

## **NAWEA 2013 Symposium, Boulder, CO**

### **Session 3B: Policy Pathways for Scaling Wind**

**Chairs:** Bruce Bailey, Edgar DeMeo, Kevin Doran

**Speakers:** Angela Cifor, J.D., RASEI/CU-Boulder, Fara Courtney, U.S. Offshore Wind Collaborative, Thomas Jenkin, NREL

This session explored policy issues and developments related to the growth of both off-shore and on-shore wind projects.

Angela Cifor, an attorney and research associate at the Renewable and Sustainable Energy Institute (RASEI), presented a paper entitled “Illinois Commerce Commission v. FERC: Implications for Wind in Organized Energy Markets.” The paper explored a recent judicial decision handed down by the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals that has far-reaching implications for wind power, particularly in the organized energy markets. The paper assessed what the decision means for about cost allocation schemes for major transmission projects.

Fara Courtney, Executive Director of the U.S. Offshore Wind Collaborative, presented a paper entitled “Offshore Wind Energy in the US: the Evolving Policy Seascape.” Her presentation addressed (1) how technology advances will impact offshore wind leasing and regulatory practices; (2) key lessons the US can take from the European experience; and (3) opportunities to address the noted policy challenges faced by offshore wind.

Thomas Jenkins, a Senior Energy Analyst at NREL, presented a paper (authored with Easan Drury, and Austin Brown) entitled “The Social Cost of Carbon and the Value of Wind.” The U.S. government has recently started using estimates for the social cost of carbon (SCC) in regulatory impact analysis. This paper explained the basis for estimating the SCC including considerations of the difficulties and uncertainties in estimating damages associated with carbon emissions and the importance of the choice of discount rate. The presentation also discussed the implications of recent SCC estimates on policy design.