NOIA

SPECIAL REPORT: Membership, Policy, and Regulation Updates

NATIONAL OCEAN INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

Charting a course: NOIA navigates policy waves for our industry

Erik Milito, PRESIDENT, NOIA

The Offshore Technology Conference (OTC) once again convenes with a backdrop of new US policy decisions impacting the offshore energy sector. In Washington, DC, the National Ocean Industries Association (NOIA) has remained busy navigating actions from both Congress and the White House.

Following the 2022 midterms, where Republicans gained control of the House and Democrats expanded their Senate majority, NOIA capitalized on bipartisan support to advance smart energy policies. By cultivating relationships across party lines, we influenced positive legislation and oversight, advocating for offshore energy interests and pressing for favorable regulatory decisions.

The *Fiscal Responsibility Act* took a significant step toward alleviating bureaucratic obstacles hindering critical energy and infrastructure projects. This legislation, part of a debt-ceiling measure, included long-awaited permitting reforms, a key priority for NOIA. It enshrined reforms to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) aimed at enhancing coordination, predictability, and certainty in federal agency decision-making. Notably, the agreement designated a single lead agency tasked with developing a unified environmental review document within a transparent and publicly accessible timeline.

While NEPA reform was a whole-of-economy priority, NOIA ensured that the offshore energy perspective was heard throughout the process. Recognizing the importance of continued permitting reform, Congress has again prioritized this issue. We remain hopeful that we can build upon the *Fiscal Responsibility Act* to enact further reforms.

In the summer of 2023, the Gulf of Mexico faced a significant slowdown, if not a complete halt, due to the expiration of the general permit for discharges from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In response, NOIA launched a sustained advocacy campaign. This effort involved executives from NOIA member companies meeting with over 25 key congressional offices and committees, including direct engagements with numerous members of Congress and senators, to highlight the urgent need for a new permit.

As scrutiny and pressure from Capitol Hill intensified, the EPA responded by reissuing the permit. This action allowed offshore energy companies to generally proceed with their planned drilling and development projects.

NOIA played a crucial role in coordinating the industry's response to additional restrictions imposed on the Gulf of Mexico offshore sector by the Administration through a closed-door agreement with activist groups concerning the Rice's whale. Targeting Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 261, the administration aimed to remove millions of highly prospective offshore acres and impose excessive restrictions on offshore operations, bypassing legal processes, scientific considerations, and public input.

Following a lengthy litigation process, the US District Court for the Western District of Louisiana granted a primary injunction, declaring the implementation of the voluntary agreement as "procedurally invalid" and the Department of the Interior's decision as "arbitrary and capricious." Despite this, Lease Sale 261 faced continuous delays until the US Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit dismissed the appeal. Finally held in December 2023, Lease Sale 261 marked a pivotal moment for the US offshore oil and gas industry, enabling investments crucial for enhancing our energy, economic, and national security for decades to come.

Lease Sale 261 marked the final chance for companies to secure leases in the short term, highlighting the Gulf of Mexico's immense significance. This sale, along with Lease Sale 259 and the reinstated Lease Sale 257, was mandated by the *Inflation Reduction Act* (IRA). Spearheaded by Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV), the IRA included crucial requirements for offshore oil and gas lease sales. In the lead-up to the IRA's passage, NOIA led meetings between offshore energy executives and key lawmakers to underscore the industry's national importance and advocate for leasing legislation.

NOIA is also working with the US Department of the Interior as they promulgate their first offshore carbon capture and storage (CCS) rules in the United States. In a few months, NOIA and the Offshore Operators Committee are hosting the

OTC 2024: Pioneering the next wave of offshore energy innovation

Paul Danos, OWNER & CEO OF DANOS, LLC, AND NOIA CHAIRMAN 2022-24

The Offshore Technology Conference (OTC) is a testament to the ongoing evolution and innovation within the offshore energy industry. As we gather in Houston, we witness a transformative moment marked by a shift towards a more diverse energy landscape.

OTC's evolution reflects the broader transformation occurring within our industry. Gone are the days of solely oil and gas-centric displays. Today, OTC embraces a holistic approach to energy, encompassing not only traditional fossil fuels but also renewable sources like solar, wind, hydrogen, and marine resources. This forward-thinking mindset underscores the pivotal role OTC plays in driving energy innovation and shaping the future of global energy consumption.

Similar to OTC, my company, Danos, and our broader industry are undergoing significant and noteworthy transformations. We are witnessing the emergence of a new ecosystem in offshore energy development. This ecosystem is not solely focused on offshore oil and gas but is moving towards an integrated landscape where companies can diversify across various sectors such as oil and gas, wind, hydrogen, carbon capture and storage (CCS), and other emerging segments.

Take Danos, for example. Danos was founded in 1947 with exactly one customer – Gulf Oil. Danos provided tugboats and labor gangs, and later, after picking up Tenneco Oil Company, eventually added new service lines – coatings and shorebase labor.

Today, Danos is a trusted partner for energy companies around the world. However, more than that, Danos is adding service lines and expanding into renewable energy. Danos is already playing a key role in helping to rebuild the Gulf Coast. Through a partnership with Natrx, we are using 3D-printing technology to produce "Cajun Coral" modules at scale to help build artificial reefs and restore the natural environment.

The lessons of OTC and Danos draw from the same truth: offshore energy companies are becoming integrated into the greater blue economy. This should be welcome news for society at large.

The offshore environment is distinctly unique. This fundamental truth serves as a common thread connecting every company operating within it, and it underscores why it is essential for our industry to prosper for the betterment of society. Our industry excels in constructing projects that are unparalleled, and our capacity for innovation is unmatched.

In the Gulf of Mexico, a thriving offshore energy industry ensures that both the US and the global community can continue to depend on a sustainable source of low-carbon energy. This energy is produced under stringent regulations, benefiting from world-class infrastructure and a skilled workforce.

A thriving US offshore oil and gas industry also fosters deeper integration with other energy sectors. Companies that have established the Gulf of Mexico as a leading energy basin can leverage their expertise and knowledge to expand into emerging energy segments.

New offshore wind projects are emerging along the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of the United States. After years of anticipation, construction has begun, with several projects now underway. The completion of the first US-built offshore wind substation marks a significant milestone in this industry. Additionally, several state-of-the-art offshore wind vessels are currently being constructed to support these projects.

Businesses are already positioning themselves to launch offshore CCS projects and catapult the US as a global offshore CCS leader. Companies are also working on ocean mining capabilities, so the US can reshore the supply chain of critical and rare minerals – key components in the buildout of renewable energy projects, including the deployment of electric vehicles.

We are just scratching the surface of what the American offshore can achieve. Joining the National Ocean Industries Association (NOIA), of which I have the honor of serving as Chairman, provides companies with the opportunity to be at the forefront of this transformative journey. As NOIA members, companies gain access to a vibrant network of industry leaders and valuable resources, and are placed in the front seat of advocacy efforts aimed at advancing the interests of the offshore energy sector.

NOIA
NATIONAL OCEAN INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

Following are the NOIA Officers and the members of the NOIA Executive Committee and the NOIA Board of Directors during the **April 2023** through **April 2024** term. Please note: The NOIA Chairman and Vice Chairman also serve on the NOIA Executive Committee. In addition, NOIA Executive Committee members also have a seat on the NOIA Board of Directors.

NOIA NATIONAL OFFICERS

CHAIRMAN
Paul Danos
Owner & CEO | Danos

VICE CHAIRMAN
Jonathan Landes
President, Subsea TechnipFMC

TREASURER
Casey Stewart
Vice President & Controller, Gulf of Mexico | Kosmos Energy

PRESIDENT
Erik Milito
NOIA

NOIA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE*

Paul Danos | Danos
Jonathan Landes | Subsea TechnipFMC
Chris Bradshaw | Bristow Group
Tim Duncan | Talos Energy
Chris Golden | Equinor
Brent Gros | Chevron
Lee Jackson | Jackson Offshore Operators
Andy Kreiger | bp America
Bill Langin | Shell
Richard Lynch | Hess
Mike McCauley | White Fleet Abandonment
Shiva McMahon | Woodside Energy
Erik Oswald | ExxonMobil
Court Ramsay | Aries Marine
Clay Thompson | Oxy

NOIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Karthik Annadorai | GATE Energy
David Barton | Marubeni Oil & Gas (USA)
Lanis Belaire |Pharma-Safe Industrial Services
Craig Broussard | Subsea 7
David Cherechinsky | DistributionNOW
Loren Fowler | Heerema Marine Contractors
John Gellert | SEACOR Marine
Céline Gerson | Fugro USA
Anna Guichard | SLB
Eric Hambly | Murphy Oil
David Hajovsky | TGS
Ole Hansen | TotalEnergies E&P USA
James Hinch | PHI Aviation
Richard Kirkland | Cantium
Cliffe Laborde | Laborde Marine
Rod Larson | Oceaneering International
Terry Lechinger | Stress Engineering
Joe Leimkuhler | Beacon Offshore Energy
Jennifer Medcalf | The REACH Group
Chet Morrison | Morrison Energy Group
Scott Moses | Oil States International
Bill New | New Industries
Brett Ozenne | Arena Offshore
Joe Pope | Valaris
Troy Patton | Ørsted
David Reid | NOV
Mark Richard | Halliburton
W. David de Roode | Global Energy & Marine Lockton Companies
Niloy Shah | Ridgewood Energy
Neal Shah | Kosmos Energy
John Smith | QuarterNorth Energy
Jim Wicklund | Stephens Investment Banking
Eric Zimmerman | LLOG

*Members of the NOIA Executive Committee also serve on the NOIA Board of Directors

NOIA MEMBER LIST BY SEGMENT

BANKS/INVESTMENT/INSURERS/RISK MANAGEMENT/OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Advisian Worley Group
Alliant Energy & Marine
Audubon Engineering Company
Booz Allen Hamilton
CAC Specialty/Cobbs Allen
Endeavor Management
Global Risk Solutions, Inc.
Lockton Global Energy & Marine
McGriff Seibels & Williams of Texas
Mecuria Energy Trading SA
PPHB
Preng & Associates LLC
Regions Bank
RLI

DRILLING CONTRACTOR

Blake International Rigs LLC
Diamond Offshore
Enterprise Offshore Drilling
Noble Corporation
Stena Drilling Ltd.
Transocean
Valaris plc

ENERGY TRADE PUBLICATION

Compass Publications (Energy Trade Publication)
Endeavor Business Media (Energy Trade Publication)
Gulf Publishing Company (Energy Trade Publication)
Hart Energy (Energy Trade Publication)

GEOPHYSICAL/SEISMIC SERVICE

Fugro USA Marine, Inc.
TGS

LAW/LOBBYING FIRM

Beveridge & Diamond
Blank Rome
Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck
Dupre' Interests LLC
Jones Walker (previously Fowler Redriguex Valdes-Fauli)
Looper Goodwine

MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER

Chickasaw Distributors
DistributionNOW
Drilling Innovative Solutions, LLC
Louisiana Machinery Company, LLC dba Louisiana Cat
National Oilwell Varco (NOV)
OEG Offshore, Inc.
Oil States International
TechnipFMC
Vallourec

MARINE CONSTRUCTION

Boskalis Offshore (dba Dockwise USA LLC)
Danos
Gulf Island Fabrication, Inc.
Heerema Marine Contractors (U.S.) Inc.
InterMoor
Kiewit Energy Group
Morrison Energy Group
New Industries
Oceaneering International
Quality Companies
Sapura USA Holdings, LLC
Subsea 7

MIDSTREAM

Williams

NONPROFIT (RESEARCH AND EDUCATION)

Gulf Offshore Research Institute (GORI)
International Petroleum Museum & Exposition, Inc. (The Rig Museum)

NONPROFIT (SERVICE PROVIDER)

America Bureau of Shipping (ABS)
HWCG
Marine Spill Response Corporation (MSRC)

OFFSHORE SERVICE VESSELS/AVIATION/ SHIP BUILDERS

Aries Marine Group
Bristow Group (formerly ERA Group)
Canal Barge Company, Inc.
Hornbeck Offshore Services
Jackson Offshore Operators
Laborde Marine LLC
PHI Aviation, Inc.
SEACOR Marine Inc.
Tidewater Inc.
Westwind Helicopters, Inc.

OIL & GAS & WIND OPERATOR

bp Exploration & Production
Equinor
Shell Energy Resources Company
TotalEnergies E&P USA

OIL & GAS OPERATOR

Arena Offshore, L.P. /Rosefield Pipeline
Beacon Offshore Energy LLC
Cantium, LLC
Chevron Corporation
ConocoPhillips
ExxonMobil Upstream Business Development
Hess Corporation
INPEX America's Inc.
Kosmos Energy Gulf of Mexico Management, LLC
LLOG Exploration Company LLC
Marubeni Oil & Gas (USA) LLC
Murphy Exploration & Production Company
Occidental (OXY) (Acquired Anadarko)
Peregrine Oil & Gas
Petro-Hunt, L.L.C.
Promethean Energy Corporation
QuarterNorth Energy (Previously Fieldwood Energy LLC
Red Willow Production Company
Renaissance Offshore, LLC
Repsol E&P USA LLC
Ridgewood Energy Corporation
Talos Energy Inc.
Walter Oil & Gas Corporation
Woodside Energy (merged with BHP)

OTHER OFFSHORE DEVELOPER/OPERATOR

Moana Minerals, Inc (parent is Ocean Minerals LLC)

PORTS

Greater Lafourche Port Commission

SERVICE

American Pollution Control Corporation (AMPOL)
ATPI
Continental Shelf Associates & Subsidiaries
CORE Laboratories
Delmar Systems
Exmar Offshore Company
Gibson Applied Technology & Engineering LLC (DBA GATE, Inc.)
Halliburton
Island Operating
Ocean Flow International LLC (Wholly Owend subsidiary of Sapura USA)
Offshore Energy Services
Pharma-Safe Industrial Services, Inc.
PRT Offshore
SLB (previously Schlumberger)
Stress Engineering Services
Texas Institute of Science (TXIS)
Thayer Mahan
The REACH Group
Tiger Rental Group, LLC (PMI, Tiger Safety and Tiger Offshore)
Trendsetter Engineering
United Vision Logistics
Upstream Engineering, LLC
White Fleet Abandonment

SERVICE (PREVIOUSLY WAS MARINE CONSTRUCTION BUT HAVE TRANSITIONED RECENTLY)

Aker Solutions

SMALL INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

Angelle Partners, LLC
Blue Latitudes
Energy Maritime Associates
Remote Medicine Inc. (RMI)
Roos Consulting Group
SIRON Dry Deluge Testing

WIND DEVELOPER

Ørsted Wind Power North America, LLC
US Wind, Inc.
Vineyard Offshore (Vineyard Wind) HAVE CREDIT ON ACCOUNT FOR 2024 DUES

NOIA: The Voice of the Offshore

The National Ocean Industries Association (NOIA) was founded in 1972 to be the voice of the offshore energy industry. Today, NOIA represents more than 100 companies, from small family-owned suppliers to multi-national operators. NOIA's diverse membership make us the only national trade association solely representing every aspect of offshore energy development.

The NOIA Mission

NOIA represents and advances a dynamic and growing offshore energy industry, providing solutions that support communities and protect our workers, the public and our environment.

The NOIA Vision

NOIA is the sought-after and credible voice, advocate and forum for uniting and advancing the interests of the offshore energy industry, recognized for promoting solutions that provide the energy vital for lifting society in a safe and environmentally sustainable way.

The NOIA Objectives

- To promote the interests of the members of the offshore energy industry
- To educate the public and policy makers with scientifically grounded information about the industry and its impact on our everyday lives
- To serve as a resource for the government and other stakeholders
- To influence public policy in support of the offshore energy industry
- To promote the role of a competitive, fair and free market in the development of offshore energy resources
- To facilitate a meaningful energy dialogue from diverse perspectives
- To be a learning organization and foster the mutual improvement of its members, including safety and environmental performance, through collaborative industry programs and efforts
- We strive to contribute solutions and best practices to optimally balance societal and environmental needs for meeting the climate challenge.

NATIONAL OCEAN INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

The NOIA ESG Network 2024 Report offers guidance on managing emissions, developing workforce

Earlier this year, the NOIA Environmental, Social, & Governance (ESG) Network published its fourth annual ESG report, *The NOIA ESG Network 2024 Report of the Offshore Energy Industry: Managing Emissions and Developing the Workforce of Tomorrow.* The report underscores the boundless creativity companies apply towards building the workforce of tomorrow and tangible progress in emissions reduction efforts, two key and critical areas of importance for the industry in the ESG paradigm.

NOIA, its members, and the broader offshore energy industry are focused on attracting and retaining the workforce of tomorrow through efforts to boost diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging in the workforce. While NOIA member companies respectively have company initiatives to advance these objectives, NOIA continues to serve as a center for learning and collaboration for the industry so that its members can gain an advantage in workforce development by engaging with the experts to enhance and implement programs and best practices.

The American offshore is producing more energy with a smaller footprint and lower emissions. The carbon intensity of the US Gulf of Mexico is one half of the intensity of other producing regions. Additionally, 18 deepwater US Gulf of Mexico facilities, which equate to about the size of only nine city blocks, produce about the same amount of oil as the entire state of North Dakota.

As demonstrated by NOIA members daily, the offshore energy sector as a whole operates in a manner that is enabling the lower carbon energy transition. From new low emission fuel additives for drillships to enhanced compressors on offshore platforms to new connection systems for subsea jumpers to the electrification of production systems, there is determined and measurable progress in reducing emissions.

The offshore oil and gas industry helped build the first US offshore wind farm offshore Block Island, Rhode Island. The offshore oil and gas industry is now involved in other wind projects up and down the Atlantic Coast.

New offshore wind projects under development dot the US East Coast and the first lease sales have been held along the Pacific Coast. Expanded American offshore wind development could spur $120 billion in new investments.

Similarly, carbon sequestration is an innovative approach to mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, and it is a critical tool for achieving climate change ambitions and goals that have been established by diverse stakeholders around the world.

The US Gulf of Mexico offshore region holds significant promise for fostering a robust carbon capture and storage (CCS) sector. It boasts favorable conditions such as geologic prospects for CO_2 storage, well-established energy infrastructure along the Gulf Coast and outer continental shelf, and proximity to industrial hubs for emissions capture. It also offers access to a skilled engineering and energy workforce, alongside robust research, development, and demonstration (RD&D) capabilities. These factors position the US Gulf of Mexico as a prime candidate to lead in CCS technology.

Initial forecasts suggest that by 2030, the Gulf could store approximately 50 million tons of CO_2 annually, surpassing the current global CCS capacity. Moreover, this storage potential could double by 2040, underlining the region's pivotal role in CCS expansion.

The thriving offshore energy sector underscores the importance of maintaining diverse energy sources in a reliable, responsible, and cost-effective manner. Conversely, curtailing investment opportunities in offshore oil and gas would not only diminish a vital source of engineering expertise but also jeopardize RD&D funding crucial for addressing technical challenges in decarbonization efforts. Therefore, sustaining revenue generation from oil and gas companies is essential for the ongoing success of emission reduction initiatives.

The American offshore energy sector reveals how producing the energy the world demands can also mean providing the climate solutions the world needs. For more than 50 years, NOIA has worked tirelessly – and successfully – to advocate on behalf of the US offshore energy industry before US policymakers and other stakeholders. From educating Congress, including testifying before Committee hearings and engaging directly with members of Congress and their staff; to building the public record of our industry through media outreach; to holding industry-wide forums and workshops, NOIA has been the voice of the American offshore energy sector. ●