

## 2) Eastport Tidal Generator – the “Kittyhawk” of Tidal Energy

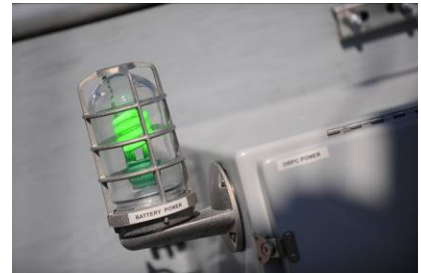
Sector Northern New England endeavors to be a leader in conservation and renewable energy for the Coast Guard and federal government. Several initiatives have been effectively implemented to harness renewable energy sources, such as bio-fuel, solar, wind, and tides, to generate power and heat.



On August 24<sup>th</sup>, Sector Northern New England and Ocean Renewable Power Company (ORPC) officially launched a joint initiative to leverage the powerful tidal ranges of Cobscook Bay in Eastport, ME. The “Energy Tide 2” was the product of a year-long collaborative project and includes a world class 60kW underwater turbine generator unit (TGU) capable of producing clean, grid-compatible power. The electricity generated by the TGU charges battery modules that provide up to 4-hours per day of shore-tie electricity for Station Eastport’s 41-foot search and rescue boat.

*This power system is the first and largest of its kind ever deployed in U.S. waters and the first such application of tidal energy by a federal agency.*

*Captain James McPherson, Sector Commander for Northern New England, joined Governor Baldacci and Chris Sauer, President and CEO for ORPC, during a ceremony to unveil “Energy Tide 2.”*



[Time lapse video of Eastport tidal ranges](#)  
[Video of tidal energy generator in operation](#)  
[B-Roll of tidal energy generator taken on August 24th](#)

## 3) Wind Turbine Installation at Coast Guard Housing in Southwest Harbor



On August 27<sup>th</sup>, Sector Northern New England further advanced its commitment to green energy initiatives by installing a 70-foot, 2.4-kilowatt Skystream residential wind turbine at the Coast Guard housing development in Southwest Harbor, ME.



*The turbine is positioned to take advantage of the prevailing local winds and provides green electricity to an adjacent duplex housing unit. This initiative was the next step in the pursuit of a “net zero” home concept in the housing development and is projected to save more than \$1,200 in electricity expenses per year.*

[USCG Northern New England Green Energy Fact Sheet](#)

#### 4) Sector Northern New England partners with Canadian Coast Guard for rescue off Grand Manan Island

The coordinated search and rescue case involving the Canadian-flagged Fishing Vessel Winddancer II highlights the fantastic partnership with our Canadian partners to seamlessly respond to emergency situations on both sides of the border. The case also illustrates the critical importance of having adequate safety and survival equipment onboard vessels of all types. The presence and use of such equipment was a factor that contributed to the fishermen being found alive by rescue crews.



*On September 13<sup>th</sup>, Sector Northern New England's Command Center and Canada's Rescue Coordination Center in Halifax, N.S. received a mayday call over VHF-FM channel 16 from the Fishing vessel Winddancer II. The vessel, with three people onboard, was taking on water approximately eight miles South of Grand Manan Island in immediate need of assistance.*

*Despite the vessel being in Canadian waters, Sector Northern New England launched a 25-foot response boat from Station Eastport to assist. Station Eastport was in position to arrive on scene more quickly than the next-closest Canadian water resource. The Station Eastport boat crew worked closely with a Canadian C-130 aircraft and rescue helicopter to locate the vessel within 40 minutes. By the time the Station boat arrived, the fishing vessel had mostly sunk and the 3-person crew had abandoned into a life raft. All three were subsequently recovered by the Coast Guard crew, in good condition, and transferred to Canadian officials.*



#### 5) Coast Guard Ice-breaking Operations in the Wake of Kennebec River Ice Jam and Flood

Domestic Ice Operations is one of the Coast Guard's 11 missions and is conducted for search and rescue operations, to prevent or alleviate flooding caused by ice, and to facilitate navigation for commerce. In particular, flood relief icebreaking may be conducted under the Coast Guard's broad authority to aid distressed persons and property, or in response to requests by federal, state, or local government agencies. This support of other agencies is provided in consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which has federal responsibility for flood control. In Sector Northern New England's area of operation, winter season ice-breaking is also critical to aid in the safe transport of vital commodities, such as heating oil, to various communities along the Kennebec River.



*On January 26<sup>th</sup>, heavy rainfall and rapid ice melting caused by unseasonably warm temperatures combined to create a dangerous ice jam on the Kennebec River from Augusta to Hallowell, ME. The mile-long jam prevented up-river water and rain run-off from flowing down-river to sea and quickly resulted in heavy flooding in Augusta and Hallowell. River water levels in both towns climbed to over 17 feet – more than 5 feet above flood stage. Sector Northern New England, in conjunction with the Maine Emergency Management Agency and other local, state and federal agencies, quickly dispatched the Rockland-based 65-foot Coast Guard Cutter Tackle, the Southwest Harbor-based Coast Guard Cutter Bridle, and the New London, CT-based 140-foot Coast Guard Cutter Morrow Bay to the area to assist. During a 4-day operation, the Coast Guard cutters collectively expended 73 hours to break 303 nautical miles of river ice averaging 12 inches thick, effectively alleviating the flood disaster.*



## 6) Open Lighthouse Day



The coast of Maine boasts over 60 lighthouses, the most of any state in the country. Sector Northern New England and its Aids to Navigation Teams still maintain the lights and foghorns in 55 of Maine's lighthouses as active federal aids to navigation. Even with modern navigational equipment, lighthouses continue to serve as important maritime beacons for both professional mariners and the recreational boating public. Sector Northern New England again partnered with the American Lighthouse Foundation and Maine Office of Tourism to hold the second annual Open Lighthouse Day in September.

*On September 18<sup>th</sup>, a total of 25 lighthouses spanning the coast of Maine were opened and made available to the public, many of which also included the opportunity to climb to the top of the towers themselves. Many of the lighthouses are not normally open and accessible to members of the public. Open Lighthouse Day is in large part made possible through the cooperative efforts of local governments and municipalities, non-profit lighthouse preservation groups and volunteers who own, maintain or manage the lighthouse properties and structures statewide.*

## 7) Certificate of Valor Awarded to 9-year old Jonesport, Maine Native

The Certificate of Valor was created in 2003 to recognize both uniformed personnel and civilians from either inside or outside the Department of Homeland Security who, through their actions, exhibited courage above and beyond the call of duty in saving a life or attempting to save a life, and/or whose action put them at extreme personal risk. Only sixteen Certificates of been awarded, including the most recent recognition of 8-year old Jonesport native Matthew Drisko.



*On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Congressman Michael Michaud presented the Certificate of Valor to Matthew Drisko during a ceremony at Coast Guard Station Jonesport. Matthew was recognized for his heroic actions while assisting in the rescue of his grandfather while on a fishing trip, May 26, 2009. His grandfather became tangled in a line and fell overboard into 44-degree water. After attempting several times to lift his grandfather back onto the boat, Matthew, the only other occupant of the boat, secured a lifejacket to his grandfather and maneuvered the boat to a fishing vessel transiting nearby to get assistance. The fishing boat crew then helped pull his grandfather aboard and transported him to shore for medical evaluation.*

## 8) Decommissioning of Loran-C Station Caribou, Maine

In January 2010, the Coast Guard announced the decision to decommission the Long range Aids to Navigation (Loran-C) program. As a result of technological advancements during the past 20 years and the emergence of the U.S. Global Positioning System, Loran-C was longer required by the armed forces, the transportation sector or the nation's security interests, and was only being used by a small segment of the population. Termination of the program was supported through the enactment of the fiscal year 2010 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill and President Obama's fiscal year 2010 budget, which reflected a pledge to eliminate outdated and unnecessary systems.



*On September 1<sup>st</sup>, the Coast Guard's Loran Station in Caribou Maine was decommissioned after 35 years in operation. The Station, staffed with four active duty Coast Guard members, was commissioned in November, 1974 and transmitted the American northeast 9960 and Canadian East Coast 5930 navigation and timing signals. Station Caribou holds the distinction of being the very last Coast Guard Loran-C station to transmit an American Loran signal, officially ending the country's 67-year Loran-C program.*



## 9) JETEX 2010 – Portland, Maine

Similar in nature to a SONS exercise, the Portland International Jetport is required by the Federal Aviation Administration to conduct a full-scale exercise to test and validate its Emergency Action Plan on a triennial basis. The Portland Jetport is situated just off the Fore River and has a main runway approach over the waters of Casco Bay, Portland Harbor and the Fore River, underscoring the importance of testing multi-agency response to emergency situations having a water nexus. As the lead federal agency for the coordination of water search and rescue and environmental response activities, the Coast Guard plays a key role in all water-side operations.



*On June 5<sup>th</sup>, Sector Northern New England personnel joined over 200 local, state and federal government and emergency responders, private stakeholders, and non-governmental organizations for the JETEX 2010 full-scale exercise. The exercise simulated a commercial aircraft with 74 people on board crashing in the Fore River on approach to the Jetport. The Sector and Station Portland coordinated the multi-agency water-side effort and conducted real-life rescue operations on the water. Coast Guard personnel also integrated into the land-side response to help manage the overall incident and address environmental and waterway issues.*

*On June 5<sup>th</sup>, Sector Northern New England personnel joined over 200 local, state and federal government and emergency responders, private stakeholders, and non-governmental organizations for the JETEX 2010 full-scale exercise. The exercise simulated a commercial aircraft with 74 people on board crashing in the Fore River on approach to the Jetport. The Sector and Station Portland coordinated the multi-agency water-side effort and conducted real-life rescue operations*



## 10) President Obama and First Family Visit to Bar Harbor



*From July 16 to 18, President Obama and his family visited Bar Harbor, Maine and the surrounding areas of Acadia National Park, the first visit by a sitting U.S. President to the area in 100 years. Sector Northern New England worked closely with the U.S. Secret Service to support the visit by providing liaisons in the 24/7 command post and by enforcing a 5-boat, 24/7 Security Zone on the water adjacent to the hotel where the First Family stayed. On July 17<sup>th</sup>, the First Family visited the Bass Harbor Lighthouse, located on the southern tip of Mt. Desert Island. Bass Harbor Light is one of 55 lights along the coast of Maine still maintained by the Coast Guard as federal aids to navigation. President Obama and his family received a tour of the lighthouse structure and grounds by the Officer in Charge of the Coast Guard's Aids to Navigation Team in Southwest Harbor, Maine.*