

**Cape Wind Offshore Renewable Energy Project
– The Future towards Energy Independence**

Charles J. Natale, Jr.

Bio and Presentation Abstract

Charles J. Natale, Jr is President and CEO of ESS Group, Inc., a 70 person multi-disciplinary environmental consulting and engineering company with offices in Wellesley, MA and Providence, RI. ESS is known as a premier energy facility consulting company that currently is providing ECE services for over 6,000 MW of new generation, electric transmission, and renewable energy projects located throughout the North East region. ESS is the prime ECE consultant for the Cape Wind –Offshore Renewable Energy Project proposed to be located in Nantucket Sound, Massachusetts. This planned 420MW renewable energy project has been in the planning and permitting review stages since 2001, and is currently completing these reviews for an anticipated 2009 construction start.

Mr. Natale has over 26 years of public and private sector experience in coastal resource management and development. He has a BS in Environmental Sciences and Geology from Boston College and an MS in Marine Science concentrating in coastal geology from the College of William & Mary – Virginia Institute of Marine Science. Mr. Natale is also a graduate of the Boston University/WHOI –Sea Education Program.

Mr. Natale has served as a Principal Scientist for the Cape Wind Renewable Energy Project since its conceptual beginnings in 2001. He has played a central role in the project's scientific, regulatory, and public relations reviews for the project over the last 6 years. He will provide us with a brief overview of the Cape Wind Project, discuss some of its provocative technical and regulatory challenges and other aspects of this first-of its kind project in the United States