

U.S. Energy Secretary Granholm tours Port of New London's State Pier, declares 'We want to replicate this'



Local, state and federal officials, and labor leaders pose for photos with U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm.

It was an afternoon of high praise for leaders of the Connecticut Port Authority as U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm toured the work to make State Pier, Port of New London, a state-of-the-art facility and declared this should be “an example for the country.”

“We want to replicate this,” Granholm said after meeting with workers transforming the outdated facility into an advanced, heavy-lift capable terminal to accommodate massive wind turbines for the offshore wind industry and a broader range of cargo.

The project is scheduled for completion by March 2023. It will be the culmination of the CPA’s vision in 2018 when it sought private-sector partners to help support the necessary improvements that would lead to a “thriving maritime economy driving steady economic growth and creating new jobs across Connecticut,” as stated in the CPA’s vision statement for all three ports. Even more, it will finally bring this unique, but long-underutilized state asset, up to state-of-the-art standards as a marine terminal able to handle a wide variety of cargo.

Granholm was accompanied by the state’s Congressional Delegation, Gov. Ned Lamont, Gateway Terminal President Jim Dillman, Keith Brothers, President of Connecticut Building Trades, New London Mayor Michael Passero, and other state and regional stakeholders.

Granholm’s remarks received considerable media attention, as she acknowledged the Port of New London’s lead position in the race to accommodate the explosion of offshore wind development necessary to meet the Biden Administration’s offshore wind power energy goals.

“I was asked to come here by the White House because y’all have been doing amazing things in Connecticut,” Granholm said, noting the facility is contributing to President Biden’s twin goals of 100% clean electricity by 2035, and gaining energy independence from a global supply chain.

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Peter Maglicic, of Kiewit Corp., explains some of the State Pier work to, U.S. Rep Joe Courtney, CPA Executive Director Ulysses Hammond, and U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm.

“To my colleagues in the United States Senate, if you want to see the future of energy in this country, come here, come to New London, come to State Pier.”
SEN. RICHARD BLUMENTHAL

“Offshore wind gets you tons of jobs in the short term, it gets you tons of local economic development in the long-run. It makes the country more secure, and it helps the planet.”
SEN. CHRIS MURPHY

“Just the dimensions of this project, the complexity of the work, and the speed with which it's being implemented, is really just extraordinary.”
U.S. REP. JOE COURTNEY



CPA Board Chair David Kooris led the speaking program during Secretary Granholm's visit.

U.S. Energy Secretary Granholm

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"This is why this is such an amazing example of that getting done. The reason why the President was fascinated by what you are doing is because we want to replicate this. And that's why it is so great to be here to see you as an example for the country," Granholm said.

CPA Board Chairman David Kooris acknowledged the facility's role in the development of sustainable, offshore wind power, but focused on what a state-of-the-art State Pier will mean in terms of jobs and economic development for the region and state.

"This is a great example of what it takes to position this country for the green sector and the blue sector economies," Kooris said. "It is not just about the energy generation, but it's about the pipeline of economic activity and the resultant economic development and the infrastructure that goes in to underpin that."

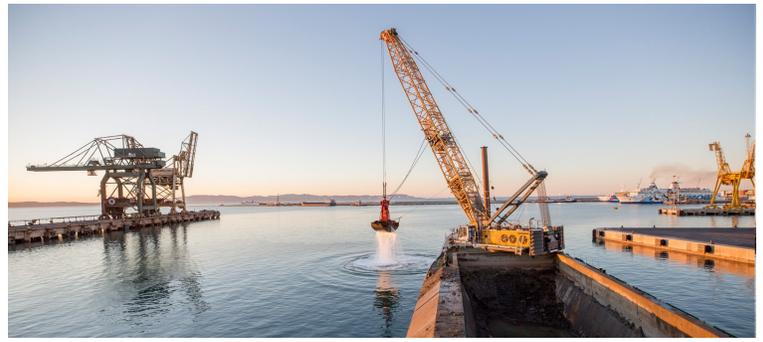
The infrastructure, Kooris said, "will extend into dozens and dozens of communities within this state. Without this infrastructure, the low carbon energy that Commissioner Dykes and the federal administration are working so hard toward would not be achievable."

Kooris noted that the CPA is a small agency and thanked the federal, state, and local partners, as well as the Orsted and Eversource offshore wind joint venture, for providing the private-sector funds that are making the vision of the CPA Strategic Plan a reality.

"We appreciate all of you working alongside of us. We're a lean, mean, small team," Kooris said. "We couldn't have done it without you, but we're really happy to deliver this project less than a year from now, and we can't wait to see turbines here and ships bringing them out to the offshore farm."



From left, New London Mayor Michael Passero, U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm, and Governor Ned Lamont.



The project will deepen the federal channel to 40 feet from its current depth of 35 feet at mean low water.

Long-awaited New Haven dredge project closer to reality with \$63M in federal funds

The long-awaited plan to dredge the main federal ship channel in New Haven Harbor is closer to reality with all funding in hand and design work underway. Work is scheduled to begin in Q4 of 2023. The project is expected to take two years to complete.

The CPA will serve as the state's lead agency for coordinating dredging activities with the Army Corps of Engineers.

U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro, Chair of the House Appropriations Committee, earlier this year secured \$63 million in federal funding under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to complete the New Haven Harbor Navigation Improvement Project. The State Bond Commission approved financing for the balance of the \$73 million project.

This funding will be used to deepen the federal navigation channel within the New Haven Harbor to 40 feet from its current depth of 35 feet at mean low water. In addition, the maneuvering area and turning basin will be widened by dredging to allow larger vessels to efficiently access the port's terminals. At the channel's current depth, to reach the terminals, larger ships must lighten their weight outside the breakwaters and often experience delays while waiting for favorable tide conditions.

Ship pilots and terminal owners have testified that the current depths "do not meet the draft requirements of today's fleet of bulk and tanker ships," necessitating vessels to be light loaded before entering the harbor at increased costs and inefficiencies, according to the U.S. Army Corps' final report signed by Lt. Gen. Todd Semonite, chief of engineers.

"From the beginning of this effort, I have been pushing for the New Haven Navigation Improvement Project to be included as one of the accelerated projects under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law," Congresswoman DeLauro said. "This federal funding is a game-changer. This project will increase the navigation efficiency and safety of the New Haven Harbor. It will create good-paying jobs for longshoremen, truck drivers, warehousemen, and construction workers and strengthen Connecticut's supply chain. We have long known that this critical project would bolster Connecticut's economy, and now the New Haven Port Authority and the Connecticut State Port Authority have the tools they need to make these much-needed improvements a reality."

Port of New London State Pier: 'Gold Standard' of marine terminal projects

When U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm said during her May 2022 tour of State Pier that "we want to replicate this," she wasn't the only one who recognized the project's unique position and progress.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Environmental Protection Agency and the New Jersey Economic Development Authority have all recently toured the State Pier Improvement Project to see how this complete rebuilding of an outdated facility is taking shape.

New Jersey is spending \$300-\$400 million in public funds to build the New Jersey Wind Port – a purpose-built facility designed just to serve the offshore wind power industry -- with the first phase not expected to be completed until sometime in 2024. With the Port of New London out in front on these projects, similar visits from interested stakeholders to State Pier are scheduled.

State Pier has become the "Gold Standard" for marine terminal infrastructure projects, according to CPA Manager of Business Development and Special Projects Andrew Lavigne.

"Everybody wants to see it. They're calling it the Gold Standard of marine terminal development when they come on site and see how well organized and safe it is for a massive waterfront construction site."



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Board names long-time community leader Ulysses Hammond as interim Executive Director

Ulysses B. Hammond, a community leader for a wide variety of causes in Southeastern Connecticut, became the interim Executive Director of the Connecticut Port Authority in April.



Ulysses B. Hammond

Hammond served for 15 years as Vice President for Administration and Legal Affairs at Connecticut College where he oversaw all campus administration and general business operations at the New London based college. Hammond led the college's \$100 million capital project, which included construction of the Science Center, Library, Fitness Center, Power House, and Hillel Center.

"I'm pleased to serve the Connecticut Port Authority as we work to ensure that all three of our state's commercial ports are meeting the authority's goal of driving economic development for the state, while we also work to improve recreation and small business opportunities in our smaller harbors," Hammond said.

Hammond joins the team at a crucial point for the Port of New London State Pier improvement project. He immediately became immersed in the complex, unique effort to transform the long-underutilized facility into a state-of-the-art marine terminal with heavy-lift capabilities suitable for general cargo well into the future. The terminal also will be able to handle the massive wind turbines necessary for the burgeoning offshore wind industry, and will serve as a hub for assembling and shipping of these components to wind farms along the East Coast.

"We're very lucky to have identified someone who is interested and has the skill set, very well, if not perfectly suited, to help us through this transition period as we launch a search for our next permanent executive director," board Chairman David Kooris said at the April board meeting when Hammond was confirmed.

Kooris said Hammond's experience in the areas of human resources, finance, and capital projects "is a macrocosm of everything the authority deals with on a smaller scale."

With decades of executive experience leading public and private institutions in Michigan, Washington DC, and the State of Connecticut, Hammond described himself as a "collaborative leader and very 360 oriented when it comes to project management and administration. I try to touch as many bases as possible."

Upon arrival at the Authority, Hammond's first action was the hiring of Finance Director Veronica Calvert. As a result of the hiring, the Authority has filled all vacancies and now has four permanent staff members.

Hammond replaces John Henshaw, who stayed on to help make a smooth transition before returning to his home in Maine.

SHIPP 3.0

Grants-in-aid program improves public access to shoreline, inland waterways

The CPA is scheduled to announce grant awards for the third round of the Small Harbor Improvement Projects Program (SHIPP) for municipalities by the end of July.

Under SHIPP, Connecticut municipalities may apply for funds to conduct a project that improves the infrastructure or management of their local waterway.

A SHIPP Grant may be used on a wide range of improvements including marina repair, dredging, boat ramp facilities improvement, breakwaters, harbor management plans and feasibility studies.

“SHIPP projects are important on several levels, from providing public access to our waterways and improving recreational facilities, to the economic benefits associated with small harbor

infrastructure projects,” said CPA interim Executive Director Ulysses B. Hammond.

The selection of grant recipients for Round 3 will take place in late-July after the CPA Projects Committee rates the applications based on developed criteria and presents them to the CPA Board of Directors for final approval.

Municipal leaders are urged to contact the CPA for information about the grant program. As stated in the legislation that created the program, the goal of SHIPP is to “maximize the economic potential of Connecticut’s ports and harbors, support and enhance the overall development of the state’s maritime commerce and industries, and coordinate the planning and funding of capital projects promoting the development of the state’s ports and harbors.”

Community outreach efforts keep CPA staff busy as tour guides for State Pier improvement project



Members of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut toured State Pier in June.

CPA staff provided a number of State Pier site tours and public outreach presentations this Spring as anticipation around the region builds toward the approaching completion date in March 2023.

Board Chair David Kooris led a tour of the Port of New London’s State Pier facility in March for Gov. Ned Lamont, who was joined by State Rep. Anthony Nolan (D-New London), New London Mayor Michael Passero, and Keith Brothers, President of Connecticut Building Trades, and Tony Sheridan, president of the Eastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce.

Several members of broadcast, digital, and print media covered the event.

Congressman Joe Courtney toured the facility in April joined by Paul Whitescarver, Executive Director of Southeastern CT Enterprise

Region (seCTer), Saranda Belica, Director of Business Development for AdvanceCT, and representatives of the Ørsted and Eversource joint venture. The joint venture will lease State Pier for a minimum of 10 years for use as a hub for staging and shipping wind turbines to three New England offshore wind farms. The three projects already scheduled to be delivered from the facility are South Fork Wind, Revolution Wind, and Sunrise Wind. Members of the joint venture Government Relations team also visited the site to mark Earth Day.

May included back-to-back events.

On May 19, CPA interim Executive Director Ulysses Hammond and Chairman Kooris offered a presentation to the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments and Paul Lavoie, the state’s Chief Manufacturing Officer, in conjunction with the joint venture, and seCTer. A tour of the site followed.

On May 20, Hammond and Kooris led U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm on a tour that included Granholm meeting with union leaders and workers. Granholm was joined by the state’s Congressional delegation, the Governor, New London Mayor, terminal operator Gateway New London and others.

On June 3, members of the New London City Council, New London School Board, and the Board of Directors of the Eastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce toured the site with Executive Director Hammond and Andrew Lavigne, Manager of Business Development and Special Projects.

The Authority continues to engage the public through a variety of education and community outreach opportunities.



Gov. Ned Lamont and CPA Board Chair David Kooris.



Rendering Credit Jennifer Gottlieb, AIA NCARB ENV SP at AECOM

STATE PIER

The Connecticut Port Authority and State of Connecticut, together with our partners Ørsted and Eversource, are investing \$250 million to redevelop the Authority's State Pier facility in New London. Ørsted and Eversource have contributed over \$75m to the project.

Construction is ongoing and the facility upgrades will be completed by spring 2023. Three offshore wind projects commissioned by Connecticut, New York and Rhode Island - totaling more than 1,700MW - are already scheduled to be delivered from the completed facility.



PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

- The infrastructure upgrades will re-make State Pier as a modern, heavy-lift capable port and meet the facility requirements of the offshore wind industry.
- The upgrades include the creation of two heavy-lift pads, each capable of handling loads of 5,000 pounds per square foot (psf). The rest of the facility's load bearing capacity has been enhanced to 3,000psf.
- The improvements will benefit the port's long-term growth by increasing its capacity to accommodate heavy-lift cargo for years to come while maintaining its freight rail link.
- Following the completion of the infrastructure upgrade project, the Ørsted and Eversource joint venture company will enter into a ten-year lease agreement, which will allow it to use State Pier for wind turbine generator pre-assembly and staging.
- Three offshore wind projects totaling more than 1,700MW are already scheduled to be delivered from the completed facility:
 - South Fork Wind (132MW, State of New York);
 - Revolution Wind (304MW, State of Connecticut and 400MW, State of Rhode Island);
 - and Sunrise Wind (880MW, State of New York)
- The first U.S. built wind turbine installation vessel, Dominion's *Charybdis*, which is expected to be sea ready in late-2023, will first be deployed out of State Pier to support the construction of the Revolution Wind and Sunrise Wind projects.
- During periods where Ørsted and Eversource are not using State Pier, the facility will be marketed to other customers to ensure maximum utilization.

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