

## **Activism and Civic Involvement in U.S. Offshore Wind**

**Jo Huxster, October 27<sup>th</sup> 2009**

Activism and civic involvement have played important roles in marine and environmental policy. With the emergence and understanding of climate change, the focus of activism and activist groups has changed to deal with a global and inter-sectoral issue rather than the more local, single-sector issues. Wind power is an example of a local action towards solving the much larger problems of climate change and energy independence. In addressing the development of offshore wind, larger NGOs like the Sierra Club have begun changing their traditional opinions and tactics. In this presentation I compare the actions of the local groups involved in Massachusetts and Delaware, and then examine the change over time in the involvement of the Sierra Club in wind farm proposals in Massachusetts, Delaware and Virginia.