AWEA Wind EHS Standards Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 12 I Austin, TX
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM, Central

Agenda
1. Welcome
2. Roll Call
3. AWEA WEHSSC Action Items
   a. AWEA WSC ANSI Audit
      i. Update
4. AWEA WEHSSC Action Items
   a. Approve May meeting minutes
   b. Ballot Review
      i. Approval of WEHSSC membership application for Geronimo Energy
      ii. Approval of WEHSSC Service Lift Task Force
      iii. Approval of WEHSSC Wind Safety Standard Subcommittee
      iv. Approval of WEHSSC Meeting Minutes - February 2018
   c. GWO Membership Application
5. AWEA WEHSSC Subcommittee Updates
   a. Wind Safety Standard Subcommittee; Chair - Dan Olson, GE Renewable Energy,
   b. Service Lift Task Force: Chair - Mike Kelley, Enel Green Power North America,
6. Priorities and Goals 2019
   a. Discussion to identify 2019 goals and priorities
      i. Offshore Safety
      ii. Repowering
      iii. Confined spaces
7. Meeting Schedule (Click here to view the calendar on Workspace)
   a. Teleconference: November 8, 2018, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM, EST
   b. In person Meeting Spring 2018: February 25, 2019 – pre-AWEA Wind Project
      O&M and Safety Conference, San Diego, CA
8. New Items
9. Adjourn

Minutes
A quorum was achieved, 20 out of 37 (54%) voting companies attended, and this group requires 51%.

AWEA WSC Action Items
- AWEA WSC ANSI Audit Update
  Michele Mihelic, AWEA, provided an update on the ANSI Audit.
  - This is AWEA’s first audit and it focused on AWEA’s first standard SWT-1.
  - Based on the audit feedback, we must revise the Standard Development Procedures (SDP) and we need to make sure we have proper documentation of processes (responding to comments, etc.).
    - AWEA will make sure to sit down with all the Chairs to make sure they know how to use the Workspace system.
  - AWEA needs to update the voting requirements. Current SDP has old language referring to meeting majority and 2/3rds. AWEA needs to update this to just meet 2/3rds.
  - Potential outcomes of the audit:
1) We may lose our accreditation if so, we’ll need to revise SDPs, reapply for membership, and there will be an application fee.

2) We may have our accreditation suspended if so, we will need to withdraw standards, revise SDPs, and then reactivate our membership.

3) We have our standard remanded, withdraw it and do again, go through another audit in a year, revise SDP, and move forward.
   - ANSI meets the end of Jan/early Feb to make a decision.
   - ANSI feels that the exec committee will most likely go with option 3. They feel that we are welcoming and accepting of criticism and open to making change.
   - AWEA staff will share a timeline for correcting items and staff will ensure and remind members of the proper process and procedures.

- GWO Membership Application
  - Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy, noted that we have asked the GWO to remain an observer and not pursue voting membership status.

AWEA WEHSSC Subcommittee Updates
- Wind Safety Standard Subcommittee
  - Update from Dan Olson, GE Renewable Energy
    - Dan will schedule the kick-off meeting within the month. He is waiting for approval to use the other standards so we can nationalize. We are also looking for additional volunteers. Let AWEA Staff know if you want to participate.

- Service Lift Task Force
  - Update from Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy
    - The Kick off meeting is on September 19.
    - New volunteers: Len Tully, Invenergy; Kellie Quinn-Hoffmeister, Renewable Marketing Group; Karl Delooff, Acciona Energy

Priorities and Goals 2019
- Offshore Safety
  - Michele Mihelic, AWEA, there are a number of organizations looking at offshore safety, AWEA has a members-only EHS Offshore Working Group. There is an interest in developing a standard for offshore safety to assist with regulatory requirements. WTSC has an Offshore Wind Subcommittee working on a technical standard, there is push from this group to have a safety standard. A safety standard will fall under the WEHSSC. The current discussion is who should chair this group and develop a scope.
  - Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy, noted that it's really important for us to lead this initiative and it's really important to get the right expertise on this group.
  - Next steps: We need a volunteer to lead this group.

- Repowering
  - Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy, noted this is getting bigger and bigger in our industry. Should we create a standard around repowering and if yes, what is the scope?
  - Chris Daniels, Mortenson, asked when we talk about repower are we talking about taking it down?
  - Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy, noted that we are not sure, that's why we need to discuss a scope.
  - Bea Stong, BP Wind Energy, shared the experience at BP: "We cut the clipper nacelle off the top, used the same tower, built an adapter and did the first prototype. It's spinning and working. There's a lot of engineering practice that needs to be looked at. How do you extend the life of the tower, extending beyond 20 years? From a safety standpoint, it's a really big maintenance job."
Chris Daniels, Mortenson, noted that ASSP/ANSI A10-21 was just released. Repower is demolition and construction, there is already an ANSI standard covering this.

Michele Mihelic, AWEA, noted that on A10 there is not a lot of expertise from a wind perspective. There is a lot of construction experience. For the purposes of A10.21, AWEA added wind people.

Peter Lukens, Siemens Gamesa, asked is it just engineering or operations or both?

Michele Mihelic, AWEA, noted an option is to develop a standard for engineering/operations and reference the parts of A10.21.

Peter Lukens, Siemens Gamesa, asked if this would be double work.

Chris Daniels, Mortenson, noted he had the same and asked if ANSI will care.

Michele Mihelic, AWEA, noted that ANSI won’t care, but that ASSP may care as well as other groups that have a stake. Your scope is the health of your workforce.

Peter Lukens, Siemens Gamesa, when this goes to public comment we may get resistance.

Chris Daniels, Mortenson, noted the demolition section of A10.21 that addresses this is minimal.

Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy, asked if the A10 group is still working and updating the standard.

Chris Daniels, Mortenson, noted the standard is published and there will be an update.

Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy, asked if it makes sense for the A10 group to take this on.

Chris Daniels, Mortenson, noted no.

Michele Mihelic, AWEA, noted that it’s the WEHSSC that has the expertise and you can reference other standards and make sure that wind is addressed. An ANSI standard specific to wind.

Len Tully, Invenergy, noted we are talking about demolition and construction, in my mind, the A10 folks are the experts. Where do we fit in with our expertise?

Michele Mihelic, AWEA, noted there are wind construction folks and other construction folks like commercial/residential construction.

Dan Olson, GE Renewable Energy, noted that GE doesn’t consider this demolition.

Michele Mihelic, AWEA, noted if it’s a new model it falls under construction and if replacement/repair of the same model it falls under general industry.

Kevin Turner, IEA, noted when you change the structure, this goes down the demolition path, and there is expertise on the wind side for handling this.

Michele Mihelic, AWEA, of the two groups, AWEA WEHSSC or ASSP A10, would you rather WEHSSC take this on or A10?

Chris Daniels, Mortenson, noted WEHSSC.

Kevin Turner, IEA, noted WEHSSC and also noted he sees a crossover when it comes to foundations demolition where we can reference A10.

Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy, should we write a standard on repower, or is there enough under A10 and we create our own standard to address the wind specific aspects. Is it called repower or something else?

Karl Delooff, Acciona Energy, noted that from an owner’s perspective, when they go to a new site, Acciona needs to have a decommissioning plan, and a standard for this would be helpful. Karl noted it would also help to have a repower standard to show we can extend the life and noted that repower is different than demolition – having a standard that separates this out from demolition has a
huge benefit to owners for those communities that have strict guidelines for demolition. This can provide a lot of clarity during the permit process.

- Kevin Turner, IEA, noted that he wants to stay away from the constraints of A10.
- Chris Daniels, Mortenson, noted he agrees, and that we don’t want to confuse our folks with 1910 standards because they are trained to construction standards.
- Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy, asked should the WEHSSC form a group to develop a scope for a repower standard.
- Motion approved (Chris Daniels, Mortenson, motion, Karl Delooff, Acciona Energy, second)
- Vote approved.
- Volunteer to lead this charge: Chris Daniels, Mortenson, Chair
- Vote approved.
- Volunteers: Kevin Turner, IEA; Barry Richmond, Alliant Energy; Robert Milligan, Pattern Energy; Reggie Ham, Tech Safety Lines, Inc.; James Tew, High Plains Technology Center; Victor Hall, JMS Wind Energy, Inc.
- Action item: AWEA staff to create the group in Workspace and add volunteers.

- Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy, noted the good discussion on these topics and pointed out that since we had a quorum the group had the ability to vote on items and move forward. Please keep attending/calling in.
- **Confine Spaces**
  - Michele Mihelic, AWEA, noted there are options, a technical report or a recommended practice, but they do not hold the same weight.
  - Alan Nelson, Run Energy, noted he felt the group is avoiding the issue, and recommended the group deal with it.
  - Dawn Peton, Invenergy, noted the biggest challenge is to get everyone to agree on what confined space means in a tower.
  - Alan Nelson, Run Energy, noted the question is, is it a confined space.
  - Karl Delooff, Acciona Energy, noted the question is it permit or non-permit, that’s what the rub is, and he noted he likes the Australian system.
  - Michele Mihelic, AWEA, does not recommend that the group develop a standard that says this is or isn’t whatever – she suggested that the group identify things to consider i.e. is it enclosed space vs confined space.
  - Chris Daniels, Mortenson, question is do we want an ANSI standard, right? Does anyone think the existing requirements are good enough?
  - Bea Stong, BP Wind Energy, and Dan Olson, GE Renewable Energy, both stated yes, they are good enough, but it depends on how you interpret it.
  - Chris Daniels, Mortenson, suggested the group not create a standard.
  - Dan Olson, GE Renewable Energy, noted that committees with AWEA have written two or more documents on this.
  - Karl Delooff, Acciona Energy, noted you have the issue because you have an owner, operator, etc. on site at the same time and each has their own plan/approach. This can be ok and within the standard, but we as an owner we have decided to go on the extreme side.
  - Peter Lukens, Siemens Gamesa, asked is the group willing to write a standard that is less stringent than 1910.
  - No, you can’t.
  - Chris Daniels, Mortenson, noted the group is saying no to standard and yes to a work product and asked what AWEA has done.
  - Al Zeitz, ILEC, asked what the current paper addresses.
  - Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy, shared that AWEA created a decision tree that looks at each space in the turbine and identifies areas of hazards. The document
notes what hazards may exist and where there may be more. The confined spaces document before this had two parts, one addresses how to follow 1910.269 and the second how you follow general industry.

- Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy, asked the group what they would like to do. She noted that, based on the comments, she heard that the group should not address this.
- Dan Olson, GE Renewable Energy, noted a motion that the group should not consider this for confined, second.
- Alan Nelson, Run Energy, and Dwayne Kitchen, World Wind & Solar, voted no
- A vote of no approved.

- Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy, opened the discussion for new items.
- Alan Nelson, Run Energy, asked about drug testing and how to addresses this with the rise of opioids and legalization. What is a good overall drug testing plan?
  - Karl Delooff, Acciona Energy, this is difficult b/c its’ state by state.
  - Len Tully, Invenergy, noted Invenergy follows federal, DOT.
  - Scott Bramlett, ENEL, noted this is an HR item, the group can identify the hazard and give a recommendation. He also noted that we can’t even come to a consensus as a country (states) – this is an HR and state by state issue.
  - Alan Nelson, Run Energy, It won’t always be an HR issue.
  - Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy, noted this is a good discussion to have and to have consensus, but she does not think the standards side is the place. She recommended the group take this to the AWEA EHS Steering and propose the creation of a task force to address.

- Chris Daniels, Mortenson, asked about remote workers. He noted that on A10.21 they get a lot of questions on dealing with the remote side of the wind industry. Not sure what this is and how to address this.
  - Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy, noted she thought there is something in Canada on lone standard/remote work. British Columbia has an assessment.
  - Phil McKay, CanWEA, noted he recalls something for British Columbia, but he was not sure about Ontario.
  - Karl Delooff, Acciona Energy, noted there is something for Ontario, it is brief and concise and could be a good starting point.
  - Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy, asked if the group should create something around lone worksites and lone workers.
  - Michele Mihelic, AWEA, suggested a proposal to create a task force to explore this.
  - Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy, asked if there is a volunteer to lead this.
  - Bea Stong, BP Wind Energy, noted that she has someone on her staff that can work on this – BP has recently addressed this.
  - There was a motion to approve a task force to explore a lone work/ lone worksites.
  - Chris Daniels, Mortenson, motion, Dan Olson, GE Renewable Energy, second.
  - Vote approved.
  - Volunteers: a BP person (Bea to follow up); Phil McKay, CanWEA; Dwayne Kitchen, World Wind & Solar
  - Action Item: AWEA staff to create the group on Workspace.

- Chris Daniels, Mortenson, asked about standard for rescue.
- Michele Mihelic, AWEA, suggested the group create a scope and get this out to ANSI, submit a PINS, and move on this before another organization decides to create this. She reminded the group that when you submit a PINS you have five years to create a standard.
- Chris Daniels, Mortenson, noted he was thinking about the areas that the existing standards don’t get.
- Michele Mihelic, AWEA, noted the focus of this is what at a minimum can everyone agree with such as tower erectors.
- Tom Sutton, Kalamazoo Valley Community College, noted it doesn’t need to be prescriptive, it can address/identify the areas/types of rescue. He noted it belongs here with this group so the group can control the types of equipment, etc.
- Tom Sutton, Kalamazoo Valley Community College, made a motion to develop a group to create a standard for rescue and self-evacuation, Al Zeitz, ILEC, second.
- Vote approved
- Volunteers: Tom Sutton, Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Chair; James Tew, High Plains Technology Center; Jeff Sampeer, NRG/Clearway Energy; Reggie Ham, Tech Safety Lines, Inc.
- Action Item: AWEA staff to create the group on Workspace.
- Michele Mihelic, AWEA, noted that AWEA has a lot of this content that can be a starting point for creating a standard.

- Gemma Smith, Geronimo Energy, noted we will discuss all of these subcommittees on the next call – please call in so we can have a quorum and vote on the scopes.
- Michele Mihelic, AWEA, noted that for the subcommittees, AWEA can have meeting rooms available at OMS for you to have working meetings. Let AWEA know if you need a room.
- The group reviewed the meeting schedule for winter and spring 2019 and asked about the remaining meetings for 2019. AWEA will propose a meeting schedule for summer 2019 – spring 2020.
- Meeting Schedule (Click here to view the calendar on Workspace)
  - Teleconference: November 8, 2018, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM, EST
  - In person Meeting Spring 2018: February 25, 2019 – pre-AWEA Wind Project O&M and Safety Conference, San Diego, CA
    - There was a mistake from the meetings schedule ballot. The date for the February meeting is listed as the 26th, however the date is actually the 25th. Staff will send a ballot to correct the mistake.

**Action Items:**
- AWEA Staff to create a ballot to approve May meeting minutes.
- AWEA Staff to create a ballot to approve updated February meeting date.
- AWEA Staff to create in Workspace groups for offshore safety, repower, remote/lone working, and rescue and self-evacuation.
- AWEA Staff to add volunteers to the groups.
- AWEA Staff will propose a summer 2019 – spring 2020 meeting schedule.

**Attendees:**

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