DIRECTION

THE FUTURE OF WIND

Oceantic announces student scholarship winners

Oceantic Network recently announced three winners of its 2024 Rising Star Student Scholarship, which supports college-bound high school seniors who have demonstrated impeccable academic achievement and a keen interest in pursuing a career in offshore wind and ocean renewable energy. The 2024 scholarship winners hail from Mississippi, New Jersey, and Virginia and represent aspirations and the future of the growing U.S. offshore wind industry, with interests ranging from engineering, project management, and public policy.

The Network launched the Rising Star: Offshore Wind Student Scholarship in 2022 with proceeds from the Network's annual Ventus Gala as well as industry donations.

This year, winners were selected from more than 80 applicants and each will receive \$5,000 to use toward tuition fees. This year's recipients of the Rising Star: Offshore Wind Student Scholarship include:

Alyssa Taub: (East Brunswick,



New Jersey) Taub has been enamored with the technical side of offshore wind throughout her high school career. She took several STEM

classes, which included designing a wind turbine as part of a physics project. She showed great aptitude for physics throughout her academic career and, after a senior-year marine biology course, cannot wait to put her skills to work to create a more sustainable



future studying civil engineering at The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art.

Mariah Hicks: (Southaven, Mississippi) Hicks served as president of her high school's Environmentalist Club. She led her team to the state competition, leveraging her understanding of offshore wind initiatives to represent the objectives of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's Mississippi project. By studying economics at Spelman College, she hopes to contribute to offshore wind projects that protect the environment while also being economically viable.

▼ Shelby Huffaker: (Smithfield,



Virginia) Huffaker is a two-year veteran of the KidWind program where, in the 2023 national competition in Chicago, her team won a turbine design challenge. She was

also co-captain of her high school's Green Club and maintained an impeccable academic record, all while achieving a black belt in karate and teaching self-defense techniques to members of her community. She hopes to obtain internships in offshore wind while studying engineering at Old Dominion University.

"Offshore wind's success as an industry, and the adoption of other ocean renewables alongside it, is dependent on creating a consistent pipeline of people working to build a clean energy future," said Oceantic Network CEO Liz Burdock.

"This scholarship demonstrates not only the Network and our members' support for the next wave of leaders, but the growing interest in ocean renewable energy among America's youth.

We received dozens of applications from impeccable students but, in the end, we're confident that our three winners will go on to make waves in the industry."

MORE INFO www.oceantic.org

BOEM finalizes Gulf of Maine wind research lease review

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) recently announced the availability of its Final Environmental Assessment (Final EA) of an offshore wind research lease in the Gulf of Maine.

"Floating wind technology can make offshore wind a reality in the Gulf of Maine," said Elizabeth Klein, BOEM director. "BOEM will continue to work in partnership with the state of Maine as we move forward to facilitate the responsible development of offshore wind in this region, as well as the deployment of floating offshore wind technology nationwide."

In October 2021, Maine requested a research lease for the purpose of researching floating offshore wind energy technology and its deployment. The research site lies 28 nautical miles off the coast of Maine, roughly southeast of Portland and, if developed, would comprise up to 12 floating offshore wind turbines capable of generating up to 144 MW of renewable energy.

After considering alternatives described and analyzed in the Final EA, as well as comments from the public and cooperating and consulting agencies on the Draft EA, BOEM finds that the issuance of a wind energy research lease within the proposed lease area offshore Maine, and related site characterization and site assessment activities, would have no significant impact on the environment.

As a result, under the National Environmental Policy Act, BOEM is not required to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement in order to issue a wind-energy research lease offshore Maine.

Upon completion of the Final EA and finding of no significant impacts, BOEM offered the research lease to the State of Maine on May 24.



The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management recently announced the availability of its Final Environmental Assessment (Final EA) of an offshore wind research lease in the Gulf of Maine. Maine. (Courtesy: BOEM)

BOEM is exploring additional opportunities for offshore wind energy development in the U.S., including in the Gulf of Maine and the U.S. Central Atlantic coast. The Department also continues to take steps to evolve its approach to offshore wind to drive towards union-built projects and a domestic-based supply chain.

MORE INFO www.boem.gov

Wood Mackenzie appoints Zhou EVP of power, renewables



Xizhou Zhou has been appointed EVP and Head of Power and Renewables. (Courtesy: Wood Mackenzie)

Wood Mackenzie, a portfolio company of Veritas Capital, recently appointed Xizhou Zhou EVP and Head of Power and Renewables.

"Xizhou is a recognized leader in our industry and brings a wealth of experience and expertise to Wood Mackenzie," said Jason Liu, Wood Mackenzie CEO. "His leadership acumen, combined with his strategic foresight and ability to navigate complex energy landscapes, will undoubtedly propel our power and renewables team to new heights. We will build on his outstanding record of managing global teams, and our clients will benefit from his considerable success in creating cutting-edge data and analytics solutions related to the energy transition and renewable technologies."

Zhou joins Wood Mackenzie from S&P Global, where he led the Global Power and Renewables division of its Commodity Insights business since the merger of IHS Markit and S&P Global. Prior to that, he spent 15 years with IHS Markit, IHS Energy, and Cambridge Energy Research Associates in Boston, Beijing, and Washington, D.C., most recently leading the firm's Global Power & Renewables practice and Asia Pacific gas, power, and renewables business. Based in Washington, D.C., Zhou holds Bachelor of Art and Master of Environmental Management degrees, both from Yale University.

"I am thrilled to take on this leadership role at Wood Mackenzie at such a critical time in our industry," Zhou said. "The world of power and renewables is changing rapidly with the energy transition accelerating, and Wood Mackenzie has the leading data, analytical tools, and thought leaders to help shape the future of our industry and address increasingly complex questions. I look forward to this challenge and collaborating with my colleagues at Wood Mackenzie to ensure Lens Power and the rest of our product portfolio inspire confident business decisions in a clean and sustainable energy future."

MORE INFO www.woodmac.com

ArcVera establishes European offices, expands team



Wind industry veteran Dr. Joerg Winterfeldt has joined the ArcVera Renewables team as European Continent Manager and Senior Atmospheric Scientist. (Courtesy: ArcVera Renewables) ArcVera Renewables, a leading global renewable energy technical consultancy, is expanding its consulting services reach by establishing European offices. Wind industry veteran Dr. Joerg Winterfeldt has joined the Arc-Vera Renewables team as European Continent Manager and Senior Atmospheric Scientist.

Winterfeldt

will commercially develop ArcVera Renewables' expertise in wind and solar energy, adjacent energy storage, and green power-to-X services.

"ArcVera continues to expand globally; in addition to the United States, we now have offices in Brazil, India, South Africa, and Europe," said Greg Poulos, CEO and Principal Atmospheric Scientist, "With renewables growth ■ Floating wind technology can make offshore wind a reality in the Gulf of Maine. BOEM will continue to work in partnership with the state of Maine as we move forward to facilitate the responsible development of offshore wind in this region, as well as the deployment of floating offshore wind technology nationwide.

in solar, wind, battery storage, green hydrogen, and green Power-to-X in Europe itself, and many European renewable energy companies actively ramping up expert support in the United States and other markets we already serve globally, the timing was right to move forward."

"I am excited to join the ArcVera expert team at this midpoint time in my career, and I am looking forward to leveraging my experience to expand ArcVera's European footprint," Winterfeldt said. "Working for years with a developer, in atmospheric science, and with two top-tier wind-turbine manufacturers has given me a depth of knowledge where I can see not only how accurate energy estimation impacts project energy performance, but also how the machines are optimized to maximize the resource potential. ArcVera is a leading global technical expert in energy resources and the machines that translate the wind resource into energy. ArcVera is a great opportunity to lend my knowledge, helping clients succeed and playing a role in the global energy transition."

Based in the Kiel area of Germany, Winterfeldt has engaged his expertise in renewable energy since 2000 with German-based developer Projekt GmbH and wind-energy consultant Overspeed as a micrositing expert and researched wind and cyclones in the North Atlantic in the GKSS research center.

In 2009, he teamed with General Electric as the Technical Lead - Micrositing Optimization/Wind Resource Assessment. At GE, his most recent role was Senior Product Manager — Wind Farm Energy Guarantees. In 2022, Winterfeldt worked for Nordex as a Senior Expert — Project Optimization. \checkmark

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