

# **National Offshore Wind Research & Development Consortium Announces Lyndie Hice-Dunton as New Executive Director**

## **Will Lead Public-Private Partnership Focused on Advancing Offshore Wind Technology in the United States**

**December 14, 2022**

The National Offshore Wind Research and Development Consortium (Consortium) today announced that Lyndie Hice-Dunton will be its new Executive Director, effective January 3, 2023.

The Consortium is a national resource for prioritizing and funding offshore wind research and development projects that address technical and systems management challenges faced by the U.S. offshore wind industry as it strives to accelerate project deployment, reduce costs and marine impacts, and achieve the national goal of 30 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind energy by 2030.

Dr. Hice-Dunton has been the Executive Director of the Responsible Offshore Science Alliance (ROSA) since February 2020. ROSA is a nonprofit organization working collaboratively to enhance scientific understanding necessary to support the coexistence of wind energy development and sustainable fisheries. Dr. Hice-Dunton served as the first Executive Director of ROSA after the organization's founding in 2019 and helped build a broad network of advisors that actively engage in advancing the organization's mission.

Dr. Hice-Dunton has multidisciplinary background in marine science, environmental policy, and offshore development. Her offshore wind efforts allowed her to work closely with state and federal regulatory agencies, researchers, offshore wind developers, and fishing industry representatives, to identify the best science-based approaches that will improve understanding of the effects of wind energy development on marine ecosystems. Her earlier roles included Chief Environmental Specialist at Ecology and Environment, Inc. (now WSP) from 2016 to 2019, where she worked closely with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) on the New York State Offshore Wind Master Plan. She holds a Ph.D. in Marine and Atmospheric Sciences from Stony Brook University and a Bachelor of Science in Marine Sciences from Eckerd College.

Dr. Hice-Dunton will succeed Kevin Knobloch, who stepped in as Acting Executive Director this past June when founding Executive Director Carrie Cullen Hitt accepted a new position at Equinor. Under her tenure, Carrie successfully built the foundation that has led to the

Consortium's success with funding 52 offshore wind research and development projects and building and expanding the Consortium's membership. Knobloch is President of Knobloch Energy, an independent consulting and advisory firm dedicated to accelerating the deployment of clean energy. The NOWRDC Board elected him, at its Nov. 16 Board meeting, to serve as an independent Board member once he steps down as Acting Executive Director in January.

"I am honored to have this opportunity to join the Consortium and help build upon the strong foundation that Carrie and Kevin have provided," Dr. Hice-Dunton said. "I look forward to working with all of the talented experts in the Consortium staff, Board, grantees, and partners in this role. The Consortium provides a unique opportunity to help to advance innovative solutions to support offshore wind, and I am excited to help continue the momentum in this rapidly growing network."

Knobloch added, "The Consortium staff, Board and broader community could not be more delighted that Dr. Hice-Dunton's will be leading NOWRDC into the future. Our organization has become an integral and highly respected force in advancing offshore wind R&D problem solving – including addressing technology, systems management and environmental mitigation challenges facing this rapidly emerging industry -- in our relatively short existence. In addition to future competitive R&D grant solicitations that the Consortium will conduct, we are designing and implementing an exciting portfolio of additional projects that will advance innovation by working with partners in industry, government, national labs, research universities and international governments. Dr. Hice-Dunton's and our talented staff will ensure those initiatives have high impact."

**Robert Catell, Chair of the Consortium Board and Chairman of the Advanced Energy Research and Technology Center (AERTC), said,** "The board of the Consortium and all of our member companies are very encouraged that Dr. Hice-Dunton agreed to lead the Consortium forward. Lyndie will build on the great foundation established by Carrie Hitt and move the Consortium forward to further meet our goals of making offshore wind a significant source of our future energy supplies. We are also delighted that Kevin Knobloch has agreed to join our board following in the excellent job he did as Acting Executive Director of the consortium. His advice and counsel will be of great value moving forward."

**Jim Ahlgrimm, the Acting Director of the Wind Energy Technologies Office of the Department of Energy said,** "NOWRDC built an impressive R&D portfolio under Carrie and Kevin, and we look forward to new growth under Lyndie's leadership. Adding her expertise to the existing capabilities of NOWRDC will strengthen an effective research program well poised to support the Biden's administration's goals to grow the domestic offshore wind energy industry as part of an equitable clean energy transition."

**Doreen M. Harris, President and CEO of NYSERDA said,** "Dr. Hice-Dunton's long-standing leadership, background and experience working effectively with stakeholders will help to build on the Consortium's critical work of advancing innovation, developing strong public-private partnerships, and lowering associated costs and risks to ensure the sustained success of this

rapidly expanding industry. Offshore wind is already bringing forward tremendous private investment and new jobs in the green economy, and NYSERDA looks forward to working with Dr. Hice-Dunton in her new role as Executive Director to capitalize on the opportunities that lie ahead for this transformative renewable resource.”

Knobloch noted that Equinor and Shell were both early and consistent supporters of both ROSA and NOWRDC because regional collaboration is the key to ensuring success of the US offshore wind industry.

**Ruth Perry, Head of Regulatory Affairs, Offshore Power Americas, Shell, and a member of the Board of directors of both ROSA and NOWRDC, said,** “While we are sad to see Lyndie leave ROSA, we are excited for her in this new opportunity. Lyndie has shown great leadership in building, growing, and progressing ROSA to serve the wide range of stakeholders working to advance research, monitoring and methods on the effects of wind energy development on fisheries. She will be an incredible leader for NOWRDC and her leadership can result in future, stronger collaborations between the two organizations. On behalf of the ROSA Board of Directors, we wish her all the success in her new role.”

**Scott Lundin, Head of US Permitting and Environmental Affairs, Equinor Wind US, and a member of the Board of directors of both ROSA and NOWRDC added,** “As the first Executive Director for ROSA, Lyndie exemplified the collaborative spirit at the heart of both ROSA and NOWRDC. She will be missed at ROSA but I am delighted that Lyndie will provide leadership and strategic direction for the future of NOWRDC. We look forward to working with Lyndie in her new role and wish to thank her for her service at ROSA.”

*The National Offshore Wind Research and Development Consortium, established in 2018, is a not-for-profit public-private partnership focused on advancing offshore wind technology in the United States through high impact research projects and cost-effective and responsible development to maximize economic benefits. Funding for the Consortium comes from the [U.S. Department of Energy](#) <sup>[2]</sup> (DOE) and the [New York State Energy Research and Development Authority](#) (NYSERDA), with each providing \$20.5 million, as well as contributions from the Commonwealths of Virginia and Massachusetts and the States of Maryland, Maine and New Jersey, bringing total investment to approximately \$47 million. For more information, please visit [nationaloffshorewind.org](#) <sup>[2]</sup>.*

#### **Media Inquiries**

- **National Offshore Wind Research and Development Consortium**  
Email: [info@nationaloffshorewind.org](mailto:info@nationaloffshorewind.org)