

## State News for NSPE Members

### Louisiana Issues First State Offshore Wind Energy Leases

Louisiana recently approved the state's first-ever wind energy operating agreements in state offshore waters at a State Mineral and Energy Board meeting, the [Louisiana Illuminator reports](#).

Governor John Bel Edwards and Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Secretary Tom Harris announced approval of two projects, one off the coast of Terrebonne and Lafourche parishes and another in the Cameron Parish's coastal waters.

The Diamond Offshore Wind (DOW) site is on 6,162 acres just offshore from Terrebonne and Lafourche. The Cajun Wind development will cover 59,653 acres off the Cameron coast.

The two agreements have different payment structures to the state, Harris said in a statement from the governor's office. Although the DOW Wind project covers a smaller area, it will pay more in upfront costs and rental fees per acre. The larger Cajun Wind field had a lower per-acre fee for upfront and rental payments but a higher energy royalty over the length of the agreement.

The DOW Wind property agreement paid \$308,101 upfront and will submit 1.5% of its gross revenues in royalties over the life of the agreement. Cajun Wind first paid \$357,923 for its agreement and will pay 2.2% in royalties. [Read more](#).

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### Coastal Restoration Board Updated on New Orleans Pump Repairs

Louisiana's Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board heard an update on work to fix corroded flood control pumps in New Orleans and a recap on coastal work in 2023, [The Center Square reports](#).

US Army Corps of Engineers Col. Cullen Jones told the board severe corrosion

discovered on a flood control pump at the end of the London Avenue Canal in New Orleans has been fixed, and all 17 pumps in the system were inspected and prepared ahead of the 2023 hurricane season.

"Out of an abundance of caution, to ensure that we met capacity at London Avenue, we also executed a temporary pumping plan where we provided an additional 1,000 cubic feet per second of pumping capacity on station," Jones said. "Thankfully, we did not need it."

"Since then, we've been able to remove those pumps from that location and restore that area back to its original condition," he said.

Jones said that the Corps and others are now working through corrective actions for all 17 pumps to ensure any other system deficiencies are resolved.

The work comes after the Corps found severe corrosion at the London Avenue Pump following overheating, and less corrosion at another with the Orleans Avenue Canal in February. The ongoing work involves a closer look at the city's roughly 5-year-old combined permanent canal closure and pump stations, a vital element of the city's hurricane levee system. [Read more.](#)

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NSPE seeks speakers willing to elevate the profession by providing interesting, relevant, and timely education to colleagues attending the [2024 Professional Engineers Conference \(NSPECon24\)](#) August 7-9 in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Proposals may address a number of topics in three key conference tracks that include leadership, issues and trends, and career assistance. Please consider sharing your expertise and insights by **submitting a presentation proposal by midnight, January 10.**

To learn more about potential topic areas, how to prepare a submission, and the benefits of being selected to present, click on the button below.

[Submit Your Presentation](#)

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The WORKability Wednesdays fall series wrapped up in November. Recordings of the presentations are available in the [PE Institute](#) . Past webinars are also available for viewing in the [On-Demand Webinars](#) section of the website.

NSPE is always seeking great content and speakers. Those interested in presenting can submit ideas using the online [Call for Webinars form](#) .

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*"NSPE Enterprise Membership has proven to be a valuable program for our*

*engineering team at Huitt-Zollars. It streamlines our membership process; the ability to make a single payment for multiple employees simplifies our administrative tasks and reduces time. Our engineers appreciate the continuous learning/professional development and networking opportunities provided by NSPE throughout the year.” — John Ho, P.E., F.NSPE, Vice President, Huitt-Zollars*

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