



## IN THIS ISSUE:

Offshore Wind Joint Venture With Vineyard Wind/Kitty Hawk in NC	2
Our Focus on Wildlife	2
5 Questions With Amy McGinty, VP of O&M Services	2
Partnering With the Pentagon	3

## Mandela Fellows Visit the Shiloh Wind Farm

This summer we hosted delegates from a number of countries in Africa as the Mandela Fellows (formerly the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders) toured the Shiloh Wind Farm in northern California. The California ISO (the energy grid operator for most of the state), Shiloh's plant manager and other company representatives led more than 30 individuals on an exciting tour of the 100 GE wind turbines on the wind farm.



Thanks to the regular brisk summer breezes near Napa Valley, the turbines spun quickly among the yellow safflower crops, creating a picturesque setting for the tour. A short stroll to an idled turbine offered a quick peek inside.

The large group — the Mandela Fellows, comprising emerging

leaders from nearly two dozen African nations — came from University of California, Davis, and the wind technicians helped answer their myriad questions. The Fellows started in 2014 to empower Africans ages 25 to 35 who have an established record of accomplishment and focus on leadership and skill development in business and entrepreneurship, civic leadership or public management.

The group served as excellent ambassadors for their home countries. After politely inviting their hosts to visit Africa and help impart renewable energy knowledge to their communities, the group offered their appreciation for the experience. California ISO representative Kimberli Perez said, "On behalf of the ISO and the Global Affairs group at U.C. Davis, thank you so much for taking time out of your day to meet with the Mandela Fellows and allowing us to tour the Shiloh Wind Farm. I can say the wind farm was truly a highlight and I know the Fellows greatly appreciated the opportunity. Thank you, your team and your company." 🌱



## PHOTO SUBMISSIONS

**Have a photo you'd like to share?  
We'd love to see them, and we'll publish  
the best in Landowner News!**

To submit your photos, please email your images with a caption and contact information to [renphotos@avangrid.com](mailto:renphotos@avangrid.com), or mail to: Avangrid Renewables, Attn: Land Management, 1125 NW Couch St., Ste. 700, Portland, OR 97209

## Offshore Wind Partnership Highlights Global Experience, Strategic Expertise and Deep Financial Backing

Avangrid Renewables and Vineyard Wind recently announced that they have formed a strategic partnership to jointly develop a large-scale wind energy project off the coast of Massachusetts. With Avangrid Renewables acquiring a 50 percent ownership interest in Vineyard Wind, the offshore wind energy developer that is part of the Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP) portfolio, the two companies will bring extensive offshore wind expertise and substantial financial backing to the state's initiative to build offshore wind projects.



Last summer, Massachusetts required utilities to procure 1,600 megawatts (MW) of clean, offshore wind energy within the next decade, setting off an intense competition among offshore wind developers in the region. When the 1,600 MW of generation capacity are completed, they will generate enough clean, homegrown energy to power the equivalent of more than 750,000 Massachusetts homes every year.

"Our equal partnership in this effort demonstrates the strong commitment we've made to expand our wind portfolio across the U.S.," said James P. Torgerson, CEO of AVANGRID. "When you look at our longer term position with the Kitty Hawk offshore lease in North Carolina and factor in this more immediate offshore opportunity in Massachusetts, combined with our family of companies' extensive experience and knowledge, you recognize we are well positioned to grow this sector in the U.S."

For more information on this strategic partnership, see the press release at [bit.ly/2vktxvR](http://bit.ly/2vktxvR). 



## Our Focus on Wildlife

Avangrid Renewables is proud to have gained an industry-wide reputation for its wildlife programs. We strive to avoid or minimize impacts to birds, bats and other wildlife, and their habitats. Our Avian and Bat Protection Plan, developed in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 2008, evolved to become the Corporate Wildlife Plan implemented in 2015. Our proactive approach to avoiding, minimizing and mitigating impacts to wildlife and their habitats with regulatory adherence, establishes the company as a leader in the renewable energy industry.

(continued, pg. 3)

# 5

## Five Questions With VP of Operations & Management Services Amy McGinty



Landowner News caught up with Amy McGinty to learn about her new role as VP of Operations and Management (O&M) Services at Avangrid Renewables and get the scoop on repowering some older generation sites across the country.

**Landowner News:** How long have you been with Avangrid Renewables and where did you get your start?

**Amy:** I started back in 2001 at Community Energy, a wind energy startup that was later acquired by Iberdrola — and then Iberdrola became Avangrid in 2015. I can't believe how long it's been! I've worked in some really diverse roles during that time, from business analytics in our Madrid office to energy marketing in our old New York City office to Portland, Oregon, where I joined the Operations team in 2011! I'm so proud to be part of the incredible growth we've experienced over the 16 years I've been with the company.

**Landowner News:** What is your new role with the company?

**Amy:** My new role is to lead the O&M Services team, which is responsible for critical services that support our 6,000 MW fleet, including asset management, land management, performance reporting and quality, operational

▶ permitting and wildlife and overall operational strategies. Our O&M Services team is incredibly knowledgeable, and I'm looking forward to learning from them and continuing our mission to provide high-quality operations support to our landowners and to all of our stakeholders.

**Landowner News:** How would you describe your style of leadership?

**Amy:** I view the members of my team as experts at what they do, and my goal in this new position is to make sure they have the resources they need to excel, ensure everyone has the opportunity to learn and grow in their careers and have a little fun along the way!

**Landowner News:** What new initiative are you most excited about?

**Amy:** The newest initiative we are working on is a strategy to "repower" some of our older wind plants by replacing more than 80 percent of the value of the turbines with more efficient equipment. Repowering will extend the life of our wind farms and increase their output. The current plan is to repower up to 370 MWs over the next couple of years, and we are currently analyzing which wind plants will most benefit from this new initiative.

**Landowner News:** Outside of your work, what are you passionate about?

**Amy:** I am passionate about spending time outdoors, being active with my family — including our brand new puppy! — and traveling. My passion for fitness spills into the workplace every spring when we host the increasingly popular Avangrid Renewables Fitness Challenge! The Fitness Challenge encourages employees in all of our locations, from wind plants to corporate offices, to participate in a friendly nine-week competition to work out more often and meet new colleagues. Nothing makes me happier than seeing people get up from their desk during their lunch hour to go for a walk or a run alongside coworkers they don't normally have the chance to interact with. 🌱

**If you'd like to be considered for an upcoming issue of our Five Questions series in Landowner News, send us an email at [rensocia@avangrid.com](mailto:rensocia@avangrid.com).**

### (Our Focus on Wildlife ... continued)

As part of the Corporate Wildlife Plan, best management practices (BMPs) are implemented at operational facilities (or "plants") to avoid or minimize risk to avian species. One important BMP is large carcass management and removal. Big game and livestock can attract avian species, specifically raptors and vultures, so operations and field services personnel are trained to recognize indications (like circling ravens) that a carcass may be in the plant, and to take specific measures if a carcass is discovered.

The personnel may cover the carcass with a tarp and coordinate removal with the landowner, if applicable. In addition, some plants may be required to manage the immediate removal of large animal carcasses due to permit conditions stipulated by local, state or federal permitting agencies. Adhering to these conditions and effectively managing avian risk promotes safe plant operations. Landowners can help ensure regulatory compliance, improve environmental health and safety and minimize risk to wildlife by proactively monitoring and expediting removal of large animal or livestock carcasses on their property.

As a neighbor and partner of many hardworking landowners across the country, we greatly appreciate the effort to minimize risk to our shared wildlife resources. Thank you. 🌱



## Partnering With the Pentagon



The U.S. Department of Defense knows how to protect its bases and how to ensure mission readiness. They've openly advocated for renewable energy as a pivotal weapon in the fight to do both for many years now. As our landowners know, the multi-year development and permitting process to study a possible wind turbine location is lengthy and rigorous and is conducted with

government oversight at the local, state and federal level, and part of that process, at every single wind farm in the U.S., entails an alliance with the Pentagon.

The Pentagon has a detailed review process for any potential wind farm, and it works. Under federal law, the Pentagon must review any wind farms proposed near military bases. Local base commanders also have ample opportunity to weigh in, and we work closely with them to mitigate any potential impacts that could arise. As a result of this coordination at our newly commissioned wind farm in North Carolina, we reduced the size of the project, arranged specific turbines differently, ran extensive modeling in conjunction with Pentagon scientists, and are now sharing operating data at their request. If the wind farm threatened any readiness or capabilities, they simply would not have let us build the wind farm, and they maintain the right to shut us down.

(continued, pg. 4)



## Questions? Have a Story to Tell?

Do you have questions or comments about Landowner News? Have a story to tell? Would you rather receive an electronic copy? We'd like to hear from you!


Contact Landowner News via email: [leasing@avangrid.com](mailto:leasing@avangrid.com) or regular mail: Landowner News, Attn: Land Management, 1125 NW Couch St., Suite 700, Portland, OR 97209.

For questions about your land agreement or payments, contact us toll free at 866-441-4557 or via email at [leasing@avangrid.com](mailto:leasing@avangrid.com).

### (Partnering With the Pentagon ... continued)

Attempts to unnecessarily regulate an already stringent process — that is proven to be working well — threaten jobs and the surrounding communities' economic vitality, as well as our ability to hire military veterans as they transition from these very bases. The U.S. wind industry is a major creator of jobs for the men and women serving our country. Its workforce hires veterans at a rate that's 50 percent above the national average, according to the U.S. Department of Energy, and roughly 15 percent of our on-site operations staff are veterans.

Building a modern energy system that makes use of our plentiful renewable resources and American ingenuity is key to our grid security and national security.\* In fact, many wind projects today sit near bases without issue. For example, wind turbines have been generating electricity near the Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota since 2009, and near the Travis Air Force Base in California for more than a decade. The military has even built wind turbines on some of its sites, like in Wyoming and Massachusetts. This year, the U.S. Army contracted solar and wind to power about half of Fort Hood's operations, the largest active-duty armored post in the U.S. It did so for security reasons and will save taxpayers millions in the process.

\*With language from Jon Powers, an Iraq veteran and founder of Operation Free, a coalition of former service members who "advocate for securing America with clean energy." 



## Follow Avangrid Renewables

Avangrid Renewables is on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and LinkedIn. Follow our Twitter account (@AvangridRen), the Avangrid Renewables Facebook page and the Avangrid Renewables LinkedIn company page to find news and information on wind power trends, activities, new facilities and more.

Looking for a previously released edition of Landowner News?  
See our archive at [bit.ly/1M3UEuH](http://bit.ly/1M3UEuH).



Attn: Land Management  
1125 NW Couch St., Ste. 700  
Portland, OR 97209