MEETING NOTICE

Combined Meeting of the CRMC Fishermen’s and Habitat Advisory Boards

Thursday, July 26, 2018

5:00 p.m.

URI Coastal Institute Hazards Room

https://web.uri.edu/visit/maps-and-directions/bay-campus/

The Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) is convening a meeting of both the Fishermen’s Advisory Board (FAB) and the Habitat Advisory Board (HAB) established under the CRMC’s Ocean Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) to consider the Vineyard Wind proposal for a renewable energy offshore development project. The project will generate 800 MW of electric energy from up to 106 wind turbine generators (WTG) that will be located in federal waters within BOEM lease block OCS-A-0501. An export cable from the wind farm will make landfall in either Barnstable or Yarmouth, MA. Vineyard Wind filed a construction and operation plan (COP) with BOEM on March 15, 2018 and a federal consistency certification with the CRMC on April 6, 2018. The Vineyard Wind project is subject to CRMC federal consistency review pursuant to the federal Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), 16 USC § 1456 and the CZMA’s implementing regulations at 15 CFR Part 930 Subpart D – Consistency for Activities Requiring a Federal License or Permit and Subpart E - Consistency for Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Exploration, Development and Production Activities.

In accordance with Ocean SAMP § 11.10.1(E) (formerly § 1160.1.5) a meeting between the FAB, the applicant, and the Council staff is to be held to discuss potential fishery-related impacts, such as, but not limited to, project location, construction schedules, alternative locations, project minimization and identification of high fishing activity or habitat edges.

In accordance with Ocean SAMP § 11.10.1(K) (formerly § 1160.1.11) a meeting between the HAB, the applicant, and the Council staff is to be held to discuss potential marine resource and habitat-related issues such as, but not limited to, impacts to marine resource and habitats during construction and operation, project location, construction schedules, alternative locations, project minimization, measures to mitigate the potential impacts of proposed projects on habitats and marine resources, and the identification of important marine resource and habitat areas.

The CRMC expects that Vineyard Wind representatives will discuss the WTG and export cable layout plans along with their proposed mitigation measures at this meeting.