, storage, offshore wind, and modernized transmission will work together. On Long Island, we have a solar project in Calverton, battery storage projects in East Hampton and Montauk, a clean hydrogen pilot in Hempstead, a generation facility that we are looking to fuel with clean hydrogen, and of course our Community Offshore Wind project."

This way, Alanna can continue what has become her life's work: giving back to the community. As a mother, being on the forefront of technology that is helpful for the planet, that is her legacy.

"We're leaving something better for our children than how we found it. That's what I teach my children to do. I also push my team at National Grid to always bring things up a level and have a positive impact. When we think about community investment, who is this touching? What lasting impact will this have?"

AN OFFSHORE THING

BY KATHERINE ZIMMERMAN
Vice President, Marketing & Communications, Haugland Group LLC

The South Fork Wind project represents New York's first offshore wind project and its investment in a clean energy future. Haugland Energy was the primary contractor selected to perform the onshore civil scope of work which includes duct bank installation and the construction of a new 138kV substation. The project took place in the Town of East Hampton and will service over 70,000 PSEG customers.

The duct bank installation is entirely underground, spanning 4 miles through public road right of ways and the Long Island Railroad right of ways. These duct banks include the installation of 180,000 linear feet of conduit and 25,000 cubic yards of thermal concrete and fluidized thermal backfill. The construction of the onshore substation took place on a 2-acre parcel and included the connection of the newly installed electric transmission lines and the inter-connection of the existing PSEG substation transmission lines.

A major focus and emphasis on the South Fork Wind project was the employment and utilization of local trades sourced from MWBE status businesses. Haugland Energy employed approximately 80 tradesmen that fit this category, strengthening the local economy, and providing high paying union jobs to many of its members. In addition to the local direct labor on the job, South Fork Wind utilized local vendors throughout their supply chain including asphalt, concrete and other materials used. As part of the underlying benefit this project brought the Town of East Hampton, workers filled the local delis and shops daily throughout the project's entirety.

As the on-land portion of the South Fork Wind project nears its completion, Haugland Energy has worked nearly 100,000 man-hours without injury to the workforce or a member of the public. Additionally, the rural setting of this project lends itself to potential environmental and wildlife considerations. To date, there has been no environmental issues and the strict adherence to wildlife preservation has preserved all native species habitats.

As New York State works towards meeting their clean energy goals, the completion of the South Fork Wind project represents a major step in the right direction. The benefits of clean renewable energy and the focus on a local workforce development will continue to strengthen our economy and pave a bright future for generations to come.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DON'T LET THE DOGMATIC TALE WAG THE CLEAN ENERGY DOG

BY SAMMY CHU

New York State has set an ambitious target of achieving 70 percent renewable electricity by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2040. To achieve these goals, the New York Battery and Energy Storage Technology Consortium (NY BEST) has predicted that statewide, we will require 10GW of short-term energy storage and an additional 10GW of long-term energy storage. Our short-term storage needs can be met using batteries, which are beginning to see greater adoption in the form of both the utility and behind the meter installations. Our path to deploying long term energy storage assets is less clear, but one of the best prospects is scaled deployment of green hydrogen.

Adoption of green hydrogen will require significant investments in infrastructure. One of the most efficient methods of infrastructure investment should be retrofitting existing natural gas infrastructure to accommodate green hydrogen. The Town of Hempstead's HyGrid project is a prime example of how New York should be exploring the potential of green hydrogen. The project is aimed at developing a green hydrogen production facility that will be powered by its existing wind turbine. The hydrogen produced will be used to power fleet vehicles and will inject excess hydrogen into National Grid's system to blend hydrogen with natural gas. However, fully capitalizing on innovations yielded from the Hempstead project and other green hydrogen initiatives, of which there are many being proposed as part of the NYSERDA led Northeast Hydrogen Coalition's application for DOE Clean Energy Hydrogen Hub funding, will depend on the availability of infrastructure to transport and store hydrogen. This is where the state's existing natural gas infrastructure can play a crucial role.

Many advocates of renewable energy argue that the continued investment in natural gas infrastructure is counterproductive to the state's clean energy goals. However, it is also important to note that the utilization of natural gas will be necessary for the foreseeable future. Green hydrogen production and deployment will take time to scale up, and in the meantime, natural gas can be used to generate electricity, providing a reliable source of power while we allow for practical hydrogen solutions to develop, become part of the energy mix, and ultimately be ready to displace natural gas altogether.

A dogmatic resistance to gas infrastructure investments will hamper New York's transition to green hydrogen as well as stunt the deployment of other worthy climate solutions such as methane capture and anaerobic digestion. While natural gas is a fossil fuel, it is currently irreplaceable as a transitional commodity while we develop scalable and economical applications for green hydrogen. Existing natural gas pipelines and storage facilities can be repurposed for the transportation and storage of hydrogen, reducing the cost and time needed to build new infrastructure.

The transition to a clean energy economy will require significant investments in infrastructure, including gas pipelines and storage facilities. By repurposing existing natural gas assets, New York can support the growth of green hydrogen while reducing the cost and time needed to achieve our sustainability goals.

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EQUINOR BRINGS SUPPLY CHAIN EXPO TO LI

BY HARRISON FEUER

Local Business owners often ask us, "How can our business become part of the offshore wind industry?" As New York's largest offshore wind developer, Equinor and its partner bp recognize that our industry can do more than just put clean power into the grid. We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to lead the way in building a homegrown industry in New York, with a key part focused right here on Long Island.

Building these projects off Long Island's coast is a large-scale and multi-dimensional effort. Equinor and bp's Empire Wind and Beacon Wind projects will provide enough offshore wind power to electrify two million New York homes—a major infrastructure initiative. But there are a number of moving parts involved in building and supporting these projects. Creating a local supply chain to help guide the industry forward is a critical part of these transformative efforts.

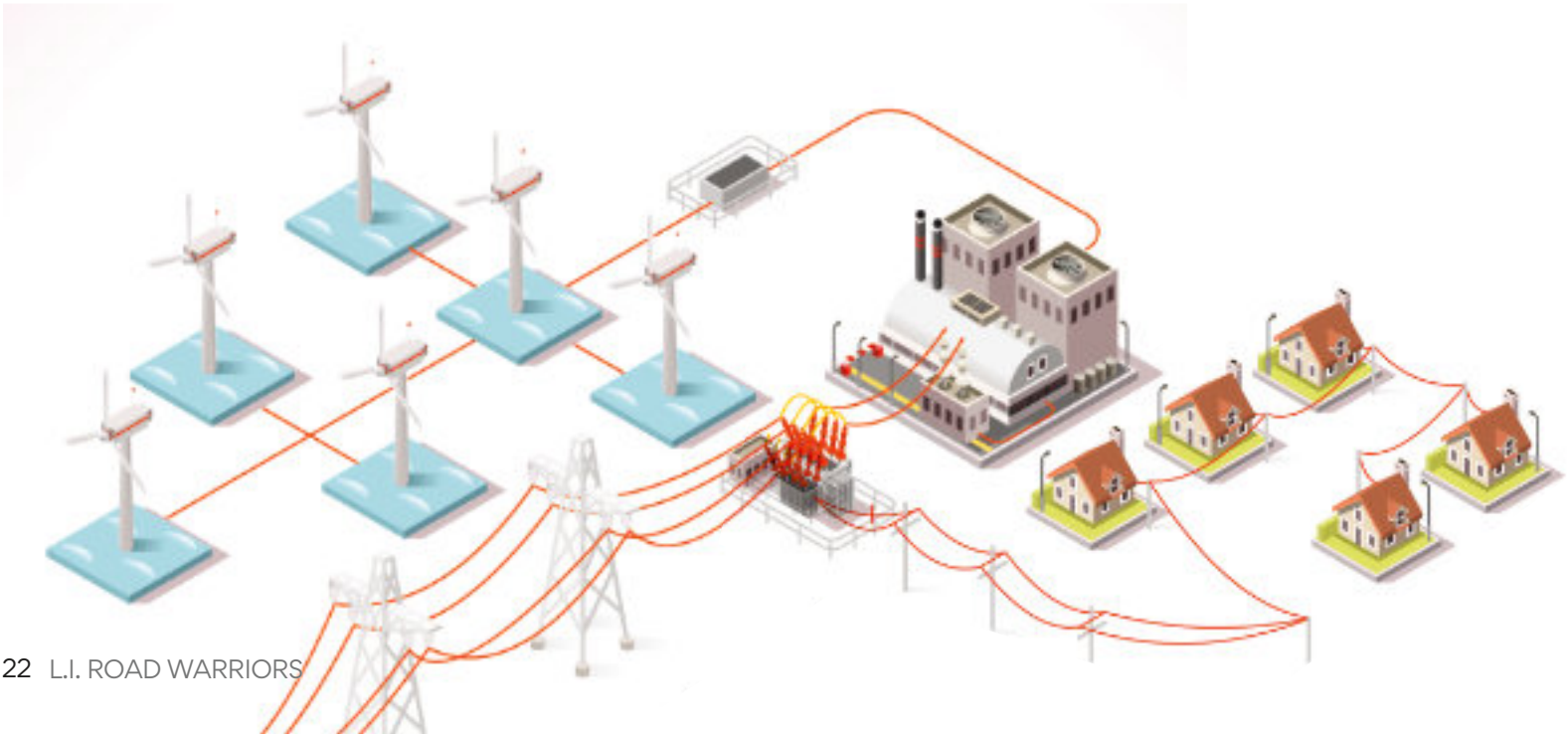
Equinor launched a series of supply chain expos across the state to help connect local suppliers with our projects and the renewable energy industry. We held our first supplier expo in the Capital Region in December 2022, followed by an expo in New York City last month, and one here on Long Island this month at Farmingdale State College, at the nexus of where the aerospace and defense industry powered our country's defenses—and resulted in Long Island becoming one of the nation's first thriving suburbs.

Long Island companies can play an instrumental role in creating a foundation for the long-term future of offshore wind. Empire Wind and Beacon Wind are just the start. Offshore wind is going to be around for decades to come, creating jobs and opportunities for a wide range of businesses. We're at the ground-floor of what will be a lasting and durable new U.S. industry.

We welcomed at our Long Island supplier event a multitude of local and regional manufacturers, suppliers and contractors, ranging from concrete and rebar companies to contractors like electricians and seafarers, connecting them with key offshore wind project suppliers and vendors that will help bring our projects to life.

With the Equinor-bp partnership planning to build four wind farms off the Long Island coast, these projects will provide an entryway for Long Island businesses to create components for offshore wind farms and train their workforces for careers in offshore wind. Offshore wind is creating the opportunity to demonstrate what local innovators can do, and is providing opportunities for innovative Long Island businesses to once again drive an important American industry to the future.

Harrison Feuer is the New York Director of Public Affairs for Equinor.



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LONG ISLAND'S NATIONAL OFFSHORE WIND TRAINING CENTER

BY JOHN R. DURSO, MATTY ARACICH & LOU PETRIZZO

The clean energy future has arrived. Construction has started on the South Fork Wind Farm, and four larger offshore projects are advancing through permitting off Long Island's coast. More projects will come on line to meet the state's goal of 9000 MW of offshore wind power by 2030. In Suffolk County, the establishment of the National Offshore Wind Training Center (NOWTC) brings a focus to local aspirations for the success of the emerging industry.

A critical piece of the new wind developments is gaining confidence that the men and women who go out to sea to work on the wind farms will come home safely. The Global Wind Organization (GWO) has established fundamental safety requirements that are backed by developers throughout the industry. Everyone who works offshore is required to take prescribed courses which will lead to a safety certification. That is the industries' ticket for working offshore.

Understanding the importance of a well-prepared workforce, Orsted and Eversource – partners in the 880 MW Sunrise Offshore Wind project – committed to a $10 million investment in GWO training. A unique partnership among the Long Island Federation of Labor, The Building and Construction Trades Council of Nassau and Suffolk Counties, and Suffolk County Community College brought the concept to life and established the National Offshore Wind Training Center (NOWTC). The three organizations have worked closely with an advisory board including the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Utility Workers International Union Local 1-2, Operating Engineers International Union Local 30, the BlueGreen Alliance and Minority Millennials.

NOWTC partnered with Maersk Training M/S, a subsidiary of the International Shipping Firm A.P. Moeller Maersk, which has launched training facilities across the world to a create state-of-the-art GWO training center in New York, right here on Long Island. With years of experience in safety preparation at sea, Maersk Training will provide required GWO certified safety and technical training including sea survival, working at heights, fire awareness, first aid and blade repair.

NOWTC will provide safety certifications for Long Island's unionized construction sector going to work in the industry under Project Labor Agreements, a clear signal that this new industry will uphold high standards for pay and benefits as well as safety as the industry grows.

Leaders of the training center will work to generate public support for offshore wind. Labor, environmental and community organizations will continue to work in coalition advancing public education related to climate change, renewable energy and union jobs.

NOWTC will be collocated at the Brentwood Center, a learning and community economic hub envisioned by Suffolk County leaders. The Brentwood Center is designed to be a space for young adults and students to be introduced to career opportunities across the economy. This strategic collocation will provide awareness and exposure to offshore wind, manufacturing and other related technical occupations, which only stand to benefit surrounding communities.

Offshore wind developers and industry suppliers are proposing to set up displays discussing the kind of employment opportunities available in the renewable energy sector. Suffolk Community College will be able to offer pipeline programs to the offshore wind industry for youth and adults as well as greater enrichment for its student populations. The Institute for Workforce Advancement (IWA) is working alongside NOWTC to build a composite laboratory at the site to train in developing manufacturing processes including wind blade repair.

We are proud to join together to fight climate change, provide new opportunities for Long Island's workforce and strengthen our local communities.

John R. Durso is President of the Long Island Federation of Labor; Matthew Aracich is the President of the Building and Construction Trades Council of Nassau and Suffolk Counties; and Lou Petrizzo is the General Counsel to Suffolk County Community College.

RENEWABLE ENERGY IN AMERICA'S LARGEST TOWNSHIP

BY DON CLAVIN

While the Town of Hempstead remains the largest township in America, I have also made it my mission to transform Hempstead Town into the greenest township in America. Reaching a total population of close to 800,000 residents, the town has a responsibility to its taxpayers and to the environment. Both responsibilities often go hand in hand, because what's good for the environment also tends to be good for the taxpayer's wallet. Funded through environmental grants and conservative budgeting, we have several renewable energy initiatives that are currently being implemented in Hempstead Town.

At the center of the town's renewable energy initiatives is the Point Lookout Clean Energy Park, an area next to our town's Conservation and Waterways Department that demonstrates the use of wind, solar and green hydrogen power. In fact, we just celebrated the 10-year anniversary of the installation of a 121-foot-tall wind turbine at the park. This turbine has generated more than 2.5 GWh of clean renewable energy in the past decade and continues to offset energy costs of nearby facilities. What's more, the turbine also powers the hydrogen fueling station right next door.

Speaking of the hydrogen fueling station, the Town of Hempstead has recently partnered with National Grid to expand its capacity. The HyGrid Project, one of the first in the nation and the largest on the East Coast, will blend hydrogen into the existing energy distribution system to heat hundreds of nearby homes and provide fuel for municipal vehicles in the future.

I have made it my mission to set Hempstead Town on track for something I like to call "Vision 2040" – an earnest initiative of upgrading the entire municipal fleet into clean energy vehicles by 2040. We have already added multiple electric vehicles to our fleet and have even experimented with an electric-powered sanitation truck. We are looking forward to adding hydrogen-powered vehicles to our fleet in the very near future.

In addition to wind and hydrogen energy, the Town of Hempstead has been a longtime promoter of solar energy. We have installed solar panels throughout our township, mainly in conservation and park areas that see a tremendous amount of sunlight, to power nearby municipal buildings. Solar energy has proven to be a cost-effective alternative energy, and the town will continue to implement solar panels all throughout the town.

The Town of Hempstead is a proud leader in green energy, and we have been recognized numerous times for our commitment to conservation. I applaud our hardworking Conservation and Waterways Department for their numerous environmentally friendly projects – such as restoring monarch butterfly habitats, protecting our thriving piping plover population, utilizing oysters to safeguard marine ecosystems and working with local environmental organizations and residents to keep our beaches and waterways clean. We reaffirm our commitment to the environment every day, and I'm delighted to deliver a leaner, greener Hempstead Town.

International Union of Operating Engineers

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