

AWEA Wind Environmental, Health, and Safety Standards Committee
Draft Minutes
Monday, February 24 | 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM, PST
Hotel Del Coronado, Room: Windsor & Skype

Agenda

1. Welcome: Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy
2. Roll Call: AWEA Staff
3. Review and Approve Agenda: Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy
4. Approve August meeting minutes: Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy
5. AWEA Update: AWEA Staff
 - a. SpecBuilder Platform
6. Open Ballots: AWEA Staff
 - a. Approval of February 2019 meeting minutes
 - b. Approval of May 2019 meeting minutes
 - c. Approval of proposed 2020 meeting scheduleBallots Coming Soon:
 - d. Approval of WEHSSC Offshore Safety Training Subcommittee with David Yang, Ørsted, as Chair
 - e. Approval of offshore safety training and medical requirements scope
 - f. Approval of WEHSSC Offshore Safety Subcommittee
 - g. Approval of JB Glass, Ørsted, as the Chair of the WEHSSC Offshore Safety Subcommittee
 - h. Approval to move the Remote/Lone Work to AWEA trade association committee structure
7. AWEA WEHSSC Subcommittee and Task Force Updates
 - a. Offshore Safety Subcommittee, Chair: JB Glass, Ørsted
 - b. Offshore Safety Training Subcommittee, Chair: David Yang, Ørsted
 - c. Repowering Subcommittee, Chair: Chris Daniels, Mortenson
 - d. Rescue and Self-Evacuation Subcommittee, Chair: Tom Sutton, KVCC
 - e. Service Lift Task Force, Chair: Barry Morris, Wanzek
 - f. Wind Safety Standard Subcommittee, Chair: Dan Olson, GE
8. Proposed 2020 Schedule
 - a. Monday, February 24, 2020 – During the AWEA Wind Project O&M and Safety Conference 2020, Coronado, CA
 - b. August/September 2020 – During the AWEA Fall Committee Meetings, location TBD
9. New Items
10. The following groups will breakout to meet:
 - a. Wind Safety Standard Subcommittee
 - b. Service Lift Task Force
 - c. Repowering Subcommittee
 - d. Lone Work/Lone Worksites Task Force
 - e. Rescue and Self-Evacuation SubcommitteePlease note the Offshore Safety Training Subcommittee will meet on Tuesday, February 25, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM, Room: Kent
11. Adjourn
 - a. Motion, Chris Daniels, 2nd Tom Sutton

Minutes

This meeting met quorum. 33 out of 36 voting members attended.

- Review and Approve Agenda

- Motion Linkesh Diwan, Chris Petrola 2nd, approved.
- Approve August meeting minutes: Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy
 - The group reviewed the minutes, no comments or edits.
 - Motion Chris Petrola, Karl Delooff 2nd, approved.
- AWEA Update: AWEA Staff
 - SpecBuilder Platform launched January.
 - The site has limited admin roles, AWEA Staff, Sabrina Morelli and Michele Mihelic, will split groups to support them.
 - AWEA will post video recording and tutorials on AWEA standards site.
- Ballots review: AWEA Staff
 - The group reviewed the list of ballots that are open and ballots that are in the queue to post.
- 7. AWEA WEHSSC Subcommittee and Task Force Updates
 - Offshore Safety Subcommittee, Chair: JB Glass, Ørsted
 - Michele Mihelic, AWEA, hasn't had success in getting in touch with JB to see about moving this forward. She noted that there is a new volunteer that can take on the role of chair.
 - Rain Byars with the WTSC Offshore Wind Subcommittee OCRP group noted that several folks on her group will be interested. AWEA will reach out.
 - Offshore Safety Training Subcommittee, Chair: David Yang, Ørsted
 - David noted the group is close to finishing document, has a final draft for review.
 - They plan to have this available in the next two months.
 - Repowering Subcommittee, Chair: Chris Daniels, Mortenson
 - Chris noted that the group has had trouble getting something out, they haven't met since the AWEA Fall Committee meetings.
 - Chris is looking to step down.
 - breaking project/scope down into bite size pieces.
 - the group will discuss next steps when they meet next.
 - Rescue and Self-Evacuation Subcommittee, Chair: Tom Sutton, KVCC
 - We have a draft standard ready for review, it's also being reviewed by the rescue task force under the trade association.
 - After final review by AWEA trade association, it will move to the subcommittee.
 - Service Lift Task Force, Chair: Barry Morris, Wanzek
 - The group hasn't gained traction.
 - Barry proposes to resign from the group as chair.
 - Motion Tom Sutton, Chris Daniels 2nd, approved.
 - Carisa Barrett nominates Luke Metzinger, Avanti to be the chair of the group.
 - Carisa Barrett motions, Cynthia Cuenin 2nd; motion withdrawn.
 - The group had a discussion about first opening this up for nominations.
 - Jon Nietzel, Alliant, nominates himself as the chair; proposes a co-chair
 - It was noted that the task force did not develop a scope.
 - It was noted that a person does not need to be a voting member to be a chair of a subordinate group.
 - The group moves to open nominations.
 - Motion Kevin Turner, Von Bui 2nd, Approved
 - Nominations: Luke M, Avanti, and Jon Nietzel, Alliant Energy
 - AWEA will do a call for nominations, then after this an official ballot.

- Jon Nietzel noted he wants to make sure all parties are on the group and not sales driven, want to see a human performance/ergonomics focus.
- Barry Morris will stay on the working group.
- Original intent of the group was to evaluate the space, determine action items around service lift issue, work with ASME or write our own standard, this group is meant to identify the direction.
- Prashant Krishnan asked if this includes 3M.
- Michele Mihelic noted this task force is supposed to determine this.
- Jon Nietzel recommended the to include climb assist in the scope.
- Brad Tweeten noted these are two separate items; I agree that we are having a hard time determining stressors on the body.
- Gemma Smith noted that write now the group is just service lift, we can decide now what the scope is OR allow the task force to determine this and bring to our attention.
- TF vs Subcommittee: TF is a one-time thing.
- Mike Kelley noted he brought this idea to the floor and it went nowhere, the idea behind this is to get a document in place to protect employees, stop elevator group inspections. It was only service lifts because climb assists weren't being challenged and service lifts were being challenged all over.
- Alan Nelson asked about adding a climb assist take force to work independently.
- Karl Delooff asked if there is a need for it. From a regulatory purpose, no. More interest groups.
- Cynthia Cuenin noted there is a lack of knowledge/training when using service lifts; people taking short cuts, we are talking about safety of the wind tech.
- Carisa Barrett noted confusion because there is an ASME code that's written for wind turbine elevators, 32 states are enforcing this/adopted it. She noted she is a licensed elevator mechanic, has experience installing these. She thought this task force was to bring forth the education of this code. On the first task force call, no one admitted having read the code. It's a safety code, create safety for wind tech using the lift. One state has \$1,000 permit, the rest of the states are \$25, \$50, \$100, my non-profit is working with the industry to lower these costs. Carisa noted confusion that folks are opposing this when they haven't read the code. You cannot create a standard when one has already been created.
 - Gemma Smith noted to table discussion, have a vote on the chairs and then move forward.
- Wind Safety Standard Subcommittee, Chair: Dan Olson, GE
 - Dan noted he is working on this and making progress.
 - The goal is to look to see how this differs from 61400.
 - Looking at EN 50308 and other standards.
 - New volunteers: Prashant Krishnan, Toby Gillespie, Tom Sutton
- 2020 Schedule
 - Monday, February 24, 2020 – During the AWEA Wind Project O&M and Safety Conference 2020, Coronado, CA
 - August/September 2020 – During the AWEA Fall Committee Meetings, location TBD
 - Fall Committee Meeting will be in Washington, DC on September 22 – 23.

- Please mark your calendars 21 – 25, hold this time slot, AWEA staff will give specific dates soon.
- Gemma Smith noted that this group no longer has teleconferences; this allows members more time to participate in working groups and task forces.
- New Items
 - Climb Assist
 - Brad Tweeten noted not sure a group is needed to focus on climb assist, but ergonomics to determine stressors on the body when climbing a tower. Cannot define how hard it is to climb. Brad recommended a focus on defining the problem and not another task force. He does not see a need for a climb assist standard.
 - Michele Mihelic noted the group can make a recommendation that AWEA trade association takes this on.
 - John Phillips noted there is a group developing criteria around testing, to look at compatibility issue with climb assist.
 - Gemma Smith noted this group needs to determine the standards this group will focus on; we cannot make decisions on groups outside of this committee.
 - Michele Mihelic noted there is a standard ASSP/ANSI Z359. She noted it is her understanding that they are not interested in developing a standard in this area. If this group would like her to reach out to ASSP to confirm, she can. The WEHSSC focus is to develop ANSI standards that focus on EHS in wind. The consortium that was created is not affiliated with AWEA or AWEA's standards groups.
 - Jon Nietzel asked the group for a show of hands to see if it is important to focus on human factor performance. He noted he has data to show risks of climbing, kneeling, etc. Let us understand the risks first and then determine the need for a task force/standard.
 - Joey Deuer noted this goes beyond ergonomics, it goes with integration of climb assist/fall arrest.
 - Brad Tweeten noted there is work being done to determine compatibility. All groups following Z359. We do not need to create a new standard when there is one out there, we are answering the grey issue. Once this puzzle piece is resolved, we will have the info we need.
 - Linkesh Diwan noted It appears that the group agrees that there is no need for a new standard.
 - Remote/Lone Work:
 - Gemma Smith motioned to move this to the AWEA trade association, EHS Steering met February 23 the steering group does not feel they need to move forward on this topic and create a new document, they do not see a need for a standards.
 - Question posed to the group: did the steering committee misunderstand the scope?
 - Chris Daniels noted there was not a lot of support to move this forward, no volunteers to lead the group.
 - Gemma Smith asked is it ok that we do not move forward.
 - Len Tully asked if this is better as a whitepaper. Not sure what we could do to add value to the industry.
 - Phil McKay noted they are seeing the same challenges, it is important topic, but they too are not getting enough participation. He noted they are sharing information on what folks are using/doing. Since no one is

climbing alone, we are not crossing the line where something is unique to wind.

- Scott Bramlett noted this group has had a lack of interest in moving this topic along. What do we do when two folks out on site and one get hurts? Let us get some traction on this topic. We need people to lead this.
 - Jeff Sampeer noted there is not a lot of traction because there are not a lot of people utilizing this. If someone goes down while working alone it is a rescue scenario.
 - Mike Kelley noted industry standard is two people out on the site. We all have the late-night calls/early morning calls, out alone on site answering the calls. I think we lost sight of what the focus is.
 - John Phillips noted a need for a standard. If there is a group created to determine x amount of staff for x tasks, there are too many variables. He does not see anything broken.
 - Linkesh Diwan proposed we recommend to the wind industry that the industry follow what is out there in the utility industry.
 - Jon Nietzel noted we cannot afford to send two people to a site for certain tasks, we will fight tooth and nail on this. There's already information out there in the utility space.
 - Gemma Smith noted that based on the discussion we will remove this topic from WEHSSC.
- Ergonomics:
- Jon Nietzel noted he focuses on the task, the task demands the tool, and the tool demands the working. He has found error in the wind industry, the design of the equipment, limited equipment/tool, affects ergonomics. One particular model doesn't allow a service lift installed.
 - Wesley Witt noted the group needs to get in alignment with Europe. We need regulation to force us to design what's needed b/c people will always choose the cheaper option.
 - Brad Tweeten noted this is what Dan's group is working on, looking at European standards and give us the info we need to talk to regulators.
 - Gemma Smith noted she is struggling to understand what we can do with standards regarding this.
 - Linkesh Diwan noted he a need to determine height thresholds on when to install a service lift.
 - Brad Tweeten noted that we do not have this data. We need to focus on ergonomics, focus for AWEA trade association.
 - Gemma Smith noted the group is going to push the idea of ergonomics to AWEA trade association. AWEA planned a meeting for February 24 during lunch to discuss ergonomics.

Action Items

- AWEA to create ballot to approve August 2019 meeting minutes.
- AWEA to post SpecBuilder tutorials online. Tutorials now posted online, [click here](#).
- AWEA staff to send call for nominations for chair of the Service Lift Task Force.

Attendees

Voting Member Company	Name	Type
Acciona Energy USA Global LLC	Delooff, Karl	Primary
Acciona Energy USA Global LLC	Petrola, Christopher	Alternate

ALLETE / Minnesota Power	Cooke, Heather	Primary
Alliant Energy	Nietzel, Jon	Alternate
Avangrid Renewables	Labelle, David	Primary
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement	Cushing, John	Alternate
Clearway Energy Group	Court, Jeff	Primary
Clearway Energy Group	Sampeer, Jeff	Alternate
EDP Renewables North America LLC	Krishnan, Prashant	Primary
EGE Haina	Then, Ramon	Primary
Enel Green Power North America Inc.	Sotirakopoulos, Adam	Primary
Ensa North America	Siegel, Rob	Primary
FieldCore - A GE Company	Kelley, Mike	Alternate
Firetrace International	Krcmar, Angela	Primary
GE Renewable Energy	Olson, Daniel	Primary
Geronimo Energy	Smith, Gemma (Chair)	Primary
High Plains Technology Center	Tew, James	Primary
Infrastructure & Energy Alternatives, Inc.	Turner, Kevin	Primary
Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative	Zeitz, Alden	Primary
Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative	Dahl, Braxton	Alternate
Kalamazoo Valley Community College	Sutton, Thomas	Primary
Liberty Power	Di Giovanni, Ester	Primary
Mortenson	Daniels, Chris	Primary
Orsted Onshore North America	Ramirez, Diego	Primary
Pattern Energy Group LP	Milligan, Robert	Primary
Run Energy LP	Nelson, Alan	Primary
RWE Renewables	Dove, Ryan	Primary
Shermco Industries	Alewine, Kevin	Primary
Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy	Witt, Wesley	Primary
Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy	Bui, Von	Alternate
SKYLOTEC North America LP	Seyhan, Kurani	Primary
Tech Safety Lines Inc.	Ham, Reggie	Primary
Tetra Tech Inc.	Beck, Ron	Primary
The Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection & Insurance Company	Diwan, Linkesh	Primary
TUF-TUG Products	Deuer, Joey	Primary
Wanzek Construction	Morris, Barry	Primary
World Wind & Solar	Kitchen, Dwayne	Primary

Observers/Guests

Company	Name
Airway Services, LLC	Jenson, Dusty
Allsafe Elevator Inspections, LLC	Tsamoutalis, Theresa

Canadian Wind Energy Association - CanWEA	McKay, Phil
Clearway Energy Group	Campbell, Ben
EDP Renewables North America LLC	Waite, Joseph
Elevator Industry Work Preservation Fund	Barrett, Carisa
Enel Green Power North America Inc.	Bramlett, Scott (Vice-chair)
Infrastructure & Energy Alternatives, Inc.	Watson, Doug
Invenergy	Tully, Len
Leeward Renewable Energy	Vander Velde, Grayling
NextEra Energy Inc.	Phillips, John
Pattern Energy Group LP	DeLoach, Early
Shell New Energies	Byars, Rain
Suzlon	Wooldridge, Scott
Suzlon	Skorcz, Michael
Tempest Group, Inc.	Cuenin, Cynthia
Vestas North America	Tweeten, Brad

Did Not Attend

Voting Member Company
Deutsche Windtechnik Inc.
Lift-it Manufacturing Co. Inc.
Orsted Wind Power North America LLC