

**PMEC SPECIAL
SEMINAR**

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WIND**

**Fairness in Offshore Wind Development:
Slip Slidin' Away or a Bridge Over Troubled Waters?**

Monday, June 23 - 2:30 pm PDT

Zoom:

<https://washington.zoom.us/j/92127861337>

IN PERSON @ UW:

Sieg Building, Room 420



ABSTRACT: The development of renewable energy is seen as a critical response to climate change. Renewable energy on government-controlled lands and water presents unique issues and challenges, given the lack of control of local communities compared to development on private lands. As a case study we consider the U.S. offshore wind industry, which has experienced setbacks, in part due to political and social opposition. Based on 37 semi-structured interviews with community members, local government officials, fishers, and port and waterfront workers in Southern New England in the United States, we will first consider how risk and uncertainty affect offshore wind perceptions using the lens of energy justice and social amplification of risk. Then, based on nearly 500 survey responses in the Mid-Atlantic region, we will consider perceptions of inclusivity; developer and government communication practices, trustworthiness and transparency; distribution of benefits of burdens of offshore wind development; and who counts and who does not. The findings have important implications for how offshore wind decision makers can improve public engagement and meet the needs of communities, with broader applications for just renewable energy transitions