



EDA American Rescue Plan Program - Build Back Better Regional Challenge (BBBRC) Phase 1 Proposal - BLADES

VOWDA December Meeting
December 8, 2021



The NC Clean Energy Technology Center at N.C. State University, advances a sustainable energy economy by educating, demonstrating and providing support for clean energy technologies, practices, and policies.

For over 30 years, the Center has worked closely with partners in government, industry, academia and the non-profit community to support clean energy development and deployment in North Carolina and beyond.

Our Work

- Created in December 1987 as a resource for aiding the deployment of renewable energy and energy efficiency
- UNC System-chartered Public Service Center administered by the College of Engineering at North Carolina State University
- Objective research, analysis, training & technical assistance

Major Program Areas:

- Clean Power & Efficiency
- Renewable Energy
- Clean Transportation
- Green Building
- Energy Policy & Economic Development
- Workforce Development, Education & Outreach



Building a Lasting and Diverse Economic Sector (BLADES): Offshore Wind and Related Clean Marine Energy Technologies



EDA American Rescue Plan Program - Build Back Better Regional Challenge (BBBRC)

- **Phase 1:** 50-60 regional coalitions of partnering entities will be awarded, giving ~\$500,000 in technical assistance funds to develop and support three to eight projects to grow a regional growth cluster.
- **Phase 2:** EDA will award 20-30 regional coalitions \$25 million to \$75 million, and up to \$100 million, to implement those projects.
- BLADES Phase 1 Proposal Submitted October 2021
- Awards to be announced any day now....

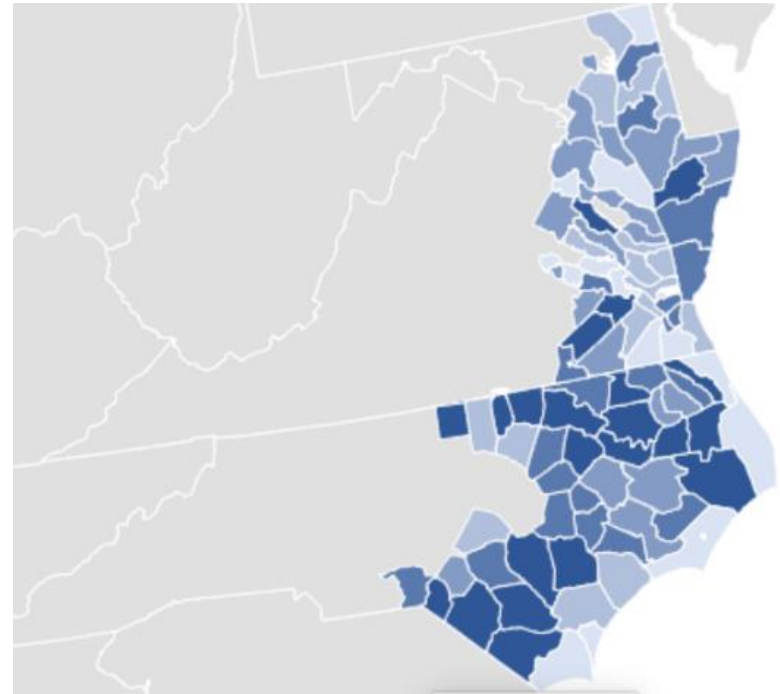
BLADES Scope and Goals

Geographic Scope

- Targets significant portions of Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina.

Goals

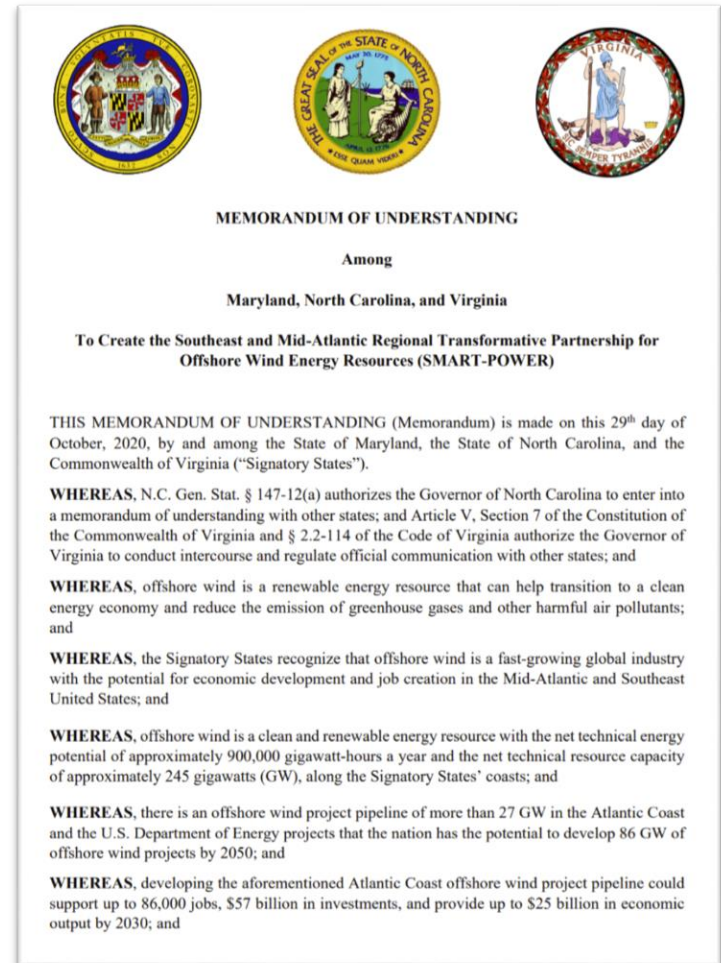
- Make our region the **supply chain anchor** for the massive U.S. OSW opportunity as it expands up and down the East Coast and beyond.
- **Deployment** of climate-friendly, next-generation energy technology in our region.
- Designed to operationalize the 3-state SMART-POWER agreement



BLADES Cluster Footprint: darker shading indicates higher economic distress

SMART-POWER

- In October 2020, the Governors of NC, VA, and MD signed a three-state executive agreement, the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic Regional Transformative Partnership for Offshore Wind Energy Resources (SMART-POWER).
- This agreement was established to cooperatively promote, develop, and expand OSW energy and the accompanying industry supply chain and workforce.
- The BLADES initiative will implement the core elements of the SMART-POWER partnership and provide the momentum necessary to create a self-sustaining cluster beyond the period of EDA funding.



Full MOU text available at
https://files.nc.gov/governor/documents/files/SMART-POWER-MOU_FINAL.pdf

The BLADES Plan of Work – Phase 1

- **Activity 1: Form a centralized BLADES regional coalition taskforce**
 - finalize specific goals, metrics, and timelines for BLADES Phase 2 within the SMART-POWER framework;
 - identify and recruit additional critical partners needed to achieve stated goals;
 - secure valuable existing partner infrastructure assets (physical and institutional) to advance specific component project areas (see below); and,
 - hire the required Regional Economic Competitiveness Officer to oversee the BLADES initiative during BBBRC Phase 2, as well as an additional ED&I coordinator to manage related issues across the project areas
- **Activity 2: Conduct a regional asset analysis**
 - assess aspects of the supply chain and product lifecycle, including physical infrastructure, existing supply chain (including adjacent industries) in the OSW taxonomy, and workforce.
 - examine the regional training capabilities for both supply chain manufacturing and project-specific deployment of the OSW industry
- **Activity 3: Establish partner working groups**
 - build six project groups to address various industry needs in support of a thriving and sustainable OSW and marine energy cluster

Phase 1 Project Working Groups

Key planning activities for cluster development:

- Market Development
- OSW Supply Chain Development
- Infrastructure and Placemaking
- Workforce Development
- Innovation, Research & Commercialization
- Entrepreneurship

Phase 1 Project Team

COALITION ORGANIZATIONS	SUBJECT EXPERTISE	COMPONENT PROJECT FOCUS AREAS					
		MARKET DEVELOPMENT	SUPPLY CHAIN DEVELOPMENT	INFRASTRUCTURE & PLACEMAKING	TALENT DEVELOPMENT	INNOVATION, RESEARCH & COMMERCIALIZATION	ENTREPRENEURSHIP
NCSU/NCCEC	GENERAL	●	●		●	●	●
NCSU/EDPNC	WORKFORCE / PARTNERSHIPS		●		●		●
NC DOC	GENERAL / SMART-POWER	●	●		●		
EDPNC	RECRUITMENT / SUPPLY CHAIN		●	●			●
NC A&T	WORKFORCE / ENERGY TECH / DEI				●	●	
CSI - ECU/NCSU	ENERGY TECH	●				●	●
UNCW	SUPPLY CHAIN		●		●	●	
NC DOT	SUPPLY CHAIN		●	●			
ECSU	ENTREPRENEURSHIP / DEI			●			●
VA DEPT. OF ENERGY	GENERAL / SMART-POWER	●	●	●	●		
TIDEWATER CC	WORKFORCE / DEI				●		●
VEDP	RECRUITMENT / SUPPLY CHAIN		●	●			
MD ENERGY ADMINISTRATION	GENERAL / SMART-POWER	●	●	●	●	●	
NCSU/IES	SUPPLY CHAIN / MEP		●				
SOUTHEASTERN WIND COALITION	OSW TRADE ASSOCIATION	●	●	●	●	●	

Contact us

For more information

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