# MINUTES MASSACHUSETTS CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY CENTER BOARD MEETING

#### July 25, 2024

#### **Attendees:**

**Directors:** 

Undersecretary Mike Judge (Designee of Secretary Rebecca Tepper EEA,

Chair)

Secretary Yvonne Hao (EOED)

Assistant Secretary Kaitlyn Connors (Designee of Secretary Matthew

Gorzkowicz, ANF)

Dr. Ramprasad Balasubramanian (Designee of President of the University

of Massachusetts Martin Meehan) (Remote)

Terry Moran (Executive Director, Massachusetts Workforce Alliance)

(Remote)

Secretary Lauren Jones (LWD)

Robert Cohen (Designee of Secretary Lauren Jones, LWD)

Commissioner Elizabeth Mahony (DOER)

Bob Haber (Principal, Proficio Capital Partners) (Remote)

Dr. John Cook (President, Springfield Technical Community College) Dr. Aisha Francis (President, Benjamin Franklin Cummings Institute of

Technology)

Lisa Theriault (Manager of Business Development, IBEW Local/National

Electrical Contractors Association) (Remote)

Rear Admiral Francis McDonald (President, Massachusetts Maritime

Academy)

Tom Galvin (Director, RESHydro)

Staff:

Dr. Emily Reichert (CEO)

John Hitt, Esq. (General Counsel and Board Secretary)

Jaclyn Leslie (CFO and Board Treasurer)

Alexandra Zaltman Lena DeLuca, Esq. Alexander Fung, Esq.

Daniel Gates Michelle Beadle Elizabeth Cleveland

Leslie Nash Tim Griffin Rhys Webb Diego Huezo Karl Adrianza Susan Stewart

Jennifer Robinson

Rusan Mlodozeniec

Kira Nolan

Peter McPhee

Jeremy Belknap

Stephanie Simmons

Cat Foley

Nahlia Yefet

Lilian Zhu

David Wilson

Jenna Willis

Jasmine Li

Sarah Cullinan

Raija Vaisanen

Devon Bolt

Nils Bolgen

Lexi Dressman

Djeunie Saint Louis

Shayla Brown-Peddy

Rahul Yarala

Janel Granum

Chris Cota

Marcella McNerney

Edward Hsieh

Erica Hines

Ross Palley

Lauren Farnsworth

Madison Zeliff

Linus Beer

Lisa Engler

Heather Marciniec

Galen Nelson

Elijah Sinclair

Tamara Schexnider

#### Other Attendees:

Ashley Stolba, Undersecretary of Economic Foundations (EOED)

Joanna Troy, Deputy Commissioner (DOER)

Daniel Kroytor (RSM) Wendy Woods (BCG) Ella Michaels (BCG) Elizabeth Stasior

Khudaveri Hasanov

Abby Noreck

The one hundred-twentieth (122<sup>nd</sup>) meeting of the Massachusetts Clean Energy Technology Center ("<u>MassCEC</u>") Board of Directors (the "<u>Board</u>") was held on July 25, 2024 jointly at MassCEC's office at 294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108 and via remote video conference. All participants could hear and be heard by each other throughout the meeting.

Seeing a quorum, Secretary Tepper called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

## I. Approval of Meeting Minutes from June 20, 2024 Meeting

As the first order of business, the Board reviewed the draft minutes. Upon a motion made by Mr. Haber and seconded by Mr. Galvin, the following roll call vote was taken at 10:05 am:

Undersecretary Judge: Yea Commissioner Mahony: Yea

Mr. Galvin: Yea Mr. Haber: Yea Dr. Cook: Yea Mr. Moran: Yea

Assistant Secretary Connors: Yea Rear Admiral McDonald: Yea

Dr. Francis: Yea

Dr. Balasubramanian: Yea

Ms. Theriault: Yea Secretary Hao: Yea Secretary Jones: Yea

With 13 yeas and 0 nays, it was unanimously VOTED, without further discussion or abstention, at 10:05 am:

To adopt the Meeting Minutes from the June 20, 2024 Meeting of the MassCEC Board of Directors.

## II. Update from Chair Secretary Tepper and CEO Dr. Emily Reichert

Dr. Reichert provided an update regarding an issue with a blade installed on the Vineyard Wind 1 project. Dr. Reichert outlined the ongoing approach to investigating the source of the issue, and stated that there was a root cause analysis pointed to a manufacturing deviation on the blade.

Undersecretary Judge then provided a legislative update regarding MassCEC's inclusion in the State Budget, as well as discussed DOER's announcement of funding for retrofitting housing units to improve energy efficiency.

Dr. Reichert then acknowledged the unexpected passing of Justin Packs, a MassCEC employee. A moment of silence was held in honor of Justin's memory.

## III. Offshore Energy Program: Strategy and Authorization

Bruce Carlisle, Managing Director of Offshore Energy, presented the Offshore Energy Program's strategy. Mr. Carlisle discussed the obstacles that the program has faced and the importance of the team's work. Mr. Carlisle discussed the blade failure incident regarding a wind turbine in the Vineyard Wind offshore wind farm, as well as how the Offshore Energy team has worked to learn from this incident and apply that knowledge moving forward.

Mr. Carlisle outlined the benefits of Offshore Energy, including workforce development, the significant opportunity for economic growth, and the significant role that MassCEC has to play in this industry. Mr. Carlisle described MassCEC's approach to Offshore Energy, MassCEC's work to connect with stakeholders within the industry, establishing connections between these various stakeholders, as well as MassCEC's ongoing support of technical studies and projects. The Commonwealth has successfully secured aNational Center of Excellence (NCE) designation through the Academic Center for Reliability and Resilience of Offshore Wind (ARROW) program administered by UMass Amherst and obtained a \$5 million DOE grant for a consortium to catalyze growth and the sharing of information within the Commonwealth.

Mr. Carlisle submitted to the Board a request for an authorization for the Offshore Energy program to expend up to \$15.5 million throughout the fiscal year. Through this authorization, the team seeks to develop a state-level Offshore Wind strategy and roadmap in collaboration with the EEA, DOER, CZM, and DMF. The requested funds would also be used for a variety of other projects, including to manage and implement the Offshore Wind Ports Challenge projects, an improvement and expansion initiative at the New Bedford Marine Commerce Terminal, Community of Practice, issue tax credits, and launch the Offshore Wind Business Ready Initiative pilot for local companies.

Mr. Carlisle provided an overview of the funds spent in FY24 and provided a comparison against the funds sought for FY25 before opening to questions. Questions were asked and answered regarding the potential for changes in the state or federal budgets, and the importance of maintaining the investments made by MassCEC into Offshore Energy.

[Bob Haber left the meeting at 11:03]

Discussion continued regarding funding.

Upon a motion made by Secretary Hao and seconded by Dr. Cook, the following roll call vote was taken at 11:07 am:

Undersecretary Judge: Yea Commissioner Mahony: Yea Mr. Galvin: Yea Dr. Cook: Yea Mr. Moran: Yea

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Assistant Secretary Connors: Yea Rear Admiral McDonald: Yea

Dr. Francis: Yea

Dr. Balasubramanian: Yea

Ms. Theriault: Yea Secretary Hao: Yea Secretary Jones: Yea

With 12 yeas and 0 nays, it was unanimously VOTED, without further discussion or abstention, at 11:08 pm:

To authorize the expenditure of up to \$15,500,000 for the Offshore Energy Programs and further to authorize MassCEC's Chief Executive Officer (i) to enter into contracts and issue individual awards under the program in a manner consistent with the staff memorandum and (ii) to make program modifications, including modifications to award levels, provided that such modifications are consistent with the program goals set forth in the staff memorandum.

## IV. Technology-to-Market: Strategy and Authorization

Leslie Nash, Director of the Technology-to-Market Program presented on the strategy of the Technology-to-Market team. Ms. Nash discussed the broad range of areas that the team addresses, provided a description of the team's overarching goal of stimulating the commercialization of early-stage climate-related technologies while supporting economic growth in the Commonwealth, and provided details regarding the success of Technology-to-Market programs.

Ms. Nash then provided details on how the Technology-to-Market team functions through funding climatetech innovators, connecting founders, fostering relationships within the industry, and supporting equity goals. Ms. Nash also described the reason that the team does the work it does, particularly the importance of accelerating innovation within the Commonwealth in driving economic growth, and the importance of the government providing a consistent space for such innovation.

Ms. Nash then discussed the market impact of the Technology-to-Market program through job creation, increasing tax income, and supporting professionals. The team seeks to launch the CriticalMass funding program, would allow early-stage climatetech companies to extend technical demonstrations of their products in order to ensure that such products are able to move to market. Ms. Nash provided an overview of how such funds would be expended, and requested \$7.4 million in funding for the program. Dr. Reichert commented that CriticalMass

seeks to fill a critical function in MassCEC's work to support the development of the clean energy industry.

Upon a motion made by Secretary Jones and seconded by Dr. Cook the following roll call vote was taken at 11:38 am:

Undersecretary Judge: Yea Commissioner Mahony: Yea

Mr. Galvin: Yea Dr. Cook: Yea Mr. Moran: Yea

Assistant Secretary Connors: Yea Rear Admiral McDonald: Yea

Dr. Francis: Yea

Dr. Balasubramanian: Yea

Ms. Theriault: Yea Secretary Hao: Yea Secretary Jones: Yea

With 12 yeas and 0 nays, it was unanimously VOTED, without further discussion or abstention, at 11:38 pm:

To authorize the expenditure of up to \$20,000,000 for the Technology-to-Market Program, and further to authorize MassCEC's Chief Executive Officer (i) to enter into contracts and issue individual awards under the program in a manner consistent with the staff memorandum and (ii) to make program modifications, including modifications to award levels, provided that such modifications are consistent with the program goals set forth in the staff memorandum.

[Dr. Francis left the meeting at 11:40 am]

[Secretary Jones left the meeting at 11:50 am, designating Robert Cohen for the remainder of the meeting]

## V. <u>Project Update: Clean Energy and Climate Economic Development Implementation Plan</u>

Dr. Reichert introduced Boston Consulting Group ("BCG") team, who MassCEC has hired to assist in developing the Clean Energy and Climate Economic Development Implementation Plan (the "Plan"). Wendy Woods presented update BCG's work on the Plan. BCG has worked to focus on how to develop the clean energy economy within the Commonwealth, and outlined significant factors that will impact this work. Ms. Woods noted the difficulty of maintaining consistent contact with clean energy companies as they scale. BCG described the methods used to develop their work on the Plan, and discussed how these methods will enable the Commonwealth to have a broad impact in the clean energy industry.

The presentation included a discussion of the Commonwealth's current and future role in the clean energy industry, and discussed areas for development potential within the state. Discussion ensued regarding how to develop the Plan in such a way that would maximize the efficiency of its messaging.

[Secretary Hao and Undersecretary Stolba left the meeting at 12:00 pm]

BCG then opened to questions. Discussion ensued regarding the order in which various priorities might be addressed, the distribution of state resources across various areas of the Plan, and factors that may influence such decisions. Further discussion involved how to include stakeholders within the strategic planning of the Commonwealth's clean energy industry, and how to develop milestones that accurately measure the effectiveness of ongoing programs.

#### VI. Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss at the meeting, upon a motion made by Dr. Francis and seconded by Assistant Secretary Connors, the following roll call vote was taken at 12:14 pm:

Undersecretary Judge: Yea Commissioner Mahony: Yea

Mr. Galvin: Yea Dr. Cook: Yea Mr. Moran: Yea

Assistant Secretary Connors: Yea Rear Admiral McDonald: Yea Dr. Balasubramanian: Yea

Ms. Theriault: Yea Mr. Cohen: Yea

With 10 yeas and 0 nays it was unanimously VOTED, without further discussion or abstention, at 12:15 pm:

To adjourn.

Chair

Secretary

**Public Meeting Documents and Exhibits:** 

Meeting Agenda

PowerPoint Presentation on MassCEC Funding and FY25 Budget Overview

PowerPoint Presentation on Solar for All Program Authorization PowerPoint Presentation on Authorization of ARPA Funds Reassignment for Existing Programs PowerPoint Presentation on Project Update: Clean Energy and Climate Economic Development Implementation Plan