



## Press Release

### National Offshore Wind Research and Development Consortium Announces Awards

April 18, 2024

Today, the National Offshore Wind Research and Development Consortium (NOWRDC) and Innovate UK announced three new projects selected for funding through their recent joint solicitations. NOWRDC's Solicitation 3.0 partners U.S. states (Maryland, Massachusetts, and New Jersey) with Innovate UK to leverage funding and solicit collaborative proposals. These projects selected for award contain both a US-led scope and a UK-led scope, totaling over \$2M and over £950k, respectively.

Awardee Organization	Project Title
Electric Power Research Institute, Inc. (EPRI)	Offshore Wind Black-Start Feasibility Framework for System Restoration Planning
University of Massachusetts Lowell	Offshore wind turbine blade monitoring using computer vision and AI
Tufts University	Novel Fluid Film Bearing for Wind Turbines Main Bearing Application

Roger Townsend, Innovation Lead at Innovate UK said, "Through working again with NOWRDC on our second bilateral R&D competition, Innovate UK funding will advance these UK-US innovation projects. These collaborative research partnerships will reduce the costs of offshore wind and will boost the sector both in the UK and the US. This is critical in decarbonising our energy systems and keeping costs as low as possible for consumers."

"The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) is proud to support NOWRDC's offshore research solicitation coordinated jointly with Innovate UK," said Eric R. Coffman, MEA Programs Director. "These important research projects will help address key topics to help move offshore wind forward as a key component of Maryland's efforts to achieve 100% clean electricity by 2035. I congratulate NOWRDC and Innovate UK for their efforts to coordinate a multi-state and international effort to advance offshore wind research and development."

"Massachusetts Clean Energy Center is pleased to support this initiative led by NOWRDC and Innovate UK," said MassCEC CEO Dr. Emily Reichert. "The awarded projects address critical research needs and help advance offshore wind as a reliable and efficient energy source. By pooling resources with our partners in New Jersey and Maryland, we are demonstrating how



collaboration can achieve shared goals while fostering international partnerships that will pay dividends for our residents in the years to come”.

“The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) thanks NOWRDC for its ongoing efforts to advance the offshore wind industry in the US through research and innovation,” said NJBPU President Christine Guhl-Sadovy. “Alongside its regional neighbors and international partners, New Jersey is supporting cutting-edge research to integrate offshore wind energy into critical system restoration strategies in response to power outages.”

Through three competitive solicitations, NOWRDC has now awarded 54 projects focused on a range of offshore wind technical challenge areas. The full list of NOWRDC’s portfolio of projects is listed on its website: [www.nationaloffshorewind.org](http://www.nationaloffshorewind.org).

*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 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, New Jersey, California, and other partnerships that bring total investment to over \$60 million. For more information, please visit [nationaloffshorewind.org](http://nationaloffshorewind.org).*

*Innovate UK – part of UK Research and Innovation*

*[Innovate UK](http://www.ukri.org/councils/innovate-uk/) inspires, involves and invests in businesses developing life-changing innovations to create a better future. Providing sectors with expertise, facilities and funding, Innovate UK helps test, demonstrate and evolve ideas, driving UK productivity and economic growth. Innovate UK’s network and communities of innovators realise the potential of ideas and accelerate business growth. For more information, please visit [www.ukri.org/councils/innovate-uk/](http://www.ukri.org/councils/innovate-uk/)*

*The [Maryland Energy Administration’s \(MEA\)](http://Energy.Maryland.gov) mission is to promote clean, affordable, reliable energy and energy-related greenhouse gas emission reductions to benefit Marylanders in a just and equitable manner. MEA will advance impactful energy policies and programs to help achieve Maryland’s clean energy and greenhouse gas reduction goals. Please visit [Energy.Maryland.gov](http://Energy.Maryland.gov) and follow them on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#) for more information.*

*The [Massachusetts Clean Energy Center \(MassCEC\)](http://Masscec.com) is a state economic development agency dedicated to accelerating the growth of the clean energy sector across the Commonwealth to spur job creation, deliver statewide environmental benefits and to secure long-term economic growth for the people of Massachusetts. Please visit [Masscec.com](http://Masscec.com) and follow them on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) for more information.*



*The [New Jersey Board of Public Utilities](http://NJ.gov/bpu) is the state agency with authority to oversee the regulated utilities, which provide critical services such as natural gas, electricity, water, telecommunications, and cable television. The Board is tasked with ensuring that safe, adequate, and proper utility services are provided at reasonable, non-discriminatory rates to all members of the public who desire such services. It develops and regulates a competitive, economically cost effective energy policy that promotes responsible growth and clean renewable energy sources while maintaining a high quality of life in New Jersey. Please visit [NJ.gov/bpu](http://NJ.gov/bpu) and follow them on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) for more information.*