

THE FUTURE OF WIND POWERING AMERICA WEBINAR

November 3, 2010

Coordinator: Welcome and thank you for standing by. I would like to inform all participants that today's conference is being recorded and if you have any objections you may disconnect at this time. Now I will be turning the meeting over to Ms. Michele Desautels. You may begin.

Michele DesAutels: Thank you, I appreciate that (Heather). Hi everyone, this is Michele Desautels of the Department of Energy Wind program. Before we actually get started I wanted to bring attention to what you see on the screen. For those who are not on Live Meeting what we've done is we put a poll question to understand who is actually on the call.

You won't be able to answer if you're on the call and not on Live Meeting but for those who are on the computer on Live Meeting and you have not made your poll choice I will make the poll results available but in the next 30 seconds or so, we've got about 50 people on the call so I'm wondering if you could make your poll choice in the next 30 seconds and then I'll let everyone know who's on the call and we can see who's listening in.

So it's the first poll choice is wind working group lead, second is wind working group member, third is wind for school facility, fourth is wind application center, fifth is federal or state government, next one is NGO and wind industry, and then the last one is other.

So you've got a few more seconds if you could make your choice and then I will close the polls and make it available to everyone to see just so we know who all's on the call.

All right, I am going to close the polls. All right, and now I'm making them available. So as of the time I had the polls opened until - it looks like the majority of the people are in federal or state government and there's about ten people who are described as other, which I don't know who you are but it's great that we've got a wide range of people who are listening in to this call.

So like I said, there's about 60 people which includes all the speakers and such, so thank you for attending this call. I will switch over to the content. And this is the first in a series of webinars that you're going to - we're going to try and do on a regular basis. The other speaker on the call today, this is a Wind Powering America webinar, November 3 - so it's Michele Desautels at DOE Wind Program and also Ian Baring-Gould at NREL. Ian, would you like to say hi?

Ian Baring-Gould: Hello everybody.

Michele DesAutels: And want to welcome all of you and we've got a number of reasons for having these calls. One, is we're trying to provide some regular contact between DOE, NREL, and the state wind working groups and other members in the partner network. We also want to introduce you to all the various team members, you may or may not know who provide help and resources and support to Wind Power America here at DOE and at NREL. And we also want to talk about FY11 and there's a lot to talk about from my perspective.

So what we're going to try and cover today is introduce you all to the team, give you a bit of an overview of what the DOE Wind Power program covers, some may know, some may not know, so we just want to get everyone on a level playing field. We're going to touch a little bit about the WPA strategies, stakeholder analysis that's being accomplished this next year.

Ian will cover FY11 implementation and then we'll come back to what are the intended outcomes that we're trying to get with this strategy, and then open it up to the audience at the end.

So what we'd like to do for Q&A and I see someone's already utilizing the technology, there is a question-and-answer section where you can ask a question and we can either respond to all on the Live Meeting but because some people are calling in we'll make sure that we address all the questions we can on the phone given the time allowed. And we are going to the top of the hour so we hope that we're able to accomplish all of the questions that you ask.

Okay, so let's get started. For those who have not met me, Michele Desautels, I'm the DOE Wind Program lead for Wind Powering America. I am a presidential management fellow who actually started last week on my - I have to do a rotation to another agency and I am on detail to the Bureau of Land Management here in the DC office.

So I'm not very far to the DOE Wind Program office so I can still be connected but in my absence Ann Chion is my backup for the next 90 days and she'll be continuing to work with Dwight Bailey, some of you may know Dwight who works at NETL, and Russell Raymond who you may have seen emails from who supports the DOE Wind Program.

And then there's a cadre of individuals, you've already met on the phone Ian Barring-Gould. There's Marguerite Kelly, Susan Fabio Hinnen, Ruth Baranowski, Julie Jones, and many, many others. And they play a lot of various roles such as technical assistance, developing communications, program support, contract management. So there's a large group of individual who try and make everything work.

And so you know, as part of my rotation I will be coming back at the end of April so I'll most likely see all of you at the Wind Powering America summit in May in Anaheim, California. So just wanted to introduce you all to the team. You may see some people in person, you may get emails from them, but there is a group of individuals who are trying to make things work with Wind Powering America.

And how does Wind Powering America fit within all of DOE's program goals. Why are we here? Why do Wind Powering America? And many of you know what the administration goals - you know, we're trying to reduce our carbon emissions, you know, there's energy security, and of course, we're trying to increase the number of jobs in renewable energy.

And for Department of Energy we focus on the R&D related to reducing the cost of energy, specifically of course for us for wind. And within energy efficiency and renewable energy, which is the subgroup at the Department of Energy for us, we've got a number of other things related to energy security, economic vitality, and of course, the public-private partnerships that we are all involved in.

So for the wind program we are trying to achieve - we're going to focus our passion on clean, affordable, reliable, domestic wind and, of course, water for the other part of our program. So these are the goals that we focus on that help drive what Wind Powering America does. So within that all the things that we do, we try to help reduce the cost of energy and also to address the barriers, 20% wind by 2030.

There are three main program areas for the Wind Program. They include the R, the research, the technology viability, which is working on state of the art

systems. There's the D, the development, which includes systems integration transmission, manufacturing, and also resource characterization. And then finally the team that Wind Powering America falls under is technology acceptance.

So there are a lot of issues related to siting, environmental, and workforce development. And so this is, you know, what Congress approves for the Wind Program, and within that Wind Powering America falls.

Now for those of you who may or may not know, as Congress approves what we do they are in something called a continuing resolution. So I just want to make you aware as we're going into FY11 all that we do is also constrained by the fact that we don't have an approved budget. We are in continuing resolution from the previous year.

So it does affect us and they're - we right now have a continuing resolution until mid-December so that, you know, is affecting a little bit what we do and how we do it. But we hopefully will continue to focus on providing technical support and assistance to the states.

So what is Wind Powering America? And this is the mission that we've been working on over the last year, it's to educate, engage, and enable critical stakeholders to make informed decisions about how wind energy contributes to the US electricity supply. So that is how - this is what we're trying to achieve with Wind Powering America.

And within that we've identified three main objectives to focus our efforts and that's to develop and disseminate information that's needed by those decision makers, we're going to continue to build on the existing partner network, and we want to add more people and we want to leverage the work that they're

doing, and of course, you know, with anything that we do we should be continually evaluating how we're doing it.

So looking at what are the mechanisms to provide you an opportunity to tell us how we can do our job better as well as provide Congress information to say, here's what we're achieving and here's how we're doing it.

So this is what FY11 is going - how we're going to be driving and the work that we're doing.

And the reason that we, you know, are focused on this is that over the past ten years Wind Powering America has achieved a lot. It's gone from 0% wind energy to 2% wind energy, which is I pointed on the July 2010 36,000 megawatts. While 20% wind energy is not a DOE goal it is a scenario that is researched and provided information on, we are working towards that.

So it's going to take a lot to accomplish it and it won't be the same type of things that we've done over the last ten years but we will build upon and learn from the best practices over the last ten years.

So while there may have been some low-hanging fruit how are we going to - as the industry's getting more complex, how are we going to accomplish that.

So what we are implementing and doing at DOE is understanding and analyzing the current situation. So we know that we have a rapidly changing industry. We know that we have limited resources, you know, given what we are appropriated from Congress as well as what's happening within the states. We know that there are new people coming to the table whether they are, you know, here in the United States or even from other countries. And we know things are very complex in regards to local, state, county permitting issues.

We realize that there are more players so there are opportunities to get more people involved, to leverage the resources of these other people, as well as to share what has happened in the past so we can learn on and build on for the future. So as part of the strategy we're going to conduct the stakeholder analysis and that stakeholder analysis is really going to understand who are the key players that might help or hinder the achievement of this 20% wind energy.

We also will engage with the critical stakeholders and then try and evaluate how well we're doing.

So I just want to make sure people understand that we are, you know, trying to build ourselves up for the future by conducting these stakeholder analysis.

I'm not sure what happened on that slide. It's a build slide.

So as part of our work we're going to continue to support the priority states and as topics are similar within, you know, multiple states we're transitioning to a wider, regional approach so that we can build on the existing resources within states that are focused on the same issues.

We are going to continue to provide technical support in states and regions. And like I said, there's a lot of expertise and information out there and how can the Department of Energy leverage that information and then provide it to those who may not have access to it.

So given that we've already got a set of strategic partnerships we're going to build some new ones so that we can continue the effort that's already been in place.

And of course, there's a number of key issues that are affecting states and regions. And we're hoping to address those based on the stakeholder analysis that we conduct.

And then on a regional or group basis, we may have an in person or other types of vehicles or mechanisms to approach how we address the issues within your state and region.

So from there I'd like to have Ian go into more of the details for FY11.

Ian Baring-Gould: So thank you Michele. And so the next section of this presentation is really trying to delve into more specifically the activities that we have planned for FY11. Again, harkening back to Michele's comment about where we continue to be in a continuing resolution which puts some constraints on what the program can do but what we see here is the plans for the Wind Powering America activity going forward.

And it follows a similar approach to what we've been doing for quite a few years so focusing on workforce development and then stakeholder outreach and engagement, and I'll go through each of these activities.

The first one is focused in the workforce development areas. You see still maintaining a large and expanded effort in the Wind for Schools activity, this is a project that Larry Flowers is currently leading but working to pull the five new states that we've brought in over the last summer based on the competitive solicitation that we did last year. And so helping them ramp up their programs, working with the original universities, original six states primarily to continue their program.

We have I think at this point over 60 turbines installed at host schools and so the six original states are going great guns but we need to keep them moving forwards and then start looking for more expanded outside funding for those states.

There are quite a few states that are interested in becoming affiliate members and so those are states that do not receive direct funding from the Department of Energy but are part of the Wind for Schools activity and so Larry's going to be working quite hard to kind of formalize the affiliates program and bring in a number of new states that have interest in becoming official Wind for School states.

We are also going to put a large focus on the K-12 education outreach in this next year now that we have the data systems are functioning quite well and being able to leverage that to move into the K-12 education and expanding that.

And then we're also planning on doing the annual Wind for School summit for Wind for School states in the January timeframe.

We are also continuing to expand work or maintain work in the kind of wider workforce initiative over the last year and a half. We've developed a wind workforce roadmap that's in draft form. It was released for public request for information over the summer, talked about it at the last two Wind Power events.

So we're working to publish that final document with (unintelligible) finalize it and publish it. And then we're also continuing to collaborate with all the other workforce areas or workforce activities that are going on with the other DOE programs.

Moving on to engagement and outreach, stakeholder engagement and outreach. This year we're putting a major focus on communication tools. As Michele talked about with Wind Powering America or with wind development expanding in the United States and with the kind of challenge of going from 2% to 20% it really becomes clear that Wind Powering America needs to become more of an information clearinghouse than kind of a central repository of information.

And so we're expanding our activities to be able to be more of an information portal so that we can use the Wind Powering America network to actively communicate success stories from one state to another, from one region to another, so that instead of Wind Powering America being kind of the central point we just pass through information that - of all the work that all of you out in the field are doing.

And so we're going to be formalizing a monthly webinar series. All of or most of you have probably received the first few versions of the eNewsletter, which we will continue to do. We're undergoing a major revamping of the WPA website, again, looking to make it much more - expand the abilities to allow better cross communication, cross-state communication as compared to information that's up there for people to digest.

And then we're also moving away from print communications to a more web and electronic version mainly due to funding issues. It costs a lot of money to produce a pamphlet and since at this point it's - most people are downloading them anyway, it allows us to provide more materials out there for people to use instead of creating more paper.

We're also looking to leverage new and old partnerships. As Michele mentioned, moving to a more competitive regional focus, which is a drive from the Department of Energy. We will plan to support the priority states at a reduced level as we make this transition into a more regional focus with the activities in FY11 specifically focused at capturing the lessons learned and success stories from the last three years of the priority state funding.

We plan on conducting regional meetings to capture the state feedback, that's something that we hope to do in the January-February timeframe so bring state groups together to really address or try to identify regional needs and success stories which we hope will then feed into the competitive regional activities that will happen later in the year. And then, of course, we're still planning on the all-state summit happening at Wind Power.

Continuing on the stakeholder engagement concept, we are planning on building on the in-depth stakeholder analysis that Michele introduced earlier to update key stakeholders and then taking the next step to make sure that the products at Wind Powering America produces - meets the needs of the stakeholders and that certainly includes all of you on the phone.

And so as you kind of identify needs it's quite important that you provide that information back to us so that we can put it into the queue and make sure that we are able to do the best that we can, clearly continued efforts in best practice sharing and trying to provide the kind of national focus for all of the state and regional activities, all of the work that everybody out in the field is doing.

We're planning on expanding the Jedi models so updating the sections for wind, natural gas, and coal; putting in a transmission analysis model that allows us or allows you to better articulate the economic impact that

transmission can have. We all know that transmission is one of the key barriers to the development of wind technology as we get to the 20% realm and one of the problems we clearly face is transmission, generally brings electrons from one place to another place, and the people that sit close to the transmission line don't necessarily like that idea.

And so one of the ways that we can address this is to try and identify what the economic impact for those individuals for the implementation of that transmission line so that we can better let stakeholders know what the impacts of that are.

And then we're tentatively planning on doing an offshore wind module for the Jedi. Offshore wind is, I'm sure most people know, is becoming a much more popular activity, very large support by the Department of Energy organization. So enabling better understanding of the local economic impacts of offshore wind is going to be critical to moving it forwards.

We also have some expanded technology-specific activities in small wind and then a tentative one in offshore, again, depending on the funding situation and continuing resolution.

At this point in time, we are planning on ramping down Wind Powering America's activities in four Native American organizations and shifting that over more specifically to the Tribal Energy program, which is focused specifically on Native issues.

Another big area that we're planning on working in this year is pushing the inter-agency focus. If you look at the - we're at 2% nationally but if you look at the large federal entities like Department of Defense, they're only at 0.2%

renewable content or wind content. And so there's a very strong need for the federal sector to start pursuing wind directly.

And so another effort that's going to be led by Larry Flowers and Robi Robichaud, another of the Wind Powering America folk here at NREL, is to really address or to try to put more focus on the federal sector and how we can support federal organizations from the Department of Interior to Department of Defense on incorporating expanding wind technologies into their activities to meet the federal goals that they have in front of them.

And this slide just lists a number of the activities that we've done in the past: The Wind Energy Application Training Symposium to federal managers, doing wind resource assessments, technical experts, and things of that nature, so we'll be expanding that activity.

And then the intended outcomes, Michele, did you want to pick this up?

Michele DesAutels: Sure, sure. Thanks Ian, I appreciate that. So you can see from my slides, from Ian's slides that we're continuing the effort for Wind Powering America and we need to build on all of the last ten year's efforts. We need to understand what worked, what didn't work, and that's one of the things that I think is going to be a great outcome from this next year is to understand that information.

So not only are we trying to increase the knowledge within the Wind Powering America network but also adding to it for the industry. We want to not only put mechanisms in place for you to share amongst the Wind Powering America network but also to share outside of the network. And then also, DOE is always looking at how it can improve so we are, you know,

understanding what has worked well, what has been an impact, and then trying to readjust how we do things for the future years.

And of course, given that, you know, building on those short-term outcomes we're hoping to see deployment of wind energy within the states and in the regions. So we know that's, you know - the first one is what's important to DOE.

We're really trying to help to build the capacity within the states and regions. And then the intermediate term is very important, not only to DOE but also to the wind industry. And then long term how we see this is that we're improving economic development, we're lowering the cost of energy, and again we're tying the resources and the people and the activities over the course of the years to long-term outcomes that are important to the administration.

So we're trying to make sure that we are accomplishing what we need on the state level on a short-term basis but also keeping focus on that long term.

So some of the things that you can do to help us is to try and tell us what's working well and also what you'd like to see different.

So for the - for FY11 we're going to be building this in-depth stakeholder analysis. Because the industry has gotten so complex, we can't touch on every single stakeholder. We need to try and focus on the key decision makers that are going to affect those short and long-term outcomes. And also, we need to develop these new partnerships. So Ian and the rest of the team are going to be working to understand within the states and regions who are those partnerships.

And DOE is investing in innovative communication tools given what our constraints are at the federal government but we know that we can use blogs. We know that we can use - we're starting to use Facebook more at DOE so we're trying to leverage what communication tools are out there to help you to share the information that's working and what's not working well.

And it is very important for DOE to start working with it's sister-brother agencies because we are seeing the connections and we can hopefully help each other to address the long-term goals and outcomes that are important to the administration.

So with that I have two questions. Ian, do you have any other comments that you want to make before we get into the Q&A?

Ian Baring-Gould: No, but just to, again, invite expanded Q&A. We left a lot of time in this session to allow people to ask questions of us and so just would encourage folks to do so.

Michele DesAutels: Yes, so this is - because there's so many people on the call and I'm not sure how it works for those who are not on the Live Meeting so (Heather) as the operator, if you want to let me know if people have questions. But we have a couple that have come in and I want to address those two questions right now.

So the first question that someone submitted, will these slides be posted on the WPA website? I know that this recorded Live Meeting will be posted on the WPA website but I don't think we're posting the actual slides. Ian, do you know if we're going beyond that?

Ian Baring-Gould: Yes, we certainly could post the slides. The presentation including the slides and audio will be posted. If people would like the actual slides, just the individual slides posted, we can certainly do that, that's quite simple.

Michele DesAutels: Yes, okay. There's another question related to the newsletter so thank you for that question. So the newsletter is new and we'd like to have feedback on what people like and don't like on it so I think that there is even, you know, a link on there for you to tell us.

So yes, it's going to encompass a range of news items that we are pulling from various sources so this particular question was specific about IREC's Small Wind Newsletter. We are not excluding - so we're going to try and provide information for small community and utility-scale wind and offshore wind so we will provide as much information as we can that's relevant to the audience. So we'd love to leverage what IREC's already putting out there.

And it's being sent to people who we already have on our list. And then for those who are on our list can forward it out to theirs. So if somebody wants to, you know, we can send it to IREC and ask them to send it to their stakeholders but I'm not exactly sure if we can just start sending it to them without IREC's approval. So I think we addressed all those.

We've got another question. So Ian, do you want to answer the third question on the list?

Ian Baring-Gould: Yes, there's a question in regards to the kind of future plan for the Wind for Schools activity. Currently, right now we have 11 states that are active in the Wind for Schools program, five of them were brought in through a competitive solicitation that was done about nine months ago. It was a very

successful solicitation in that we got over 25 proposals. We were only able to accept five of them.

At the current time we're not able to - we don't have the funding to be able to expand the Wind for Schools funding to more than the 11 states. And so what we're trying to do at this point in time is develop other funding mechanisms so that the established Wind for School states can kind of move off DOE funding.

This had always been a plan for the Wind for School activity and the kind of economic downturn put a little bit of a monkey wrench in it. The original concept is that DOE would fund the first three to five years of activity in the state and that over that time a business plan would be developed and the state would move to being self-supported.

We're still supporting that mechanism and Larry's going to work very hard to make that happen. And as those six states move into their own funding then we'll do more competitive solicitations to bring forward other states into the Wind for Schools network. Clearly if more funding is made available by DOE or other sources then we'll expand the program but at this point we're not planning to.

Michele DesAutels: Okay, thank you. There was a question to elaborate on the regional approach outline in the presentation. How do you plan to balance local engagement and stakeholders at a regional level?

And so in terms of the regional approach we are going to work with the various states and try to help identify within certain regions, and so we're trying to figure out which regions are the ones that we want to focus on. And

it is going to be a struggle to try and balance between the local engagement and the stakeholders.

So hopefully we'll find a partner within a region who's appropriate to help us understand what our - the major issues as well as who are the key players to help us balance that but we are always open to suggestions and feedback as to some approaches for regional work.

So I hope - Ian, do you want to elaborate any more on that?

Ian Baring-Gould: No, I will say that because it ends up being a competitive solicitation, it's going to be run out of the Department of Energy, we can't talk a great deal about that in conversations like this just because it becomes a formal activity once it's a DOE-released competitive solicitation. So although we might have to be a little vague on the concept there are reasons for that and we apologize for it.

Michele DesAutels: Well, and I wasn't even getting to the fact about the competitive solicitation. I mean I'm trying to focus more on trying to find the right partners within regions that even we can just leverage their resources. So regardless of the competitive solicitation I think that we should work within the states to identify who might be the organizations that we need to start partnering with. Does that make sense?

Ian Baring-Gould: Definitely.

Michele DesAutels: Okay, good. There is a question also on elaborating on the strategic partnerships you were looking to build with industry. Well, I'll give you an example. Over the last year the Governors Wind Energy Coalition has emerged as an organization that represents some governors interested in

moving forward on wind energy. And they have contacted the Department of Energy and NREL to begin discussions to see how we can help them get information for their governors and their governor's staff to address issues within their state.

So that's one strategic partnership of governors. They're key decision makers within those states who we might want to partner with in the future months and years.

So Ian, do you have any other examples of strategic partnerships that we'd like to build?

Ian Baring-Gould: I think there's probably too many. As wind becomes more used across the country and becomes more mainstream there are certainly lots of organizations that are starting to pull together to address specific issues. And so Wind Powering America has historically leveraged its activities with the kind of external partners with 25 By 25, with AWEA and other organizations, to bring in the best information that we have and make sure that everybody else in the network has that information.

And so we'll just continue to identify strategic partners and continue to lean on the network, everybody out there, to identify the strategic partner organizations that people feel Wind Powering America should be connected with. And then we'll, based on our resources, we'll work to develop those relationships that make the most sense.

Michele DesAutels: Okay, great. Thank you.

Ian Baring-Gould: There was an additional question in regards to the regional organizations, the regional partnerships that I think it would be good to hit.

It's very clear that we - Wind Powering America for years has focused on state activities and definitely understands that a lot of the issues relating to the deployment of wind are state-based. And so Wind Powering America will continue to have a state focus. We're pulling back regionally for a number of reasons, mainly because of the size of the market and the ability of one organization to be able to provide the types of services that people out in the states need on a national basis. And it's just becoming too complex and too busy.

And so one of the ways to deal with this is to develop this regional approach so that the different states can learn from each other more directly and we think that that's a good model.

Clearly the states and what happens in the states are critically important to this and we can't do a regional model too despite the states. And so any process that goes forward will combine clear recognition that state activities are important but that we need to develop a regional network to allow states to work together.

The Great Lakes Wind Collaborative is a fabulous example of a regional approach, a regional organization that has stepped in to understand and address a bunch of regional needs, transmission, offshore in the Great Lakes, that is working very well with all of the state organizations to move the ball forwards for that region.

And again, a great example in which the states are working individually and they're still being supported individually to get activities done, but then are relying on or using a regional organization to expand their impact.

Michele DesAutels: Okay, thanks. There's a question about will there be a formal request for proposal process and what's the timeframe. You know, it's really difficult for me to answer because we are on a continuing resolution but the intention is to have - to provide some financial assistance this next year and we would go out with a formal request for proposal but it's all contingent on continuing resolution and being able to be appropriated funds from Congress.

So we are in a waiting pattern right now unfortunately until we have more information on that but given that we want to continue to provide technical assistance and we want to continue to support the existing partner network, that's our intention. So I don't know how I can give you any more information given that we don't have any more from Congress.

So I don't know. Ian, I don't know if you want to comment any further but that's as far as I know.

Ian Baring-Gould: Yes, and certainly the results of the election yesterday will put another spin in all of this and so at least in the near term probably less clarity than more clarity.

Michele DesAutels: Yes, but as soon as we know information we will be sure to inform the network of the information. And any time you are looking, and I'm sure most of you know this, but FedConnect or even on the Wind Programs official website, there's a financial section.

Any time there is going to be a solicitation it will get posted there so I think if you haven't been participating in previous solicitations that's where the official way of finding out if there's one. But of course, now that we this eNewsletter and we'll be doing these webinars, it's a way for us to get information to you in a timely fashion so we'll let you know as soon as we do.

There's a long question related to greenhouse gas. Ian, have you read it yet?
I'm just reading it now.

Ian Baring-Gould: No, I haven't.

Michele DesAutels: Okay, so this is - right now this is the last question. I'm going to read it but if there are other questions people on the Live Meeting want to ask, otherwise, we might open it up to people who are just on the phone only. So if you've got a question on Live Meeting and you want to have us address it please us the Q&A section.

Ian Baring-Gould: There was a question earlier in regards to small wind.

Michele DesAutels: I thought I addressed that one. I said that we would not - we would address small community and utility-scale information within the newsletter as appropriate and leverage information.

Ian Baring-Gould: Yes, and then there was a question about regional stakeholder meetings and so while you read the question on greenhouse gas I'll answer that question.

Michele DesAutels: Okay.

Ian Baring-Gould: So there - with DOE there is a process to kind of do at least stakeholder meetings in regards to small wind. We had one just in Denver last week as part of the Small Community Wind Series that Windustry is holding. There are tentative plans to expand that activity but at this point we are not planning on having Small Wind specific regional meetings.

Certainly, as appropriate, a focus of the regional meetings that we do hold to address barriers and lessons learned will certainly have a Small Wind focus specifically in the parts of the United States such as the Northeast that have a very strong Small Wind focus. We will try to break up the meetings so that people are able to address the issues and the success stories that they've had with the different technology sizes.

Michele DesAutels: Okay, and after reading the question related to greenhouse gas reduction I don't think - so basically it says, what data, if any, is available regarding actual fossil fuel displaced carbon save from an energy in the US? And I don't have that answer but I'm happy - unless Ian you know the answer, to try and find that answer.

Ian Baring-Gould: No, AWEA has done some work on that. There's been a fair amount in the news lately about the impact or the potential or the - I don't even know, the perceived impact that increasing wind technology increases the carbon output. AWEA has done a paper on that.

I think basic science tells us although the generation sources, coal and natural gas primarily that are used to balance wind, aren't necessarily as efficient when wind is on the grid that on a whole the amount of CO₂ being put into the atmosphere is a whole lot lower. But I think the only formal documentation that I've seen on that is from AWEA.

Michele DesAutels: And I just got provided some information but I don't have the citation, given the 35,000 megawatts of land-based installed wind so far, that serves about 9 million homes and avoids annual emissions of 62,000 tons of carbon dioxide. So I think that answers the question. If you need the actual citation I'll get it back to the person.

There's another question, the priority states. I know I should have these off the top of my head. Ian, do you have them? Alaska, there's Arizona, Nevada, Massachusetts, Ohio, Indiana - oh no, I'm stuck now. Please help me.

Ian Baring-Gould: Utah, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana.

Michele DesAutels: I think we got those. Now this is the priority states as they've been defined over the last ten years and that's why we're conducting a stakeholder analysis. We realize that things have changed within the states. I mean as an example Indiana is over 1,000 megawatts.

And so given that the Department of Energy's been using, you know, our OMB measurement has been X number of states of 100 or 1,000 megawatts installed, you know, the 100 megawatts we have 30 - 26 I think we're at and our goal was 30.

And, you know, 1,000 megawatts, I think we had - we currently have 13 and blew away the goal of eight. So anyway, so as we're going forward not only for OMB do we need to update what the Wind Program is expecting as an outcome, Wind Powering America is trying to understand who are those key stakeholders that make up. And so the priority states may change, we may call it something else, you know, priority regions as we're redefining and evaluating what's happened over the last ten years.

And I also - Jones from Maine, I believe - Maine is a priority state right now. Isn't that correct, Ian?

Ian Baring-Gould: Maine is not a priority state but...

Michele DesAutels: It's medium.

Ian Baring-Gould: Again, in the official parlances but I don't put a lot of kind of weight at this point in the original parlance because the priority states - we continue to have priority states and the priority states shift. North Dakota is an example of a priority state that figured out how to do wind and is now doing a lot of wind. And so there are the priority states, Wind Powering America has also funded the startup of Wind Working Groups and other activities in other states that are not by the definition priority states.

And as we go forwards we, as Michele was just saying, we have to address how we want to look at this, the national market, a little bit differently as we go forwards.

Michele DesAutels: Okay, all right. So we have one more question that was submitted. Can you provide a link or email address to signup for the Wind Powering America newsletter? Well, for those who haven't been to the WindPoweringAmerica.gov website WindPoweringAmerica.gov, if you are on the homepage on the right-hand side is a section called news and there is a link to - before you get to events there's a link that says, subscribe to news updates.

And if you click on that link it will bring you to a page that allows you to enter your email address to submit and be added to the twice-a-month newsletter. There will be one newsletter that will be, you know, heavy with information and then the second one throughout the month will be kind of updates as we get more updates.

But this is intended so we don't send you lots of emails throughout the month and also you can share this information with your network within your state and region as well.

And just to conclude on that, we are planning to revise this website to be more user friendly, and as we identify those stakeholders that we are focusing on, this website will help us to drive information to those key stakeholders.

Ian Baring-Gould: And another plug for the newsletter, we're also looking for information from all of you. So success stories, items that you would like to highlight, and so if you do have any of those types of things feel free to pass those off on to anybody on the Wind Powering America team but primarily Ruth Baranowski or Julie Jones and we'll try to work those into the newsletters.

Again, we're trying to move Wind Powering America away from the kind of central place that provides information out to more of a clearinghouse information of all the great work that's happening in the field.

Michele DesAutels: There is another question, thank you to continue these questions. Will there be coordination with the EPA or Brownfield Development with wind energy?

So one of the slides that Ian went through is the interagency work that DOE needs to continue to do. And as we go through the assessment of what federal agencies that we need to work with and some of the ways that we look at are those agencies that have wind resources, those agencies who make decisions about permitting or other decisions about wind energy - and then, of course, there's the agencies who are interested in either making grants or providing more information to stakeholders as well.

So I over the last year have been in discussions in trying to work with EPA. They've got a group called OSWEER - O-S-W-E-E-R. And I don't know what that acronym means but it houses a website called Repowering America.

And for those who don't know, you can search on Repowering America, and it looks at putting renewable energy on Brownfield sites as well as super fund sites. And we are trying to provide information to EPA so they can make informed decisions about putting wind on those sites.

So it's not official coordination and I'm not sure if that will happen this next year but I know that we will continue to work with our sister agency of EPA.

I haven't read the last question, Ian, I'm not sure if you've already gone into it. So the question is how about doing a regional session for PUC regulators? And, you know, it's one of those things where we're working at I think on a regional basis to understand who are the stakeholders who we need to start dealing with but the comment - this question also had a comment about singing to the choir.

And we do want to try and work with organizations, individuals who have concerns about putting wind energy up there. And so we are trying to identify who those groups are and how we can provide information to them so they can make informed decisions.

Ian, do you want to expand on that?

Ian Baring-Gould: Yes, I think it does pose - the question does pose an issue. The meetings that we can do and have done through WPA have a tendency to focus in two ways. One is meetings either - whether they're Wind Working Group meetings or Wind Powering America sponsored events is to an extent preaching to the choir but what it's trying to do is provide the choir with more information, new information that they might not have such as Ryan Wiser's annual report, which is always a big hit at the summit.

But also to obtain information from Wind Working Group representatives or other people within the industry on challenges that they face that Wind Powering America could, again, try to address and try to obtain more information on and then, again, pass solutions to those issues, success stories that have worked in other places back to the network.

And so a large focus of meetings that Wind Powering America do are directed towards the choir to use the questioner's term because that's what Wind Powering America is trying to do. It's trying to provide information to all of the different stakeholder groups that are across the United States so that they have the information that they need to be able to impact their stakeholders in their states and regions.

Wind Powering America itself has not focused as much on purely external meetings. We certainly do a fair amount of training activities and things of that nature such as to people at the PUCs, the Wind Energy Application Training Symposiums, and things of that nature. And so we have to kind of weight the activities that are going on in both of these areas.

Certainly in the federal sector we can work to do more of the kind of training of regulators, people within the national sector, legislatures of states, providing them information, training and things of that nature; and certainly would work with state Wind Working Groups or state representatives who are interested in doing those types of activities within their states and how WPA could support those activities. We're always interested in pursuing those.

Michele DesAutels: And just one final comment on that, you know, we don't prescribe what all the state Wind Working Groups or regional groups who partner with us, how they put together their agendas or who they invite. So I think it's good for those within your region to provide feedback to those groups to say, you

know, I think we should have so-and-so or this organization at these meetings or I think we should focus our efforts on this audience because it helps them to get feedback.

So I think it's, you know, DOE providing some guidance to the state and the regions about, you know, the national issues we see but also you individuals from the bottom up can provide the perspective of what you see on the ground and suggest the organizations or individuals that need to be touched on within a region.

So I hope that, Ian, anything else you want to add to that?

Ian Baring-Gould: Nope, I think that's good.

Michele DesAutels: Okay, we have one more question, we're getting close to the top of the hour and I want to be able to open up to the phone if possible. Can you talk more about federal renewable energy content and the intermediate goal of deployment of all types of wind?

So I'll answer the second one first, the intermediate goal of deployment of all types of wind, the Department of Energy's OMB official goal is currently not a specific type of wind. It's just X number of megawatts within a state. So as much as the state counts small community or utility, land-based or offshore, is how it's counted.

So I think right now we use the number coming from AWEA's website in terms of the projects installed but there's not any specific goal on X number of megawatts from small community wind. We haven't - Department of Energy has not been asked to do that.

The federal renewable energy content, we haven't flushed that out this next year and that's one of the things we're trying to do is to understand - based on all of the - you know, working with our federal agencies and also understanding the existing executive orders, what does Wind Powering America - what can we do to help them, you know, provide them information or technical support.

So we don't have an answer to that yet and I don't know if, Ian, you want to say anything more about those two questions.

Ian Baring-Gould: I guess a little bit. In regards to the federal sector, there's a fair amount of federal activities that are going on already and so the way that Wind Powering America can play a role as Michele says is yet to be defined specifically but clearly through the Federal Energy Management Program as well as the mandates that all the federal agencies have to provide a certain percentage of their energy from renewable sources, there's a lot of activities that NREL in collaboration with the Department of Energy are working to support the other federal sister agencies.

Michele DesAutels: Right, and that's also interagency collaboration through the labs as well as through the power marketing authorities such as WAPA, Bonneville, and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

The follow-up question to that is can you say if the feds will buy power from small community wind projects. I can't answer that question. I don't know all the specific details of the federal agencies and it all depends on those federal agency's rules and regulations.

Ian Baring-Gould: I can say that the feds can buy energy from smaller community projects. They certainly can do that. Will they do that and under what terms are clearly up to each entity but they certainly can buy them.

Michele DesAutels: Okay. So we've got all the questions answered from Live Meeting and we've got two minutes left. (Heather), I'm not sure if you're still listening in if we want to open it up to the calls but the easiest way we can do this is to send emails. If we didn't answer your call or question to send an email to either Ian or Ann - I'm going to be gone for the next six months but we can put - let me see if I can add a slide Ian to put the email addresses up there. Share...

Ian Baring-Gould: Certainly all of our contact information is on the Wind Powering America website.

Michele DesAutels: It's not. Ian - I'm going to try and type your email - actually, I will put Ann.Chion@ee.doe.gov and then yours is Ian - what's your email address?

Ian Baring-Gould: Dot.

Michele DesAutels: Okay.

Ian Baring-Gould: Baring-Gould@nrel.gov.

Michele DesAutels: Okay, for those who are on Live Meeting I'm going to try and make this bigger but if you have further questions - I don't know how I can do that but ann.cihon - that's A-N-N dot C-I-H-O-N at EE.doe.gov and for Ian it's Ian - I-A-N dot B-A-R-I-N-G dash G-O-U-L-D at NREL.gov. So for those on the phone, those on Live Meeting, if you have further questions - but we're coming to the top of the hour and I really appreciate and thank everyone for participating.

It's really good to not only - and I know I haven't talked to you all in person or even on this call but it's really great to continue to see that we have a network of people who are interested and pushing towards the mission of Wind Powering America.

Ian Baring-Gould: One last...

Michele DesAutels: Absolutely, you can have the last word.

Ian Baring-Gould: No, no, I don't have to have the last word but I do want to say that the webinar series that we are doing is a monthly webinar series. The next one is planned for the 17 and it's going to focus on permeating issues for wind technologies.

Michele DesAutels: It's wind ordinance.

Ian Baring-Gould: Wind ordinances, right. So you'll see it in the eNewsletter that's coming out and you'll also get a special invite to that one as well but just to keep it on your schedule. It's the 17th at 1:00 mountain time.

Michele DesAutels: And it's 3:00 eastern. And if you have - if you want to have - I think we do have one more speaker slot open, if you want to talk about what's happening in your state and you want to contact Ann and be a speaker on the call or if you've got suggestions of someone who might be a good speaker please contact Ann.Chion@ee.doe.gov.

Well, thank you again for your time and attention and I look forward to coming back in six months and seeing all the progress that's being done with Wind Powering America while I'm gone at the Bureau of Land Management.

Thank you and have a great day everyone.

Coordinator: Thank you for participating in today's conference. You may disconnect at this time.

END