



FOURCHON



THE PORT MESSENGER

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FOURCHON FIRST:

LAFOURCHE PARISH PORT TO FEATURE STATE'S INAUGURAL WIND TURBINE

Gulf Wind Technology approved a lease agreement at the Greater Lafourche Port Commission's (GLPC) December board meeting **that will make Port Fourchon the first location in Louisiana to have an actual wind turbine.**

The wind turbine and its components are currently journeying across the Atlantic to the U.S.

Upon their arrival, the process to reassemble this turbine will commence shortly thereafter.

The significance of this announcement can't be understated, according to **GLPC Executive Director Chett Chiasson.**

"It has always been our desire to become a hub for offshore wind just as we are for deepwater offshore oil and gas activity in the Gulf of Mexico. This wind turbine will serve a crucial role in allowing us to do just that," Chiasson said.

The turbine, which measures 187-feet tall, will be located at the Port Fourchon Coastal Wetlands Park.

James Martin, President and CEO of Gulf Wind Technology, which is leading the project, said the turbine will collect data, while also producing the potential to use its offtake energy to power the GLPC's nearby emergency operations building as well as some basic infrastructure being planned for the Coastal Wetlands Park through a LWCF (Land and Water Conservation Fund) grant award.

In addition, it is a unique platform for the upskilling and training of regional businesses and workforce in the areas of wind farm

installation, operation, and maintenance. The turbine will also be an important vehicle for Gulf Wind Technology to collaborate with STEM, Colleges, Universities, and National Laboratories, in demonstrating innovative American technologies designed specifically for the Gulf of Mexico.

"This project is a key enabler for the region to power its future by harnessing the wind. This turbine will demonstrate everything needed to deploy wind energy projects in the region, which is an important stepping stone to enable more technical and economic developments in the future," Martin said.

The construction, commissioning, and testing of the wind turbine will be approached in a process driven, best-practice way, with the goal of targeting 100% local execution of the project. It is planned to be operational in the latter half of 2024.

"These types of projects wouldn't be possible if not for the full support of our Board of Commissioners who are always looking at ways to further opportunities for our region and its people," Chiasson said. "This project will employ a local workforce and will establish a precedent through the data collected to help facilitate future opportunities that will look to bring more jobs and economic development to Port Fourchon and Lafourche Parish."

Currently, a sign is up on the site where the wind turbine will be erected.

To learn more about the wind turbine, visit gulfwindtechnology.com/portfourchon.



STATE OF THE PORT



UPDATE ON WHERE WE ARE IN 2024

BY CHETT CHIASSON, GLPC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Eventful!

This is the most apt word I could select to describe our port and agency these days.

Whether I am here (the 10th Ward) hosting groups of visitors or traveling to various locales for conferences, meetings, and speaking engagements, I am struck by the tremendous interest people have in our Lafourche Parish port.

You honestly would think by this point in my career representing the Greater Lafourche Port Commission and our amazing Board of Commissioners, I would be used to it, but honestly, I am still in awe of how respected our port is on a regional and national level.

But, make no mistake about it, this interest and positive sentiment hasn't come by accident.

It is a process that began in 1960 when then Louisiana Governor Jimmie Davis signed Act 222 into law establishing the GLPC and Port Fourchon.

From that moment forward, former State Senator A.O. Rappelet (considered by many to be the founding father of Port Fourchon) and many other community leaders forged a path to develop Port

Fourchon into the model of innovation and efficiency it is today!

This brings me to my point of letting everyone know that our port is on the cusp of a transformative recalibration of who we are, what we do, and furthermore what we are known for by those who know us best.

While our outstanding tenants and

strategy to provide the energy this country needs moving forward into the future and beyond.

We are demonstrating that commitment through investments in our infrastructure (both current and future) as well as working to develop enhanced relationships and partnerships with our current tenants/users, while also embracing new ones with others interested in our port.

Within the confines of this newsletter, you will see a diverse mix of stories about a variety of things that are happening and planned for our port in the coming days, months, and years.

From erecting the first wind turbine in the state of Louisiana on the site of our one-of-a-kind Coastal Wetlands Park to having a power barge provide much-needed energy following storm events to everything in between, Fourchon is the definition of a port that is embracing change and

meeting it head-on without trepidation.

As always, we invite you to learn more about us by visiting portfourchon.com or giving us a follow on one of the many social media platforms we have a presence on.

users' long-standing ability to service nearly 100-percent of all oil and gas activity in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico remains, other opportunities are emerging that will further add to this country's energy portfolio.

It is our full intent on playing a prominent role in an "all of the above"

COMMISSIONERS PLAY PIVOTAL ROLE IN PORT'S SUCCESS



When seeking out a community-oriented group, one need look no further than the Greater Lafourche Port Commission's Board.

This nine member Board of Commissioners is charged with ensuring the progress and continued development of Port Fourchon and the South Lafourche Leonard J. Miller, Jr. Airport.

As the only elected board in Louisiana, these at large seats (lettered A through I) that they occupy are important, as they are entrusted with making prudent decisions on behalf of the community who elected them to oversee the main economic engine of Lafourche Parish.

The current members of this prestigious board are Harris "Chuckie" Cheramie, Jr. (President, Seat A), Rodney J. Gisclair, Jr. (Vice President, Seat D), Mike Callais (Secretary, Seat H), John "T-John" Melancon, Jr. (Treasurer, Seat G), Thomas "Tom" Pitre III (Seat B), Jimmy "T-Jim" Lafont (Seat C), Reggie Ledet (Seat E), Larry Griffin (Seat F), and Kris Callais (Seat I).

The decisions this board has made and legislated over in the past several

years have put Port Fourchon on a highly successful trajectory.

One of the many accomplishments of this board was overseeing the purchase of 850 acres of land south of Leeville. This acquisition of Caillouet-owned industrial property has resulted in bringing about an immediate \$1.4 million annual net benefit when considering yearly rent savings and new rent collections.

Furthermore, this property has attracted additional interest that is expected to result in more tangible investments in Port Fourchon.

Opportunities like this one and others have stemmed from the keen insights of a board that has been disciplined through the years from a budgetary standpoint.

That ability to be smart with its funds has resulted in forging great relationships with the many tenants and users of Port Fourchon.

During especially tough times, including when the pandemic hit, the board was able to assist its tenants and users and work with them as they dealt with navigating the financial fallout that happened early on.

Along with working with tenants and users, the board showed its compassion to the community they serve in the days and weeks following Hurricane Ida.

These efforts included raising thousands of dollars as a board to donate to a local non-profit as well as volunteering time to cook food and hand out much-needed supplies to those most needy in our community.

This also extended even further to sponsorship agreements with the Town of Golden Meadow, Cut Off Youth Center, and the Bayou Civic Club to provide them with valuable dollars to help them out.

Lastly, the board has been able to approve funding to help fortify local roadways through embankment stabilization projects and even helped build a large pavilion in Port Fourchon that can be used and rented out for a nominal cost to host community events.

The Board of Commissioners has truly demonstrated how quality leadership can and does make a difference in the 10th Ward of South Lafourche they serve.



SOUTH LAFOURCHE'S LEONARD J. MILLER, JR. AIRPORT RECEIVES SUBSTANTIAL GRANT AWARD TO ASSIST IN CONSTRUCTION OF NEW TERMINAL BUILDING

The Greater Lafourche Port Commission is pleased to announce it was a recipient of \$1.5 million in funds under the Federal Aviation Administration's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Airport Terminals Program (ATP) recently.

While the total allocation for the program was large, the amount dedicated to small hubs like the South Lafourche Leonard J. Miller, Jr. Airport only accounted for 20-percent of the available funds.

In other words, the process for determining grant recipients was highly competitive.

"We are beyond thrilled to receive this news," GLPC Executive Director Chett Chiasson said. "The construction of a new state-of-the-art terminal building is of the utmost importance as we move forward and embrace the many opportunities we have currently and

are positioned for at this very moment. We certainly want to thank Secretary Pete Buttigieg and our congressional delegation for their support of this worthwhile project."

The new state-of-the-art 6,000

bridge and connector road, and a Louisiana Economic Development site-certification project to make 343 acres of port-owned undeveloped property developable.

Chiasson said he believes this progress, when combined with the 25,000-plus annual operations and the state of Louisiana's study that highlighted the \$98 million yearly economic impact the airport had on the region, factored in to making the general aviation hub stand out.

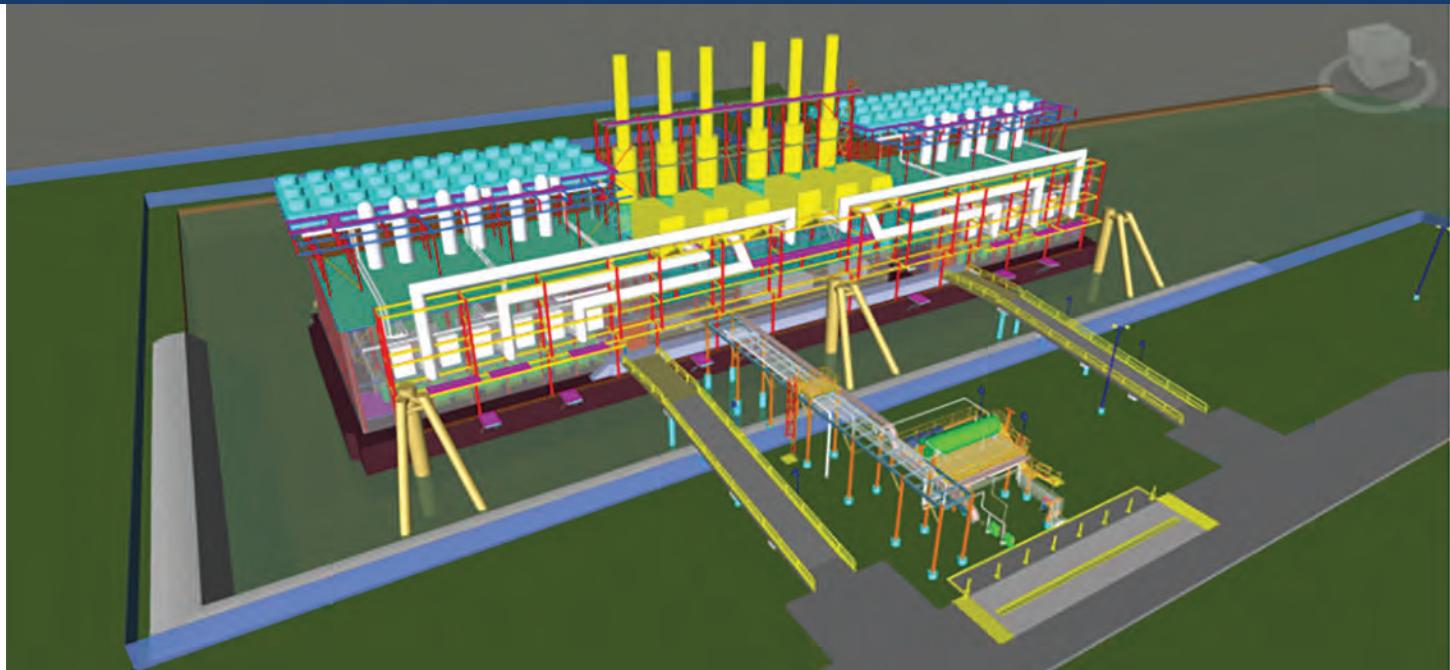
"The work of our tenants and users is what makes this airport thrive," he said. "Making these sorts of investments through the use of agency, federal, and state funds is key to boosting resilience and economic vitality in Lafourche Parish. Led by our Board of Commissioners, this is a task we take seriously and take an unyielding approach towards pursuing."

Construction of this terminal building is slated to begin in the latter half of 2024.



square-foot terminal facility will allow for an upgraded passenger experience and continue to build on the airport's recent progress that includes a completed resurfaced road, the construction of an airport

PROPOSED BAYOU POWER STATION WILL PROVIDE FURTHER COASTAL RELIABILITY AND RESILIENCE



112-megawatt facility would support area vital to local and national economies

Entergy Louisiana recently filed a request with the Louisiana Public Service Commission for approval to construct the **Bayou Power Station**.

This transformative project represents a significant investment in the region's energy infrastructure, aimed at bolstering resilience and reliability for communities and industries along the coast that are vital to local and national economies.

The proposed \$411 million Bayou Power Station would be a 112-megawatt floating natural gas power station, equipped with black-start capability and the ability to rapidly start up and ramp down. Situated atop a barge across from a substation in Leeville, the power station would play a crucial role in supporting areas like **Port Fourchon**, Golden Meadow, Leeville, and Grand Isle through a microgrid system.

While providing jobs and commodities, these areas, which are part of what is referred to as the Bayou Region, play a vital role in our nation's energy security. For example,

hundreds of companies use Port Fourchon, which services nearly 100% of the Gulf of Mexico's deepwater energy production and handles 10-15% of the nation's domestic and foreign oil, as a base of operation. Meanwhile, the strip from Golden Meadow to Grand Isle serves as a hub for the seafood industry, which accounts for one out of every 70 jobs in Louisiana and has a multi-billion-dollar annual economic impact. There are also many companies in the area that provide manufacturing and other services to both the energy and seafood industries.

Key components of Entergy Louisiana's overall project would include the construction of Bayou Power Station, expansion of the Leeville substation and transmission connections to ensure seamless power delivery. The microgrid system would provide essential backup power during outages, serving a diverse mix of residential, commercial and industrial customers, including vital industries located at Port Fourchon.

The Bayou Power Station aligns with Entergy Louisiana's strategy to integrate various energy resources

— including natural gas, nuclear and renewables — to balance supply and demand effectively. Further, the project would support a more reliable and resilient energy ecosystem, capable of meeting the unique needs of customers in an area with challenging geography and aiding in recovery efforts following major storms.

The addition of Bayou Power Station would complement projects that have been completed over the past several years to build resilience into the electric system near the coast. Some examples of these projects include the Caminada substation, which was elevated 20 feet off the ground on a concrete platform; upgrading around seven miles of transmission lines with about 80 steel structures between Cut Off and Golden Meadow; and undergrounding around eight miles of distribution lines along Louisiana Highway 1 from Leeville to Grand Isle and taking strategic steps to fortify the overhead electric system in the area.

Taken directly from a press release generated by Entergy Louisiana



AIR QUALITY DATA IS SETTING STAGE FOR FUTURE EFFORTS TO REDUCE EMISSIONS IN PORT FOURCHON

Nearly two years ago the Greater Lafourche Port Commission set out to start a process where they could collect emissions data in Port Fourchon.

To do this, the GLPC partnered with SailPlan to deploy emissions measurement technology throughout the port.

When these collection nodes were installed it was newsworthy because it made Port Fourchon the first port in the world to have a precise 360-degree view of its emissions.

While evaluating this data the GLPC has determined the air quality on average is quite good in Port Fourchon.

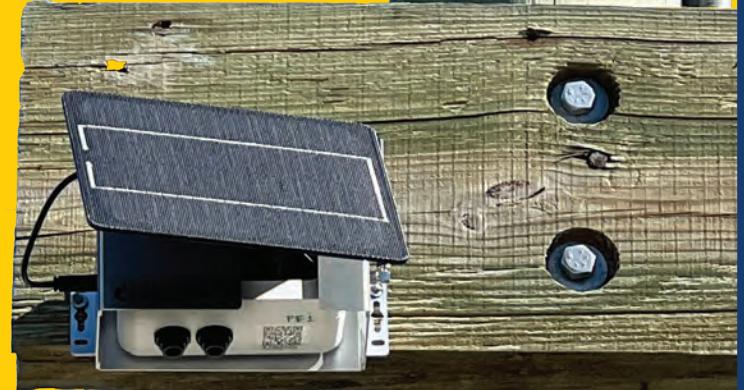
However, while this data is mostly in the favorable range on most days, it doesn't mean there isn't room for improvement.

Armed with nearly two years of data, SailPlan is currently taking a closer look at zeroing in on specific hot spots in Port Fourchon where elevated emissions happen on a more regular basis than other sections of the port.

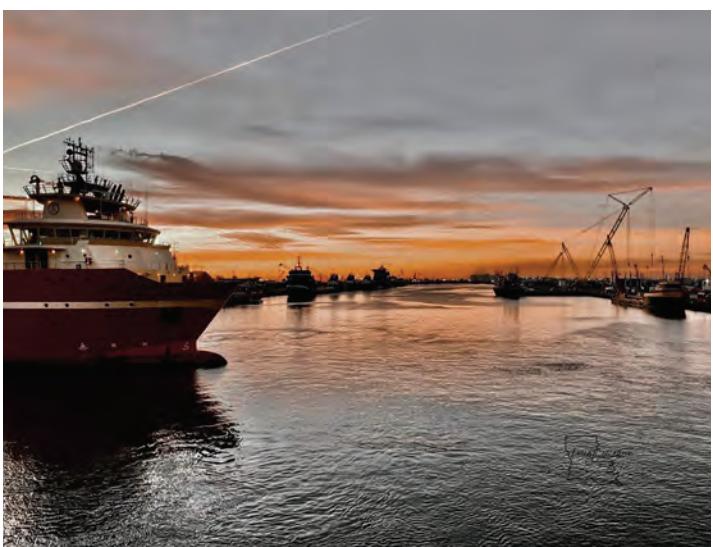
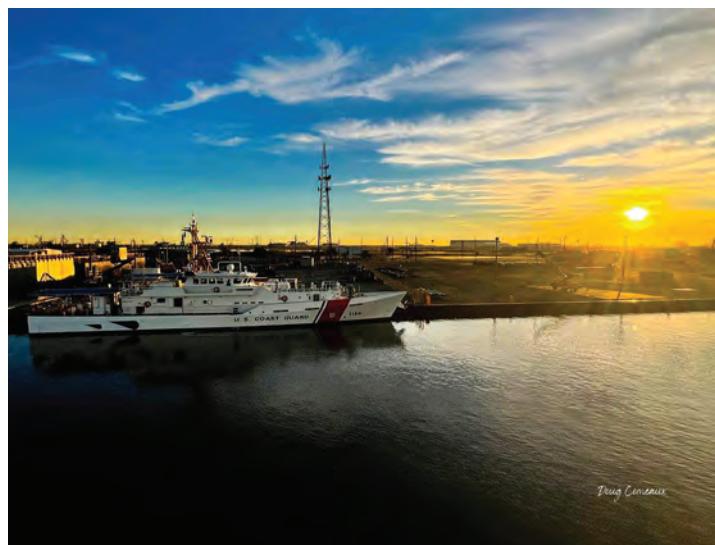
Once the data is fully compiled, a detailed report will be generated to allow officials with the GLPC to enact an emissions reduction plan throughout the port.

One of the key steps in reducing port emissions will be installing shore power systems and units throughout Fourchon.

These systems will aid in reducing emissions by allowing offshore service vessels to plug in to them instead of idling in the adjacent slips and waterways in the port.



**EMISSIONS NODE
CLOSE-UP**





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GREATER LAFOURCHE PORT COMMISSION BOARD:

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Mike Callais – Secretary, Seat H

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