

The Historic Maine Research Array (MeRA)

Designed and developed by Maine stakeholders since 2008.
Moving toward fruition for protection of the Gulf of Maine.

The Research Lease: An Open Door to Opportunity

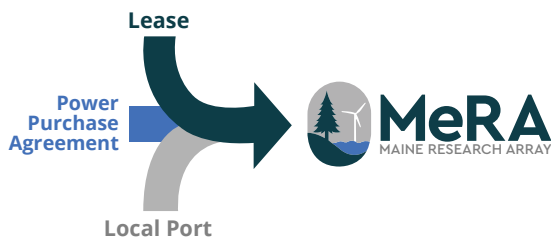
In May of 2024, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) presented the State of Maine with an official offshore wind research lease in the Gulf of Maine, a significant step in advancing Maine-made offshore wind and an important signal to Maine leaders that the time is now. Once the State of Maine executes the lease, this first-step development milestone will be finalized. Together with the completion of the contract process at Maine Public Utilities Commission (MPUC), which has been underway since 2023, the historic MeRA project can move toward its exciting and long-awaited advanced development phases.

A multi-year, collaborative process:

- Multiple prospective lease sites in the Gulf of Maine were carefully reviewed, vetted, and presented to the public and fishing industry stakeholders for feedback.
- BOEM and the State of Maine conducted extensive study and public engagement to identify a small, 15-square mile site that minimizes risks and maximizes compatibility with all ocean users.

The Roadmap Ahead: A Three-Part Path

The Research Lease is an important first step of a three-part process that also requires a contract with the MPUC and the development of port infrastructure to support operations for MeRA.



The three parts—lease, power purchase agreement, and local port—are each essential to realizing the historic Maine Research Array and bringing all its environmental and economic benefits to Maine people.

Maine is poised to be a leader in the \$1 trillion offshore wind industry by building the first floating offshore wind array in the United States, utilizing patented Maine-made technology. Securing this leadership role depends on our timely advancement of the three major MeRA milestones.

Next Steps:

1. State of Maine executes Research Lease
2. MPUC finalizes a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) to allow the Research Array to be built and conduct needed scientific research to protect the Gulf of Maine
3. Ongoing development of port infrastructure to support good-paying local jobs and operations for MeRA, where the Research Array will be built and launched

With a greenlight on a PPA, MeRA can begin its comprehensive development activities including additional fisheries outreach, environmental assessments, geological surveys, opening an office and staffing to support development.

Meet MeRA

The Maine Research Array is planned as a 10-turbine floating offshore wind initiative in the Gulf of Maine with a total capacity of 144 MW. It will:

- Establish scientific best practices for responsible offshore wind development in harmony with all ocean users;
- Produce enough clean, renewable energy to power more than 90,000 Maine homes; and
- Create hundreds of local jobs and generate more than \$1 Billion in economic activity for the state.

MeRA's development team looks forward to continued work with the State of Maine and stakeholders from Maine industries to bring this historic local project to fruition.

For more information visit MaineResearchArray.com and www.maine.gov/energy/initiatives/offshorewind/researcharray or contact the Governors Energy Office at (placeholder) or the developer at info@dowind.com.