

PORT CURRENTS

THE PORT OF VIRGINIA'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Issue #1 | December 2023

Welcome to The Port of Virginia's new community newsletter

The Port of Virginia would like to welcome you to the first edition of Port Currents, a quarterly newsletter about what is happening at America's most modern port. Being a good neighbor in our host communities is important and we believe that communicating with our neighbors is essential to long-term success. Thus, this quarterly publication is one means of helping you stay informed about the projects and initiatives underway at our port.

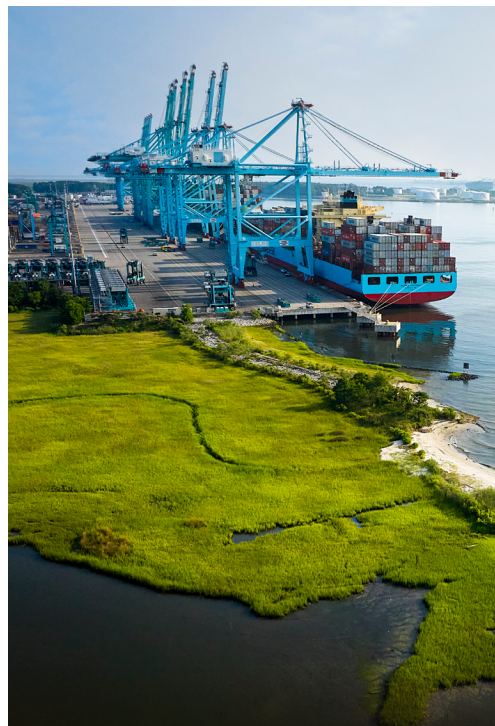
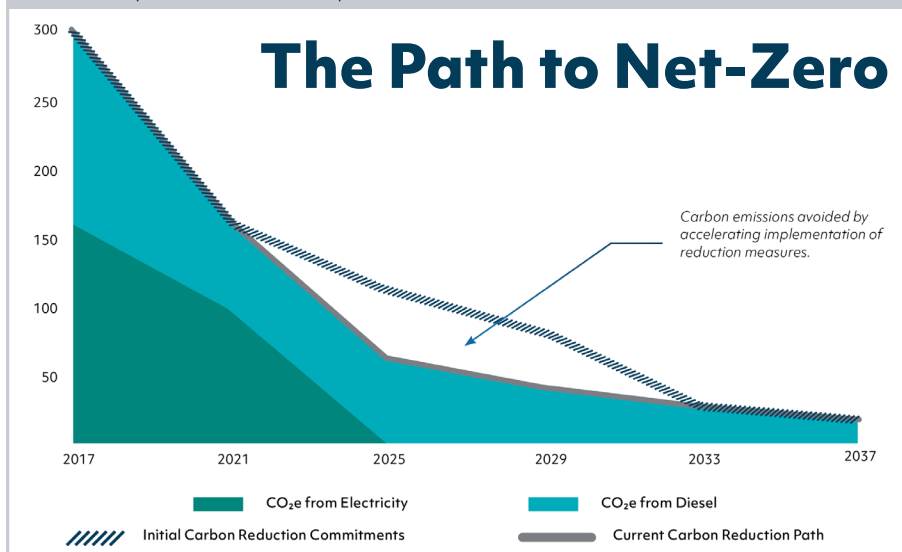
In this publication we are providing you a link to our [2022 Sustainability Report](#). This report details our work and long-term goal of creating the most sustainable port on the US East Coast. The sustainability report is an annual publication and the 2023 report will be available in April 2024.



Two years ago, we committed to becoming a Net-Zero operation by 2040. This means we will eliminate emissions from the environment produced by the combustion of carbon-based fuels that we use to power this port. Hence, decarbonization is the process in which we can reduce and eventually eliminate carbon dioxide emissions and other greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that come from port operations, energy usage and business partners. When referencing GHG emissions there are three scopes or categories of emissions:

- Scope 1 emissions result directly from our equipment and the fuel it burns
- Scope 2 emissions are emissions generated at the power plant supplying our power
- Scope 3 emissions are from supply chain partners and other indirect sources

Our commitment is within Scopes 1 and 2, but we are continuing to manage and foster the development of several Scope 3 initiatives.



Powered by 100% Clean Energy in 2024

Beginning on January 1, 2024, The Port of Virginia will receive all of its electrical power needs from clean, sustainable sources, including wind, solar, hydro and nuclear. This key milestone helps move the port forward towards its goal of achieving Net-Zero carbon emissions by 2040.

Grant Funding

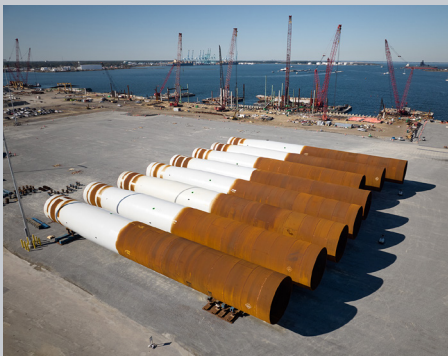
We are pursuing grant opportunities to further our environmental sustainability efforts. Recently, the port applied for funding from the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) program to expand the port's pilot project of employing all-electric yard tractors. In addition, the port will be pursuing funding in the spring of 2024 through the EPA's Clean Ports Program.



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Portsmouth Marine Terminal Becoming Offshore Wind Hub

The port is doing its part in expanding access to clean energy to Virginia and the U.S. East Coast by transitioning the Portsmouth Marine Terminal (PMT) from a general cargo terminal into an offshore wind energy hub. The port is partnering with Dominion Energy to upgrade 72 acres of PMT to become a staging port for the Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW) project, and others to be built along the US East Coast. Skanska was selected by the port for the upgrade project; construction began in Sept. 2022 and is expected to finish in early 2025. Skanska achieved the first contract milestone which allowed us to successfully receive the first offshore wind components for CVOW in Oct. 2023. Between the Oct. 18-21, eight monopile foundations were successfully offloaded at PMT. By supporting the development of offshore wind farms in our region, the port will continue to assist in reducing area emissions from power production.



The first foundational pieces for the offshore wind turbines were delivered & offloaded at Portsmouth Marine Terminal in late October.

Inside Our Gates

In this section, you will find updates on ongoing infrastructure projects at our terminals.

Central Rail Yard Expansion

Nearly one-third of this port's cargo volume moves by rail, so having modern capabilities and infrastructure for handling rail cargo is critical to our future. The \$83-million Central Rail Yard (CRY) expansion project at Norfolk International Terminals (NIT) is nearing completion and will increase NIT's total rail capacity by 46%, nearly doubling the annual container capacity of the existing CRY. In addition to expanding our rail capacity, further efficiency in our rail yard will lead to a decrease in carbon and GHG emissions. The project is scheduled to be completed in Q1 of 2024.

Norfolk International Terminals North Optimization



Rendering of the North NIT Optimization Project. Estimated completion for Phase I is 2025.

The port is in the initial steps of optimizing the North Berth at NIT. The \$650-million project will redevelop and modernize the North Berth and stack yard at NIT, further expanding the port's annual throughput capacity.

A modern berth will allow capacity for more efficient movement of containers coupled with a stronger wharf to support new, bigger all-electric cranes. This project will bring us another step forward in pursuit of sustainable advancement and growth.

Hybrid Shuttle Carriers

About seven years ago the port began steadily replacing its aging diesel straddle carriers with new hybrid shuttle carriers. The hybrid units are 90% cleaner than their diesel predecessors. The final shipment of shuttle carriers arrived in July, concluding the replacement of our diesel carriers. We are now using more than 100 hybrid shuttle carriers in our container operations. By using hybrid and electric equipment we are continuing to reduce Scope 1 emissions in our operations and advance our Net-Zero commitment.



A hybrid shuttle carrier transports a container at Virginia International Gateway.



Interested in future port news?

Email POVCommunity@portofvirginia.com for more info.