# New York Environmental Technical Working Group (E-TWG) Meeting Summary – 11 December 2019

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
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Revised by	Bennett Brooks, CBI	2/3/2020
	Kate McClellan Press, NYSERDA	2/3/2020

Disclaimer: While all efforts were made to accurately represent E-TWG discussions, the views expressed in this summary may not represent the views of all E-TWG members.

# Background

As part of New York State's efforts to responsibly develop offshore wind energy, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) convened the Environmental Technical Working Group (E-TWG) to provide input to the state on environmental topics<sup>1</sup>. The fifth meeting of the E-TWG was held via video conference on 11 December, 2019. Fourteen E-TWG members participated in this meeting (Appendix A).

This meeting summary is intended to capture the key points of discussion and input from the E-TWG, as well as action items identified during the meeting. This summary is loosely organized according to the structure of the meeting agenda (Appendix B). Specific comments are organized by topical relevance, not necessarily the part of the agenda in which the comments were made. Opinions are not attributed to specific E-TWG members unless there is a clear reason to do so. For topics where there were differences of opinion among E-TWG members, this summary identifies areas of agreement as well as the different perspectives offered during meeting discussions.

# **Action Items**

The following action items to advance E-TWG objectives were identified during the meeting:

- The next E-TWG meeting will be held in person in February 2020. If you have not done so already, please fill out the scheduling poll for this meeting.
- Those involved in **environmental mitigation plan** discussions should provide additional feedback to NYSERDA as soon as possible
- The next **RSE workshop will be held on January 31** in Boston. The E-TWG and other stakeholders will receive a draft of the business case and plan in advance of the workshop.
- E-TWG members are encouraged to provide **feedback on the new E-TWG website** and to share the website with others.
- Support staff will shortly be sending out a **final version of the communications and outreach plan** as well as posting it to the website.
- Please email Kate McClellan Press with any ideas for **webinar topics** or potential speakers and with feedback on the NYSERDA offshore wind website.
- Please reach out to support staff with recommendations for **technical expertise** for the 2020 State of the Science Workshop on cumulative impacts and the bird and bat scientific research framework workshop.

# Welcome & Introductions

Kate McClellan Press (NYSERDA) opened the meeting. E-TWG members and support staff introduced themselves. Several changes to E-TWG membership were noted, including:

- A new representative on the E-TWG from Ørsted.
- A new developer, Avangrid, joined the E-TWG.
- A new alternative representative has been identified from NOAA Fisheries.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For meeting agendas, summaries, and presentations, see: http://nyetwg.com/

- The previous representative from New Jersey Board of Public Utilities has left the position. Support staff will reach out for a new member to replace them.
- A representative from the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control has left their position and will no longer serve on the E-TWG.

# **Updates on Recent Activities**

# **Environmental Mitigation Plans**

New York State contracts with Sunrise Wind and Empire Wind were signed in early fall 2019<sup>2</sup>. Requirements under the contracts include 1) consultations with relevant state agencies, 2) participating in working groups, 3) evolving mitigation plans over the course of the project, 4) making all data publicly available, and 5) implementing night lighting controls (ADLS systems). As part of this process, the two developers submitted environmental and fisheries mitigation plans. Consultations with the E-TWG and the Fisheries Technical Working Group (F-TWG) on these plans aim to provide advice and recommendations to ensure New York is pursuing offshore wind development responsibly. Consultations with the E-TWG include only non-developer group members. The first round of these consultation meetings occurred in November 2019 and the intention is that both verbal and written feedback will help inform the first round of edits of these mitigation plans, which will be posted on the TWG website along with meeting summaries. High-level takeaways from the meetings included:

#### Sunrise Wind (Ørsted and Eversource)

- There are areas where more specificity was desired in the mitigation plans.
- In places lacking significant detail due to early phase of the process, E-TWG members requested that Sunrise provide at least a general goal (e.g., indicate intentionality of commitment).
- E-TWG members felt that mitigation plans were missing content on nocturnal birds and habitat displacement.
- The mitigation plan could include more reasoning behind certain choices as they relate to lessons learned from the industry elsewhere in the world.
- <u>Ørsted</u> will host a webinar on noise monitoring in 2020.

# Empire Wind (Equinor)

- E-TWG members expressed a strong appreciation for the use of gravity-based foundations.
- E-TWG members made several specific suggestions to strengthen proposed studies of impacts.
- Equinor offered to have further discussions around risk assessment tools and frameworks for decision-making.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-finalized-contracts-empire-wind-and-sunrise-wind-offshore-wind</u>

- E-TWG members recommended that Equinor highlight where mitigation plans exceed baseline requirements and standards, both to give them credit for those efforts and to make it easier for stakeholders to see where Equinor is taking extra steps.
- There was interest in topic-specific webinars on aerial surveys and other environmental assessments.

Following the first procurement, NYSERDA worked to standardize the mitigation plans to provide a format that was more easily comparable between projects. This same format will be used for mitigation plans in future procurements. It is anticipated that environmental mitigation plans will be updated approximately 2-3 times per year based on major milestones and guidance. NYSERDA also plans to engage the full E-TWG in broader discussions about lessons learned and potential opportunities to pre-populate sections of the next round of environmental mitigation plans.

#### **Discussion**

- What is the best process for providing input on more current data for use in the environmental mitigation plans?
  - Agencies should go directly to developers with information on relevant data sets. In instances where there are specific places in the mitigation plans that would benefit from new data, this context should be provided in feedback to NYSERDA as well.
- A group member indicated an appreciation for consistency and dialogue across state processes, recognizing that Connecticut included a requirement for environmental mitigation plans in their recent procurement. The greater consistency across states, developers, and stakeholders, the better.

#### Next Steps

- Those involved in the mitigation plan discussions should provide any written feedback to NYSERDA as soon as possible.
- The process will be discussed in more detail at the next E-TWG meeting in early 2020.

# **Regional Science Entity**

NYSERDA has been working with Cadmus Group and the Consensus Building Institute (CBI) to engage stakeholders in developing plans for a regional science entity (RSE). Currently, a small coordinating group (representing several states, federal agencies, NGOs, and developers) is carrying forward work on this topic. Since the last update, with oversight from the coordinating group, and after a second round of stakeholder interviews, Cadmus and CBI have developed 1) a business case articulating the need for an RSE, the high level mission, geographic scope, and the value of an entity to different sectors, and 2) a draft business plan laying out the structure, function, and organizational direction. Both of these documents are going through coordinating group review and will be shared with the larger stakeholder group soon. The next step is a workshop on January 31, 2020 to continue developing different aspects of the entity. Key elements for the functioning of an entity include:

- Fiscal agent an organization that has administrative capacities, low overhead, and is able to carry out financial duties, funding, and payroll. Selection could occur through a request for proposals (RFP) or request for information (RFI) or directly through consensus of the coordinating group. There are different options for the type of organization including an existing NGO, federal agency, or separating staffing and research functions.
- <u>Coordinator</u> this would be an individual with the competencies to accelerate the process, both managing the structure and executing day-to-day functions. Selection could occur through a job listing and interview process either via the steering committee (described below) or the coordinating group. There are multiple ways to structure this position, with a single full-time coordinator or multiple part-time individuals, among other options.
- 3. <u>Steering Committee</u> a formalized group akin to the coordinating group. This would be a small group, representative across sectors, which makes decisions and sets a strategic vision.
- 4. <u>Taxa Subcommittees</u> taxon-specific experts. Current ideas for groups include marine mammals, birds, sea turtles, and habitats/ecosystems. These sub-committees would provide recommendations up to the steering committees. As part of this function, they may organize workshops, connect with State of the Science efforts, and be involved in outreach to the public. Initial aims may involve setting action steps and vision. Selection could be by sector and expertise, and could involve appointment by the steering committee. There may also be opportunities to utilize existing organizations.
- 5. <u>Wider Stakeholders and General Public</u> Stakeholders include representatives from specific sectors, whose input may be sought by subcommittees, the coordinator, and the steering committee. The general public includes anyone interested and they will have opportunities for input at defined points.

# Cost and Funding

Cadmus and CBI have put together a rough annual budget for administrative costs (not indicative of the level of contribution towards research) of \$600K to pay for a full-time coordinator, possible part-time administrative support, overhead costs, and events. Options for funding include a membership structure, or other possibilities that involve federal agencies. All sectors would need to contribute in some way, but those approaches are still in discussion.

# Next Steps

• The next RSE workshop will be held on January 31 in Boston. The E-TWG and other stakeholders will receive a draft of the business case and plan in advance of the workshop.

# **Discussion**

• We need to think about how quickly the effort is progressing as it relates to the development of BMPs.

- As part of the business plan, there is a draft action plan which can help provide clarity on this aspect.
- For subcommittee taxonomic groups, is the lack of a fish group intentional? We want to make sure that this taxon does not get forgotten.
  - There is a separate group, ROSA focused on fisheries-related research. Close coordination with ROSA is needed to ensure that there is no duplication of effort and there is comprehensive coverage of fish-related research issues.
  - There have been no decisions made on the specifics of the taxa subcommittees. There is room to modify the focus either in the immediate or longer-term. Another consideration is to add a topic focused on ecosystem components (e.g., oceanographic, physical, and biological).
- The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) is starting a state of the science synthesis effort focused on environmental topics for offshore wind energy development. Is there coordination with this effort?
  - Yes, there is coordination, and we are in conversations with representatives from that group to find the best ways to utilize resources.
  - There is also ongoing coordination with NREL in relation to the State of the Science Workshop and the Bird and Bat Scientific Research Framework to ensure we are not duplicating efforts. There is room for continued coordination moving forward.

#### E-TWG Website, Timeline and Communications

# E-TWG Website

Following feedback from the E-TWG earlier this year, the group website has been redesigned and is now an independent site (<u>nyetwg.com</u>) hosted on the Wix platform. The site went live in October 2019. The use of this platform increases capabilities to manage mailing lists and send email blasts, among other increased capabilities. As with the previous site, it houses meeting summaries, presentations, and other E-TWG products. Support staff will also be adding a page for environmental mitigation plans. There is also information on past and upcoming State of the Science workshops.

# E-TWG Timeline

In response to feedback from E-TWG members at the last meeting, support staff have developed a timeline of group activities. This timeline represents a snapshot of about a year of E-TWG activities with any known upcoming workshops and products to be coming out of the group. This timeline will be updated regularly and posted to the E-TWG website.

#### Communications and Outreach Plan

The communications and outreach plan for the E-TWG has been revised based on comments from the last E-TWG meeting and updated based on the new website. Support staff will send out a final version to the group shortly and also post it to the website.

Next Steps

- E-TWG members are encouraged to provide feedback on the new website and to share it with others interested in the group.
- Support staff will shortly be sending out a final version of the communications and outreach plan as well as posting it to the website.

# E-TWG Letter to the R&D Consortium

The E-TWG submitted a letter to the National Offshore Wind Research and Development Consortium in March 2019 on the topics of real-time observations of baleen whales and technology development and assessment for detecting and deterring collisions of flying wildlife at offshore wind farms. The R&D Consortium in October 2019 released a second version of its Research and Development Roadmap<sup>3</sup>. The consortium heard the input from the E-TWG and these topics were incorporated into the updated roadmap. The roadmap includes topics of technology to reduce siting conflicts and turbine interactions with wildlife, and potential conflicts including collisions of surface vessels with marine mammals, avian species interactions, and the impact of noise on marine mammals.

# **Discussion**

- Will the consortium also go on to fund this type of work?
  - Inclusion in the roadmap opens up the possibility of funding this type of work. There are many other parts of its mission, but it does open the door for proposals in this research area.

# NYSERDA funded research

Five research projects were selected under NYSERDA's 2019 RFP for environmental and fisheries research to inform offshore wind energy development. These include two projects focused on commercial fishing: 1) strategies and tools to address commercial fishing access in offshore wind farms, and 2) creation of a fisherman's data trust for effective inclusion of fishermen's knowledge in offshore wind decision-making. There are also three environmental projects focused on environmental modeling and the development of monitoring protocols for nanotag studies. At the February 2020 E-TWG meeting, we will have the principle investigators from each project give an overview of their projects.

In addition to these newly funded research projects, NYSERDA is in the process of planning geotechnical and geophysical surveys in the New York draft wind energy area.

# **NYSERDA Webinar Series**

At previous E-TWG meetings, members have expressed interest in a NYSERDA webinar series on topics related to offshore wind. NYSERDA is still in the process of organizing this series, with

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> <u>https://mk0pesafogiyof6m7hn7.kinstacdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/National-Offshore-Wind-Research-and-Development-Consortium-Roadmap-2.0.pdf</u>

an aim to start in early 2020. The group has already recommended some webinar topics; if group members have specific ideas for other webinar topics or for speakers who could provide a neutral third-party perspective on various topics, please email Kate McClellan Press.

**Discussion** 

- Is there still a plan to have a webinar on the digital aerial survey data in the New York Bight?
  - This is on the list of topics. Due to delays in data analysis, this topic has been postponed, but it will likely be one of the first webinars in the series.
- Will webinars be recorded and made publicly available?
  - Yes, that is the intention; recorded webinars will be available on the NYSERDA offshore wind website.

# **BMP Specialist Committees: Update and E-TWG Role**

Two best management practice (BMP) specialist committees were formed in early 2019 with direction from the E-TWG. Many E-TWG members are involved in these committees, but for those not involved, this is a brief update on the process, including preparation for the first round of recommendations, which will be provided to the E-TWG in early 2020. This will be one of the main topics for discussion at the February E-TWG meeting.

# New York Timeline

There are many unknowns in the timeline for the next New York procurement. With the signing of contracts with Empire Wind and Sunrise Wind, the Phase 1 Report<sup>4</sup> was released and submitted to the Public Service Commission (PSC). This is the first step in initiating the next round of procurements. The next step is a generic environmental impact statement (GEIS), which will be available for public comment through the PSC before a decision on whether to move forward with another phase of offshore wind procurement. A procurement announcement would be followed by a 60-day public comment period, which would be the opportunity to submit recommendations to the PSC. This is the stage at which products coming out of the specialist committees would be the most useful. Unfortunately, there is uncertainty in this timeline, but by pushing forward with the specialist committees, we will be ready with products and recommendations when the time comes for public comment.

# Specialist Committee Timeline

Specialist committees focused on (1) marine mammals and sea turtles and (2) birds and bats were formed following the February 2019 E-TWG meeting. These committees have been meeting regularly since then. The process has involved review of existing BMPs, particularly using the MMP tool, and discussion of topics to develop recommendations. The immediate goal is to inform the next New York procurement, as the Department of Public Service has demonstrated interest in considering recommendations coming from the E-TWG in the next procurement round.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>https://a6481a0e-2fbd-460f-b1df-</u>

f8ca1504074a.filesusr.com/ugd/78f0c4\_8d4d4fab8c9941c3aaa66680ccfd93a7.pdf

#### The Term "BMP"

The term "BMP" has caused a lot of confusion from the committees, partly because this is a loaded term that is used in different contexts with different meanings. Because of this, the committees have moved away from the term and are instead using the term "recommendations".

#### Committee Products

The committees provide verbal input to NYSERDA and DPS through meetings and group discussions. They also allow for committee members coming from different perspectives to hear each other's concerns and ideas. The main written product for each committee is a summary document that reflects committee discussions. This document will become public, and it aims to summarize recommendations, the level of committee support for each topic, and key points of committee discussion. The document gives no individual attribution and is intended to be a living document, updated as committee discussions progress. The aim is to have a first draft of this document in early January to go out to review by the E-TWG before the February meeting. This document is not currently intended to be submitted directly to DPS, but can serve as a reference in public comments. The E-TWG will have an opportunity at its February 2020 meeting to discuss other possible uses for this document.

#### E-TWG Involvement

The E-TWG will receive a version of the summary document from both committees in early February for review. This will be an opportunity to check in on committee progress and provide feedback. There may also be additional options for E-TWG involvement, and we need to discuss how to effectively communicate recommendations to DPS. The E-TWG could chose to submit a letter to DPS that references the summary documents, identifies areas of consensus, and puts the weight of the E-TWG behind a recommendation. The E-TWG could also choose to refer back to the specialist committees to submit letters to DPS. There may also be other approaches. Other points of discussion for the E-TWG include longer-term goals for the specialist committees, as well as thinking about modifications to the process to be more effective.

#### Discussion

• A committee member applauded the process, recognizing the importance of documenting discussion to provide context on decision-making leading to the recommendations.

# **Workshop Plans**

In addition to the RSE workshop mentioned above, there are two upcoming E-TWG-related workshops: the 2020 State of the Science Workshop, and a workshop to initiate development of a scientific research framework to understand impacts to birds and bats from offshore wind energy development.

#### 2020 State of the Science Workshop

The 2018 State of the Science Workshop aimed to provide a general overview of what we know about wildlife effects from offshore wind energy development. The 2020 workshop will be more of a working meeting, with a focus on cumulative impacts. The planning committee has been meeting regularly to work on logistics and scientific program development.

# Logistics

NYSERDA is in the final stages of contracting with the venue for the workshop, but unofficially, it will be held in Rye Brook, Westchester Country, New York from May 5-6, 2020, with a third day (May 7) as an opportunity to hold related side meetings. Support staff and the planning committee intentionally avoided New York City to ensure that attendance is affordable for participants. Day 1 registration will be open to anyone. Day 2 breakout group attendance may be limited to a degree, with breakout group leads having the final say in attendance. As soon as the contract is finalized, we will be sending out a save-the-date notice to the workshop mailing list and publicizing through other means.

# <u>Agenda</u>

Day 1 of the workshop will consist of plenaries and Q&A panel discussions, similar to the 2018 workshop, as well as possible end-of-day breakout group discussions and an evening poster session. We will be putting out a call for abstracts for the poster session. Day 2 will primarily consist of breakout discussions divided by taxonomic group to develop a research agenda for understanding cumulative impacts to wildlife from offshore wind. Breakout group topics may include benthos, fishes and mobile invertebrates, birds, bats, marine mammals, sea turtles, and habitats and environmental change. We welcome input from the E-TWG on breakout group leads with technical expertise as well as speakers for plenary presentations.

# Discussion

- A group member indicated the importance of defining cumulative impacts, as there is a very specific definition under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
  - The planning committee has decided to focus on cumulative impacts from a biological perspective rather than from a regulatory perspective. We will make sure that this is made clear during the opening session of the workshop. We also recognize that cumulative impacts could refer to impacts from other stressors besides offshore wind. In order to bound discussions, the workshop will be focused on offshore wind.

# Bird and Bat Scientific Research Framework

NYSERDA has committed to funding the development of scientific research framework to guide the long-term study of impacts to birds and bats from offshore wind energy development. This is analogous to the recent Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) workshop<sup>5</sup> to develop a protected species framework for marine

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>https://www.nyetwg.com/other-resources</u>

mammals and sea turtles. A planning committee has formed to aid in the planning of this effort, including representatives from U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, BOEM, the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Audubon New York, NYSERDA, and BRI. The effort has the same geographic scope as the E-TWG and the three main objectives include: 1) identify key research questions for understanding impacts to birds and bats from offshore wind, 2) develop testable hypotheses and methods to be used to answer these questions, and 3) identify technological deficiencies and data gaps that may inhibit the ability to answer these questions.

# Stakeholder Workshop

To initiate development of this framework, there will be a multi-day stakeholder workshop held in March 2020 in New York City. The planning committee is modeling the scientific program after the protected species framework workshop, with two days of presentations and breakout group discussions, followed by a third day with a smaller group of subject matter experts who will take stakeholder feedback and begin developing a framework. If you have input on expertise that should be involved in the workshop, please email support staff with suggestions.

# **Other Updates**

#### Fisheries Technical Working Group

NYSERDA is in the process of hiring a fisheries liaison to work directly with the fishing industry in the region. In cooperation with the Responsible Offshore Development Alliance (RODA), NYSERDA is seeking feedback from fisheries on transit corridor options through the New York Bight. Initial discussions have also taken place relating to the development of BMPs by the F-TWG, though this is currently not a focus of group discussions.

#### Discussion

- Within this effort around transit lanes, are you discussing the width of lanes?
  - NYSERDA is currently agnostic to transit lane width. The focus is on gathering location data, and to leave discussions about lane width to BOEM and the U.S. Coast Guard. There are discussions around the development of a guiding principle related to transit lane width, which would relate to the amount of anticipated traffic.

#### NYSERDA Offshore Wind Website

NYSERDA is rethinking how information is presented to stakeholders and the general public on its offshore wind website. As part of this process, NYSERDA is seeking input from E-TWG members on how, if at all, they use the website, and any ideas for how it can be improved to increase utility. It is also useful to know who is not using the website. Please email Kate McClellan Press with any feedback.

#### Discussion

• Multiple members indicated routine use of the website to find reports and other documents as well as procurement information.

# Passive Acoustic Monitoring Workshop

The Wildlife Conservation Society is planning a two-day passive acoustic monitoring (PAM) workshop in March 2020 at either the Bronx Zoo or the New York Aquarium to bring together researchers in the New York Bight to coordinate and standardize data collection and analysis. There are efforts to coordinate with the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (WHOI) workshop on passive acoustics that was held in November. The WHOI workshop was more focused on real-time passive acoustic monitoring systems, whereas this workshop will be more focused on the New York Bight and looking both at existing data and planned future data collection efforts, with an aim of larger-scale analysis of ocean noise in the New York Bight.

#### Connecticut Procurement

The state of Connecticut recently awarded an 804 MW project to Vineyard Wind. As part of this process, proposers were required to submit an environmental mitigation plan, much like the process in New York. The plan has not yet been released but the state is interested in following a similar path with consultation with their environmental commission (E-TWG equivalent). The state values consistency across states. If any members are interested in being involved in the commission, please contact Shannon Kearney.

#### Discussion

- What is the timeline for starting to meet for mitigation plan consultations?
  - $\circ$  The aim is to begin meetings with the developers in January 2020.
- Is there any public information about the planned cable route and landing for this project or knowledge of when this information will be released?
  - This information is not yet public. The state is working to develop a dedicated website to provide this type of information. Once the environmental mitigation plan has been released, this information should be included.
  - A group member indicated interest in participating in the planning conversation around cable routing in the New York Sound.

#### New Jersey Update

New Jersey is in the process of forming a similar group to the E-TWG through the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, made up of both environmental and fisheries stakeholders. The first meeting for the group will be held this month. The effort is led out of the Commissioner's office.

# **Feedback on Remote Meetings**

Committee members indicated that it is good to have the option of remote participation for E-TWG meetings, and that interspersing remote and in-person meetings could be a useful tactic. There was also agreement among a few committee members that in instances where there is a need for substantial group discussion, in-person meetings would be preferable, but that remote meetings work well for update-focused meetings.

# Appendix A: List of Participants

Point of Contact	Organization	Stakeholder Type	Role
Kate McClellan Press	NYSERDA	State Government	Convener/chair
Greg Lampman	NYSERDA	State Government	Convener/chair
Catherine Bowes	National Wildlife Federation	eNGO	Advisor
Koen Broker	Shell New Energies	Developer	Advisor
Francine Kershaw	Natural Resources Defense Council	eNGO	Advisor
Jillian Liner	Audubon New York	eNGO	Advisor
Carl LoBue	The Nature Conservancy	eNGO	Advisor
Laura Morales	Equinor	Developer	Advisor
Anita Murray	Wildlife Conservation Society	eNGO	Advisor
Matt Robertson	Vineyard Wind	Developer	Advisor
Sharon Benjamin	NOAA Fisheries	Federal Government	Observer/technical support
Scott Johnston	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Federal Government	Observer/ technical support
Shannon Kearney	Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	State Government	Observer/ technical support
Keith Hanson	NOAA Fisheries	Federal Government	Observer/technical support
Sherryll Huber Jones	New York Department of Environmental Conservation	State Government	Observer/ technical support

# Support Staff present

Farrah Andersen (Cadmus Group) Julia Gulka (BRI) Kate Williams (BRI)

# Appendix B: Meeting Agenda

# New York Environmental Technical Working Group (E-TWG)

Time and Date: 9:00 am – 1pm EST, December 11, 2019

<u>Time</u>	Agenda Item
9:00-9:15	<ul> <li>Welcome</li> <li>Introductions</li> <li>Meeting agenda and ground rules</li> </ul>
9:15-10:30	<ul> <li>Updates on Recent Activities</li> <li>Mitigation plan consultations for projects selected under the first NY procurement</li> <li>Regional Science Entity discussions</li> <li>E-TWG website, timeline/workplan, and Communications and Outreach Plan</li> <li>R&amp;D Consortium letter</li> <li>Research projects funded under the NYSERDA RFP</li> <li>NYSERDA Webinar series</li> </ul>
10:30-10:45	Break
10:45-11:15	<ul> <li>BMP Specialist Committees: Update and E-TWG Role in Recommending BMPs to DPS</li> <li>SC progress</li> <li>E-TWG involvement in comments to DPS</li> </ul>
11:15-12:05	<ul> <li>Workshop Plans</li> <li>2020 State of the Science Workshop</li> <li>Bird and bat research framework workshop</li> </ul>
12:05-12:45	Other Updates <ul> <li>Updates from committee members</li> <li>Updates on other related efforts</li> </ul>
12:45-1:00 pm	Wrap Up & Next Steps